



75TH COMMENCEMENT

CLASS OF 2025

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

MACE BEARER

Karen Hayden, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, School of Education and Social Policy

CROSS BEARER

Sarah Dionne
Dean of Students

THE GRADUATES

Led by Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D.
Vice President for Mission and Ministry

GRADUATE STUDENTS

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

THE FACULTY

THE DISTINGUISHED ASSEMBLY

Academic Deans
Honorary Degree Recipient and Distinguished Speakers
Board of Trustees
Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost
President

The audience is requested to stand if they are able during the Academic Procession, Invocation and National Anthem, and to remain in place until the Academic Procession leaves at the end of the exercises.

PROGRAM

PRESIDING

John “Sean” Condon, Ph.D.
*Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
and Provost*

PROCESSIONAL

The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

INVOCATION

Kevin J. Lucey '89, P'24
Chair, Merrimack College Board of Trustees

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Audrey McGill '25 Accompanied by
The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

WELCOME

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.
President

A MESSAGE FROM MERRIMACK STUDENT LEADERS

Jandy Hernandez '25
Jillian Atwood M'25

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT AND DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

Kelley Tuthill, Ed.D.
President & CEO, Catholic Charities Boston

AWARDS

Edward G. Roddy, Jr. Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award

Presented by John “Sean” Condon, Ph.D.
*Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
and Provost*

2025 Merrimack Medal

Sarah Dionne
Dean of Students

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.
President

CLOSING REMARKS

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.
President

BENEDICTION

Father Raymond Dlugos, O.S.A., Ph.D.
Vice President for Mission and Ministry

CLOSING OF THE EXERCISES

John “Sean” Condon, Ph.D.
*Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
and Provost*

RECESSIONAL

Merrimack Anthem

Audrey McGill '25 Accompanied by
The Portsmouth Brass Quintet

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE

Leah Abcunas	Vanessa Bonanno	Suzanne Carroll
Rima Abdelkader	Alyssa Bono	Jordan Caruso
Dinebari Adumene	Samantha Boucher	Kelley Carzo
Zahra Ahmadi	Kacie Bourrell	Louvin Casimir
Komako Akai	Kailyn Bowie	Emily Castillo
Haley Alcott	Celina Bozoian	Nicole Catino
Jacob Alcott	Jennifer Brache	Jessica Cavanaugh
Kate Allender	Cavan Brady	Morgan Chase
Ashley Almeida	Matthew Breen	Ellen Chornoboy
Sarah Almstrom	Sarah Breen	Brian Christman
Alexandre Amicone	Colby Brennan	Brendan Christopher
Christos Anastos	Julia Brennan	Alyson Cipro
Ashlee Anderson	Molly Bresnahan	Helen Clark
Tyler Angers	Amber Brewster	Mary Cloutier
Alexandra Arute-Kacheris	Jessica Brewster	Ashley Cocchiaro
Christina Atkinson	Hannah Brisson	Cameron Colby
Jillian Auclair	Ryan Brooks	Mackenzie Collins
Emily Babon	Alyssa Brown	Ryan Concannon
Allison Bakanowsky	Lauren Brown	Jaclyn Connelly
Laurel Barbosa	Nicole Brown	Matthew Connelly
Mairead Bardho	Lauren Buckminster	Julianna Connor
Kerry Barrett	Jennifer Burke	Victoria Conti
Zachary Barry	Michael Burke	Chloe Copelas
Michaela Bartholomew	Cara Burns	Mackenzie Costello
Seanda Bartlett	Julia Butler	Danielle Cotton
Susan Bayer-Larson	Samantha Cabral	Madison Coughlin
Amber Bean	Abigail Cain	Mark Cox
Thomas Beasley	Jacklyn Cain	Kayla Cramer
Alexander Beers	Olivia Callery	Courtney Cronin
Michael Belanger	Rachel Cambria	Shawna Crowley
Fabiola Bernier	Alyssa Cameron	Grace Cunningham
Finnegan Bevilacqua	Emma Champion	Cailin Currie
Shai Bigelow	Joseph Cappadona	Kathleen D'Errico
Laura Bigwood	Emily Caren	Liliana Dalmer
Kayla Bitencourt	Jannel Carey	Kelsey Daly
Christine Black	Audree Carleton	Mia Dambra
Sydney Blades	Peter Carney	Sunita Das Chopra
Jamie Boghosian	Erin Carroll	Kirsten Davidson
Laura Boguslavskiy	Sarah Carroll	Anna Davies
Michael Bolduc	Katelyn Carroll	Jaclyn Davis

