

January 5, 1954

Honorable Adlai Stevenson  
Libertyville, Illinois

Dear Mr. Stevenson,

You may remember that at about this time last year I wrote on behalf of our senior class inviting you to be our Commencement speaker. This year's senior class has just now asked me to invite you again. The members of the class, the faculty and I hope very much that you will be able to come.

The Commencement address is to be given on the evening of Friday, June 25. It is not a part of the formal Commencement ceremony but comes the evening before. The speaker is at liberty to set his own theme. (I think Bennington would be a very appropriate place from which to address the women of this country on their role in public affairs.) The audience consists of about four hundred students, parents, faculty and guests. The honorarium is \$100 plus expenses. The address is usually about forty-five minutes to an hour in length.

It would be a very great pleasure to us to have you visit Bennington College.

Yours sincerely,

Frederick Burkhardt  
President