

BENNINGTON COLLEGE
CLASS of 2021



**EIGHTY-SIXTH
COMMENCEMENT**

May 29, 2021 | Bennington, Vermont

“We wanted to emphasize the feelings of triumph and joy more than honor or achievement.”

MARGOT SUTER ROOD '36

Much has changed this past year—in both our lives at Bennington, and in the world beyond. However, even as we adapt this time-honored ritual to a new experience, the pride and excitement the Bennington community shares with this graduating class remains as strong as ever.

The content and tenor of Bennington’s graduation ceremony has remained fundamentally unchanged since the first class graduated in 1936. The nomination of candidates for degrees by the faculty and the subsequent vote to award the degrees by the trustees have become a tradition.

The planning of the first ceremony aroused great controversy. The faculty, faithful to Bennington’s progressive spirit, proposed that there be no ceremony. But the students insisted that they could not be decently graduated without a formal awarding of degrees. Still, the students wanted their ceremony to signify celebration rather than competitive reward. The proceedings would be simple and brief, and there would be no special awards or singling out of students.

As we celebrate Bennington’s 86th class, we continue in this spirit of community, celebrating their graduation with triumph and joy.

BENNINGTON

86TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT | MAY 29, 2021

I. PROCESSION

Nicholas A. Stephens '77 | *Chair of the Board of Trustees*

Laura R. Walker | *President*

John Bullock | *Acting Provost and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs*

Board of Trustees

Faculty

Master of Fine Arts Candidates

Bachelor of Arts Candidates

“Ceremonial March” | Louis Calabro (remix: Chris Rose & Michael Wimberly)

II. REMARKS

Laura R. Walker | *President*

Michael Wimberly | *Music Faculty*

Nicholas A. Stephens '77 | *Chair of the Board of Trustees*

III. AWARDING OF DEGREES

IV. RECESSIONAL

“Gentleman” (instrumental) | Fela Kuti

Arrival and pre-seating music led by Bennington College’s Funk Ensemble

Directed by Bruce Williams and Michael Wimberly

FUNK ENSEMBLE | Amayi Anders '21 (bass), Garrett Crusan '25 (drums, percussion), Ryan Emerson '22 (trumpet), Roxy Ernst '22 (keyboards), Ethan Koss-Smith '21 (lead vocals, acoustic bass), Daniel O'Connor '21 (drums, marimba, percussion), Noah Raimy '23 (synth, guitar), Tighe Ridley '22 (tenor saxophone), Luca Scheid '22 (drums/percussion, guitar), Louis Searles '24 (marimba - vibraphone, percussion), Alli von Hirschberg '21 (lead vocals, guitar), Chris Rose (trumpet, music fellow), Bruce Williamson (alto/tenor saxophone, faculty), Michael Wimberly (background vocals, faculty)



Photo by Maaz Adil '23

REMOTE GRADUATES



MASTERS OF FINE ARTS, DANCE

Mina Nishimura

MASTERS OF FINE ARTS, PUBLIC ACTION

Kenneth Bailey

Marina Zurkow

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Delaine Abner	** Ell Buscemi	Walker Schroth Ellsworth
* Phoenix Adler	Malach Dorell Campbell	* Jailyne Estevez
Duncan Sebastian Allen	* Cam Cano	Sierra Fales
Lucia Alonso	Sebastian Carrillo	Liv Fassanella
Ara Aman	Louis Llewellyn Celt	Dean Fazzino
Amayi Anders	Delaney Circe	Bailey Fox
Michalina Aniol	** Daisy Clennon	** Maxwell Fry
Yasmin Antmann	Matt Collyer	Tamar Giligashvili
Roua Atamaz Sibai	Gabby Cortese	Joshua Goldberg
Michael Barajas	** Owen Crary	Hannah Elizabeth Fisher Gray
** Lucy Barcott	** Jack D'Angelo	David Guzman
Emmanuel Barrera	** Sophia Dantzic	David Hakas
Zen Beattie	Elmina David	Lane Aurora Hill
Nirmohi Belvalkar	Julianna Davis	Alexander Hoffman
Shira Ben-David	Larry C. Dembski	* Caldwell Gregg Holden
Martha Bennett	Kemly Derby	Brooks Hope
** Biborka Beres	Ruby Dix	Zanna Huth
Sasha Elana Phillips Black	Nia Symone Dorsey	Zoe Ilić
** Marilyn Blakewood	Lydia Isabel Duff	Isabella Casmira Ioffreda
Emma E. Boehme	* Cole Agustín Edmundson	Teresa Islas
Alana Brennan	Karlyn Ellis	Huma Javeed

** Alice Jennings	Jann Carlos Moreno	Isabel Sheehan
Dabin Jeong	Grace Morris	William Shepard
Matyáš Jiráť	Sbobo Ndlangamandla	Vale Sibrian
** Beverly Johnson	** Nguyen Minh Anh	Delilah Silberman
Colin Casper Jones	Tran Nguyen	Hanna Stebbins
DaEun Jung	* Lucia Nielsen	Eleanor Altie Stoddard
Hanna Karnei	Tallulah Louise Novogratz	Megan Swanson
Alicia Katz	Collette O'Brien	Cassandra Taylor
Ethan Leland Koss-Smith	Daniel O'Connor	Benjamin Tersigni
Elbunit Kqiku	Aislinn O'Leary	Natalie Thomas
Henry Ladik	Fiona O'Neil	Lydia James Thompson
Maia Laforteza	Amina Odzackic	Santiago Torres Olmos
Zhihong Li	Emma Ogden-Wolgemuth	Kenia Torres-Dominguez
Aracely Llanas	Kari Ostensen	Stella Totino
Ruby Lowenstein	Sitashma Parajuli	Alyssa Monique Trevino
Sonise Lumbaca	Louisa Parker	** Flynn Turrisi
Alexandria Luttery	Alex Parrasch	Phoebe Stewart van Essche
Diego Jacobus Macarrulla	Wilma Peräoja	** Maya Villalobos
* Elias Martel	Ludmila Puchulú Mocchiutti	Alli von Hirschberg
Stevie Martínez-Farias	Carly Rose Rapoport	Benjamin Nicholas Watson
Akanchya Maskay	Suzie Rejali	Neil Weber
** Ruby Serene McCallum	** Sklar Leilani-Marie Roberson	Georgia Williams
Annabelle McLennan	Lucinda Royte	Hannah Wolfield
Anna Alice McNiff	** Katharine Ruegger	* Cameo Wood
Jessica Meagher	Tristan J. Ryer-Parke	Gabriela Iran Yadegari
* Malhy Guadalupe Mendez	Maria Matilda Salim	Nicholas James Yohe
Melih Merić	Ellery Schiller	Charlotte Zinsser
Jelena Mijatović	Soumya Rachel Shailendra	
Sylvia Grunewald Minehan	Liam Shannon	
** Ariel D. Mora	** Uma Shannon	

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