

University of Maine at Presque Isle
Class of 2026

HOODING CEREMONY

PROCESSIONAL*

Anatole Wieck, *violin*
Professor of Music
University of Maine
Orono, Maine

Margaret Jellison, *piano*
Classroom Music Teacher
RSU 63
Holden, Maine

FACULTY MARSHAL

Stacey Emery
Associate Professor of Business & Accounting

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Raymond J. Rice
President

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES & HOODING

Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership
Master of Science in Business
Master of Science in Trauma-Informed Emergency Management (UMA)

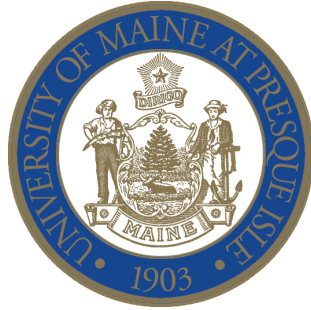
THE OWL'S CHARGE

THE FLIGHT - A Closing Moment

RECESSIONAL*

Anatole Wieck, *violin*
Margaret Jellison, *piano*

* The audience is requested to stand during the Processional & Recessional.



Commencement Exercises

May 9, 2026

University of Maine at Presque Isle

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026
WWW.UMPI.EDU/GRADUATION



UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT
PRESQUE ISLE
North of Ordinary

Where Will Your Wings Take You?

In honor of your graduation from the University of Maine at Presque Isle, all graduates will be receiving a snowy owl lapel pin.

Depicting a snowy owl with its wings outstretched, consider this pin a symbol of the amazing things you will accomplish in the world when you leave here. And we've provided a way to ensure you can tell us about those accomplishments and adventures. Just visit umpi.edu/yourwings to submit a photo of yourself wearing this pin and share your story. While there, you can see what other alums have posted about where their wings have taken them, whether it's a new job, a difference they're making in their communities, or exploring a new spot in the world.

***Remember your wings. Soar to great heights.
And don't forget to 'write home' about it!***

PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL*

Anatole Wieck, *violin*
Professor of Music
University of Maine
Orono, Maine

Margaret Jellison, *piano*
Classroom Music Teacher
RSU 63,
Holden, Maine

GRAND MARSHAL

Deborah Hodgkins
Professor of English

MACE BEARER

Lisa Leduc
Professor of Criminal Justice

FACULTY MARSHALS

10:00 a.m.

Stacey Emery
Assoc. Prof. of Business & Accounting

2:30 p.m.

Jason C. Johnston
Professor of Wildlife Ecology

CLASS OF 2026 STUDENT MARSHALS

10:00 a.m.

Anaira Ayala
Jackman Daigle
Ethan Whitty
Christie Williams

2:30 p.m.

Caitlyn Cote
Peter Rogers
Diannara Roman
Ryan Sonderman

SOLOIST

“Star-Spangled Banner”

10:00 a.m.

Amber Matheson

2:30 p.m.

Jonathan Guimond

WELCOME

Raymond J. Rice
President

STATE OF MAINE LEGISLATORS

Senator Susan Bernard
Senator Trey Stewart
Representative Lucien Daigle

* The audience is requested to stand during the Processional & Recessional.

PROGRAM

GREETING

Patrick Flood

Representative to the University of Maine System Board of Trustees

GREETING

Lea Allen

Chair, Faculty Assembly

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

President Rice

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Sandra Gauvin

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREES

President Rice

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Sandra Gauvin

David Watson, Esq.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Alana Margeson

Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs

Matthew Campbell

Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

CONFERRAL OF ASSOCIATE, BACCALAUREATE, & MASTER'S

President Rice

CLASS OF 2026 STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

10:00 a.m.

Andraé Joel Anthony

2:30 p.m.

Valerie Elaine King

RECESSIONAL*

Anatole Wieck, *violin*

Margaret Jellison, *piano*

* The audience is requested to stand during the Processional & Recessional.

