



The Baccalaureate Ceremony of the Class of 2024

Saturday, May 18, 2024

The flowers on the podium honor the friends and loved ones who have died during this time at Tufts.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we join together today,

we recognize that the land

*on which the Tufts community has lived and learned for over 170 years
is on the traditional, unceded lands of the Massachusetts tribe.*

*We acknowledge with gratitude that the Massachusetts 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.*

***Processional**

BACCALAUREATE JAZZ QUARTET

Adam Bernstein, A24, *Piano*

Matthew Gomez, A24, *Bass*

Jonah Kreitner, A25, *Violin*

Daniella Rothstein, A24, *Drums*

SENIOR CLASS BANNER BEARERS

Tyler Cipriano, A24

Hamida Giwa, E24

THE CLASS OF 2024

THE SENIOR BACCALAUREATE LEADERS

José Sebastián Fernández, E24

Arnav Roy Patra, A24

Catherine Shelburne, A24

THE WENDELL PHILLIPS SPEAKER

Saffiyah Coker, A24

FACULTY AND STAFF GREETERS

Led by David Proctor, *Senior Lecturer, Department of History*

THE PLATFORM PARTY

Najiba Akbar, *Muslim Chaplain*

Preeta Banerjee, *Hindu Chaplain*

Daniel Bell, *Protestant Chaplain*

Naftali Braver, *Jewish Chaplain and Executive Director, Tufts Hillel*

Lynn Cooper, *Catholic Chaplain and Associate Director,
University Chaplaincy*

Dayna Cunningham, *Dean of Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life*

Scheri Fultineer, *Dean of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts*

Caroline Genco, *Provost and Senior Vice President*

James Glaser, *Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences*

Sunil Kumar, *President of the University*

Kyongbum Lee, *Dean of the School of Engineering*

Camille Lizarribar, *Dean of Students and Chief Student Life Officer
for AS&E*

Ji Hyang Padma, *Buddhist Chaplain*

Anthony Cruz Pantojas, *Humanist Chaplain*

Abiodun Williams, *Professor of the Practice of International Politics,
Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life*

Elyse Nelson Winger, *University Chaplain*

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

ORDER OF THE CELEBRATION

Words of Welcome and Greetings of Peace

Elyse Nelson Winger, *University Chaplain*

Senior Interviews

Yousef Abdo, E24
Soliman Aboutaam, A24
Arielle Galinsky, A24
Meg Grieve, A24
Megan Harrison, A24
Justin Hong, A24
Ashley Jones, A24
Anna Li, A24
Evan Liao, E24
Elijah Marcus Lister, A24
Wanci Chouaffe Nana, A24
Maggie Russell, A24
Alexandra Shapiro, A24
Lacey Walls, A24

Introduction of the Wendell Phillips Speaker

Camille Lizarríbar, *Dean of Students and Chief Student Life Officer for AS&E*

The Wendell Phillips Address

Saffiyah Coker, A24

Musical Performance

TUFTS STRING QUARTET
Bart Codd, A24, *Violin*
Kate Goldberg, A26, *Violin*
Brawner Quan, A24, *Cello*
Matt Seliger, A27, *Viola*

Introduction of the Baccalaureate Speaker

José Sebastián Fernández, E24

The Baccalaureate Address Sunil Kumar, *President of the University*

***A Time for Thanks and Joy** Arnav Roy Patra, A24
Catherine Shelburne, A24

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; commitments to service, civic engagement, and advocacy; an understanding of the unity of all living beings; a sense of community, self-respect, and respect for others; an appreciation of friendship, creativity, and beauty; and a deep gratitude for those who have accompanied and supported us:

We give thanks and joy!

We offer thanks and joy for the intellectual and creative skills that Tufts hones and sharpens: the ability to think critically and imaginatively; to willingly question our own beliefs and challenge accepted wisdom; to move from theory to practice and from action to reflection; to listen with openness and compassion; and to understand and engage with diverse historical and cultural contexts:

We give thanks and joy!

