

60TH COMMENCEMENT
CLASS OF 2024

Saturday, May 25, 2024
11:00 a.m.



York
SCHOOL

Class of 2024

Franky Alvarado	Jinu Kim
Brianna Rose Bailey	Maura Catherine Kragelund
Jean-Pierre Henri Dwight Roger Brenot	Bingze Li
Bodhi Nicholas Edmunds Brunings	Jiahao (Patrick) Lu
Austin Cook	Emmi Valeda McAdams
Wesley Mikael Cordier	Maria Elena Mejia Contreras
Nia Dubai Cusenza	Kai Taiga Minami
Marie-Claire (MC) Davenport	Justin Tadashi Nagafuji
Sebastian Del Toro	Aiden Christopher O'Brien
Logan McGee Ferguson	David Vincent Oliver
Normandy Anne Filcek	Samantha (Sam) Ortiz-Naranjo
Rose Francis Finn	Anthony Guillermo Penrose
Adam Gregory Galinato	Akyra Nevaeh Smith
Rachael Lyn Galinato	Noah Stackpole
Orion Juliette Godfrey-Dacuyan	Allison Gabrielle Stewart
Jonathan Jasper Goldberg	Jackson Ryan Sullivan
Ian Calder Goncalves	Sarah Tate
Alex Hall Heyermann	Sidney Malaki Thornsbury
Tyler Hall Heyermann	Junxi Wang
Finnegan Jefel Jackson	Natalie Michele Wood
Eleanor Pearl Johnson	Zora Brooks Yelland
	Yiwei Zhu

2024 Commencement

Procession of the Class of 2024

Greeting Doug Key, Head of School

Welcome Maura Kragelund '24, Student Body President

"Don't Forget Me"
Shaiman & Wittman York School Choir

Valedictory Address Sebastian Del Toro '24

Charge to the Class Dr. Dan Gurska

Presentation of Awards York Faculty

Recognition of Service Doug Key, Head of School

"Slipping Through
my Fingers"
ABBA York School Choir Seniors

Welcome New Alumni Nick Newman '14

Awarding of Diplomas Ken Scates, Board of Trustees
Doug Key, Head of School
Jon Zeljo, Director of Teaching and Learning
Dean Partlow, Director of College Counseling

Class of 2024 Farewell Rose Finn, Class of 2024 President

Closing Doug Key, Head of School

Recessional York School Jazz Band



HONOR REGALIA LEGEND

Red & Black: Honor Roll Recognition

Blue & Green: Distinguished Global Scholar

Red & Yellow: Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica

Dark & Light Purple: National Chinese Honor Society

Pink & Green: Distinguished Global/STEAM Scholar

York School Awards

Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 21, 2024

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARD

The Rising Falcon Award

Presented to a rising senior who shows great character and extraordinary academic promise

Regan Takashima '25

ACADEMICS

Honor Roll Recognition

Presented to seniors who have earned honor roll recognition for at least six of eight semesters during high school

Brianna Bailey '24, Bodhi Brunings '24, Wesley Cordier '24,
Marie-Claire Davenport '24, Sebastian Del Toro '24, Normandy Filcek '24,
Rose Finn '24, Rachael Galinato '24, Jonny Goldberg '24, Maura Kragelund '24,
Oliver Li '24, Taiga Minami '24, Noah Stackpole '24, Natalie Wood '24

English Award

Orion Godfrey-Dacuyan '24

History Award

Brianna Bailey '24

Spanish Award

Alexa Arango-Cuevas '25

Kylan Alexander Huffman '90 Humanities Award

Presented to a rising senior who demonstrates excellence in the humanities, including English, history, and language

Alex Stihler '25

York School Awards

Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 21, 2024

Mathematics Award

Alvin Liu '25

R.P. Balles York School Mathematics Scholars

Recognizes the two most outstanding seniors in mathematics

Jonny Goldberg '24 and Noah Stackpole '24

Science Awards

Biology – Sasha Campbell '25

Chemistry – Maura Kragelund '24

Physics – Noah Stackpole '24 and Alvin Liu '25

Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica

Brianna Bailey '24, Marie-Claire Davenport '24, Logan Ferguson '24, Oliver Li '24
Taiga Minami '24, Samantha Ortiz-Naranjo '24, Noah Stackpole '24,
Joseph Wang '24

