



# Spring Honors Convocation

Friday, May 5, 2023

4:00 p.m.

Main Theatre, Redfern Arts Center

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**KEENE STATE COLLEGE**

Keene, New Hampshire

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# Program

**Musical Prelude** KSC Music Faculty-Student  
Brass Quintet

*Under the direction of Dr. John T. Hart Jr., Assistant Professor.*

*Instrumentalists: Trevor Senecal, trumpet; Michael Vlachos, trumpet;  
Barrie Long, French Horn; Andrew Cropper, trombone; Dr. John Hart, trombone;  
Joseph Reppucci, tuba; and Sebastian Swartout, tuba*

**Welcome and  
Congratulations** Melinda D. Treadwell  
*President*

**Presentation of Awards** **Academic Awards**  
Karrie Kalich  
*Dean of Faculty Affairs*

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award**  
Dottie Morris  
*Associate Vice President for  
Diversity and Inclusion*

**Closing Remarks** Dr. Fitni Destani  
*2022 Recipient of the Keene State  
College Distinguished Service Award  
and Associate Professor, Human  
Performance & Movement Sciences*

**Alma Mater** Kyle Trombley '23

*Alma Mater words by Katherine Day Bourne '60,  
Patricia Piper Bushey '59, and Judith Palmer Marshall '59*

*Music by Ann Weeks Pearson '59, Arranged by Dr. John T. Hart Jr. (2021)*

**Recessional**



*Many of the awards being presented here today were made available through the generosity of our alumni, friends, and other donors. We thank them for their support of our high-achieving students and our academic programs.*

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## *Academic Awards*

### **PETER H. BATCHELDER SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE HUMANITIES**

**ANNABELLE E. KOUTROUBAS**

**THOMAS J. LONERGAN**

**CHRISTOPHER L. PERFETTO**

**OLIVIA J. POLIQUIN**

**FERIDE SARIBAS**

**VICTORIA R. YOUNG**

This award was created by Peter Batchelder to provide recognition to Keene State College students enrolled in a school of arts and humanities major, with preference given to students enrolled in French, German or philosophy majors.

### **DAVID HATCH BATTENFELD MEMORIAL AWARD**

**MALLORY K. WARNER**

Established in 1984, this memorial award is named in honor of a distinguished humanist and teacher at Keene State College, to provide recognition to outstanding students who shows serious interest and aptitude in the humanities. Specifically, Professor Battenfeld's family expressed a preference for the award to be given to non-traditional students or students who have returned to the College after an interruption of their studies. It was created by family and friends to honor Dr. Battenfeld, a highly respected member of the faculty, who taught English from 1965 to 1984.

### **MICHAEL D. KELLER MEMORIAL AWARD**

**ANALISA N. PALLA**

This fund was established by faculty, students, and friends of Michael D. Keller, who was dean of arts and humanities and a beloved teacher. The purpose of this fund is to support undergraduate students in the visual and performing arts such as dance, drama, and music.

### **ROBERT S. NEUMAN ART AWARD**

**EMILY E. RUSSMAN**

Established in memory of Robert S. Neuman and in honor of his long service to Keene State College by alumni, friends, and members of the College community. Prof. Neuman was an accomplished artist and educator and founder of the College's art program.

### **AUBREY THOMAS '62 BIOLOGY PROFICIENCY AWARD**

**CAELIN E. BURR**

This award was established in 1990 to recognize a senior who has demonstrated scholastic proficiency in biology courses, including ecology and environmental science. It was created by Dr. Aubrey S. Thomas Jr., Class of 1962, in recognition of the excellent education provided to him by Keene Teachers College while he was a student in the secondary education math and science teaching major. Dr. Thomas served as a biology professor at Merrimack College for many years.

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## **BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT AWARD**

**SEAN R. CADY**

Established by the faculty at Keene State, the Biology Award recognizes the graduating senior for their contributions to the academic culture of the Biology Department through coursework, research, and service.

## **PETER JENKINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**SLESHA TULADHAR**

This scholarship was established in 1994 to recognize an outstanding senior who plans to continue with graduate studies. It was created by family and friends to honor Dr. Peter Jenkins' 25 years of service to the College from 1966 to 1991. Dr. Jenkins founded the management and psychology departments, and was a recipient of the Alumni Association's Distinguished Teacher Award.

## **EMILY N. GRIER EXCELLENCE IN PHILOSOPHY AWARD**

**JACKSON E. SHEA**

Award provided by the philosophy faculty in recognition of exemplary scholarship.

