



ST JOHN'S
College

ANNAPOLIS • SANTA FE

2024

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Sunday | May 12
Two Thousand and Twenty-Four

Annapolis | Maryland

PROGRAM

For the Two Hundred Thirty-Second
Commencement in the
Three Hundred Twenty-Eighth Year
of the College

Prelude	Carrollton Brass Quintet
Academic Procession	
The National Anthem Francis Scott Key, Alumnus, Class of 1796	Carrollton Brass Quintet
Welcome	President Demleitner
Announcement of Prizes and Awards	President Demleitner Dean Paalman
Address to the Graduating Class	Mark Roosevelt Collegewide and Santa Fe Campus President
Conferring of Undergraduate Degrees	President Demleitner Dean Paalman
Conferring of Graduate Degrees	President Demleitner Associate Dean Boyle
Academic Recession	Carrollton Brass Quintet

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Erin Allen

Coatesville, Pennsylvania

On Physical Analogies, Quantum Physics, and Determinism

Logan Arendt

Levittown, Pennsylvania

Beatrice or Ulysses: On Dante's Sins in the *Divine Comedy*

Parth Sarthi Bajaj

Katni, India

The Allure of War: An Examination of the Individual lives and the historical thoughts in Tolstoy's *War and Peace*

Emma Barron

Monroe, Louisiana

The Women of the *Aeneid*: An Exploration of Vergil's Female Characters

Lucinda-Cecilia Bellamy

Washington, District of Columbia

The True Vision of the Uncertain Self - (An Investigation of the Mystical Relationship Between Memory and Conversion)

Peter Boersema

Shoreline, Washington

What are Political Economists For?

Ana Bojaxhi

Camarillo, California

A Mental Discourse on the Jealousy, Greed, and Glory of Man in Hobbes' *Leviathan*

Luke Briner

Northport, New York

The Alone to the Alone: The One and the Good in Plotinus

Allyson Brink

St. Louis, Missouri

Reading the *Oresteia* with Cassandra in Mind

Carter Brown

Fairfax, Virginia

Moving Without Ark: On Conversation and Compassion in the Book of Job

Acacia Burnham

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Edgar I Nothing Am: Paradox & Performance in Shakespeare's *King Lear*

Leul Campbell

Newburgh, New York

The Inequality of Man: The Leap from Property to Slavery in Rousseau's
Second Discourse

Seneca Case

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Eros and the Divine: An Exploration of the Role of Beatrice and the Feminine
Form in the *Divine Comedy*

Carolynn Ceci

Bel Air, Maryland

The Wind and the Wise: An Inquiry into a human's application of Divine
Wisdom

Hannah Chavers

Farmington, New Mexico

The Lullaby of Philosophy and the Importance of Storytelling: A Musical
Endeavor Propounded by Fear and an Effort to Uncover What *Is*

Yiyang Cheng

Suzhou, People's Republic of China

Home: the Stability, the Power, the Source of Struggle: The Power Distortion
in the Family as a Cause of the Tragedy in Jean Racine's *Phèdre*

Paige Chesney

Washington Grove, Maryland

On the Sun, Equinox, and Celestial Recurrence in Dante Alighieri's *Paradiso*

Caleb Clark

Hollis, New Hampshire

Perfectibilité and the Fall of Man in Rousseau's *Discourse on Inequality*

Marshall Cooperman

Washington, District of Columbia

The Role of Justice in Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*

Elisabeth Crosby

New Haven, Connecticut

Nietzsche's Meditation on How to Survive History: A Return to Being Human

Charles Dang

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

A Tale of Two Cities: An Exploration of the Atlantis Myth in Plato's *Timaeus* and *Critias*

Sydney Davis

Arnold, Maryland

Knowing Clytemnestra: On Fully Understanding Character, Past Initial Impression

James Dormer

Pleasanton, California

A Web Sovereignty: On People and Power in *Democracy in America*

Frederic Duch Clerici

Barcelona, Spain

The Fundamental Law of Natural Philosophy: An Investigation into the Scientific Mind

