**Merrimack College**

74th Commencement | Class of 2024

The Girard School of Business

Friday, May 17, 2024

# ACADEMIC PROCESSION

**MACE BEARER**

Benjamin Larkin, PhD, Chair, Management, Marketing and Sport Management; Associate Professor, Sport Management

**CROSS BEARER**

Rebecca Jimenez, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

**THE GRADUATES**

Led by Father Raymond Dlugos, OSA, PhD; Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**GRADUATE STUDENTS**

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

**THE FACULTY**

**THE DISTINGUISHED ASSEMBLY**

Academic Deans

Distinguished Speaker

Honorary Degree Recipients

Board of Trustees

Executive Vice President

Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

President

The audience is requested to stand if they are able during the Academic Procession, Invocation and National Anthem, and to remain in place until the Academic Procession leaves at the end of the exercises.

# PROGRAM

**PRESIDING**

Christopher E. Hopey, PhD, President

**PROCESSIONAL**

The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

**INVOCATION**

Kevin J. Lucey ’89

Chair, Merrimack College Board of Trustees

**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Audrey McGill ’25 Accompanied by The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

**WELCOME**

Christopher E. Hopey, PhD, President

**A MESSAGE FROM MERRIMACK STUDENT LEADERS**

Maxwell Beland ’24

Lara Guvelioglu MA ’22, MPA ’24

**DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER**Richard Gallant H’15, P’24

**HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS**

James (Jim) ’75 and Christine Zampell ’75

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS**

Christopher E. Hopey, PhD, President

**AWARDS**

* Edward G. Roddy, Jr. Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award

Presented by John “Sean” Condon, PhD, Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

* 2024 Merrimack Medal

Presented by Rebecca Jimenez, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Christopher E. Hopey, PhD, President

**MERRIMACK ANTHEM**

Audrey McGill ’25 Accompanied by The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