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE Continued

Meaghan Davis	Jennie Fiano	Christopher Grecco
Sydney Davis	Lauryn Field	Kylie Greeley
Hilary Dawson	Sarah Finamore	Emily Greenberg
Kenisha De La Rosa	Sierra Fiore	Jennifer Greene
Olivia DeCecca	Zachary Fiore	Alexandra Groppo
Jonathas Marcello DeMiranda	Gina Firicano	Alyssa Grzybinski
Katherine DeSimone	Rebecca Fisher	Samantha Guillotte
Ashley DiBella	Noelle Fitzpatrick	Addison Hagan
Emily DiBella	Lindsay Flaherty	Brooke Hardock
Alyssa DiBlasi	Johanna Ford-Hunt	Danielle Hart
Gerald DiGiusto	Madigan Forman	Jennifer Hart
Maria DiMatteo	Emma Fortuna	Emily Hartford
Katelyn Distasio	Stacy Foster	Kathleen Hartnett
Jonathan Doherty	Katherine Frampton	Sydney Haskin
Kelli Doherty	Tanya Franklin	Katlyn Hathaway
Ryan Donahue	Samantha Frey	Shannon Haverty-LaPointe
Adam Donaruma	Stephanie Friedman	Abigail Hawes
Jennifer Donovan	Shawna Frost	Rachel Hearn
Laura Dooley	Neftalina Fulgencio	Matthew Hicks
Sarah Douglas	Sabrina Fullam	Jenna Hines
Caitlin Doyle	Jahaida Gabriel	Reibin Hiraldo
Kristina Doyle	Katia Gaffney	VanTung Ho
Rachel Draghi	Maeve Gaffney	Sara Hodes
Emma Driscoll	Amy Gagliardi	Emily Hogan
Melissa Driver	Keri Gagnon	Heather Hogan
Grace Dunn	Elizabeth Gardner	Layna Holk
Anthony Durkin	Colin Garrett	Dejour Hollins
Hannah Dziadyk	Sophia Gendreau	Jessica Hood
Olivia Dziadyk	Ann Gerry	Maria Horbaczewski
Kimberly Eldredge	Rachael Gettleman	Colleen Hourigan
Riley Eldredge	Genevieve Giannotti	Benjamin Howland
Jane Ellis	Alison Giglio	Taylor Hutchings
Emily Emery	Sarah Gilbert	Jenna Imbrogna
Kimberly Emery	Alexandra Gioia	Rachel Ingraham
Olivia Encarnacao	Moiria Goodman	Syandene Inniss
Will English	Ann Goodwin	Benjamin Isaacman
Jacqueline Errera	Heidi Gould	Hannah Iskra
Grace Fagundes	Dolores Goyette	Ruth James
Bobbi Fandel	Spencer Graboski	Nicholas Jarek
Julienne Fares	Nicole Grainger	Eddivette Jimenez Correa
Megan Fedele	Emily Grant	Jennifer Johnson
Abigail Federici	Jennifer Grant	Denielle Johnston
Antonio Ferreira	Lyndsey Grava	Kayla Johnston