Michael Engstrom

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Over Better Waters: Guidance and Innate Freedom in Dante's *Purgatorio*

Tallis Estevez

Silver Spring, Maryland

Purely to Look On: Consciousness's Self-Examination in *The Phenomenology of Spirit*

Hannah Fodor

Vienna, Austria

What Does it Take to Believe a Story? A Look into the Imaginative Space in
Don Quixote

Audrey Fox

Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

The Drama of Justice: Thrasymachus and Glaucon's Performance in Plato's
Republic

Adam Francavilla

Traverse City, Michigan

Democracy in America: The Dangers of Democratic Revolution

Tait Geijer

San Clemente, California

Things Change: Heraclitus' Cosmology of Πῦρ

Hannah Glick

Warminster, Pennsylvania

The Psychology of a City

Ian Glueckert

Columbus, New Jersey

The Three Deaths of Prince Andrei: On Inevitability, Freedom, and God in
War and Peace

Daniela Gonzalez

Lynn, Massachusetts

What is invisibility?

Oscar Gonzalez

Silver Spring, Maryland

The Hermit's Sojourn: A Study of the Inner and Outer in *Either/Or*

Stephanie Harris

Happy Valley, Oregon

Navigating Life's Deluge: The Metaphor of Movement in Rimbaud's
Illuminations

Nelli Harutyunyan

Yerevan, Armenia

What is Philosophy Good For?

Karina Havener

Washington, District of Columbia

Memory in *Swann's Way*

Troy Herner-Brown

Alameda, California

The Eye of the Beholder: Ptolemy, Copernicus, Kepler, and the Nature of Scientific Progress

Gabriel Hess

Stanardsville, Virginia

An Essay on the Role of Reason in Dante's Salvation and Ours

Adelina Hill

Bridgeport, West Virginia

The Hidden Philosophy of Psychology and the Mystery of Man

Henry Hills

Easton, Maryland

On the Mythical Riddles Concerning Paternal Succession in Hesiod's *Theogony*

Veronique Hornquist

Miami Beach, Florida

An Exploration into the Notion of Beauty in Charles Baudelaire's *Les Fleur du mal*

Ian Howell

Blue Hill, Maine

"The Love of the Grotesque": Nostalgia in Baudelaire

Genevieve Hoyah

Laurel, Maryland

On Those Who Dwell in the Hollow of the Earth: A Hegelian Critique of the Human Body as Presented in Plato's *Phaedo*

Zeinip Ibragim Kyzy

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Love's Alchemy: Exploring Faust's Transformative Journey and Its
Implications in Goethe's *Faust*

Annelise Invanescu

Dearborn Heights, Michigan

Against Birth: An Analysis of the Concept of Death in Sophocles' *Antigone*

Alexandra Jacobs

Austin, Texas

Language and Signs: An Inquiry into the Embodied "Word" in the Gospel of
John

Robert Jacobsen

Orient, Ohio

Broken Crockery: The Greatness of General Mikhail Kutuzov

Songeun Grace Jang

Seoul, Republic of Korea

An Attempt to Know the World: Exploration into Aristotle's *Physics*

Francis Kane

Easton, Maryland

The Machiavellian Notion of Virtue: (An Investigation of the use of Virtue in
The Prince by Niccolo Machiavelli)

Ranger Kasdorf

Waterford, Virginia

Milton's *Elements*

Katherine Kennedy

Charlottesville, Virginia

When the Lights of Health Go Down: Virginia Woolf on Illness

JinHyung Kim

Haeundae, Republic of Korea

On Self-Love and Perfect Liberty in Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations*

Sahn Kim

Seongnamsi Bundang-Gu, Republic of Korea

A Meaningful Life: In *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*

Ranna Kisswani

Las Vegas, Nevada

From Soil We Were to Dust We Shall Be: Likeness & Createdness' Role in
the Fall

Daniella Kolen*

Baltimore, Maryland

Dagny Kulkarni

Redlands, California

The Resilience of the Wild Rose-Bush: On the Interconnectedness of
Human Nature and the Natural World in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet
Letter*

