



# SENIOR COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER NOMINATIONS

## The Wendell Phillips Award

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### **Wendell Phillips**

Nineteenth-century American lawyer, orator, fervent abolitionist, and advocate for women's and Native People's rights

Each year, one graduating senior is chosen to be the class speaker at Commencement, and the speech takes place during the Baccalaureate Ceremony. Established in 1896 and named for Wendell Phillips, the speech is intended to deliver a message to inspire the graduating class and all who are gathered to reflect on how a Tufts education, and specifically the experiences of the graduating senior class, might help make the world a better place through constructive civic engagement.

Faculty, staff, and students may nominate seniors to apply to be the Wendell Phillips Speaker, and seniors may self-nominate. Nominees will be invited to apply by February 1st with a resume and a recorded speech.

Applications are reviewed by the Committee on Student Life (CSL), who will invite finalists to audition at an open forum in March before selecting the winner. This award also carries a cash prize of \$900. The University Chaplaincy hosts the final audition, and coordinates the speaker's participation in the Baccalaureate Ceremony.

**Nominate today and learn more:**  
<http://chaplaincy.tufts.edu/wendellphillips>

**For more information, please contact:**

University Chaplain Rev. Elyse Nelson Winger at [chaplaincy@tufts.edu](mailto:chaplaincy@tufts.edu) or 617-627-6024

**Nomination deadline: Monday, December 14, 5 p.m. ET**



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