



**LAKE FOREST
COLLEGE**

SENIOR HONORS CONVOCAATION

Friday, May 8, 2026

3:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest
700 North Sheridan Road

SENIOR HONORS CONVOCATION

Opening Act
“All Blues”
by Miles Davis

Lexi Adams, bass
Diego Ignacio Valenzuela Navarrete, guitar
Abby Rice, bass
Professor Chris White, piano

Welcome

Dr. Michael Sosulski, President

**Presentation of
Senior Honors and Awards**

Dr. Tara Natarajan, Krebs Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dean of Faculty
Tony Tyler, Interim Vice President for Campus Life

**Presentation of the
Bird Award for
Teaching Excellence and
Campus Leadership**

Dr. Tara Natarajan
Krebs Provost and
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean of Faculty

Recipient: Michael Cohen
Senior Associate Vice President
for Enrollment

**Presentation of the
William L. Dunn Award for
Outstanding Teaching and
Scholarly Promise**

Dr. Tara Natarajan
Krebs Provost and
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean of Faculty

Recipient: Dr. Benjamin Swerdlow
Assistant Professor of Psychology

**Presentation of the
Great Teacher Award**

Dr. Tara Natarajan
Krebs Provost and
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean of Faculty

Recipient: Dr. Muris Hadzic
Associate Professor of Finance

Great Teacher Address

“The Practical Pivot: Equipping Students
for the World That Is”

Alma Mater

Angeliki Vitogiannis, vocalist
Professor Donald Meyer, piano

Lake Forest dear, our Alma Mater,
Thy praise we sing with heart and voice,
Thy Red and Black floats proudly o'er us,
While in thy glory we rejoice.
As stand thy brave old trees about thee,
Strong as thy lake's fierce waves in storm,
So stand thy children to defend thee,
While love in every heart beats warm.
-ALVAH W. DORAN, 1893

Closing Act
“Mercy, Mercy, Mercy”
by Josef Zawinul

Lexi Adams, bass
Diego Ignacio Valenzuela Navarrete, guitar
Abby Rice, bass
Professor Chris White, piano

Out of consideration for others, please silence cellular telephones and all electronic devices.

Please visit the College's web site at lakeforest.edu/commencement for highlights of the 148th Commencement ceremonies, including summaries, speeches, quotations, and photographs. When posting to X, use hashtag #lfgrad2026.