## **CHARLES E. HORNBECK AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LOGIC**

**LILLIAN HENDEL**

This award was created to recognize excellence in logic while honoring the dedication, talents, and contributions of Professor Emeritus Charles "Chuck" Hornbeck.

## **EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNICATION AWARD**

**KIERNAN A. ALATI**

The Excellence in Communication Award is given to a communication major who has demonstrated outstanding academic, research, service, or other significant achievement.

## **ETHOS AWARD**

**VICTORIA L. THOMPSON**

Award provided by the philosophy faculty in recognition of exemplary scholarship in ethics.

## **THOMAS CROWLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**JAMES P. RONNING**

This memorial award was established in 1992 by family and friends of Thomas Crowley to recognize education majors who have consistently demonstrated an ability to establish a positive teaching and learning relationship in the classroom. Dr. Crowley, professor of education, taught at Keene State College from 1974 until 1992. During that time he was the chair of the education/special education departments and the first Dean of the Division of Professional Studies.

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## **YAROSEWICK FAMILY EDUCATION AWARD**

**ERIN M. TOLLES**

This award was created by Mary-Lou S. Yarosewick to recognize outstanding students who are pursuing a teaching career in elementary education. Mary-Lou served as a fourth grade classroom teacher in Downingtown, Pennsylvania for 25 years. She developed a deep respect for the Department of Education at Keene State during her husband's tenure as President (1994-2005). This award celebrates students majoring in elementary or early childhood education with high academic achievement who have displayed devotion to community service/service learning and have represented the education program with distinction and pride.

## **AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LITERATURE**

**LAUREN A. SIMMONS**

This award is provided by the English Department faculty and is awarded to the graduating senior who has achieved excellence in literary studies.

## **AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN WRITING**

**JULIA B. BADDERS**

**LILLIAN R. CHASE**

This award is provided by the English Department faculty and is awarded to the graduating senior who has achieved excellence in writing.

## **EDER CREATIVE WRITING SCHOLARSHIP**

**SYLVAN M. WILLIAMS**

The Eder Creative Writing Endowed Scholarship was established by Doris L. and Donald Gray Eder out of love and respect for creative writing and for Keene State College.

## **JAN YOUNG AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENGLISH- SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**JACOB W. CARROLL**

This award is provided by the English Department faculty to honor the commitment and excellence of Professor Emerita Janet Young and is awarded to the graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence in English–Secondary Education.

## **MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES AWARD**

**JACOB W. CARROLL**

**JAKOB R. RUPP**

The Medieval and Early Modern Studies Award recognizes the accomplishment of students who have engaged in significant independent work on the subject of medieval and/or early modern history and literature over the course of their tenure at Keene State College.

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## **OUTSTANDING FICTION WRITER AWARD**

**GABE R. SCHATZ**

The Outstanding Fiction Writer Award recognizes an English major who demonstrates talent in and dedication to the art and craft of fiction.

## **THE DR. LAWRENCE BENAQUIST AWARD FOR CRITICAL STUDIES IN FILM**

**GRACE GUERIN**

This award was established to honor Dr. Lawrence Benaquist, founder of the Keene State College Film Department, who taught at Keene State College from 1969 to 2010. This award, based on merit and achievement, recognizes a student with a major or minor in film studies, with a focus on critical film studies.

## **THE DR. LAWRENCE BENAQUIST AWARD FOR FILM PRODUCTION**

**FRANCES W. DINTINO**

This award was established to honor Dr. Lawrence Benaquist, founder of the Keene State College Film Department, who taught at Keene State College from 1969 to 2010. This award, based on merit and achievement, recognizes a student with a major or minor in film studies, with a focus on film production.

## **CARL GRANQUIST HISTORY AWARD**

**JACKSON CAFFREY**

The Carl Granquist History Award was established to honor Dr. Granquist's long and distinguished career at Keene State College upon his retirement in 2014. As a historian of modern France with expertise in the French Revolution, he inspired students for over four decades through his great gifts as a teacher and his deep and profound understanding of modern European history.

## **DR. J. DUANE SQUIRES HISTORY PRIZE**

**KATHLEEN B. MCDONOUGH**

The Dr. J. Duane Squires History Prize was made possible through a gift from the United States Constitutional Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire. Each institution within the University System of New Hampshire has the opportunity in its rotation to award it to a student achieving excellence in history.

## **HISTORY SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**SAMUEL J. MOORE**

This scholarship was created in 2014 by James G. Smart, Keene State College Professor Emeritus of history, to provide encouragement to promising students majoring or minoring in history.