**BENEDICTION**

Father Raymond Dlugos, OSA, PhD, Vice President for Mission and Ministry

**CLOSING OF THE EXERCISES**

Christopher E. Hopey, PhD, President

**RECESSIONAL**

The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

# MASTER’S DEGREES IN COURSE

Ransford Aboagye-Kodjoe

Gina Albanese

Selorm Atutornu

Michael Ayles

Mason Balch

Kimberly Basconi

Kelsey Berry

Jane Bonazzoli

Isabel Bowen

Ellen Boyle

Nicolas Brackett

Benjamin Brar

Matthew Brehon

Laura Brightney

Caitlin Broderick

Scott Browne

Adam Bruzzese

Andrew Butz

Dayra Cabrera

Cara Cahill

Marissa Caissie

Rosemary Callahan

Erica Cashell

Amanda Cavicchi

Mari Chan

Reimundo Chavez

Christine Chenard

Diamond Christian

Rebecca Clevenger

Patrick Clifford

Kerin Coleman

John Collins

Mark Collins

Gabriel Connolly

Patrick Conroy

Kayla Coolican

Andrew Cowan

Janet Crockett

Tristan Crozier

Gina D’Arcangelo

Hannah Dalton

Mats Dartnell

William Daughan

Jayme DeCesare

David Dempsey

William Dennison

Jillian DeSantis

Samba Diallo

Christopher Diantgikis

Gabrielle Dionne

Dena Domey

Kelisabeth Domond

Francesco Dondini

Katarina Douglas-Blake

Jacquelyn Drake

Courtney Edwards

Mary Ashleigh Faletra

Johan Feilscher

Michael Ferrara

Kylie Flanagan

Brooke Flynn

Kaylee Foderaro

Joseph Ford

Filip Forsmark

Andrew Fraser

Lucas Gauch

Adam Gaudette

Michaela Gearin

Felice Genuario

Kelly Getchell

Lindsay Gibbs

Kyle Gildea

Cedric Gillette

Matthew Giordano

Glenn Goist

Crystal Gomez

Janeliee Gomez

Wilfredo Gonzalez Garcia

Emily Grace

Emily Grandahl

Jessica Greene

James Griffin

Jocelyn Gutierrez

Alexander Haba

Kayla Hall

Paul Hansen

Collin Heard

Matthew Jenkins

Marissa Jones

Fotios Kafkas

John Kasprzyk

George Katsikaris

Emily Kauranen

Alena Kazakova

Aidan Kinsella

Jason Kluge

Brittany Kotzuba

Michael Lang

Kalyn Leahy

Meghan Leporati

Alyssa Levesque

Benjamin Lewis

Elizabeth Lichter

Patricia Lucas

David Lunt

Alexa MacArthur

Russell Mace

Lauren Magill

Jakub Majer

MaryRose Malian

Stacie Maria

Nicholas Martino

Samantha Mathews

Caitlin McCall

Michael McCarthy

Emily McDaid

Katharine McDonough

Jessica McGee

Brennan McInnis

Jessica McKay

Jordan McKoy

MiKenzie Merrow

Nicole Meunier

Samantha Millette

Shaka Moales

Patricia Moccia

Ejaz Mughal

Molly Murnane

Emily Murphy

Christian Nagle

Anthony Nasta

Rachel Needham

Alessandro Negri

Maryann Nguyen

Melissa Nicolas

Emily Nolan

Kevin Norton

Tommaso Ogliari

Joshua Ordonez

Anthony Passerini

Eva Pastor

Shahil Patel

Peirce Peace

Raquel Perez

Nicholas Perez-Blanco

Richard Perry

Stefano Pesenti

Duyen Pham

Emely Pimentel

Nino Pingaro

Alyson Pinkham

Shannon Place

David Poirier

Allee Purcell

Matthew Rafferty

Simeon Ramey

Joseph Ramirez

Desiree Ramirez Reynolds

Samuel Rebinskas

Riley Reed

Grace Reid

Daniel Rodier

Thomas Rooney

Emma Rotondo

Jennifer Ruggiero

John Rush

Stephen Santarpia

Gregory Sawyer

Jacob Schwartz

Robert Sica

Matthew Smith

Ryan Smith

Brandon St. Onge

Sarah StergisCox

Chase Stevenson

David Stuart

Thomas Sullivan

James Tamburro

Nikolas Tammaro

Kaia Taylor

Larry Taylor

Jailyse Teixeira

Kyle Templeton

Marie Paulette Theosmy

Kaylee Thomas

Joshua Thompson

Troy Tomeo

Kathryn Tompson

Kristen Tracy

Austin Trim

Gabriella Valente

Robin Vallerand

Sofia Vasconcelos

Matthew Venuti

Matthew Walsh