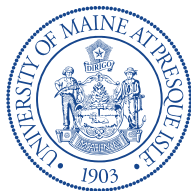


University of Maine at Presque Isle

Class of 2026

Candidates for the Degree of Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership

Candace Aguirre Holley	Donghwan Kim
Mayss Al Jumaily	William Long
Saudi Almonte	Saheed Adewale Lasisi
Mathew Ryan Ames	William Long
Fahad Abdullahi Amin	Rafael Lucas
Scott R. Belair	James Mai
Sherene N. Bell	Daniel Makki
Iker Lazlo Bouchikhi	Mona Manghirmalani
Kevin Micheal Brandon	Michael Joseph Marvin
Lateefa Bryant	Hodan Cabdiasis Maxamud
Aaron Genaro Castillo	Sandra A. McDonald
Rachel Elisabeth Castillo	Brandy Monasmith
William P. Clifford	Richard William Montmarquette
Emma Joanna Felicity Coffin-Gowen	Virginia T. Murray
Maddix Peter Corriveau	Jean Jules Dabou Ngako
Heather Dawn Davis	Ty-Nesha Nytae Parks
Caitlin Douglas	Brandi Nichol Perry
Christiana Oluchi Edomobi	Isaiah Yvene Pluviose
Charles James Eke	Aaron T. Redis
Xavier Emond	Brittney Kyara Richardson
Harold Figueroa	Jessica Danielle Rosales
Kiesha Laerica Fitzpatrick	Sitta Sheriff
Michael Sean Flannery	Colton Seth Spinks
Hussein Costantino Haile	Carl Alexander Stuart, Jr.
Darcy Lea Haines	Susan Brook Stukes
Gale Ann Haniff	LolaLeen Sumang
Jennifer Dawn Hanson	Chingling V. Taylor
Melanie Gayle Harari	Tong Vang
Daryon Josiah Harris	Dalla Vang
Monica D. Haskell	Melissa Nicole Washington
Angel Holcomb	Brandon Rashard Waters
Said Jabr	Christina Croft Williams
Torelin Jager	Randy Aiman Tawfiq Zawaideh
Bridgette Latrice Jones	



Candidates for the Degree of Master of Science in Business

Binod Kumar Acharya	Harold Figueroa
Talukder Wasi Alavi	Mercatur Guerrier
Andre Alexander	Macrine Aoko Hamilton
Mahdi Alimi	Dawanna Carrie Hart
Stephanie Maria Allen	Angel Holcomb
Tah Ashi	Gerald James Isyk
Breanna F. Belisle	Jessica Denise Jackson
Iker Lazlo Bouchikhi	Stefan McIntyre
Omar Enrique Carbonell	Sadé Moné
Rebecca Cepeda	Asyia Lashay Nicole Moore
Shams Wahed Chowdhury	Gerson Perez
Natasha Denise Clarke	James York Price
Brian Keith Clendenen	Jeremy Daniel Robbins
Aaron Julian Congo	Shannel Samuel
Khloe Alexandra Davis	April Song
Megha Dhond	Joelle Toney
Mason R. Egnew	Maria Luisa Valdivia
Micheal Ikechukwu Elekwachi	Joshua Wood

Candidates for the Degree of Master of Science in Trauma-Informed Emergency Management *(Degree awarded from the University of Southern Maine)*

Terry A. Knight-Riddle



Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Applied Science

‡ Marie Flor Eugene Abriol	‡ Nicklas Alexander Gonos
‡ Khan Mohammad Al-Amin	+ Kirk Terrance Jordan Jr.
Austin Lee Bradley	† Emmanuel Pean
‡ Stephanie Cepeda-Pena	† Gurjeet Singh Sabharwal
‡ Alannah Martelle Edmundson	‡ Amber Lark Sims
† Amy Hampton Elliott	Drina Kiarra Tilus

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Accounting

Emanuel Luis Castillo	† Alexi Elizabeth Valentine McKinney
‡ Joaquin Omar Cruz	Chukwudebelum Godfrey Okafor
† Virginia Rae Farley	‡ Fonda D. Owens
+ Johnathan Garcia	+ Miranda Sue Tweedie
‡ Dustin Lee Kessler	‡ Keagan Christopher-Gordon Wormell
Tadasha Zary Lozada	

