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This program is for ceremonial purposes only and is not to be considered an official confirmation of degree information. It contains only those details available at the publication deadline. Please note that not all graduates' names are listed, as some students opt out of having their names appear in Northeastern publications.

We ask those in attendance to kindly silence their electronic devices and to remain in their seats until the platform party has left the stage and the graduate recessional has finished.

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### A UNIVERSITY ENGAGED WITH THE WORLD

## THE HISTORY OF NORTHEASTERN

Founded in 1898, Northeastern is a global research university and the recognized leader in experiential learning. Despite the university's current preeminence, Northeastern had modest origins.

At the end of the 19th century, immigrants and first-generation Americans constituted more than half of Boston's population. Chief among the city's institutions committed to helping these people improve their lives was the Boston YMCA. The YMCA became a place where young men gathered to hear lectures on literature, history, music, and other subjects considered essential to intellectual growth.

In response to the enthusiastic demand for these lectures, the directors of the YMCA organized the "Evening Institute for Young Men" in May 1896. Frank Palmer Speare, a well-known teacher and high-school principal with considerable experience in public schools, was hired as the institute's director. Two years later, under Speare's direction, the YMCA advertised the creation of the "Department of Law of the Boston YMCA," and on October 3, 1898, Robert Gray Dodge taught the first class. The program, an immediate success, marked the birth of Northeastern University. Speare would later remark, "We started with an eraser and two sticks of chalk."

When demand for other courses grew, Speare moved to add more programs, and in 1909 the full-time day colleges began instruction. That same year, the Evening Polytechnic School announced "cooperative engineering courses," in which students would have an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in the workplace—the beginning of Northeastern's signature cooperative education program.

#### Decades of expansion

The school continued to grow, and in 1922 the College of Business was founded. More space was needed. The university purchased the former home of the Boston Red Sox in 1929, and in 1934 the Boston architectural firm Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson, and Abbott was awarded the contract to design Richards Hall. Using what was to become the campus signature—white brick—Shepley, Bulfinch presented plans for a neoclassical building. Opened in 1938, Richards Hall was the first building to appear on the front quadrangle.

As the campus grew, so did Northeastern's programs. In 1935, the College of Liberal Arts was added, signaling that Northeastern was on its way to becoming a major university.

When Speare stepped down as president in 1940, he was replaced by Carl Stephens Ell, dean of the College of Engineering. It was under Ell's leadership that Northeastern first admitted women to full-time day programs.

In the postwar world, Northeastern, like its peer institutions, saw a phenomenal increase in the number of people attending college. The university expanded its programs to accommodate this growing population of increasingly diverse students. In rapid succession, additional programs and colleges were established: College of Education, 1953; University

College, 1960; College of Pharmacy, 1962; College of Nursing, 1964; Boston Bouvé College, 1964; College of Criminal Justice, 1967; and College of Computer Science, 1982.

This expansion of programs brought with it a need for more buildings—and land. When Ell retired as president in 1959, he was succeeded by Asa S. Knowles. Under his leadership, suburban properties in Weston, Nahant, and Burlington were acquired and the Boston campus blossomed with new buildings, including various undergraduate dormitories designed to accommodate the increasing number of residential students at what had been primarily a commuter campus.

#### Transforming the Boston campus

When Knowles retired in 1975, he was succeeded by Kenneth G. Ryder, who had begun his career at Northeastern as a member of the history department and had risen through the ranks to become executive vice president before his election as president. Under his leadership, the university expanded and enriched its programs, particularly in the arts and humanities, and continued to improve its facilities. Plans for the Snell Library were finalized during Ryder's tenure, and the campus was beautified. During these years, Northeastern also deepened its commitment to Boston and its neighborhoods.

In 1989, Ryder stepped down as the fourth president of the university. He was succeeded by John A. Curry, Northeastern's executive vice president and its first alumnus to become president. With President Curry in charge, the university embarked on a series of ambitious undertakings, including a new science and engineering research center, a state-of-the-art classroom building, a recreation complex, and several new graduate and undergraduate programs.

To support these new ventures, Curry led Northeastern in a successful fundraising campaign. His years of leadership also featured significant restructuring as the university prepared to enter its second century. In June 1996, after four decades of service, Curry retired from Northeastern. To succeed him, the trustees elected Richard M. Freeland as the university's sixth president.