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE Continued

Michelle Jondle	Devan Leach	Nicole Mastrantonio
Josephine Jozokos	Tyler Leavy	Gwyneth Matthews
Andrea Juele	Kaitlin LeBlanc	Kayla Mathews
Anne-Isabelle Jungels	Sean Leehan	Ida Matuskova
Sophia Kalaitzidis	Presley Leighton	Kaylen Mawdsley
Anita Kalsi	Mackenzie LeLievre	Monica McCain
Jinita Rupesh Kamdar	Stephen Leonard	Jillian McCoy
Michelle Kane-Sewyck	Sheila Lethin	Ryan McDonough
Stacey Karacek	Caitlin Letourneau	Hayley McGahan
Katerina Karaminas	Patricia Levitre	Shannon McGrath
Alexander Karelak	Holly Lewis	Grace McIntyre
Michael Karon	Macy Litalien	Zachary McKeon
Diana Katsikaris	Anne Little	Serena McNary
Brooke Kazanovicz	Emily Lloyd	Kaitlin McNulty
Alethea Keamy	Ryan Loftus	Cheyenne McQueen
Jenna Kelly	Daniel Looney	Meghan Meczywor
Jennifer Kenney	Gabriele Lopez	Nicole Melchert
Rory Kerr	Grimilda Lopez	Diane Melo
Sydney Keyes	Amanda Lougee	Marie Merlino
Cintia Khouzami	Alicia Lucas	James Messenger
Emily Kilcoyne	Nicole Lucas	Stephanie Messina
Bryce King	Anasthasia Luong	Brieanna Metcalf
Marc Klaiman	Caitlyn Lynch	Megan Miller
Kaylee Knox	Timothy M McCue	Joanna Mills-Reid
Ziba Kolahy-Shams	Andrew Mac	Sarah Milofsky
Pamela Koneski	Nickolas Macisaac	Emily Minchello
Riley Korengel	Michelle MacPherson	Emma Moffatt
Kathryn Krippendorf	Katherine Maddox	Jake Moniz
Molly Kueter	Amanda Mahoney	Isabella Morgan
Nicola Kutz	Brianna Mahoney	Nathan Morrill
Kaleena Laguerre	Kathryn Mailloux	Anna Mullen
Nicole Lake	Madelyn Mallaghan	Erin Murphy
Ciara Lally	Amy Malone	Larissa Murphy
Ariana Lambros	Michelle Manatrey	Michelle Murphy
Emily Lamkin	Khanyisa Manzini	Ryan Murphy
Margaret Landry	Alana Maraglia	William Murray
Courtney Lanpher	Laura Marino	Lauren Myette
Madelyn Lapierre	Olivia Marran	Sadaf Nasiri
Ruby Lapierre	Kyle Martin	Ryan Nastro
Emily Larkin	Travis Martin	Amy Neil
Brooke Larson	Fabielys Martinez	Michelle Nettles
Michael Lavallie	Rebecca Martinez	Corinne Newell
Hannah LaVita	Rachel Mastine	Ryanne Newhouse

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE Continued

Mallory Newman	Andrea Plaitano	Rothmany Rom
Quynh Nguyen	Christine Pocas	Alex Roman-Arce
Tuyenhan Nguyen	Olivia Poillucci	Amy Roos
Jacklyn Nieves	Jason Pollina	Edgar Rosario Marrero
Ashley Nightingale	Nancy Lyn Pompeo	Emily Routhier
Shaista Noreen	Ariana Portalla	Kali Rowe
Alison Nugent	Frances Porte-Nimely	Jillian Rowland
Crystal Nunez	Jessica Porter	Jared Roy
Ailish O'Beirne	Jessica Potito	Alexandra Rugg
Justine O'Brien	Mackenzie Potvin	Desiree Ruiz Ramoz
Samuel O'Brien	Mary Pratt	Gabriela Ryan
Emily O'Connor	Elizabeth Prentiss	Richard Joseph Salgado
Rachel O'Connor	Alexandra Proch	Kara Sands
Sean O'Connor	Karli Ptaszkiwicz	Michele Santiago
Celine O'Dowd	Kylie Pucci	Nicollette Santiago
Kristen O'Keefe	Franklin Quijada	Cassandra Santos
Christopher O'Neil	Sarah Quinan	Deileen Santos
Mackenzie O'Neill	Jeneara Quintanilla	Rita Saraiva
Ethan O'Rourke	Trigal Ramos	Kathryn Sattler
Heidi Olson	Tiffany Ramos	Carlie Scacca
Lauren Orser	Ashley Rapoza	Rasika Scarff
Ariam Ortiz Robles	Julia Ray	Evan Scarlett
Katie Osorio	Connor Reardon	Stephanie Scenna
Abigail Paine	Joseph Reen	Joshua Schilmeister
Jocelyn Palmer	Ariana Reid	Nicole Schmidt
Olivia Pantano	Caroline Ren	Corinne Schmolka
Tyler Papciak	Micaela Reppucci	William Schoenberger
Alexis Parkins	Melissa Richard	Cody Schram
Maya Patel	Bryna Richards	Jenna Scott
Kaley Patriquin	Amber Ricker	Hannah Scruton
Megan Patten	Eric Ridore	Karina Searcy
Jordan Paula	Olivia Riley	Alexis Searles
Bethany Pender	Cassandra Rio	Samantha Shanahan
Brittany Peoples	Alexander Risberg	Jessica Shay
Julia Pepka	Conner Robertson	Casey Sheehan
Mary Pergola	Shea Robertson	Rachel Sheehan
Elise Persicketti	Sarah Rose Rocchio	Lynne Sheeley
Lily Peterson	Alexa Rockwell	Rachel Sheikh-Abdou
Christine Phillips	Eileen Rockwell	Emily Sherlock
Sandy Phomveha	Teresa Rodgers	Sanjana Sheth
Marie-Pauline Piandee	Jessica Rodrigues	Samantha Shisler
Cameron Piecewicz	Shantelle Rodrigues	Kenneth Shute
Mark Pisaturo	Sydney Rogers	Joseni Silva Jordao Batista