Teresa Wegehenkel

Christina Welch

Ryan Wetterberg

Cameron White

Maria Willett

Kimberley Williams

John Williamson

Max Yelle

Riley Zaya

Juntao Zhang

# UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES IN COURSE

Tess Abboud

Joseph Abramo

Cooper Adrien

Alivia Alberti

Samarah Alteon

Brooke Alves

Dante Andrade

Cassidy Anschutz

Malakai Anthony

Adam Arvedson

Sydney Austin

Allessandra Badolato

Aidan Bagley

Zachary Bail

Jakob Bailey

Brandon Baldi

Casey Barnes

Antonio Barone

Dylan Barreira

Sean Barrett

Nicholas Basinet

Rosangel Batista

Megan Battinelli

Andrew Bell

Jake Berdine

Luigi Bernard

Tyler Bertocchi

Michael Bertrand

Nathan Bertucci-Bissonnette

Robert Bettencourt

Aryaan Bhatia

Cole Birdow

Jack Blanchard

Bradley Boarman

Zachary Borgiel

Carla Bouchrouche

Julian Bouchrouche

Ryan Bouchrouche

Henri Bourque

Amy Bowab

Owen Brady

Mia Bramante

Connor Breen

Adam Brissette

Catherine Buecker

Lauren Burke

Maeve Burke

Mia Burke

Justin Bustamante

Nolan Butler

Shayne Butler

Ian Callahan

Sean Calnan

Daniel Camelio

Shane Cameron

Chris Canavan

Jacob Cappello

Talia Carbone

Colby Carlson

Ethan Carman

Wyatt Carr

Nolan Carragher

Leah Cary

Andrew Casagrande

Ryan Cayton

Claudel Chevallier

Redwan Chowdhury

Isabella Ciciulla

Abigail Cieri

Meghan Clifford

William Coakley

Derrick Cochran

Emily Collins

Gavin Collins

Lauren Concannon

Matthew Conley

Norah Connors

Kenneth Cooper

Ella Cormier

Hannah Corneliusen

Jonathan Corrieri

Danny Costa

Jeffrey Cote

Cory Couture

Aidan Craffey

Lance Crate

Nicholas Criniti

Conor Crowley

Amedeo Cubellotti

Matthew Cunniffe

Brenna Cunningham

Sean Cunningham

Charlotte Cute

Wills D’Angelo

Matthew D’Atri

Zachary D’Urso

Michael Dagg

Darrell Dejesus

Elizabeth R. Delaney

Antonio Derry

Nilsa DeSousa

Jade Desrosiers

Joshua Diaz

Brennan Dill

Kyle Dillon

Dean Doherty

Janie Donahue

Adam Donoghue

Colin Dooley

Gabriella Dorrer

Ian Dowd

Robert Dowdle

Michael Dragon

Sophie Dunn

Meghan Dupell

Edward Dzialo

Matthew Eggleston

Jenny El Helou

Leah El-Hachem

Sophia Elkhaouli

Scott Elliott

Sydney Emerson

Nathan Eskander

Francis Esquivel

Courtney Evans

Conner Farina

Benjamin Farrell

Caitlin Farrell

Peter Faulkner

Joseph Faulstich

Paige Felton

Dylan Fernandez

Mariah Fernandez

Colin Ferris

Colin Flanagan

Trent Flood

Eric Folta

Katelyn Frontain

Mason Fuller

Michael Gaeta

Heather Gagliard

Stephen Gallagher

Jordan Galvin

Tyler Galvin

Aneudy Garcia-Lora

Amanda Garden

Jack Garrity

Joseph Gatto

Madeleine Gaudreau

Leila Geha

Christian Gemelli

Gabrielle Gervais

Benjamin Giffen

Liam Gilet

Brandon Gillis

Aiden Glover

Liam Goddard

Jillian Golden

Daniel Gonzalez

Marc Gonzalez

Benjamin Goolsby

Sydney Grass

Tyler Grillo

Nicholas Grimes

Tyler Grissom

Nolan Gunning

Guillermo Gutierrez-Largaespada

Mitchell Hammond

Brendan Hannabury

Zachary Hardy

Jessica Haskin

Craig Hatfield

Brandon Hayes

Alexander Heffernan

Aidan Heim

Kevin Hennessey

Bianca Herbert

Sean Herbert

Jandeliz Hernandez

Audrey Hill

Mark Hillier

Carmella Hillner

Caitlin Hmiel

Timothy Hodgson

Morgan Hopwood

Matthew Hottleman

Lexine Hulburt

Darian Huon

Alan Hyatt

Kyle Imbody

Matthew Imbriano

Sean Inman

Ryan Isaacson

Mia Iturrondo

Grant Jackson

Benjamin Jacoby

Paarth Jain

Noah Jepson

Raya Johnson

Coleman Jones

Taylor Jones