#### Elevating experience

A distinguished historian and administrator, President Freeland brought to the university a renewed sense of energy and mission. His programs were designed to support his vision of Northeastern as a university that would be student-centered, practice-oriented, and urban. Northeastern developed the West Campus with architecturally acclaimed residence halls and teaching facilities for the health sciences and computer science, and added new spaces to enrich student life on campus.

When Freeland stepped down in 2006, he was succeeded by Joseph E. Aoun, an internationally known linguistics scholar. Northeastern's seventh president came from the University of Southern California, where he served as dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences. President Aoun developed an academic plan outlining the university's vision in several areas: experiential learning, global outreach, use-inspired research, urban engagement, and intellectual life. He greatly expanded global co-op opportunities. He also aligned the university's research with three worldwide imperatives—health, security, and sustainability—with a focus on interdisciplinary solutions.

#### A rising global profile

Under Aoun's leadership, Northeastern launched a system of campuses designed to be platforms for lifelong learning aligned with area economies. The first two opened in Charlotte, North Carolina (2011), and Seattle (2013). Additional campuses followed in Silicon Valley, California (2015), and in Toronto (2016).

In 2016, Aoun led the development of a new academic plan, Northeastern 2025. The plan was a blueprint for transforming the university into a global university system—featuring networks of learners and innovators—designed to empower people to succeed in this era of unprecedented technological change. Accordingly, the university expanded the role of its global campuses to serve as platforms for learning, research, and industry partnerships. In 2019, it opened another location in Vancouver and acquired New College of the Humanities in London, now officially Northeastern University London and offering undergraduates a unique opportunity to earn a dual U.S./U.K. degree. Later in 2019, Northeastern launched a research campus in Arlington, Virginia, an addition to two existing research campuses in Nahant and Burlington, Massachusetts (formed in 1967 and 2012 respectively).

Then in January 2020, technology entrepreneur David Roux and his wife, Barbara, made an investment in the university to open the Roux Institute in Portland, Maine. The institute focuses on graduate studies and research in fields such as AI, digital engineering, and advanced life sciences, amplified by industry partnerships. It was specifically designed to be a model of how higher education can ignite economic development in regions of the country largely bypassed by the innovation economy, setting a new bar for what the global university system could achieve.

#### Resilience and momentum

The same revolutionary vision for global learning and discovery that inspired Northeastern 2025 infuses the university's latest academic plan, Experience Unleashed. The plan is designed to deepen the impact of Northeastern's global network by maximizing the power of experience to understand and solve the world's interconnected, ever-evolving challenges.

In 2022, the university took a significant step in realizing the potential for its global system by merging with Mills College in Oakland, California, becoming the first university with comprehensive residential campuses for undergraduate and graduate students on both U.S. coasts. Northeastern's Oakland campus is now home to Mills College at Northeastern and the Mills Institute, focused on equity, social justice, and women's leadership. Later in 2022, Northeastern announced its newest campus in Miami, with graduate education and innovation partnerships aligned with South Florida's economic growth.

On October 3, 2023, Northeastern marked its 125th anniversary. The milestone offered an opportunity both to recognize how the entire Northeastern community has been shaped by the power of experience and to herald the next 125 years of world-changing impact. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our university community, Frank Palmer Speare's "eraser and two sticks of chalk" have evolved into one of the world's most innovative universities. Our faculty collaborates more fluidly with experts across industry, government, and community-based organizations. Ideas and solutions can be scaled. And our students are empowered to be true global citizens, scientists, entrepreneurs, and creators—prepared to make an impact wherever they go.

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the land and labor of the Ohlone people, whose connection to this land we remember, and whose presence—past, present, and future—we respect. As part of Northeastern's mission of supporting and fostering learning through the generation and dissemination of knowledge, we acknowledge that the land we stand on today is the original homeland of Ohlone people.