MASTER'S DEGREE IN COURSE Continued

Avery Simonds	Jessica Tran
Rose Simplice	Samantha Treff
Clare Simpson	Amanda Tsai
Candace Sledge	Hunter Tuck
Bridget Slocum	Katrina Tuck
Timothy Smilgis	Laura Tweedy
Thomas Smith	Miranda Tygert O'Connell
Amanda Snow	Christy Valentin
Kaitlyn Sok	Maggie-Molloy Van Dyne
Nicole Solimine	Eduard Van Osterom
Abigail Souza	Hannah VanDerlaske
Jacqueline Souza	Olivia Vандoros
William Spirdione	Lindsey Vargas
Riley Spring	Noah Walsh
Michelleann Sterling	Rebecca Walsh
Patricia Stocker	Blake Wasserman
Emily Stone	Bryanna Watts
Meghan Stratton	McKayla Weaver
Jessa Strautman	Emily Welling
Jourdan Strecker	Erin Wesley
Ava Sullivan	Caitlin West
Caitlin Sullivan	Katherine Weymouth
Kathryn Sullivan	Lilie Whalen
Meghan Sullivan	Anastasia Wilcox
Christian Surette	Amanda Williams
Kaitlyn Svendsen	Faith Williamson
Paige Symon	Araiyah Willis
Michaela Szymanski	Kevin Wilson
Julia Taliaferro	Heather Wood
Ariana Tanner	Olivia Wood
Julia Tardugno	Prisca Yangambi
Hailey Tatterfield	Kimberly Zuber
Diane Taylor	
Ashley Tejada	
Clare Teskey	
Morgan Thayer	
David Torres	
Tianisha Torres	
Patricia Towler	
Emma Trainor	

