

Bates College
The Class of 2007
Baccalaureate Service



Lewiston, Maine
Saturday, May the Twenty-Sixth
Two Thousand and Seven
Two O'Clock
The Coram Library Quadrangle

In keeping with Bates' history of commitment to a just and civil society, the Baccalaureate Committee has adopted the "Graduation Pledge of Social Responsibility," inviting all in the class to sign.

In choosing to commit themselves to the pledge below, students from the Class of 2007 join more than a hundred colleges and universities nationwide. It is not a prescription but rather a choice, allowing new graduates the opportunity to decide for themselves what it means to be socially and environmentally responsible: it signifies a sustained dedication to social consciousness and civic action.

In the past, pledge takers have turned their words into action in a variety of ways, from seeking gender parity to establishing recycling programs, to extending conflict resolution services into underserved communities. It thus provides a grounding point from which students may strive to maintain not only the immediate knowledge and skills of an undergraduate education but social and civic values as well.

Graduation Pledge of Social Responsibility

I, _____, pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work.

The Baccalaureate Service

The Baccalaureate service derives from the medieval European custom of presenting the candidates for the degree of Bachelor (*bacca*) with laurels (*lauri*) of sermonic oration. Prefiguring tomorrow's Commencement, today's ceremony is a service of worship that celebrates and gives thanks for lives dedicated to learning and wisdom.

A religious and spiritual event planned and led by members of the Class of 2007, this service reflects the breadth of faith traditions represented in the Class. Ritually marking the close of the undergraduate years, Baccalaureate provides an occasion to remember that we do not belong only to ourselves and that our true vocations, our deepest callings, are discovered only by committing ourselves to the service of the common good. In gratitude and reverence for those sacred vocations, as numerous and as diverse in their particular expressions as the members of this Class, we gather this afternoon to remember, to rejoice, and to give thanks.

The Theme

The members of the Class of 2007 chose "seasons" as the theme of their Baccalaureate service because of its reflection of the changing of the times. As they prepare to depart the collegiate world, they are fully cognizant of the waves of change that brought them to Bates and will take them from Bates. However, like the seasons, their memories and love for Bates will continuously return, forever embedding in them an appreciation for change and growth.

The Art

The puppets for today's service are creatures from Creation, celebrating the Class of 2007. The puppets are from The Back Alley Puppet Theatre, in residence at Emmanuel Church, Boston, Massachusetts. Additionally, any and all artworks adorning the ceremony have been created by members of the Class of 2007.

The Procession and Recession

The procession and recession of the Class embrace the ceremony and symbolically embody the rite of passage that this service celebrates. Together, they offer a prayer in motion.

The Archways

The Class of 2007 processes and recesses under archways adorned with prayers, poems, and blessings offered by their family members and by members of the College's faculty and staff. May the hopes and longings expressed on these cards be carried on the wind to all the places the graduates find themselves after leaving Bates. (For ease of viewing, all the cards have been scanned into the Web site of the College Chaplain: <http://abacus.bates.edu/admin/offices/chaplain/blessing07/>.)

The Interfaith Blessing

The blessing is composed and read by students from the Class of 2007, who represent Protestant Christian, Christian Science, Eastern Orthodox, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Wicca, and Secular Humanist faiths and traditions.

The Litany

Written by members of the Senior Class, the litany recalls both the distinct and shared experiences of the Class of 2007 and speaks of their common values and hopes.

Unity

There is something dense, united, settled in the depths,
repeating its number, its identical sign.

How it is noted that stones have touched time,
in their refined matter there is an odor of age,
of water brought by the sea, from salt and sleep.

I'm encircled by a single thing, a single movement:

a mineral weight, a honeyed light
cling to the sound of the word "noche":
the tint of wheat, of ivory, of tears,
things of leather, of wood, of wool,
archaic, faded, uniform,
collect around me like walls.

I work quietly, wheeling over myself,
a crow over death, a crow in mourning.
I mediate, isolated in the spread of seasons,
centric, encircled by a silent geometry:
a partial temperature drifts down from the sky,
a distant empire of confused unities
reunites encircling me.

— *Pablo Neruda*
Translated by Clayton Eshleman

Order of Celebration

Prelude

The Nancies

“Livin’ on a Prayer”

(Composed by Jon Bon Jovi, Desmond Child and Richie Sambora)

“Like a Prayer”

(Composed by Madonna and Patrick Leonard)

Processional

The Nancies

“With a Little Help from My Friends”

(Composed by John Lennon and Paul McCartney)

***Gathering Prayer**

Bill Blaine-Wallace

Student Address

Marsha Larned

Staff Address

Dean James Reese

An Offering in Dance

“Tomorrow”

Collaboratively choreographed by the Baccalaureate Dancers

(“Don’t Stop” composed by Christine McVie)

President’s Address

Elaine Tuttle Hansen

An Offering in Song

“Calling My Children Home”

(Composed by Doyle Lawson, Charles Waller and Robert Yates)

Baccalaureate Choir:

Charles Hely, Conductor

Sara Culver, Artistic Director

John Corrie, Faculty Advisor

Marsha Larned, Coordinator

Akiko Doi, Accompanist

Litany

Written and read by members of the Class of 2007

An Offering of Engagement

“Graduation Pledge of Social Responsibility”

(Graduation Pledge Alliance)

Keith Kearney

Rakhshan Zahid

Interfaith Blessing

Written and read by members of the Class of 2007

Led by Bill Blaine-Wallace

***Recessional to the Ivy Ceremony**

“Seasons of Love”

(Composed by Jonathan Larson, from the musical *Rent*)

The Baccalaureate Choir:

Charles Hely, Conductor

Sara Culver, Artistic Director

John Corrie, Faculty Advisor

Marsha Larned, Coordinator

Akiko Doi, Accompanist

All are invited to sing together, led by the Baccalaureate Choir.

The Class of 2007 recesses.

*All guests follow the Class toward the Campus Avenue side
of Carnegie Science Hall for the brief Ivy Ceremony.*

**If you are able, please stand.*

Members of the Class of 2007 Participating in the Service

Baccalaureate Planning Committee

Gabriela Munoz, *Coordinator*

Vaibhav Bajpai

Alicia Bowen

Jodie Clark

Nihal Eisa

Josepha Gonzalez

Alexis Grossman

Marsha Larned

Allison Marshall

Jamie Silverman

Michael Wilson

Class Officers

Keith Kearney

Rakhshan Zahid

The Nancies

Chloe Raynes, Lead Singer

Peter Granquist, Lead Singer

Kevin Cox, Lead Singer

Chris Papadopoulos, Guitarist

Patrick Kenna, Guitarist

Samuel Welles, Guitarist

Nils Johnson, Bass

Peter Strumolo, Drummer

Baccalaureate Interfaith Blessing Participants

Bill Blaine-Wallace, *Coordinator*

Sorina Crisan

Nihal Eisa

Mirka Hlavacova

Mireilla Ikirezi

Brooke Miller

Jamie Silverman

Jacqueline Smith

Sarah Sprague

Jahel Taheri

Mari Wright

Litany Authors and Readers

Michael Wilson, *Coordinator*

Allison Marshall, *Coordinator*

Vaibhav Bajpai

Alicia Bowen

Monique Brown

Benjamin Chin

Jodie Clark

Lillian Conover
Nihal Eisa
Sara Gips
Josepha Gonzalez
Ryan Griffin
Mirka Hlavacova
Lauren Jacobs
Tara McDonald
Brooke Miller
Tobechukwu Okoye
Jamie Silverman
Jacqueline Smith
Mari Wright

Baccalaureate Choir

Marsha Larned, *Coordinator*

William Armstrong
Ainur Begim
Katheryn Black
Bill Blaine-Wallace
Aleksandra Brakalova
Emily Bright
Sarah Buss
Laura Clarkson
Emily Cohen-Shikora
Lillian Conover
John Corrie
Sorina Crisan
Sara Culver
Akiko Doi
Christine Fletcher
Valerie Franks
Marian Goddard
Kristine Goulding
Ryan Griffin
Claire Guyton
Charles Hely
Lauren Jacobs
Maria Jenness
Laura Juraska
Zaw Min Oo
Marsha Larned
Charlotte Lehmann
Bennet Leon
Carole Parker
Mariah Pfeiffer
Sarah Potter
Meaghan Reynolds

Alexandria Salton
Jamie Silverman
Jordan Swaim
Dana Trafton
Sidney Walker
David White
Michael Wilson
Mari Wright

Baccalaureate Dancers
Meredith Sallee, *Coordinator*
Laura Altman
Adrian Cohen
Gabriela Munoz
Alexandria Salton
Alicia Voukides

Baccalaureate Artists
The Back Alley Puppet Theatre
Amelia Larsen
Nels Nelson
Julia Rice

Social Responsibility Pledge Authors and Organizers

Jodie Clark, *Coordinator*
Graduation Pledge Alliance: www.graduationpledge.org

Officers of the College Participating in the Service

Elaine Tuttle Hansen, *President*
Bill Blaine-Wallace, *Multifaith Chaplain*

Special Thanks to

William Bergevin, *Landscape Coordinator, Physical Plant*
Camille Buch, *Manager of Design Services, Office of Communications and Media Relations*
John Corrie, *Director, College Choir, and Lecturer, Department of Music*
Martha Deschaines '75, *Office Coordinator, Office of the Chaplain*
Doug Hubley, *Staff Writer, Office of Communications and Media Relations*
Physical Plant Staff
Heather Bumps, *Administrative Assistant, President's Office*
Victoria Blaine-Wallace
Rachel Salloway, *Student Worker, Office of the Chaplain*
Rose Schwab, *Student Worker, Office of the Chaplain*
James Reese, *Associate Dean of Students*
William Jack, *Junior Class Marshal*
Scott Pierce, *Junior Class Marshal*

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