Benjamin Kushnir

Tokyo, Japan

Concerning Spinoza's Idea of Human Nature

Valentine Lamb

Falls Church, Virginia

Criminal Blood, Justified Blades: Debt, Duty, Desire, and Death in Virgil's
Aeneid

Ye Seul Lim*

Seoul, Republic of Korea

Alexander Macaulay

Charlestown, Massachusetts

The Moral Failure of Civilization in Gulliver's Travels

Bridget Mace

Chappaqua, New York

Power for the Wife of Bath in *The Canterbury Tales*

Benjamin Maier

Oakland, California

The Drowning of Hippasus: How Incommensurable Magnitudes Became the Real Numbers

Nathaniel Martin

Fort Worth, Texas

Anomalistic Growth as Proof of Nature's Goal: Metamorphosis' transformation of understanding in Goethe's *Metamorphosis* of Plants

Allayah Mason-Koehler

Valparaiso, Indiana

Sinning and Sighing in Sign: Lies and Their Repair in a *Paradise Lost*

Max Mersmann-Jones

Stockton, California

The Power of Two: In Search of a Fundamental Theory of Subjection

Madelyn Minor

Rochester, New York

Repeat After Me: On the Relationships Between Images and Their Origins in the Tale of Echo and Narcissus

Tuyết-Nhi Nghiê

Cerritos, California

The Good in Bad Friends: Reaching for The Good Beyond Justice by Examining Friendship in the *Nichomachean Ethics*

Charlotte Nicholas

Cowbridge, Wales

Natasha's Final Harmony: On Music in *War and Peace*

George Augustus Pananas

Staunton, Virginia

According to Nature: The Application of the Stoic System to Human Life

Mila Passoff

New York, New York

One is Not a Lonely Number: Dedekind's "Free Creation" and Scientific Knowledge

Dolan Polglaze

Walkersville, Maryland

Aristotle's Biologist: Is Our Contemplation the Animals' Salvation?

Abigail Poppleton

Storrs Manfield, Connecticut

Songs of the Underworld: An Essay on Homer's *Odyssey*

Adam Powers

New York, New York

American Jeremiah: Providential Fact in Alexis de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*

Daniel Redish

Bloomington, Minnesota

A Polity by Any Other Name: An Analysis of Naming in Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*

Catherine Row

Glen Allen, Virginia

Lilacs in a Thunderstorm – or – The Necessity of Art in the Face of Nature: A Reflection on *Swann's Way* by Marcel Proust

Sori Ryu

La Mirada, California

A Study of Genealogy on the Royal Line of David

Ahan Sagreiya

Jabalpur, India

Understanding Nature and the Nature of Understanding: On the Natural Path to Understanding and Science in Aristotle's *Physics*

Antonina Schlussman

New York, New York

Free Me from the Bonds of Passion! An Exploration of Moral Virtue in St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologiae*

Bennett Scott

Cherry Hills Village, Colorado

An Ethics of Eternity: Deciding on Infinity in the *Iliad* and Pascal

Andrew Selway

Baltimore, Maryland

Finding Freedom in the Woods: Isaac's Path to Liberty in *The Bear*

Aaron Shelsby

Washington, District of Columbia

The Origin of Deliberative Speech and Its Consequences for the Minds of
Milton's Fallen Angels

Samuel Soderland

King George, Virginia

Converging on Conversion: Why Should One Follow God? According to
Augustine

Dohyun Song

Jeonju, Republic of Korea

Man's Perpetual Journey of Sensing and Conversing in *Gulliver's Travels* by
Jonathan Swift

Zhiheng Song

Hangzhou, People's Republic of China

On Knowing: Boundaries of the Recollectible from *Meno*

Chloe Steer

Catonsville, Maryland

But His Flaw'd Heart Burst Smilingly: Despair, Trifling, and Cures in *King Lear*

Emma Strauss

Pasadena, Maryland

Heaven or Hell: Which One Will You Choose? An Exploration into
Nonconformity and Making a Way for Oneself