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE

Molly Ardito	Jacob Febbo	Hannah Makarski
Stori-Elizabeth Babineau	Molly Fidler	Kayleigh Manupelli
Lillian Baranosky	Carie Fiedler	Emma Margossian
Natalie Belton	Jake Fitzgerald	Yaneiri Martinez
Stella Benedetto	Bailey Fleming	Mia Martucci
Brodin Benting	James Fleming	Grace Masterson
Samantha Bograd	Norah Foley	Kathryn McCluskey
Brian Bouwman	Ryleigh Gagnon	Morgan McMahon
Madison Bowers	Emma Gedick	Cailin McNeil
Katie Brooks	Emily Gosselin	Marissa Meddock
Rebecca Cantu	Jeena Granata	Howard Melanson
Jonathan Caprigno	Jenna Gross	Alexis Meola
Toni Caputo	Kristen Guarente	Carson Mighty
Tucker Carlisle	Lila Hardy	Ryan Mikulski
Calista Carlson	Casey Hegan	Nicole Morel
Joseph Carreiro	Caitlin Henaghan	Bennet Morrill
Elle Carter	Molly Henderson	Kendra Morrissey
Celia Casale	Spencer Hewett	Erin O'Callaghan
Amanda Chandonnet	Katherine Hilliar	Sarah O'Connor
Hayley Chang	Jakobi Holiday	Christopher Olsen
Kelvin Cheridor	Brianna Hood	Matthew Ormond
Michael Citara	Quinn Hunold	Veronica Ortega
Daniella Colarusso	Aislin Hynes	Arline Ortiz
Isabella Conti	Megan Jacques	Brad Parad
Anya Cootey	Jessica Jones	Taylor Pattison
Caterina Coppola	Stephanie Julien	Kyle Pereira
Jermaine Corbett	Matthew Kaplan	Matthew Perkins
Emma Correira	Diana Karaj	Sarah Pestana
Suzannah Cox	Emma Kelly	Ryan Petrillo
Noah Cusack-Margolis	Kaitlyn Keohane	Kenneth Pierce
Abigail Daly	Anne Lagunilla	Colleen Powell
Annie Dark	Paige Lamberson	Joycelin Quintana Sambolin
Ava Dello Russo	Sophia Leblanc	Jack Quirion
Alec Diradourian	Caden Lewis	Domenic Reed
Hailey Donovan	Cassandra Lewis	John Robinson
Ashley Doo	Rosselyn Lima	Emma Rogorzinski
Katharine Duray	Gwyneth Littlehale	Taylor Rong
Anthony Durkin	Emily LoVuolo	Elisse Ruimwijk
Hadley Engels	Kelly Lyons	Kristina Russo
Jillian Erba	Cori Mackay	Serena Russo
Haylee Faria	Grace Magazzu	Amanda Saba
Margaret Farrell	Francesca Maiuri	Gabrielle Shaer

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN COURSE Continued

Jordan Shine
Trevor Shorter
Sara Silva
Nicholas Spadorcia
Nicole Stagg
Caroline Steele
Reanne Stull
Sara Swanton
Mandie Sweeney
Jacob Symmes
Ella Tanso
Madison Tavares
Maegan Taylor
Sara Thompson
Trevor Thornton
Patricia Towler
Margarita Tricoche
Meghan Tully
Joseline Urizandi Enriquez
Autumn Vance
Genelle Vieira
Kyleigh Walker
Michael Ward
Elizabeth Watson
Ben Wilichoski
Madison Woodworth Lombardo
Ashlyn Wright
Brendan Wyka
Haley Wyser
Ryan Young
Madelyn Yurewicz
Owen Zadrozny
Elisa Zambella
Grace Zhang
Emma Zimon

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS AND DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

KELLEY TUTHILL, ED.D.

President & CEO, Catholic Charities Boston

Doctor of Humane Letters

Kelley Tuthill, Ed.D., was appointed President & CEO of Catholic Charities Boston in 2024. In her role, she develops the vision and strategic plan for the \$50 million agency and works closely with leaders and policymakers across key organizations to advance Catholic Charities Boston's mission to welcome and serve all those in need with dignity and respect.

A seasoned fundraiser, her team has achieved notable successes under her leadership in securing major gifts from private donors and foundations and raising \$1.5 million at its 2024 annual fundraiser, more than double the previous year. She led the agency's response to the humanitarian crisis stretching from the nation's border to Boston, working with Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey's Administration to expand agency shelter capacity by 130 percent and open two new facilities.

Prior to being appointed President & CEO, Tuthill served as Chief Operating Officer, overseeing advancement, government and community relations, human resources, legal and marketing and communications. Her leadership has been pivotal to the agency's aspirations to generate more resources for programs, strengthen the brand and improve business functions.

Before joining Catholic Charities, Tuthill served as Regis College's first Vice President of Marketing & Communications, helping to launch an annual university-wide day of service, a fundraising gala and a website overhaul. Tuthill worked for more than two decades as a news anchor and reporter, primarily at WCVB-TV in Boston. She won awards for her multiplatform coverage of the Whitey Bulger mob trial and was part of a team that covered the Boston Marathon bombing, which won three National Headliner Awards and several Emmys.

A breast cancer survivor, Tuthill poignantly shared her journey with WCVB viewers and online users. She has become a champion of local and national breast cancer organizations, raising both money and awareness. Tuthill received the 2017 Jimmy Award, which honors celebrities who have committed themselves to the mission of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund.