National Chinese Honor Society

Franky Alvarado '24 and Jonny Goldberg '24

Distinguished Global Scholars

Brianna Bailey '24, Jean-Pierre Brenot '24, Marie-Claire Davenport '24
Sebastian Del Toro '24, Rose Finn '24, Rachael Galinato '24,
Tyler Heyermann '24, Aiden O'Brien '24

Distinguished Global/STEAM Scholar

Normandy Filcek '24

York School Awards

Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 21, 2024

ARTS

Instrumental Music Award

Franky Alvarado '24

Vocal Music Award

Nia Cusenza '24 and Aiden O'Brien '24

Theatre Award

Maria Elena Mejia Contreras '24

Visual Arts Award

Rachael Galinato '24

Head of School Collection

Finn Jackson '24

ATHLETICS

The Falcon Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Athletics

Taiga Minami '24, Sebastian Del Toro '24, Justin Nagafuji '24, Sarah Tate '24, Samantha Ortiz-Naranjo '24, Eleanor Johnson '24

York Sportsmanship Awards

Maura Kragelund '24, Brianna Bailey '24, Rachael Galinato '24, Rose Finn '24, Akyra Smith '24, Marie-Claire Davenport '24, David Oliver '24, Alex Heyermann '24, Adam Galinato '24, Logan Ferguson '24, Austin Cook '24, Jean-Pierre Brenot '24

York School Awards

Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 21, 2024

York Cup

An endowed award that honors two non-senior students who have distinguished themselves in athletics

Masha Kim '27 and Daniel Scott '27

The Ben Doyle Award

Awarded to outstanding golfers

Taiga Minami '24

SERVICE

The Maurine Church Coburn Award for Service Learning

Akyra Smith '24



Supporting York's Mission

We are grateful for support from York's community of friends and donors — alumni, parents and grandparents, trustees, faculty and staff, community members, foundations, and businesses. Our donors ensure York provides educational programs of the highest quality, tuition assistance, new technology, classroom materials, faculty enrichment, vibrant arts and athletic programs, and campus enhancements.

Gift in Honor of...

Brianna Bailey '24

Colleen and John Bailey

Jean-Pierre Brenot '24

Kassandra and Francois Brenot
Ailene and Dwight Thompson

Bodhi Brunings '24

Kristine Edmunds

Nia Cusenza '24

Caroline and Marc Cusenza

Marie-Claire Davenport '24

Lisa Davenport

Jonny Goldberg '24

Steve Goldberg and Robin Beckman
Goldberg

Alex Heyermann '24

Cheryl Heyermann

Tyler Heyermann '24

Cheryl Heyermann

Finn Jackson '24

Jeff Jackson

Eleanor Johnson '24

Emily Johnson

Maura Kragelund '24

Lynn and Sean Kragelund
Patricia Gillespie

Taiga Minami '24

Ikuko and Mike Minami

Justin Nagafuji '24

May and Joel Nagafuji

David Oliver '24

Heather and Michael Oliver
Anne Oliver

Samantha Ortiz-Naranjo '24

Yazmin Naranjo

York Commencement History

In 1959, York School opened its doors in Pacific Grove with 12 boys in the 7th grade. The School moved to its current location in 1964 and the next year held its first commencement ceremony. On June 12, 1965, 11 members of the Class of 1965 received their diplomas and were celebrated as the young school's first graduates.

In 1970, York became co-ed and three girls who enrolled as seniors that year graduated in 1971. York's first female valedictorian was Marianne Gawain in 1976. Including the Class of 2024, York has had a total of 76 valedictorians.

The first commencement, and almost all subsequent ones, was celebrated in the Coburn Commons. Only twice has the ceremony been held indoors due to inclement weather—in 1993 and 2012. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, commencement was held in the upper parking lot, and it was held on the Upper Field in 2021. The school started a new tradition in 2022, holding commencement in the Gawain Family Theater for the first time.



For the past 19 years, the ceremony has increasingly focused on our students and teachers. Featured speakers are members of the graduating class and a faculty member selected to speak by the graduates. The role of the faculty speaker is to deliver a "charge" to the graduates as they commence the next chapter in their lives.

Finally, the graduates are welcomed to the York Alumni Community by a representative from the ranks.

To date, 2,079 students have graduated from York School. Today, we add 43 more graduates to our alumni community, the Class of 2024. We commend this year's graduating class and look forward to seeing where their paths lead them. Congratulations!

Thank You!

We are grateful to Denise Wood, Gina Michaels,
and the Junior Class Parents for the floral decorations and refreshments.

York
SCHOOL

**We inspire and prepare a diverse community of
creative, independent thinkers**