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Biology

+ Paladin Gerrit-Wynad Gibson
‡ Zoe Lynn Stewart

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

† Mirjalol Akramov	+ Jasmine Sarra Atkins
‡ Khaled Alost	‡ Patricia Ann Austin
Omar Pablo Alvarez	† John Bahati
+ Lucas Joseph Amello	† Kwaku Opoku Barimah
† Patrick L. Ancrum	† Jason LaVon Barker
† Andraé Joel Anthony	Hayden James Bay
‡ Tah Ashi	Michael Bermudez
† Aishik Ashraf	‡ Mackenzie Bjorgan



*Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, cont.*

<p>Brianna Lynn Bolhuis</p> <p>‡ Iker Lazlo Bouchikhi</p> <p>‡ Johnetta Elizabeth Buckley</p> <p>Jerral Laron Carlsen</p> <p>+ Luis Gonzalo Carvajal</p> <p>Garrett Matthew Chadwick</p> <p>† Jung Hwan Cheon</p> <p>Patrick Clark</p> <p>Paul Anthony Conwell</p> <p>† Kameron Laron Correia</p> <p>+ Jasmine Carolyn Cruz</p> <p>† Dianesha Renarda Armani Denson</p> <p>Kulvinder Singh Dhanoya</p> <p>† Raymon Diaz</p> <p>Vivian Caroline Drolet</p> <p>Westley Dyer</p> <p>† Virginus Ugochukwu Edomobi</p> <p>† Micheal Ikechukwu Elekwachi</p> <p>‡ Brent Findley</p> <p>Andree Jenny Francois</p> <p>Thomas Anthony Freeman</p> <p>‡ Djuro Galic</p> <p>† Anastasia Gerola</p> <p>† Ishmael K. Geter</p> <p>‡ Myranda Kaye Goble</p> <p>‡ Carl Anthony Banayat Gonzales</p> <p>+ Quin Christian Griffiths</p> <p>‡ Monica C. Gutierrez</p> <p>‡ Tatenda Terence Gwenhamo</p> <p>Spencer Anders Harman</p> <p>† Latoya Renee Harris</p> <p>† Stephen Chace Hattaway</p> <p>† Amanda R Hynes</p> <p>† Yahya Isik</p> <p>† Jessica Nicole Jackson</p> <p>Bianka Janvier</p> <p>† Jennifer Joselyn Jimenez</p>	<p>‡ Jasmine Linda Joseph</p> <p>‡ Nathan Clark Krumplos</p> <p>‡ Agianna Kurbally</p> <p>† Johnathen Logan</p> <p>‡ Rodolphe D. Loil</p> <p>‡ Toby Jacob Long</p> <p>† William Long</p> <p>† Igor Moreira Lopes</p> <p>‡ Michael Maignan</p> <p>† Daniel Makki</p> <p>† Shannan Latavia Mardis</p> <p>‡ Alexander C. Marquez</p> <p>† Sunjar Ibn Masud</p> <p>‡ Krystin Chantal Mathewson</p> <p>Douglas Michael McCalla</p> <p>‡ Stefan McIntyre</p> <p>Mehki Lance Merrick-Brown</p> <p>† Alliyah Kalin Miller</p> <p>† Samad Mobley</p> <p>+ Asyia Lashay Nicole Moore</p> <p>† Aleix Moreno</p> <p>‡ Alanda Shana-Kay Morris</p> <p>‡ Olivia Mae Mumaw</p> <p>† Scott Kenneth Murray</p> <p>‡ Happy Chama Musonda</p> <p>‡ Tung Thanh Nguyen</p> <p>Erica N. Nwaeze</p> <p>Jovanna Jenelle Oliva</p> <p>Yusuf Abdi Omar</p> <p>+ Irma L. O'Neal</p> <p>† Tran N. Pham</p> <p>† Zoe Plummer</p> <p>‡ Nicholas Ramroop-Raghnunath</p> <p>† Alex Wayne Riddle</p> <p>Dacian Tyler Robert</p> <p>† Cornelius Jamall Rodgers</p> <p>† Magdalena Rodriguez</p>
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‡ Summa cum Laude † Magna cum Laude + cum Laude



Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, cont.