Tuthill received her doctorate in higher education leadership from Regis College, a master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Notre Dame. She served for 25 years on the Notre Dame College of Arts and Letters Advisory Council and the Gallivan Journalism Board. She was appointed to the board of directors of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation in 2024.

DIPLOMA TRANSLATION

The translation of the Merrimack College diploma from Latin to English is as follows:

Merrimack College

To all reading this document

Greetings in the Lord

The President, Faculty and Trustees of Merrimack College

by virtue of properly completing required studies on the recommendation of the faculty

and by the authority vested in us

by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts confer on

name of student

the degree of

name of degree

and grant freely all rights, privileges and honors pertaining to that degree.

In witness thereof we place the seal of the College.

Given in North Andover in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

date of degree

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kevin J. Lucey '89, P'24 *Chair*

Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D., *President*

Karen Cambray '88, *Treasurer*

Alvin M. Chapital, III '86, *Vice Chair*

Rev. David A. Cregan O.S.A., Ph.D., *Vice Chair*

Marybeth McInnis, Esq. H'17, *Vice Chair*

Rev. Bryan J. Kerns, O.S.A., *Secretary*

Caitlyn M. Bosworth, Esq., *Assistant Secretary*

Rev. Robert P. Hagan, O.S.A., *Ex Officio*

Alfred Arcidi, Jr. '84, P'06, P'18, MP'17, H'21, GP'23

Michael P. Arcidi '85

John (Jack) T. Boyce '81, H'23

Bruce A. Bouchard '79

Matthew Carpenter-Dennis, Esq.

Joanne Caruso Bentley '81

Peter J. Caulo '83

Lynne Ann Chase '90, P'23

Rev. Kevin M. DePrinzio, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Francis "Ken" Duane '80, H'16

Michael J. Franco, Esq. '81, P'12

Rev. Francis J. Horn, O.S.A., J.C.D.

Dennis J. Leonard '77

Paul L. Mucci P'07

Rev. Arthur P. Purcaro, O.S.A.

Kevin R. Rhodes '91

Kevin J. Routhier '99

James E. Scammon '83

Patrick J. Sullivan

ABOUT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

One of only two Catholic Augustinian colleges in the United States, Merrimack College is a rising institution with a decade-long trajectory of growth and innovation. Merrimack is a selective, research-oriented, master's comprehensive institution with approximately 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students from 43 states and 42 countries, comprising schools of arts and sciences, engineering and computational sciences, nursing and health sciences, education and social policy, and business. The College's 220-acre campus is just north of Boston in North Andover, Mass.

MISSION AND VISION

OUR MISSION IS TO ENLIGHTEN MINDS, ENGAGE HEARTS, AND EMPOWER LIVES.

Inspired by the Catholic faith and the Augustinian tradition of seeking truth through inquiry and dialogue, our vision is to

- Prepare students to adapt creatively to tomorrow's realities through excellence in the liberal arts, sciences, and the professions;
- Build a community of scholars welcoming and respecting a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, beliefs, and perspectives;
- Cultivate the intellectual, moral, spiritual, physical, and personal awareness needed to make wise choices for life, career, and service;
- Encourage and support scholarly work that contributes to the wisdom on which society bases its decisions;
- Engage other educational institutions, industry, and agencies of social change in collaborative efforts fostering a just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

THE SEAL OF MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Drawing on our rich history, the modern shield of Merrimack College reinterprets elements from the original 1947 college seal.

The shield includes four quadrants:

- The book with the words “Tolle Lege” (“take up and read”), the famous words connected with the conversion of Saint Augustine to Catholicism, proclaiming the College’s founding by the Order of Saint Augustine.
- Wavy pallets, to represent the “swift water” of the Merrimack Valley’s original Native Americans.
- The cross fleurette, from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Boston, in which Merrimack College is located. The cross fleurette refers to the French ancestry of Bishop Cheverus, the first Bishop of Boston (1810–1823).
- The symbolism of our colors: blue for loyalty (and the cold, rippling waters of the Merrimack River) and gold for wisdom (also the color of the papacy).