PRESENTATION OF HONORS AND AWARDS TO SENIORS

Ebtsam Abdelghani	<i>Professor McCracken</i>	McPherson Prize for Excellence in Scholarship - Philosophy
Salma Abdelkhalek	<i>Professor Menke</i>	David W. Towle Award for Excellence in Biological Research
Kristen Ahn	<i>Professor Lemke</i>	Senior Prize in Finance
Lorenzo Anagnost	<i>Professor McCracken</i>	Roger A. White Prize in Philosophy
Mikayla Arenson	<i>Professor Zeller</i>	Miller Family Prize
Miriam Arnold-Nott	<i>Professor Lemke</i>	Robert Baade Prize for Economics
Miriam Arnold-Nott	<i>Professor Wentworth</i>	David L. Krantz Prize in Psychology
Van Baghdasaryan	<i>Professor Mueggenburg</i>	Harald C. Jensen Prize - Research in Experimental Physics
Michael H. Bodnar	<i>Professor Treviño</i>	Senior Prize in Data Science
Katelyn Boerke	<i>Professor Johnston</i>	McPherson Prize for Excellence in Scholarship - Theater
Adela Bragg	<i>Professor Hahn</i>	McPherson Prize for Excellence in Scholarship - Spanish
Margarida Carreira	<i>Professors Carlson & Wentworth</i>	Robert B. Glassman Prize in Psychology and Neuroscience
Leslie Casares	<i>Professor Carlson</i>	Carr Prize in Neuroscience
Will Cleveland	<i>Professor Adelson</i>	Senior Prize in Environmental Studies
Kayla Collins	<i>Professor Trumbore Jones</i>	Senior Prize in History
Niki Aurielle Datangel	<i>Professor Cody</i>	Phi Beta Kappa Senior Thesis Award
Emília de Paula Fonseca	<i>Professor Chekirova</i>	Senior Prize in International Relations
Emília de Paula Fonseca	<i>Dean Nwabuoku</i>	2025 Lincoln Laureate
Emília de Paula Fonseca	<i>Dean Nwabuoku</i>	Edward H. Oppenheimer Memorial Prize
María G. Díaz	<i>Professor Loyola</i>	Senior Prize in Latin American Studies and Latinx Studies
Matthew Dillon	<i>Professor Trumbore Jones</i>	Senior Prize in History
Megan Dodrill	<i>Professor Menke</i>	Fredericka L. Stahl Memorial Award for Excellence in Science - Biology
Zoe Draper	<i>Professor Edgar</i>	Lorraine D. and H. Randall Heath Senior Prize in Music
Sebastian Ellis	<i>Professor Sanchez Burr</i>	Alex F. Mitchell Senior Prize in Art History
Margaret Fields	<i>Professor Wentworth</i>	Sterling Price Williams Prize in Psychology
Atlas Gregory	<i>Professor Shah</i>	Fredericka L. Stahl Memorial Award for Excellence in Science - Chemistry
Hikaru Hamaguchi	<i>Professor Benacka</i>	LeMahieu Senior Prize in Communication
DeJanae Harges	<i>Professor Joseph</i>	Senior Prize in African American Studies
DeJanae Harges	<i>Professor Caparelli</i>	Solly A. Hartzo Award in Politics
Sebastian Henson	<i>Professor DebBurman</i>	Fredericka L. Stahl Memorial Award for Excellence in Science - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Anna Hoffman	<i>Dean Arnell</i>	Emma O. Haas Memorial Award for Merit in Scholarship
Anna Hoffman	<i>Professor Lemke</i>	H. Murray Herlihy Prize in Economics
Anna Hoffman	<i>Coach Catanzaro</i>	Nicholas J. Wasyluk Senior Athletic Award
Cian Hyde	<i>Professor Barry</i>	Senior Prize in Music Education
Judith Johnson	<i>Professor Lemke</i>	Robert Baade Prize for Economics
Gwendolyn Jones	<i>Professor Shab</i>	Dr. Aldo J. Crovetto Prize in Chemistry
Brodie Kaufman	<i>Professor Habn</i>	McPherson Prize for Excellence in Scholarship - French
Ari Kazantceva	<i>Professor Sanchez Burr</i>	Senior Prize in Studio Art
Holly Kiernan	<i>Professor DebBurman</i>	Fredericka L. Stahl Memorial Award for Excellence in Science - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Holly Kiernan	<i>Professor Carlson</i>	Fredericka L. Stahl Memorial Award for Excellence in Science - Neuroscience
Holly Kiernan	<i>Coach Catanzaro</i>	Senior Scholar - Athlete Award
Sawyer Kuzma	<i>Professor Adelson</i>	Senior Prize in Environmental Studies
Leticia Lazcano	<i>Professor Odugu</i>	Senior Prize in Student Teaching - Elementary
Anna Leszczynski	<i>Professor Habn</i>	McPherson Prize for Excellence in Scholarship - Spanish
Morgan McClain	<i>Professor Treviño</i>	Harold B. Curtis Prize in Mathematics
Hannah Mitchinson	<i>Professor Archambeau</i>	Gail DeHerder Memorial Prize in Creative Writing
Eva Modestova	<i>Professor Sharma</i>	Dr. Hemanshu Kaul Award for Mathematical Insight and Problem-Solving
Doyinsola Ogunshola	<i>Dean Nwabuo</i>	Senior Class Speaker
Aaron Oster	<i>Professor Carlson</i>	Fredericka L. Stahl Memorial Award for Excellence in Science - Neuroscience
Anna Palianichka	<i>Professor Lemke</i>	Lorraine D. and H. Randall Heath Senior Prize in Business
Inés Riojas	<i>Professor Carlson</i>	Carr Prize in Neuroscience
Andrea Sandoval-Torres	<i>Professor Beer</i>	Applied Sociology and Anthropology Leadership Award
Ena Sehic	<i>Professor Wentworth</i>	Sterling Price Williams Prize in Psychology
Shellane Shettleworth	<i>Dean Nwabuo</i>	Edward H. Oppenheimer Memorial Prize
Samantha Sosani	<i>Professor Beer</i>	Senior Prize in Sociology and Anthropology
Sarah Tahir	<i>Professor Wentworth</i>	David L. Krantz Prize in Psychology
Megan Tanquilut	<i>Professor McCracken</i>	Roger A. White Prize in Philosophy
Alvaro Torres Vargas	<i>Professor Odugu</i>	Senior Prize in Student Teaching - Secondary
Milagros Velez	<i>Professor Sanchez Burr</i>	Senior Prize in New Media and Design
Ian Villardi Venturini Barbosa	<i>Professor Lemke</i>	Warren A. Peterson Memorial Award in Economics
Alice Virani	<i>Professor Archambeau</i>	McPherson Prize for Excellence in Scholarship - English
Alice Virani	<i>Professor Odugu</i>	Senior Prize in Education
Sergei Vorobev	<i>Professor Treviño</i>	Senior Prize in Computer Science
Sisi Wattanagool	<i>Professor McCracken</i>	Senior Prize in Self Designed Major