Viktoriia Shalagina	Zawe Thiha
‡ Alison E. Smart	Makenin Emmanuella Toure
† Ian Ryan Sonderman	+ Miranda Sue Tweedie
† Sévonne A. Spinks	‡ Diyorbek Umarov
Aadianne Stephens	† Samuel Vildosola San Jorge
Daniel Andrew Stevens	Nayith Thiago Villavicencio
Prada Raven Stevens	† Erylle Vivero
‡ Susan Brook Stukes	† Ethan Troy Whitty
† Muhammad Abubakar Ali Syed	‡ Alfay Jones Williams

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice

Matthieu Edmund Adrien	Haley Page Johnston
‡ Christian R. Berard	† Julian Marcus Perdomo
† Jamie Ray Thomas Bryan	† Courtney DeAnn Perkins
† Tina Louise Copes	David Spencer
Ricardo Garcia	† Abdallah Abdelrahman Yousef

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in English

Gustavo Garcia-Solis	Jessica Lee Noyes
‡ Rachael Elizabeth Knopf	† Annelise Grace Sforza

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in History & Political Science

‡ Erik L. Brown	† Jeri Dovie Evangeline Jernigans
‡ Barbara Piccolo Corletto	Afsheen Khan
† Francisco Corral	Charles Robert LaRusse
‡ Christopher P. Dunbar	† Jordyn Jai Neely
Anastasia Tatiana Fowler	† Zachary Sean Patterson
+ Julia Diane Graumenz	‡ Christopher Lloyd Stewart
† Nicholas A. Hammond	‡ Chingling V. Taylor
James Hmohmo	‡ Meghan Elaine Veglia

‡ Summa cum Laude † Magna cum Laude + cum Laude



Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Amani Khalid Mohamed Ali Abdullah	Tara Lynn King
† Priscilla Ciubal Agoncillo	+ Juneruth Wanjiru Kinuthia
Alonzo Akins	‡ Wanxin Li
† Courtney Nicole Allen	† Kylie S. MacDougall
‡ Shannon Lee Batalis	‡ Yulisa Galdina Maya Orozco
‡ Amanda Kristin Bell	‡ Maria Ema Mendoza-Carbonell
‡ Michael Thomas Blake	‡ Reinier Menendez Hernandez
Heather Lynn Blodgett	Brendin Dean Morris
‡ Dylan John Boissoneau	‡ Tyonna Murray
Crystal Rose Branch	Heather Renee Nettles
+ Megan Marie Buchholz	Christie Marie Oneill
‡ Melissa Butler	† Paul Francis O'Neill
Emma Catherine Campbell	Jalen Amir Parks
‡ Karen Carmona	Jordun Alexandria Parks
‡ Natasha Denise Clarke	† Courtney DeAnn Perkins
Valerie Nichole Condon	Angelique Pharms
Julianna Tyra Cooper	‡ Kathy Marie Post
† Maria Diaz Corona	+ Atta Ur Rehman
+‡ Lakizzy Rochell Covington	‡ Catherine Rodriguez
Maria E. Day	‡ Diannara Roman
‡ Katherine Charlotte Ferrera	‡ Jessica Danielle Rosales
Ricardo Garcia	‡ Daniela Miranda Borges Saraiva
+ Whitley Marie Green	‡ Rebecca Shepherd
‡ Mercatur Guerrier	‡ Armmetta Terree Torrence
N'Kiya Hamlin	‡ Michaela Jordan Waldrop
‡ Jenna LeeAnn Hansen	+ Gracelyn Kennedy Walsh
‡ Marcus Preston Harris	‡ Haylee Weber
Chloe Nicole Hunter	† Blandine Williams
† Erica L. Jenkins	+ Shanese Ashley-Jade Wilson
Haley Page Johnston	‡ Chen Zheng
‡ Bret Allen Jones	