THE CEREMONIAL MACE

The mace carried in academic processions derives from medieval times in England when an official was taking office. At that time, the mace was a formidable weapon and was held ready by the mace bearer to protect the dignitary. From the sixteenth century in England and since colonial days in America, the mace has become a symbol of academic office and is carried by a distinguished member of the faculty.

The Merrimack College mace has a young history. It was fashioned for the 1986 Commencement by Cistercian Monks of the Holy Rood Guild at Saint Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts. The monks are renowned craftsmen and designers of ecclesiastical vesture.

The Merrimack College mace is thirty-six inches long and is made of black walnut. The front of the mace carries the College's hand-painted, gold-leafed seal. From the intricate coat of arms of the Order of Saint Augustine, the back of the mace is hand carved with an open book symbolizing the conversion of Augustine. On the left hand side of the book is a tongue of flame above a heart pierced with "the burning love of God." An elegantly simple cross adorns the top of the mace.

Since 1986, the Merrimack College mace has been carried by the Chief Marshal at Commencement.

THE CEREMONIAL CROSS

The processional cross is expressive of the Augustinian longing for unity of our minds and hearts in God. It was designed by the Augustinian Contemplative Nuns at the Monastery of Our Holy Savior In Leccetto, Tuscany, Italy. Small replicas of this cross are given to Merrimack students engaged in service to others through Service Learning and the Alternative Break Programs as well as to those who participate in MORE, the Pellegrinaggio en Italia, and other programs that foster self-awareness and spiritual growth.

REGALIA

The origins of academic dress lie in fourteenth century England. The buildings frequented by medieval scholars were often cold and damp; long gowns (particularly with hoods to protect tonsured heads) may have been worn more for warmth than fashion.

The distinctive gown set the student apart from his fellow citizens. As late as the Civil War, students at American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. Whatever the origin, academic regalia grew in diversity and splendor, with scholars displaying distinctive costume for different occasions and achievements. The result was a bewildering variety of designs.

An intercollegiate commission met at Columbia University in 1894 to establish a standard academic costume code, and over the years it has been revised by an official committee of the American Council on Education. The committee's prescriptions, while regulating, still allow for great pageantry at formal academic events.

From the cap, gown, and hood, it is possible to distinguish the institution from which the wearer was graduated, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of the degree—bachelor, master, or doctoral.

The distinguishing feature of the black mortarboard cap, standard at most colleges and universities in the United States, is the color of the tassel—black for the holder of a bachelor's or master's degree, gold for a doctor's degree or the governing officers of educational institutions.

The gown is normally black, and the gown's cut and trim indicate the level of the degree held. The bachelor's has long, pointed sleeves, while the master's has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, with the front part cut in an arc. The doctor's sleeves are bell-shaped, with three bars of velvet, and the gown is trimmed with velvet down the front as well. The hood tells the most about its wearer. The length of the hood and width of the binding vary according to degree. The hood is lined with the official colors of the college. The color of the hood's binding indicates the area of study in which the degree was granted. Students also wear other regalia, including cords signifying academic honors and stoles representing countries they studied in during their academic career.

At formal academic occasions, the President of Merrimack College also wears the Presidential Medal which incorporates the College seal.

MERRIMACK COLLEGE ANTHEM

Michael J. Rossi, Ph.D.
Rev. Joseph L. Farrell, O.S.A.
Rev. Scott C. Ness, O.S.A.

Intro. *In unison*

O Mer-ri-mack, how shall we hon-or you? With

mind and heart a - wa-kened to the truth. We shall build God's ci - ty in our -

selves and in our world, reach-ing out in ser-vice, our hearts a - fire with

love. The rest-less quest for wis-dom in the com - pa-ny of friends,

calls us ev-er on - ward 'til in God our hearts find rest. Our guides are faith and

rea - son on a path that yet un - folds, and come we will to wis-dom through

know-ledge formed in love. O Mer-ri-mack, how shall we hon-or you? With

mind and heart a - wa-kened to the truth. We shall build God's ci - ty in our -

selves and in our world, reach-ing out in ser-vice, our hearts a - fire with love.



MERRIMACK
COLLEGE