Joseph Jorgenson

Filip Karlsson-Taegtstroem

David Kashian

James Katsikis

Joshua Katz

Luke Kelleher

Connor Keohane

Elina Khoury

Junghyun Kim

Eric Kisich

James Kritzas

Jillian Krouse

Alexander Krupski

Joshua Kusinski

Martin Lahood

Grant Laman

Avery LaMotte

Sean Landers

David Langlois Jr

Owen LaPlant

Alexander R. LaRosa

Christopher Lavoie

Spencer Lee

Ryan Lefebvre

Dante Leone

Alexis Lescovitz

Owen Letteney

Jaydahrius Levy

Justin Lewis

Matthew Lucey

Maxim Lussier

Benjamin Mac

Kyle MacDonald

Owen Maciel

Catrina Madden

Patrick Madden

Abigail Magee

Nora Magurn

Julia Mahaney

Sean Mahon

Maxwell Makara

Colby Manning

Taylor Mannion

Nina Manzi

Aidan Marchand

Brianna Markwarth

Giovahni Martinez

Mario Marulli

Ava Masiello

Jelani Mason

Matthew May

Brendan McCabe

Maira McCarthy

Angelo McCullough

Elizabeth McFarland

Gerard Mcgath

Michael McKenzie

Davonte Mckoy-Sophos

Bradley McMullen

Dyllon Mcneil

Alexander Medeiros

Patrick Mello

Evangelos Meltsakos

Madison Melvin

Christian Meneide

Sydney Mercado

Craig Messina

Alexander Miller

Christopher Miller

Adam Montgomery

Matthew Moore

Mollie Morrison

Matthew Motes

Connor Murphy

Ryan Mut

Ethan Narducci

Chloe Newell

Kaitlyn Ng

Bridgette Nocella

Donato Nuzzo

Devlin O’Brien

Grace O’Connor

Henry O’Donnell

Tim O’Leary

Shane O’Neill

Arianna Ohanian

Hugo Ollas

Emily Oosterveld

Thomas Orcutt

Grace Owaida

Ava Owens

Emma Panarella

Brian Panzini

Colby Paolo

Chrysovalantou Papadopoulos

Mark Passatempo

Deven Patel

Reece Pearlman

Jason Pellegrino

John Perry

Cole Peterson

Julia Porter

Bradley Powers

Luke Presti

Samantha Preston

Gabrielle Prodgers

Kylie Pucci

Juliana Pulselli

Nathan Quaye

Clayton Rahaman

Vithuli Rajadurai

Hayley Randazza

Franco Recto

Summer Reigles

John Reynolds

Jacob Riley

Heather Ritson

Savanah Robbins

Brandon Roberts

Carlo Romei

Conor Ronan

Carolyn Roney

Matthew Rotker

Ethan Royer

Abdelmalek Sabri

Nicholas Sadlow

Gabrielle Saffer

Joseph Salvi

Joann Salvucci

Peter Santos

Christian Sapienza

Christopher Sarno

Vincent Scaduto

Hannah Scarano

Sonia Scarfo

Holly Schweitzer

Henry Senese

Abigail Shea

Michael Sidhly

Christian Simeone

Meghan Simmons

Amaya Singh

Connor Smith

Garrett Smith

James Smith

Ryan Smith

Matthew Sokol

Landon Sorensen

Erica Spallone

MaryKate Spendley

Ashley St Cyr

Ashley Stefanik

Brooklyn Stolgitis

Colin Strong

Karl Sutter

Michael Sutton

Raice Szott

Jonathan Tammaro

Tyler Tarpy

Annabelle Taylor

Jay Thompson

Travis Thurman

Peter Tieuli

Ryan Torrisi

James Valade

Samuel Valenti

Scott-Christian Vara

Halie Veilleux

Laura Vilella-Durieux

Michael Vital

Henry Vogt

Luc Vonczoernig

Jacob Vozikis

Nolan Vuori

Francesca Wallace

Scott Walsh

James Walters

Charles Warley

Cameron Washisko

Julie Wester

Caitlin White

Peter Wilcox

Andrew Williams

Donte Williams

Olivia Williams

Joshua Wilson

Arlen Winer

John Wojnarowski

Kaitlyn Wrisley

Liam Ziegler

Ryan Zollo

Kevin Zou

Christopher Zullo

# DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

**Richard Gallant H’15, P’24**

Richard Gallant’s career began at Ernst & Young providing financial consulting services to small and medium-sized companies, as well as providing strategic divestiture advice to banks undergoing restructuring as a result of the 1988-91 financial crisis.