SENIORS ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN HONORARY SOCIETIES

PHI BETA KAPPA

Kristen Ahn
Lorenzo Anagnost *
Miriam Arnold-Nott
Adela Bragg
Ella L Chicone
George Sebastian Ciuca
William Matthew Cleveland
Emília Guilhermina de Paula
Fonseca
Matthew Jacob Dillon
Monique Dirzo
Megan Dodrill *
Tobi Isabella Claire Ellis
Sarah M. Faller
Margaret Jane Fields
Avanel Ford

Anastasia Galkova
Atlas Rain Gregory
Tong Hao
DeJanae Harges *
Sebastian Jayde Henson
Austin Hewes
Anna Hoffman *
Judith Johnson
Charleigh Justice
Brodie Lynne Kaufman
Arina Kazantceva
One Bantle Kenosi
Holly Kiernan *
Anika Kinnear
Sawyer Kuzma
Daniel Leuchtenberger

Estelle Maurine McCourry
Tiyandza Senamile Mngomezulu
Ako Ogihara
Aaron Oster *
Andrea Uxue Sandoval Torres
Avery Shaffer
Shellane Ashley Shettleworth
Samantha Sosani *
Megan Tanquilut
Isabella Tello
Ian Villardi Venturini Barbosa
Sergei Vorobev *

* Denotes Seniors Honored
with Early Election as Juniors in 2025

LAMBDA ALPHA ANTHROPOLOGY

Cecilia Marie Adams
Ceff Hanthony Diaz

Andrea Uxue Sandoval-Torres
Avery Shaffer

Urvee Singh
Gillian Danielle Tauler

CHI OMEGA LAMBDA BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Holly Kiernan

BETA BETA BETA BIOLOGY

Salma Abdelkhalek
Asna Asif
Rylie Crecelius
Cynthia Cyriac

Cadence Dempsey
Jeremy Levin
Minal Mohammed
Neida Rivas

Kate Ryan
Jamie Springstead
Megan Tanquilut

LAMBDA PI ETA COMMUNICATION

Natalia Avalos
Hikaru Hamaguchi

Vladimir Ivanov
Stefania Marrocco

Mohamed Nisham
Samantha Sosani

OMICRON DELTA EPSILON ECONOMICS

Kristen Ahn
Reem Almabrouk Naji
Miriam Arnold-Nott
Mariam Beshara
Alex Brown
Lucy Bunger
Ramiro Caballero
Zach Calcagno
Astrid Castro
Eric Chan
Emília de Paula Fonseca
Izzy DeStefano
Charlie Fordon
Sydney Foulon
Sai Gaddam
Georgios Giannopoulos

Ryan Hegel
Parker Hevers
Seth Jayaprabhu
Siwakorn Jiwawuttipong
Logan Kittleson
Brett Klemes
Omar Kousa
Dylan Kruss
Daniel Leuchtenberger
Camille Listowski
Rocio Lopez Blandon
Seneme Mashaba
Sakhile Mathunjwa
Rawya Mechta
Vanessa Medina
Andiswa Mmema

Tiyandza Mngomezulu
Eva Modestova
Dima Muamar
Sabina Murati
Jaya Nambiar
Laura Narin
Andrew Nieuwsma
Christopher Patterson
Nacho Pavon
Rejna Resic
Brianna Sanchez
Brant Schuckman
Ian Villardi Venturini Barbosa
Gembo Wangchuk

KAPPA DELTA PI
EDUCATION

Adela Bragg
Sophia Lombardo

Morgan McClain
Joanna Nguyen

SIGMA TAU DELTA
ENGLISH

Cecilia Adams
Maia AlBarrak
Lorenzo Anagnost
Mikayla Arenson
Giovanni Bernardi
Will Cleveland
Sophia Colon
Rylie Crecelius