We offer thanks and joy for all of the experiences that illuminated who we are and who we are becoming. For the ways we have each explored our passions as scholars, leaders, and community members; for the times when we felt our studies and aspirations aligned with our deepest values; for the times when we used our voices and took action for equity and justice; for the opportunities that challenged us, allowing us to learn from our mistakes; and for the questions we are still asking:

We give thanks and joy!

We offer thanks and joy for the conversations that helped us understand ourselves and connect with those around us. For the people who uplifted us in challenging moments, and for those who pushed us to think differently and broaden our perspectives; for the moments of laughter and the feelings of kinship; and for all the conversations—in classrooms, labs, dining halls, dorms, identity centers, leadership meetings, studios, student events, and random hallways—that led us to mature and grow:

We give thanks and joy!

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

We offer thanks and joy for the trips we have taken both together and independently, each time with new confidence and insight to explore our neighborhoods and discover the world. We offer thanks for studying abroad and exploring new places that intrigued our curiosity, as well as for returning to familiar places that made us feel at home. For walks to Davis Square; dips in the Mystic Lakes; art outings to the MFA; delicious food in the North End and Chinatown; riding the Green Line Extension in and out of Boston (finally!); and for all of the wisdom and generosity of our host communities: ***We give thanks and joy!***

We offer thanks and joy for the memories of this place that will remain imprinted on our minds—late-night dining on weekends; watching the sun set from Tisch roof; painting the cannon; studying in the Joyce Cummings Center; cheering on our athletes; picnicking on and sledding down President's Lawn; appreciating artists at galleries and on the stage; and listening to live music on the quad. For these and all gatherings that brought us together: ***We give thanks and joy!***

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 coaches, chaplains, and mentors; and for the innovation and perseverance of every person who helped us adjust to college life during the COVID-19 pandemic. We offer thanks for the often unsung heroes across the Tufts community who have made our lives possible day by day: dining workers, custodians, counselors, health-care workers, and staff. For the love and patience of our families and friends near and far as well as those no longer with us but present in spirit and love: ***We give thanks and joy!***

Finally, we offer thanks and joy for the resilience and purpose that our class has shown in our time at Tufts. For all the ways we met the moment personally and communally; for times we offered care in the midst of pain and uncertainty; for each act of kindness that enabled us to uplift one another; and most importantly, for the experiences and friendships that will last a lifetime, shaping our futures. ***For all these things and more, we offer thanks and joy!***

**Musical Performance
and Senior Class Photos**

TUFTS STRING QUARTET
Bart Codd, A24, *Violin*
Kate Goldberg, A26, *Violin*
Brawner Quan, A24, *Cello*
Matt Seliger, A27, *Viola*

**Words of Blessing
and Sending**

Najiba Akbar, *Muslim Chaplain*
Preeta Banerjee, *Hindu Chaplain*
Daniel Bell, *Protestant Chaplain*
Naftali Brawer, *Jewish Chaplain and Executive Director, Tufts Hillel*
Lynn Cooper, *Catholic Chaplain and Associate Director,
University Chaplaincy*
Ji Hyang Padma, *Buddhist Chaplain*
Anthony Cruz Pantojas, *Humanist Chaplain*
Elyse Nelson Winger, *University Chaplain*

***Recessional**

BACCALAUREATE JAZZ QUARTET
Adam Bernstein, A24, *Piano*
Matthew Gomez, A24, *Bass*
Jonah Kreitner, A25, *Violin*
Daniella Rothstein, A24, *Drums*

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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

Om: Hinduism
Wheel of Dharma: Buddhism
Menorah: Judaism
Cross: Christianity
Crescent and Star: Islam
Flaming Chalice: Unitarian Universalism
Happy Human: Humanism
Nine-Pointed Star: Baha'i Faith

Torii: Shinto
Yin-Yang: Taoism
Li: Confucianism
Abhaya Mudra: Jainism
Khanda: Sikhism
Faravahar: Zoroastrianism
Feather: Native Traditions
Pentacle: Paganism

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

Tufts