After Ernst & Young, he worked in leveraged finance at JPMorgan Chase and Credit Suisse First Boston working with private equity firms and private and public companies in structuring and financing leveraged buyouts, mergers and acquisitions advice and executing initial public offerings to help monetize client investments.

In December 2001, Mr. Gallant began his entrepreneurial career by founding and chairing Global Technology Finance, a financial surety company. He also served as a founder and president of Fibertech Medical a mid-sized endoscopic repair company, while also being heavily involved in several hockey-based endeavors including managing/owning several rinks and helping to steward the Islander Hockey Club.

He is a member of Merrimack College’s Athletics Board of Advisors, sits on the board of trustees of several schools and fundraises for Autism Speaks.

Mr. Gallant earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from Colgate University, as well as master’s degrees in accounting and business administration in finance from New York University Stern School of Business. He and his wife Susanna reside in Concord, Massachusetts with their four children – Mark M’24, Rachel, Sarah and Richard.

# HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

**James (Jim) ’75 and Christine Zampell ’75 | Honorary Doctorates of Business and Commerce**

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# DIPLOMA TRANSLATION

**The translation of the Merrimack College diploma from Latin to English is as follows:**

Merrimack College

To all reading this document

Greetings in the Lord

The President, Faculty and Trustees of Merrimack College

by virtue of properly completing required studies on the recommendation of the faculty

and by the authority vested in us

by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts confer on

name of student

the degree of

name of degree

and grant freely all rights, privileges and honors pertaining to that degree.

In witness thereof we place the seal of the College.

Given in North Andover in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

date of degree

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kevin J. Lucey ’89, Chair

Christopher E. Hopey, PhD, President

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Rev. Kevin M. DePrinzio, O.S.A., PhD

Francis “Ken” Duane ’80, H’16

Michael J. Franco, Esq. ’81, P’12

Rev. Francis J. Horn, OSA, JCD

Dennis J. Leonard ’77

Paul L. Mucci P’07

Rev. Arthur P. Purcaro, OSA

Kevin R. Rhodes ’91

Kevin J. Routhier ’99

James E. Scammon ’83

Patrick J. Sullivan

# ABOUT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

One of only two Catholic Augustinian colleges in the United States, Merrimack College is a rising institution with a decade-long trajectory of growth and innovation. Merrimack is a selective, research-oriented, master’s comprehensive institution with approximately 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students from 34 states and 36 countries, comprising schools of arts and sciences, engineering and computational sciences, nursing and health sciences, education and social policy, and business. The College’s 220-acre campus is just north of Boston in North Andover, Mass.

# MISSION AND VISION

**Our mission is to enlighten minds, engage hearts, and empower lives.**

Inspired by the Catholic faith and the Augustinian tradition of seeking truth through inquiry and dialogue, our vision is to:

* Prepare students to adapt creatively to tomorrow’s realities through excellence in the liberal arts, sciences, and the professions;
* Build a community of scholars welcoming and respecting a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, beliefs, and perspectives;
* Cultivate the intellectual, moral, spiritual, physical, and personal awareness needed to make wise choices for life, career, and service;
* Encourage and support scholarly work that contributes to the wisdom on which society bases its decisions;
* Engage other educational institutions, industry, and agencies of social change in collaborative efforts fostering a just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

# THE SEAL OF MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Drawing on our rich history, the modern shield of Merrimack College reinterprets elements from the original 1947 College seal.

The shield includes four quadrants:

* The book with the words “Tolle Lege” (“take up and read”), the famous words connected with the conversion of Saint Augustine to Catholicism, proclaiming the College’s founding by the Order of Saint Augustine.
* Wavy pallets, to represent the “swift water” of the Merrimack Valley’s original Native Americans.
* The cross fleurette, from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Boston, in which Merrimack College is located. The cross fleurette refers to the French ancestry of Bishop Cheverus, the first Bishop of Boston (1810–1823).
* The symbolism of our colors: blue for loyalty (and the cold, rippling waters of the Merrimack River) and gold for wisdom (also the color of the papacy).