‡ Human Services Certificate

‡ Summa cum Laude † Magna cum Laude + cum Laude



Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts

- † Natalie Jane Kerecman † Peter Nathaniel Rogers
Ryan Lemire

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Liberal Studies

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Andrea Akins | † Enyonam Dorfe |
| + Saudi Almonte | + Kimberly Drella |
| Jordan Amoako-Afriyie | ‡ Roger Dube |
| ‡ Daniel Amoako-Boateng | Jared Marvin Easley |
| ‡ Henry Otumfour Ayiwah | TreJaunah Anise Fagin |
| + Craig O. Ballard | ‡ Justin D. Fermenich |
| † Timothy Lee Belau | ‡ Harold Figueroa |
| ‡ Vania Green Bernardez | ‡ Omar David French |
| † Linda Maria Berry | † Javier Gaona |
| ‡ Derrick Louis Bonomo | † Anastasia Gerola |
| ‡ Ariel Bowen | ‡ Heather Dawn Gilbert |
| ‡ Melissa Jane Bradford | ‡ Francisco Daniel Granados |
| ‡ Tyler Alexander Dominic Brewer | Joseph A. Gray |
| ‡ Lateefa Bryant | † Carroanita H. Hall |
| ‡ Michael Cannizzaro | ‡ Melanie Gayle Harari |
| + Estephani Carmona | ‡ Lindsay Kay Harlow |
| + Chelsie Marie Case | ‡ Kandia Haynesworth |
| ‡ Nelson C. Chao | † Samson Israel |
| Elizabeth Sara Chickering | Janelle Cheryl-Ann Octavia James |
| Fredericka Theola Angela Christmas | + Nicholas Kalombo Kalonji |
| William K. Collins | + Valerie Elaine King |
| † Johnita Simone Collins | † Nickolaus Davin Knowles |
| + Aragus Lennell Creech | Claris Labah |
| Chantelle Nicole Crenshaw | ‡ Kristen Marie LaGorio |
| ‡ Jessica Lee Croken | ‡ Kimberly Dawn Lasorsa |
| Kiana L. Davis | ‡ Lindsey Michelle Lenich |
| ‡ Khloe Alexandra Davis | ‡ Mona Manghirmalani |
| † Amanda de Aguiar Daniel | ‡ Hetzel Rubi Marin Morales |
| ‡ Yolanda Delpe | Kemberly Massolas |
| Donald Leon Derouen | † Enrique Massuet Valdes |
| ‡ John Michael Doherty | † David Michael McDonald |

‡ Summa cum Laude † Magna cum Laude + cum Laude



Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Liberal Studies, cont.

† Kaitlyn Margaret-Stroede Meck	‡ Jillian Sarog
‡ Aleta Brandt Mills	‡ Jeffrey Thomas Schroeder
‡ Beth Ann Mills	† Fahri Pirhesin Seker
‡ Devon M. Molina-Davis	‡ Yusef A. Shaboti
+ Carina Jasmine Montesdeoca-Bell	Khandaker Shahriar
‡ Julian Mauricio Moreno	‡ Sarah Kathryn Sinacore
Eric David Murray Jr.	Elijah Anthony Smith
+ Amanda Myers	‡ April Song
‡ Tonell O'Daniel Smith	† Corey Michael Steib
‡ Amber L. Osborne	‡ Justin C. Tate
Jalen Amir Parks	‡ Matthew Alan Temple
Jordun Alexandria Parks	Brandon Thomas
+ Ty-Nesha Nytae Parks	Herbert Leon Thomas, Jr.
Peng Peng	‡ Maeve L. Thompson
‡ Amirah Person	Jeffrey Torrence Jr.
† Jonathan Charles Pfeifer	Danisha Rena Ursin
Rusty Phetthongdy	Kurt Victor Wallerer
† Karry Lucero Pileggi	‡ Brandon Rashard Waters
† Mia L. Price	Rosia Lenor Weeden
‡ Makayla Quackenbush	† LaTashia West
‡ Maria de Lourdes Ramirez	‡ Christina Croft Williams
‡ Carlos R. Ramirez Hernandez	† Felicity Brooke Wilkes
+ Courtney Jane'e Reynolds	+ Shanese Ashley-Jade Wilson
‡ Wendy Richardson	‡ Courtney Woolley
‡ Victor Francisco Rodriguez	‡ Casey Joseph Yon
‡ Tyler Michael Ross	Maria Eugenia Zavala Parra
‡ Joshua Rowell	‡ Renee Maria Zepp
Rabia Saqib	