Joshua Tague

Annapolis, Maryland

An End of Grief

Kimberly Taylor

McLean, Virginia

The Elements of Government: A Mathematical Examination of the U.S.
Founding Documents

John Teague

Woodlands, Texas

Beyond Experience: The Faculties of Consciousness and Rationality in Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace*

Christopher Thomas

Okemos, Michigan

Gathering Time: Memory and Wholeness in Augustine's *Confessions*

Stephaun Turner

Bridgeton, Missouri

Threading the Weaver's Loom: Plotinus and Hegel Illuminate Creation's Metaphysical Depths in Genesis

Christopher Turney

Atlanta, Georgia

The Teachable Yahoo: An Exploration of Identity in *Gulliver's Travels*

Naina Wagh

Pune, India

Zarathustra's Descent into Mankind: Looking at *Zarathustra's* Prologue as a Tragedy

Micah Warren

Alexandria, Virginia

The Perfection of the State in Machiavelli's Discourses on Livy

Isabella Watmough

Damariscotta, Maine

The "special providence in the fall of a sparrow" in Shakespeare's Hamlet: A Study of the Noble Conscience in the Midst of Tragedy (with Help from Hegel)

Senrui Yang

Chongqing, People's Republic of China

A Reading of Les Fleurs du Mal: Is Life Worth Living? Reflections on the Dark Side of the Contemplative Life and Modern Man's Search for Positive Beliefs and Meaning in Life

Nicholas Yurasko

Medford, Massachusetts

On the Psychodynamic Theory of Dreams & Neurotic Symptomatology

Henry Zheng

Washington, District of Columbia

Look Back at Education's Past, Present, and Future: The History of
Education from Europe to America and Anticipatory Predictions of What
Happens to Education After Alexis De Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*

MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL ARTS

Sylvie Bernhardt	Annapolis, Maryland
Michael Connors	Brisbane, Australia
Lyndsey Cornell [§]	Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
Jose Coronado Flores	Frederick, Maryland
Nicholas Dacosta	Washington, District of Columbia
Brian Doyle [§]	Bethesda, Maryland
Dominic Escorpeso	Waldorf, Maryland
William Galloway	Camden, South Carolina
Grant Gombert [†]	Boerne, Texas
Elizabeth Hartley	The Dalles, Oregon
Sonya Holbrook [§]	Cornelius, North Carolina
Theodorus Johan Jeursen [†]	's-Gravenzande, Netherlands
Stuart Kenny	Lincoln, Nebraska
Yonas Ketsela	Ethiopia
Jordan Klein	Annapolis, Maryland
Viktoriya Kudryavtseva [§]	Baltimore, Maryland
Melissa Moore [§]	Wolfboro, New Hampshire
Benjamin Morgan	Washington, District of Columbia
Luis Parrales	Arlington, Virginia

Bethany Pautrat [§]	Laurel, Maryland
Noah Perrin [§]	Richmond, Virginia
Quinn Rifkin	Ellicottville, New York
Gavin Robillard	Fairfax, Virginia
Armando Rodriguez [§]	Puebla, Mexico
Anthony Roncalli	New York, New York
Brandon Rothenberg [§]	Rockville, Maryland
Jack Ryan	Annapolis, Maryland
Luca Stephen-Sujdovic	Sydney, Australia
Houston Taylor	Chattanooga, Tennessee
Kevin Telford	Oceanside, New York
Noah Vancina [†]	Fort Wayne, Indiana
Ray Whitney	Millsboro, Delaware

^{*} Upon completion of requirements

[†] Degree conferred January 24, 2024

[§] Degree conferred October 21, 2023

PRIZES AND AWARDS

To the member of the Senior Class who has written the best senior essay.

Offered in memory of Susan Irene Roberts, of the Class of 1966

Aristotle's Biologist: Is Our Contemplation the Animals' Salvation?