# THE CEREMONIAL MACE

The mace carried in academic processions derives from medieval times in England when an official was taking office. At that time, the mace was a formidable weapon and was held ready by the mace bearer to protect the dignitary. From the sixteenth century in England and since colonial days in the United States, the mace has become a symbol of academic office and is carried by a distinguished member of the faculty.

The Merrimack College mace has a young history. It was fashioned for the 1986 Commencement by Cistercian Monks of the Holy Rood Guild at Saint Joseph’s Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts. The monks are renowned craftsmen and designers of ecclesiastical vesture.

The Merrimack College mace is thirty-six inches long and is made of black walnut. The front of the mace carries the College’s hand-painted, gold-leafed seal. From the intricate coat of arms of the Order of Saint Augustine, the back of the mace is hand carved with an open book symbolizing the conversion of Augustine. On the left hand side of the book is a tongue of flame above a heart pierced with “the burning love of God.” An elegantly simple cross adorns the top of the mace.

# THE CEREMONIAL CROSS

The processional cross is expressive of the Augustinian longing for unity of our minds and hearts in God. It was designed by the Augustinian Contemplative Nuns at the Monastery of Our Holy Savior in Leccetto, Tuscany, Italy. Small replicas of this cross are given to Merrimack students engaged in service to others through Service Learning and the SEND Programs as well as to those who participate in MORE, the Pellegrinaggio en Italia, and other programs that foster self-awareness and spiritual growth.

# REGALIA

The origins of academic dress lie in fourteenth century England. The buildings frequented by medieval scholars were often cold and damp; long gowns (particularly with hoods to protect tonsured heads) may have been worn more for warmth than fashion.

The distinctive gown set the student apart from their fellow citizens. As late as the Civil War, students at American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. Whatever the origin, academic regalia grew in diversity and splendor, with scholars displaying distinctive costume for different occasions and achievements. The result was a bewildering variety of designs.

An intercollegiate commission met at Columbia University in 1894 to establish a standard academic costume code, and over the years it has been revised by an official committee of the American Council on Education. The committee’s prescriptions, while regulating, still allow for great pageantry at formal academic events.

From the cap, gown, and hood, it is possible to distinguish the institution from which the wearer was graduated, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of the degree— bachelor, master, or doctoral.

The distinguishing feature of the black mortarboard cap, standard at most colleges and universities in the United States, is the color of the tassel—black for the holder of a bachelor’s or master’s degree, gold for a doctor’s degree or the governing officers of educational institutions.

The gown is normally black, and the gown’s cut and trim indicate the level of the degree held. The bachelor’s has long, pointed sleeves, while the master’s has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, with the front part cut in an arc. The doctor’s sleeves are bell-shaped, with three bars of velvet, and the gown is trimmed with velvet down the front as well. The hood tells the most about its wearer. The length of the hood and width of the binding vary according to degree. The hood is lined with the official colors of the college. The color of the hood’s binding indicates the area of study in which the degree was granted. Students also wear other regalia, including cords signifying academic honors and stoles representing countries they studied in during their academic career.

At formal academic occasions, the President of Merrimack College also wears the Presidential Medal which incorporates the College seal.

# MERRIMACK COLLEGE ANTHEM

O Merrimack, how shall we honor you?

With mind and heart awakened to the truth. We shall build God’s city in ourselves

and in our world, reaching out in service, our hearts a-fire with love.

The restless quest for wisdom in the company of friends,

call us ever onward ‘til in God our hearts find rest. Our guides are faith and

reason on a path that yet unfolds, and come we will to wisdom through

knowledge formed in love. O Merrimack, how shall we honor you?
With mind and heart awakened to the truth. We shall build God’s city in ourselves

and in our world, reaching out in service, our hearts a-fire with love.