### **PROGRAM**

### Processional

Candidates led by Yoseline Orellana and Sydney Scofield, Class of 2025, Student Marshals

Candidates for the Master's Degree

Candidates for the Bachelor's Degree

Alumnae

Faculty

Platform Party led by Marianne B. Sheldon, Lead Marshal and Professor of American History

### **Invocation and Land Acknowledgment**

Patricia St. Onge

Chaplain and Elder-in-Residence

### **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Beth D. Kochly

Interim Dean of Mills College at Northeastern University

### Introduction of Student Speaker

Katherine Wildman

Vice Chancellor for Student Life

### Student Speaker

Samantha Rosey Onate

Candidate for Bachelor of Science in Health Science

Bouvé College of Health Sciences

## Introduction of Commencement Speaker

Kathleen Sanborn, '83, Mills College

Member of the Board of Trustees

### **Commencement Address**

Miriam Warren, '02, Mills College

### **Degrees in Course**

Beth D. Kochly

Interim Dean of Mills College at Northeastern University

College of Arts, Media and Design represented by Yulia Pinkusevich, Associate Professor Bouvé College of Health Sciences represented by Maria Catrina D. Jaime, Associate Clinical Professor and Associate Director of Undergraduate Programs, Health Sciences Khoury College of Computer Sciences represented by Alvaro Monge, Teaching Professor, Assistant Dean and Director of Computing Programs—California

**College of Science** represented by Lisa Urry, Professor of Biology, Unit Chair of STEM and Health Sciences, Mary S. Metz Chair for Excellence and Creativity in Teaching

**College of Social Sciences and Humanities** represented by Mark G. Henderson, *Professor of Public Policy* 

**College of Professional Studies** represented by Elizabeth A. Bachen, *Professor of Psychology* 

### Conferral of Degrees

Thomas C. Sheahan

Executive Vice Provost and Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

#### **Announcement of Graduates**

### **Blessing**

Patricia St. Onge Chaplain and Elder-in-Residence

#### Alma Mater

"Fires of Wisdom" recorded by Pitch Please!

Julia Chase

Jessica Garcia

Oli Leto

Nealaksi Maniraja

Olivia Materetsky

Julia Yanosy

Please join us in singing our alma mater; see back cover for words and music.

### Charge to the Graduates

Beth D. Kochly

Interim Dean of Mills College at Northeastern University

### Recessional

Platform Party led by Marianne B. Sheldon, Lead Marshal and Professor of American History

Music provided by Mariachi San Francisco

Families, friends, and graduates: Follow the mariachi band to the reception in front of the Betty Irene Moore Natural Sciences Building.

### COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

#### Miriam Warren, '02, Mills College

Miriam Warren is the chief diversity officer at Yelp, the popular online publisher of crowdsourced business reviews, and is one of the nation's most influential voices on workplace culture and socially responsible business.

Warren, a 2002 Mills College alumna, leads a team working at the intersections of culture, employee engagement, social impact, diversity, inclusion, and belonging. She has been a primary driver of Yelp's deep social commitments—to a corporate ethos that makes its 5,000 employees around the world feel valued and respected, and to a mission that embraces goals such as environmental sustainability and gender equity.

Under her leadership, Yelp has fostered 22 employee resource groups for neurodiverse workers, people of color, parents, members of the LGBTQ community, and other communities of interest; roughly half of Yelp's workforce has joined at least one group.

Warren also spearheaded the implementation of a new benefit covering travel costs for employees seeking out-of-state abortions, ensuring healthcare equality to all of Yelp's workforce and putting the organization at the forefront of the issue nationally.

As the board chair of the Yelp Foundation, Warren oversees an endowment that, since 2011, has provided more than \$5 million in grants to nonprofit organizations and activities addressing the needs of local communities.

Beyond her corporate role, Warren is a nationally respected public advocate for diverse, inclusive, community-engaged workplaces. She has addressed the topic on CNN, the BBC, CBS News, and other news channels, and in panel discussions hosted by institutions like Columbia Business School, Yale School of Management, and UCLA Anderson School of Management. Her essays have appeared in numerous national publications such as Fortune, Fast Company, and Entrepreneur.

Her impressive body of work recently led the business news website Business Insider to name Warren one of 14 diversity trailblazers "making corporate America more inclusive in an increasingly polarized society."

Warren's path to joining that rarefied company began as a small child. She was born in the Philippines of a Filipino father and German mother. But she was raised in the U.S. by her mother and white American adoptive father—a child of three cultures and the only person of color in her family. She recalled in an August 2023 interview, "I was always trying to understand how I fit in with my family ... that was the early spark that had me thinking about building communities where different people, myself included, could feel like they belong."