Dolan Polglaze

Honorable Mentions

Edgar I Nothing Am: Paradox & Performance in Shakespeare's *King Lear*

Acacia Burnham

Sinning and Sighing in Sign—Lies and Their Repair in a *Paradise Lost*

Allayah Mason-Koehler

To the member of the Junior Class who has written the best annual essay.

Offered by Mrs. Leslie Clark Stevens in memory of her daughter-in-law, Kathryn Mylroie Stevens

Honorable Mentions

The Everlasting Covenant or Immortalizing Leviathan—

The Maintenance of the Commonwealth

Helen Felback

On le forcera d'être libre: An Essay on Rousseau

Benjamin Kay

To the member of the Sophomore Class who has written the best annual essay.

Offered under the will of the late Judge Walter I. Dawkins, of the Class of 1880

Reaching Up to the Heavens—A Study of How We Know

About God Through Aquinas

Victoria Horsman

To the member of the Freshman Class who has written the best annual essay.

Death in Athens

Henry Haggard

ἡ Θεωρία τῶν Θεῶν: The Activity and Forms of Contemplation in
Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics

Albert Shapiro

To the Graduate Institute student who has written a distinguished tutorial essay in the 2023-2024 academic year.

Offered in Memory of Laurence Berns by a donation from Joe Coelho

The Last Man: An Introduction to Nietzsche's on the Advantages
and Disadvantages of History for Life

Armando Rodriguez

To the Graduate Institute student who has written a distinguished preceptorial essay in the year 2023.

Offered by the Alumni Association

The Constitution of Opinion: On David Hume's First Principles of Government

Benjamin Crocker

To a member of the Senior Class, for excellence in speaking.

Offered in memory of Senator Millard E. Tydings of Maryland

Michael Engstrom

To the student who submits the best English version of a Greek text.

Offered in memory of John S. Kieffer, President Emeritus

Max Dreyfuss

To the student who submits a fine original English poem.

Offered by Dr. George Austin in memory of his brother, Henry

Astraea's Rhapsody Or, Innocence Departed

Luke Briner

Honorable Mention

The Midwife

Mia Guill

To the student who submits a fine original musical composition.

Offered in memory of Mary Joy Belknap, President of the Caritas Society 1987-1991

Ave verum corpus

Tarik Mahmud

To the student who submits a fine essay on a piece of music.

Offered in memory of Mary Joy Belknap, President of the Caritas Society 1987-1991

Honorable Mention

An End Beyond Endings: Word-Tone Relationships in the Seikilos Epitaph

Helen Wagner

To the student who submits the most elegant solution of a synthetic problem. Offered by the Class of 1986 in memory of Bryce Jacobsen, of the Class of 1942, Tutor and Director of Athletics Emeritus

Peter Boersema

Honorable Mention

Theodora Montague

To the student who submits the most elegant solution of an analytical problem.

Offered in memory of James R. McClintock, of the Class of 1965

Troy Herner-Brown

To the student who carries out a fine laboratory project.

Offered in memory of Curtis Wilson by the Class of 1963

Honorable Mention

The Barber-pole Effect

Ahan Sagreiya

To the members of the Senior class, through participation, leadership, and sportsmanship, have contributed most to the SJC athletic program, a special blazer.

Charlotte Nicholas

Frederic Duch Clerici

To the member of the Senior Class who has contributed outstanding service to the Greater Annapolis Community.

Offered by the Caritas Society of St. John's College

Madelyn Minor

To the member of the Senior Class who has demonstrated the greatest care for and service to youth who reside in the City of Annapolis.

Offered by the friends and family of Marvin B. Cooper, of the Class of 1969

Luke Briner

To the Senior who has demonstrated excellence in the arts, literature, or sciences, the Walter S. Baird prize.

Two Mechanical Voices, Fluent as a Dance

Ranger Kasdorf

Thinking Outside the Boox A Mini-Portfolio of Poetry, Inspired by the Liberal Arts

Tuyết-Nhi Nghiêm

CONGRATULATIONS, ALUMNI.
Stay in touch. Get involved. Give back.

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410-626-2531