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Science & Agribusiness

+ Caitlyn Elizabeth Cote	‡ Frankie Anne Pierce
‡ Delaney Marie McKeen	‡ Anthony Siu Leung Poon
† Alyssa Ann Nightingale	

‡ Summa cum Laude † Magna cum Laude + cum Laude



***Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Science in Art Education***

‡ Eve Abigale Appleby Griffiths

***Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science***

† Ian Ryan Sonderman

***Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity***

+ Orion Meade Gray

***Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education***

+ Camryn Kaitlyn Ala	Mackayla Jean LaPlante
† Kaden Jonathan Arnett	+ Veronica Theresa L'Italien
‡ Lauren Marie Beal	‡ Micaela Rae Osborn
+ Meagan Emalee Blanchard	‡ Madysen Yve Picard
+ Christina Lynn Butler	Tia Lee Saucier
‡ Ashley Lynn DeFlaminis	‡ Cody Merrill Taggett
† Alissa Haley Marie Evans	† Mia A. Theriault

***Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Science in
Environmental Science & Sustainability***

† Sierra Jane Bryant



Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

‡ Anaira Ayala	Akhenaton McMichael
† Jovain Delano Barrett	‡ Mahayla J. Qualey
Samuel RW Clark	Hailey Nicole Saylor
+ Sage Mikala Dubay	James Yamashita
Angel Monique Gutierrez	† Noah Michael Yarema
+ Ezra Jon Leach	

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration

‡ Milena Belayneh Haileselassie	Brendin Dean Morris
† Antonio Quinton Miller	

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Mathematics

† Ian Ryan Sonderman

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Degree awarded from the University of Maine at Fort Kent)

‡ Krista Marie Coffin	Trena Camilla Hafke
† Danielle Lise Cyr	† Courtney Alexis Kane
† Patrice C. Gatete	+ Gabrielle Eden Morang

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physical Education

Jackman Fontaine Daigle	Joelle Tyler Hodge
† Olivia Beth Gray	Tracey Marie Wuori

‡ Summa cum Laude † Magna cum Laude + cum Laude



***Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education***

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ‡ Justin Gray | ‡ Cassidy Patricia Jean Shepherd |
| ‡ Reece Taylor McGinn | Jake Daniel Stewart |
| † Elizabeth Anne Murphy | ‡ Alice Anne Theriault |

***Candidates for the Degree of
Bachelor of Social Work***

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cassie Ann-Taylor Chambers | † Katie Savage |
| ‡ Frances Govosdian | ‡ Linda L. Sowers |
| Emily Isabella Hallihan | ‡ Brittany Elizabeth Trombley |
| ‡ Sloane Desiree Kilcollins | ‡ Nadine Villegas |
| Serena LeeAnn Lufkin | Benjamin Cecil Clair White |
| ‡ Nancy Elizabeth Neal | Anaelle Yila |

***Candidates for the Degree of
Applied Art in Liberal Studies***

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| † Paige Bosse | Mia Shaw |
| † Wendy Huo | + Elena Wirth |
| Maeve (Felix) Lakin | + Alice Ziegler |
| ‡ Amanda Nicholson | |

***Candidates for the Degree of
Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies in Allied Health***

Grace Victoria Schmitt
Megan Catherine Tucker

***Candidates for the Degree of
Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice***

Laurne Cooley
† Courtney DeAnn Perkins



Candidates for the Degree of Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies

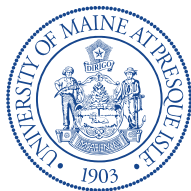
+ Saudi Almonte	‡ Aleta Brandt Mills
+ Lucas Joseph Amello	‡ Beth Ann Mills
‡ Patricia Ann Austin	Eric David Murray, Jr.
‡ Amanda Kristin Bell	‡ Happy Chama Musonda
Cherlynn Onaile Bernardo	‡ Tonell O'Daniel Smith
‡ Mackenzie Bjorgan	Jalen Amir Parks
‡ Derrick Louis Bonomo	Jordun Alexandria Parks
‡ Iker Lazlo Bouchikhi	† Emmanuel Pean
‡ Michael Cannizzaro	‡ Makayla Quackenbush
‡ Natasha Denise Clarke	† Sydney Dawn Rockwell
‡ Khloe Alexandra Davis	Steven Russo
Donald Leon Derouen	† Fahri Pirhesin Seker
Kulvinder Singh Dhanoya	‡ Amber Lark Sims
† Carroanita H. Hall	‡ Justin C. Tate
‡ Kandia Haynesworth	Herbert Leon Thomas, Jr.
‡ Michael Maignan	‡ Armmetta Terree Torrence
† Alliyah Kalin Miller	Jeffrey Torrence, Jr.
Maria Hernandez Peraza	‡ Christina Croft Williams

Candidates for the Degree of Associate of Science in Medical Laboratory Technology

Samantha Lynn Bernier	+ Taylor Soucy
+ Jahneya D. Malave	

Candidates for the Degree of Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

† Hayley Elizabeth Bishko	+ Kimari Enzo Rose
† Lindy Caitlyn Hyndman	† Shelby Rose Theriault



Sandra Gauvin

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER & HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Sandra “Sandy” Gauvin graduated from UMPI in 1977 with a degree in Elementary Education and has spent the nearly five decades since as a tireless advocate for educational opportunity in Aroostook County. She taught for 25 years in four central Aroostook schools—serving students in Fort Fairfield, Presque Isle, and Mapleton—before retiring in 2003.

Following her teaching career, Gauvin, along with her husband Raynold, co-founded the Aroostook Aspirations Initiative (AAI), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reversing the outward migration of Aroostook County youth. Over its lifetime, AAI provided scholarship funding and wraparound support to more than 600 graduates of Aroostook County high schools enrolled in higher education institutions with campuses or outreach centers in the region. Beyond financial assistance, AAI connected students with personalized mentoring from community members, educators, and professionals, and offered programming focused on career readiness, leadership development, financial literacy, and personal growth. In 2019, the Gauvins began a collaborative effort with the Worthington Scholarship Foundation to bring their scholarship program to Aroostook County, and in 2023, this dream came to fruition. In 2025, they awarded 137 scholarships of \$20,000 each, for a total of \$2,740,000, to Aroostook County youth. It is one of the largest scholarship programs in the county.

A 2000 fellow of the Maine National Writing Project, Gauvin has served on numerous local, regional, and state nonprofit boards, including as vice president of Homeless Services of Aroostook, vice president of the Aroostook County Fund of the Maine Community Foundation, and as a founding member and vice chair of both the Presque Isle Downtown Revitalization Committee and the Wintergreen Arts Center. She has also served on the Learning Disability Association of Maine and the Northern Maine Community College Foundation Board.





David Watson, Esq.

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

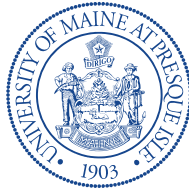
David Watson, Esq. was born in Westfield, Maine, and graduated from UMPI in 1985 as class Salutatorian with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He went on to earn his Juris Doctor degree cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1988.

That foundation carried Watson into a distinguished legal career spanning private investment funds, securities offerings, partnership law, and general corporate matters. He served for many years as a partner at Goodwin Procter LLP in Boston, Massachusetts, where he led the firm's Private Investment Funds practice for North America and Latin America. Throughout his tenure, he represented clients ranging from emerging fund managers to established international financial organizations and shared his expertise as a lecturer at MIT's Sloan School of Business. Watson has since retired from the practice of law and returned home to Maine.