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## **F. BURTON NELSON HOLOCAUST & GENOCIDE STUDIES MEMORIAL AWARD**

**MARCOS SILVEIRA**

This award was established in 2005 to honor an outstanding student who demonstrates a commitment to Holocaust studies. It was created by Dr. C. Paul Vincent, then Director of the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies, and his wife Nancy as a tribute to the late F. Burton Nelson, Professor of Theology at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago.

## **NONA FIENBERG LITERARY AWARD FUND**

**PETER M. GRANEY**

This fund was created to honor students in the field of Holocaust and genocide studies who express a deep interest in, and appreciation of, literature in Holocaust and genocide studies. This award was created by the colleagues and friends of former faculty member and dean Nona Fienberg, in recognition of her life-long love of literature and her dedication to Holocaust and genocide studies and its students.

## **DR. ROSE KUNDANIS SCHOLARSHIP IN JOURNALISM**

**NICOLE C. DUMONT**

The Dr. Rose M. Kundanis Scholarship in Journalism was established by Rose M. Kundanis, Ph.D. upon her retirement from the Journalism, Multimedia, Public Relations Department at Keene State College in 2018. Dr. Kundanis began her career at Keene State in 1986 by establishing the College's broadcast journalism program and served as the first chair of the Journalism Department, which became Journalism, Multimedia, Public Relations under her leadership. Never relenting in her pursuit of the truth, she taught and mentored many generations of journalists, instilling in them a high technical and ethical standard of accurate, unbiased and concise reporting across the ever-changing world of technology, media, and communications.

## **LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AWARD**

**NICHOLETTA C. HITT**

This award was established in 2000 to recognize the graduating mathematics major with the highest grade point average in the mathematics curriculum. Liberty Mutual acknowledges the importance of mathematics to its business and to all of society, and is committed to promoting young mathematicians who have demonstrated outstanding mathematical achievement.

## **FRANK H. BLACKINGTON, JR. LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AWARD**

**EVA G. GOODWIN**

**JUAN D. SANTIAGO**

This memorial award was established in 1978 to recognize an outstanding senior who has demonstrated proficiency in foreign language study. Dr. Blackington, Professor of French, who also served as the Director of the Placement Bureau, was known for his exemplary teaching and leadership during his forty years of service to Keene Teachers College (1922-62). This endowed scholarship was made possible through a generous gift from his sister, Myra B. Griswald.

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## **CARROLL LEHMAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN VOCAL MUSIC**

**KYLE R. TROMBLEY**

The Carroll Lehman Award for Excellence in Vocal Music was created in honor of Dr. Lehman's retirement after 35 years of dedication to his students and the program.

## **DANNY PAUL HUNTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**ELIZABETH K. BORELLI**

This scholarship was created as a gift from Aubrey S. Thomas, Jr. '62 and his wife, Satoko N. Thomas, in memory of Danny Paul Hunter, who exhibited great potential in music, and whose life was tragically cut short at age fifteen. Consideration for this scholarship is given to full-time students who have demonstrated academic excellence and the promise of future success in the area of music.

## **DON BALDINI MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP**

**NABIL HETMAN**

The Don Baldini Music Scholarship was created in honor of the retirement of Professor Don Baldini, Artist in Residence for 25 years at Keene State College. An accomplished string bass player, Mr. Baldini joined the Keene State College faculty after a prestigious career as a performer, playing with jazz greats including Frank Sinatra and spending many years on the music set of *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson. He founded the KSC Orchestra, involving students and community members and enriching the campus culture. The award is to provide recognition and financial assistance to music students at Keene State College who play violin, viola, cello, or bass.

## **PRESSER UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLAR AWARD**

**GARRETT P. CURRIER**

Theodore Presser (1848 -1925) rose from humble beginnings to become a respected music teacher and publisher. Familiar with the many challenges facing musicians, he established The Presser Foundation which supports music performance and education through undergraduate and graduate scholar awards, operating and program support for music organizations, capital grants for music building projects, and assistance to retired music teachers. This undergraduate scholar award recognizes a student for merit and achievement in music.

## **JIM AND MARY LEONARD SCHOLARSHIP IN MUSIC**

**SIMON R. FURZE**

**PETER D. LABONTE**

**JAMES C. SLIPP**

As life-long music enthusiasts, Jim and Mary Leonard created this scholarship to encourage students to pursue rewarding careers in music. A voice and piano teacher for many, many years, Mary touched the lives of hundreds of children over many years of dedicated instruction.

