

Tufts University
Medford/Somerville
Massachusetts

Tufts

The Baccalaureate
Ceremony

Saturday, May 22, 2021



The Baccalaureate Ceremony of the Class of 2021

Saturday, May 22, 2021

Coordinated by the University Chaplaincy

Please find the prerecorded ceremony at:
go.tufts.edu/baccalaureate2021

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*As we join together today,
we recognize that the land
on which the Tufts community has lived and learned for nearly 170 years
is on the traditional, unceded lands of the Massachusett tribe.
We acknowledge with gratitude that the Massachusett tribe and
the Aquinnah and Mashpee Wampanoag peoples
still steward this beautiful land.
We acknowledge in sorrow the countless injustices
yet to be repaired.
We acknowledge in solidarity
that they live today by their own strength and traditions.*

ORDER OF THE CELEBRATION

*Unless otherwise noted, all musical accompaniments are performed by
Thomas B. Dawkins, University Chaplaincy Music Director and Organist*

Countdown to the

Baccalaureate Ceremony

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Paul Dukas: *Fanfare* from *La Péri* arr. Robert Gower

Words of Welcome

and Greetings of Peace

Reverend Elyse Nelson Winger, University Chaplain

Senior Interviews

Alice Dempsey, A21

Yasmin Farah, A21

Jacob Fried, A21

Carlos Irisarri, A21

David Massart, A21

Arjun Padalkar, A21

Uzair Sattar, A21

Alex Schnur, A21

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Florence Price: *Adoration* for organ

Introduction of the

Wendell Phillips Speaker

Walker Bristol, Humanist Chaplain

The Wendell Phillips

Address

Atrey Bhargava, A21

Musical Performance

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor: *Deep River* arr. Iverson Eliopoulos

Julia Moss, A21, *viola*

Iverson Eliopoulos, A21, *cello*

Talia Kee, A22, *violin*

Andrew Zhang, E22, *violin*

Introduction of the

Baccalaureate Speaker

Kayleigh Ford, A21

The Baccalaureate

Address

President Anthony P. Monaco

A Time for Thanks and Joy

Sean Moushegian, E21 and Akshita Rao, E21

In this moment, we offer thanks and joy for our years together in this place and for the values that Tufts University at its best imparts: a love of learning and of truth; a commitment to service and justice; an understanding of the unity of human knowledge and of humankind; a sense of community, self-respect and respect for others; an appreciation of friendship, creativity and beauty; and a reverence for those who have accompanied us.

We offer thanks and joy for the intellectual skills that Tufts hones and sharpens: the ability to think logically and make sound judgments, to willingly doubt and challenge accepted wisdom, to move from conformity to creativity, from concrete to abstract, and to understand diverse historical and cultural contexts.

We offer thanks and joy for all of the ways we've each discovered our own passions and callings as scholars, leaders, and citizens. For the times when we felt our studies and career aspirations aligned with our deepest values; for the times when we used our voices and took action for equity and justice; for all the experiences that illumined who we are and who we are becoming.

We offer thanks and joy for the conversations that helped us understand ourselves, that made us realize that we are not alone, that entertained, stimulated and challenged us, conversations that broadened our understanding—in classrooms and residence halls, at identity centers and student events—that enabled us to mature, think, act, and grow.

We offer thanks and joy for the trips on planes, on buses and bikes, on foot or on the T, that took us away from here, and then brought us back, each time with new confidence and insight to explore our neighborhoods and discover the world. For the new places that intrigued our curiosity, and for the familiar, usual places that made us comfortable, for new people and the places we met and shared, for all the ways our world became both larger and more known with each new adventure.

We offer thanks and joy for the images and memories of this place that will flash in our minds for the rest of our lives—walking up the Memorial Steps, looking out from Tisch roof, staying up for yet another all-nighter, walking to Davis Square, sitting by Mystic Lake, gathering on the Academic Quad. For gatherings, planned and spontaneous, that brought us together: picnics on the Prez Lawn, performances in Distler, Spring Flings and Winter Balls. For relationships with each other, ones that lasted long and even the ones, so important at the time, which are vivid no more, yet still remembered.

We offer thanks and joy for all those who have helped us on our way: for the guidance and support of our faculty and advisors, for the compassion and encouragement of our chaplains and mentors, for the love and patience of our families and friends. We offer thanks for the often-unsung heroes across the Tufts community who have made our lives possible day by day: staff and administration, dining workers and custodians, counselors and health care workers.

Finally, we offer thanks and joy for the resilience, vision, and perseverance that our class and the Tufts community have shown in these unprecedented times. For each act of kindness and creativity that enabled us to connect virtually; for every in-person activity and class made possible amidst social distancing; for moments to lament and support and times to dream, and, importantly, hope for the future.

For all these things and more, we offer thanks and joy!

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Improvisation on *Bunessan* (“*Morning Has Broken*”)

Words of Blessing and Sending

Reverend Elyse Nelson Winger, University Chaplain
Preeta Banerjee, Hindu Advisor
Reverend Daniel Bell, Protestant Chaplain
Rabbi Naftali Brawer, Jewish Chaplain
Walker Bristol, Humanist Chaplain
Lynn Cooper, Catholic Chaplain
Imam Abdul-Malik Merchant, Muslim Chaplain

Illumination: The Class of 2021

Closing Credits

Including Names of Graduates

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Florence Price: *Festal March* for organ

The Tufts University Chaplaincy uses the religious and philosophical symbols on the cover page to represent traditions honored within the Tufts community. For more information about the symbols, please visit chaplaincy.tufts.edu.

Om:	Hinduism	Torii:	Shinto
Wheel of Dharma:	Buddhism	Yin-Yang:	Taoism
Menorah:	Judaism	Li:	Confucianism
Cross:	Christianity	Abhaya Mudra:	Jainism
Crescent and Star:	Islam	Khanda:	Sikhism
Flaming Chalice:	Unitarian Universalism	Faravahar:	Zoroastrianism
Happy Human:	Humanism	Feather:	Native Traditions
Nine-Pointed Star:	Baha'i Faith	Pentacle:	Paganism

For more information about the Tufts University Chaplaincy, please visit chaplaincy.tufts.edu.