Watson's contributions to the legal profession have been widely recognized. Chambers USA has noted his "impeccable reputation," and he has been listed in The Legal 500 and The Best Lawyers in America for his work in private equity fund formation.

Committed to giving back to the region that shaped him, Watson established the Watson Family Scholarship Fund at UMPI to support students from Aroostook County in pursuing higher education.





Graduation with Distinction and Honor Cords

Cum Laude	3,500-3,699 (white cord)
Magna cum Laude	3,700-3,899 (blue cord)
Summa cum Laude	3,900 and above (gold cord)
United States Veteran	red, white, & blue cord
Senior Class Gift	blue & gold cord

for those who made a graduation gift to UMPI to support future Owls

Academic Attire

Academic caps, gowns, and hoods date back to about the 12th Century. They probably started in France, for the wearing of a cap and gown marked the admission of a licentiate to the group of master teachers. These caps and gowns were the outer garments worn by the masters to keep out the chill and dampness of the medieval buildings. Because most of the masters were clerics, our present day caps and gowns are outgrowths of the long, flowing robes worn at that time.

The hood probably was adopted from the monk's cowl, which was originally attached to the gown, but became detached when the wearing of a cap became popular. The mortarboard cap evolved from the skull cap which the scholars wore.

Caps and gowns have been used in this country from Colonial times. Columbia, or King's College as it was then called, adopted a local code and others also had codes of their own. A commission representing the leading American colleges met in 1894 to discuss the academic costume and a year later the American Intercollegiate Code was adopted.

The Academic Gown

The Code provides that the Bachelor shall wear a black gown with long pointed sleeves. The Oxford gown, worn closed, was adopted in America. The Master's gown is worn open. It has long closed sleeves squared at the ends, which fall below the knees with a slit for the arms near the elbow.

The Doctor's gown is also worn open. The sleeves are bell shape and very full. The front of the gown is faced with velvet and the sleeves have three velvet bars. The color of the velvet facing and bars may either be the color of the degree earned or black.

The Academic Cap

The Oxford cap, or mortarboard, worn for all degrees, is of black cloth and usually has a black tassel. Those holding the Doctorate wear gold tassels, while holders of the Bachelor's and Master's degrees generally wear a black tassel - although in recent years it has often become customary to wear a colored tassel symbolizing, like the hood, the subject area in which the wearer has taken his degree. Tassels are placed over the left temple

The Academic Hood

The hoods can be distinguished by both length and color. The Bachelor's hood measures three feet, the Master's three and one-half, and the Doctor's four. The color of the velvet edging, which is wider for the higher degrees than for the Bachelor's, indicates the subject area to which the degree pertains. In addition to the colored edging, the hood shows in its lining the official color or colors of the institution which awarded the degree. The hood is worn in such a way that a large part of the lining is visible.

The Color Code

The color code used to distinguish the different faculties or subjects is given below. Most of the colors selected have come down from the past. The white for Arts is from the ermine trimming of Oxford and Cambridge hoods; scarlet symbolizes the burning faith and zeal of the church; pink was adopted from the pink brocade of the Oxford Doctor of Music; Law from the royal purple of the Kings Courts, while Philosophy took royal blue, the color of truth and wisdom; the green of Medicine from the color of medicinal herbs; the golden yellow of Science from the untold wealth which has been brought forth by research in this branch of knowledge; the russet of Forestry from the same color dress of the English forester.

The Modern Color Code

Agriculture	Maize	Optometry	Seafoam
Arts And Letters	White	Oratory	Silver Gray
Chiropody	Nile Green	Pedagogy	Light Blue
Commerce & Accountancy	Drab	Pharmacy	Olive Green
Dentistry	Lilac	Philanthropy	Rose
Economics	Copper	Philosophy	Blue
Engineering	Orange	Physical Education	Sage Green
Fine Arts	Brown	Public Administration	Drab
Forestry	Russet	Public Health	Salmon Pink
Humanities	White	Science	Golden Yellow
Law	Purple	Social Science	Citron
Medicine	Green	Theology	Scarlet
Music	Pink	Veterinary Science	Gray
Nursing	Apricot		