Sarah Faller
Alexandra Hanin
Alyssa Harris
Charleigh Justice
Daulath Khan
Estella McCourry
Derick Perdana
Marely Pina

Theresa Presberg
Philip Quetell
Brian Rivera
Marybel Sacramento
Shannon Shane
Emma Smith
Kayla Wisneski

NU RHO PSI
NEUROSCIENCE

Martha Alatorre Martinez
Marcelo Camba Almazan
Cadence Dempsey
Monique Dirzo
Sai Gaddam

Holly Kiernan
Jeremy Levin
Luiza Marion
Gitane Sierra Napier
Aaron Oster

Gizem Ozturk
Anjani Padhiar
Ekaterina Priovolos
Olga Sendetskaya

PI SIGMA ALPHA
POLITICS

Lorenzo Anagnost
Joshua Bharadwaj
Dominik Aurielle Datangel
Emilia Guilhermina de Paula
Fonseca
Sitara Ihlenfeld Paulson

Nicholas Kusinski
Jaya Nambiar
Jacobo Quan Navarrete
Timea Matavova
Stella McCourry
Nate Okwu

Theodore Puccini
Shannon Shane
Shellane Shettleworth
Valeria Welk
Coleman Yi

PSI CHI
PSYCHOLOGY

Jinhua Adair
Miriam Arnold-Nott
Joshua Bharadwaj
Kahokunani Canlas
Cadence Dempsey
Maria Diaz
Audrianna Ellis

Jacob Engel
Margaret Fields
Julia Garcia
Elise Kuiper
Andrew Nieuwsma
Isabelle Nordstrom
Emmie Nyen

Sara Rush
Ena Sehic
Sarah Tahir
Camila Velasquez
Grace Xie

THETA ALPHA KAPPA
RELIGION

Mikayla Arenson

ALPHA KAPPA DELTA
SOCIOLOGY

Cecilia Marie Adams
Ceff Hanthony Diaz

Andrea Uxue Sandoval-Torres
Avery Shaffer

Urvee Singh
Gillian Danielle Tauler

2025–2026 SENIOR THESES

Salma Abdelkhalek *	EMC4 in Interorgan Control of Fertility
Armani Alarid	Dimensions of Gender and Alienation in Romance
Marcelo Camba Almazan *	Modulation of Respiratory Rhythm
Mikayla Arenson *	God's Daughter: A Butch-Christ Dichotomy
Miriam Arnold-Nott *	Labour Market Discrepancies in Australia
Van Baghdasaryan *	A Parametrically Driven Foucault Pendulum
Arnav Bajpai *	Aging effects on modulatory population in Aplysia
Margarida Carreira*	Affective Instability and Interoceptive Accuracy
Leslie Casares *	Insights of Potential Toxicity of Gamma-Synuclein
Kayla Collins *	The Dichotomy of Coalitions
Niki Datangel *	Claiming the City: Urban Social Movements and Global City Aspirations in Metro Manila
Emilia de Paula Fonseca *	Regime Transitions in Latin America
Sarah Faller	Issues with Conformity Based Masculinity In Kafka
DeJanae Harges *	A Praxis of Love in Black American Movements
Austin Hewes *	Local Economics and Voter Choice
Anna Hoffman *	Fertility Decline in the United States
Judith Johnson *	Impact of ACA on Health
Gwendolyn Jones *	Hydroxylation-Oxidation Under Air
Holly Kiernan *	Novel Insights into B-Synuclein Toxicity
One Kenosi *	Before the Storm: Bayesian Crisis Models in Africa
Sawyer Kuzma	Social Trends and Meaning in Creepypastas
Tiyandza Mngomezulu *	Seeds of Inequality: Gender Gaps in Tanzanian Smallholder Farming
Namtso Norbu *	Tales from Tibet: Oral History through the Comic Essay
Aaron Oster *	Investigations in APP Proteolysis
Olivia Pandazi *	Gut Dysbiosis and Alcohol Use
Inés Riojas *	Role of EMC4 in Development and Behavior
Avery Shaffer	Game Masters: Mechanics of Authority and Practice
Sarah Tahir *	When the Campus Talks: Campus Cues Shape Threat, Belonging, & Social Motivation

*Senior Theses Awarded Distinction
Phi Beta Kappa Senior Thesis Award (in bold)



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