That quest brought Warren to Mills College and its ethnic studies major, an eye-opening experience that sharpened her understanding about how people of differing backgrounds find fit and connection. Armed with those insights and her skills as a persuasive communicator, Warren found success as a corporate recruiter before joining Yelp in 2007.

She served in a variety of marketing and operational roles, eventually leading the company's expansion efforts internationally as vice president of new markets. Her journey took her to Yelp's culture-building side in 2016, when she was appointed vice president for enterprise engagement and culture. She next served as vice president for engagement, diversity, and belonging. Warren was named chief diversity officer in January 2021.

Warrren has given back to her alma mater, notably through her student mentoring service and support for Mills's Career Connections program and Community Engagement Center.

She also brings her community-building talents to other Bay Area organizations. She currently serves on the board of ETR, a nonprofit committed to advancing health equity for youth, families, and communities. She has held board memberships at other nonprofits, including Common Future, Joshin, and Reading Partners.

### **DEGREES IN COURSE**

## College of Arts, Media and Design

Bachelor of Arts in Art

Carla Cardenas Susan Prier\*

Summa cum laude

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies

Lana Michelle Baptiste Edith Cristabel Rivas

Bachelor of Arts in Media Arts and Communication Studies

Joyce Kuehn Hana Sung-Drury

Cum laude

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

Sadja Muhammad Jannah Umut Yalcinkaya

Cum laude

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Design

Kathryn A. Valente

Cum laude

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Media Arts

Danielle Lisa Collins

Cum laude

Victory Louis Okragly

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art

Eloni Terese Bickham Ollie Matityahu\*
Summa cum laude

Brianna Keely Cheng\*

Summa cum laude Andalucia Lynn Prendes

Esther Fuentes\* Cum laude

Summa cum laude Duck Wichelmann\*

Magna cum laude

<sup>\*</sup> Honors in the Major

# **Bouvé College of Health Sciences**

Bachelor of Arts in Public Health

Dalia Rosa Bender

Maya Lindsay Bulmer

Cum laude

Cum laude

Bachelor of Science in Health Science

Samantha Rosey Onate

Master of Public Health

Albery Sunny-Sue Chan

# **Khoury College of Computer Sciences**

Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science

Jasmin Joana Garcia Zuniga

Master of Science in Computer Science

Founyakon Stephanie Sorho

<sup>\*</sup> Honors in the Major

# **College of Science**

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies

Maazi Carmenie Chery Sofiya Sergeyevna Erlikh

Cum laude

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

Marie-Christ Candy Njibu Tunda

Bachelor of Science in Biology

Jimena Marquez Estefany Elizabeth Rivera Hernandez

Annalise Isabella Totten

Cum laude

Bachelor of Science in Chemistry

Nieje Shandale Shannon Lijin Zeng\*

Summa cum laude

Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Sustainability Sciences

Acirema Tonantzin Gomez

Cum laude

Taylor Nicol Pittman

<sup>\*</sup> Honors in the Major

# **College of Social Sciences and Humanities**

Bachelor of Arts in English

Sabina Garcia Sara Cho\*

Magna cum laude Kimberly Christine Rodriguez Corona

Trinidad Noemi Cruz

Bachelor of Arts in History

Katherine Elvyn Blair\* Trinity Marina Thomas\* Magna cum laude Magna cum laude

Bachelor of Arts in History, Culture, and Law

Annie Frances Burns Sydney Sept

Paulina Elizabeth Cepeda Huerta Deloris Sharp\*

Summa cum laude Jude Garcia\*

Magna cum laude Audrey Karen Taylor\* Summa cum laude

Asher Rosa Quinn Cum laude

Ma'Kaya Washington

Bachelor of Arts in Human Services

Muwazu Chisum-Misquitta

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Ruth Xitlali Acevedo Valente Jazmin Eunice Lopez Bailon

Anisa Hope Aguirre

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Nailah Maryam Muhammad

Bachelor of Science in Human Services

Sophie Kelsey Destiny Mariah Otto Cum laude

Alison Washington

Master of Public Policy

Michele Marcelline Judith Pixa Leah Lagpacan Peters

<sup>\*</sup> Honors in the Major

# **College of Professional Studies**

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Jenny Micah Cheng\* Josilyn Julia Hall\*
Summa cum laude Summa cum laude