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## **JESSE F. DAVIS '37 SCHOLARSHIP**

**MILES F. JOHNSTONE**

This scholarship was established in 1993 by Mr. and Mrs. Jesse F. Davis in gratitude for the excellent instruction they received at Keene State College. This scholarship recognizes a full-time student who has chosen music as their major course of study and has demonstrated academic excellence.

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

**VICTORIA R. YOUNG**

This scholarship was created in 2002 with a gift from the Keene State College Youth Chorus (1993-2002), which was founded and directed by Dr. Gladys Johnsen, professor of music at Keene State. The award recognizes students who demonstrate exceptional abilities and promise in the area of music.

## **INSTRUMENTALIST OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**MICHAEL J. VLACHOS**

This award was created by the Keene State College Music Department faculty to recognize excellence in instrumental performance.

## **VOCALIST OF THE YEAR**

**AMBER R. FARRELL**

This award was created by the Keene State College Music Department faculty to recognize excellence in vocal performance.

## **JULIA MCHALE REDFERN MEMORIAL PRIZE IN PERFORMING ARTS**

**AMBER R. FARRELL**

This prize was established in 1988 by former Keene State President Leo F. Redfern and his wife, Edmonde, in memory of Dr. Redfern's mother, to recognize a student majoring in the performing arts for achieving excellence. Dr. Redfern served as the College's president from 1969 to 1980.

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMEX SAFETY STUDIES LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**MACKENIZE K. LLOYD**

This award was established in 1997 as part of the creation of the NGM Safety Center at Keene State College to recognize outstanding New Hampshire safety studies students who display leadership qualities that have advanced the reputation of the safety studies program. The NH Public Risk Management Exchange develops innovative risk management solutions in partnership with public employers and other interested parties.

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## **SAMUEL A. MARTIN '09 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**MARY-ALICE L. DYER**

This scholarship was created in memoriam of the passing of Sam Martin, a 2009 graduate of the safety studies program and member of the rugby club. Sam's education in safety studies at Keene opened the door to a wide range of opportunities including work as an EHS Specialist in Afghanistan and a rapid rise to the position of Environmental Health and Safety Leader at G. E. Aviation. Sam was very active with the Keene State Rugby Club, and was a captain of the team his senior year. The friendships Sam developed in his time at Keene State College will never be forgotten and this scholarship is created as a way for his friends and loved ones to help a student along their path towards the many successes Sam was able to achieve.

## **SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES SENIOR OF THE YEAR**

**NICKOLAS I. BAKER**

**EMMA M. SONNATI**

This award is given annually to a graduating senior who exemplifies outstanding contributions of both scholarship and service in sociology, anthropology, and/or criminal justice studies. The faculty instituted this award to recognize the importance of both service and learning in these disciplines, and to honor students in their pursuit of excellence in those areas.

## **FENTON FAMILY DEALERSHIP AUTOMOTIVE DESIGN AWARD**

**GREGORY J. KUCINSKI**

**NATHAN T. PRIEBE**

Made possible by a gift from the Fenton Family Dealerships, this award celebrates the pioneering work in the sustainable product design & innovation program and is given to recognize superior academic achievement and work on automotive design.

## **MAYNARD C. WALTZ MEMORIAL AWARD**

**SYDNEY A. JOHNSON**

Created by Mark Waltz '60 and Miles Waltz, this endowed award was created to perpetuate the memory and qualities of the life of their father, Maynard Waltz, who was a faculty member of Keene State College from 1930 to 1965. He taught both educational psychology and Latin, served as a member and chair of both the Education and Foreign Language Departments, and retired as professor emeritus. The award recognizes students with strong academic qualities in science and math, high motivation to become a teacher, and qualities of compassion, integrity, citizenship and fairness.

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**WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES EXCELLENCE AWARD****CHANTEL R. SALAS**

This award was established to recognize excellence and academic achievement. It is granted to women's and gender studies students who have accomplished academic excellence and demonstrated a commitment to identity activism on campus or in the community.

***Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award*****OUTSTANDING JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION  
SCHOLAR AWARD****MEGAN E. FRITZ**

This award is presented to a student who through their academic endeavors and co-curricular activities has demonstrated a commitment to social and restorative justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, and community healing. Recipients are committed to engaging in local, regional, national, and international efforts to transform communities where social inequities, injustice, and other problems are having an impact on individuals quality of life and the health and well-being of the entire community.

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