Emerald Francis Druffel Erin Kristine Maher

Naomi Flores Bernal Issis Marisol Mendoza

Cum laude Rebecca Florence Newman

Edin Woldegebriel Haddis\*

Magna cum laude

Master of Education in Education

Romulo Jake Montano II

Master of Science in Organizational Leadership

Debra L. Bean

Doctor of Education

John D. Carlstroem

<sup>\*</sup> Honors in the Major

### **CLASS OF 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Above and Beyond Contributions in Biology Award

Annalise Isabella Totten

Academic Excellence in Public Health Award Maya Lindsay Bulmer

Alie Ogburn Jackson Barry Award in Chemistry Lijin Zeng

Anne Hummel Sherrill Merit Scholarship in History

Audrey Karen Taylor

Katherine Elvyn Blair (honorable mention) Trinity Marina Thomas (honorable mention)

Aurelia Henry Reinhardt Faculty Purse for Graduate Study Asher Rosa Quinn

Bruce McCollum Natural Sciences Prize Lijin Zeng

Caryl Parker Haskins Prize in Life Sciences Annalise Isabella Totten

Center for the Book Undergraduate Excellence in Book Art Award Andalucia Lynn Prendes

Commitment to Health Equity and Social Justice Award Dalia Rosa Bender

Creative Excellence in the Senior Thesis Exhibition Award Esther Fuentes Eleanor Crum Prize in Ceramics Esther Fuentes

Elisabeth Mudd Senior Prize for Excellence in Scholarship

Audrey Karen Taylor

Jude Garcia (honorable mention)

Ethnic Studies Outstanding Scholarship Award Trinidad Noemi Cruz

Ethnic Studies Reaching Beyond Award Maazi Carmenie Chery

Excellence in Drama Award Sadja Muhammad Jannah

Excellence in Public Health Community Partnership Award Samantha Rosey Onate

Huntington 100 Society of Distinction Maazi Carmenie Chery Maya Lindsay Bulmer Samantha Rosey Onate

Margaret Lyon Music Student Prize Maazi Carmenie Chery Maurthea Friedberger Cup

Maazi Carmenie Chery

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Zeta Chapter Brianna Keely Cheng Ollie Matityahu Audrey Karen Taylor Esther Fuentes (2023) Lijin Zeng (2023)

## **CLASS OF 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Photographic Prize for Creative Excellence Brianna Keely Cheng Danielle Lisa Collins Joyce Kuehn Kathryn A. Valente

Ralph DuCasse Endowed Scholarship in Studio Art Esther Fuentes

Reynold M. Wik Award for Outstanding Graduating Senior in History Audrey Karen Taylor

Robert A. Dhaemers Endowed Scholarship in Three-Dimensional Art Ollie Matityahu Rosalind Keep Book Art Award Umut Yalcinkaya

Spirit of Dolores Huerta Award Jazmin Eunice Lopez Bailon

Wellhausen Family Award in Studio Art Brianna Keely Cheng

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Zimmer Award Sara Cho

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Jared Auclair, Interim, College of Professional Studies

David De Cremer, Dunton Family Dean, D'Amore-McKim School of Business

James R. Hackney, School of Law

Elizabeth Hudson, College of Arts, Media and Design

Beth D. Kochly, Interim, Mills College at Northeastern University

Elizabeth D. Mynatt, Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Carmen Sceppa, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Hazel Sive, College of Science

Kellee Tsai, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

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 Summa cum laude
 3.850 to 4.000

 Magna cum laude
 3.700 to 3.849

 Cum laude
 3.500 to 3.699

Gold cord worn around neck denotes honor student.

This program is for ceremonial purposes only and is not to be considered an official confirmation of degree information. It contains only those details available at the publication deadline. Please note that not all graduates' names are listed, as some students opt out of having their names appear in Northeastern publications.

# **FIRES of WISDOM**

#### MILLS COLLEGE HYMN



Original poem by Fanny Rouse Carpenter, 1873, Mills College, and final stanza by Kathy Bennion Barrett, '64, Mills College. Music by Edward Faber Schneider, 1913, former dean of the Music Department, Mills College.

27 APRIL 2024 | 10:00 A.M. OAKLAND, CA