



2024

GRADUATE

Commencement

SUNY
Cortland

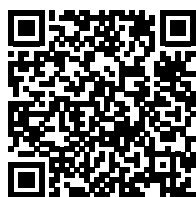
Welcome

The president, College Council, faculty, alumni and graduates of SUNY Cortland are honored by your presence at the 2024 Graduate Commencement ceremony.

Park Center Alumni Arena
Friday, May 10, 2024

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COMMENCEMENT SURVEY

Please share your thoughts by taking a short online survey. Your feedback is valuable as we plan future events. Scan the QR code or visit

→ cortland.edu/commencement

Program

Guests are kindly asked to silence their cell phones and other electronic devices during the ceremony.

PROCESSIONAL

Finger Lakes Brass Quintet

NATIONAL ANTHEM

WELCOME

Dr. Erik J. Bitterbaum, *President*

FAREWELL REMARKS

Maeve Brady M '24, *Adolescence Education: English*

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

Dr. Bitterbaum

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Bitterbaum

Certificate of Advanced Study

Dr. Andrea Lachance, *Dean, School of Education*

Master's Degrees

School of Education

Dr. Lachance

School of Arts and Sciences

Dr. R. Bruce Mattingly, *Dean*

School of Professional Studies

Dr. Lynn E. MacDonald, *Interim Dean*

HOODING OF GRADUATES

Department Chairs, Program Coordinators and Faculty

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME

Jamie Piperato '12, *Immediate Past President, SUNY Cortland Alumni Association Board of Directors*

ALMA MATER

RECESSIONAL

Finger Lakes Brass Quintet

BRITANI SHAMBO
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

BAILEY SHAPIRO
M.S.Ed., Teaching Students with Disabilities

TAYAH SIMMONS
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

MADELYN SMITH
M.S.Ed., Teaching Students with Disabilities

AMANDA SQUILLINI
M.S.Ed., Teaching Students with Disabilities

MARIA TESORIO
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

ELIZABETH TYRRELL
C.A.S., School Building Leader; School District Leader

COURTNEY UNGER
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

KAITLIN VANDERVORT
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

OWEN WAHL
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

WILLIAM WALSH
C.A.S., School Building Leader; School District Leader

CASSIDY WEAVER
M.S.Ed., Teaching Students with Disabilities

AVERY WEINSTEIN
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

EVAN WONG
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

JAMES WOO
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

VICTORIA WRIGHT
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

PATRICK AGABABIAN
M.S.T., Physical Education

KYLE ALLINGTON
M.S., Exercise Science

BARI-MORGAN ALLOR
C.A.S., Therapeutic Recreation

FAHIMA AQTAR
M.S., Community Health

BLAKE ARONSON
M.S.T., Physical Education

BRIELLE BAGOZZI
M.S., Athletic Training

CASEY BAUMEISTER
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

LAUREN BEALE
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

RHIANNON BEERS
M.S., Sport Management

RYAN BEHRE
M.S.T., Health

SHANE BELKIN
M.S.Ed., Physical Education Leadership

CHRISTINE BIAGINI-BRAVO
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

AMBER BLACK
M.S.Ed., Physical Education Leadership

RAQUEL BORST
M.S., Community Health

ERIN BROWN
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

SAMUEL BRUNETTE
M.S., Sport Management

MATHEW BRUNO
M.S.Ed., Physical Education Leadership

KATHERINE BURGESS
M.S., Athletic Training

KAITLIN BURKE
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

CHRISTOPHER BURNS
M.S.Ed., Physical Education Leadership

JOHN CADY
M.S.T., Physical Education

TAYLOR CHAFFEE
M.S.T., Health Education

JAYCIE CHILDS
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

JOSEPH CUCCIA
M.S.T., Health Education

ANDREW DAMO
M.S., Sport Management

SAMANTHA DAVIS
M.S., Sport Management

MIGUEL DE ANTONIO BARTOLOME
M.S., Sport Management

NATHANIEL DEPERNO
M.S.T., Health Education

JASON DIEHL
M.S.T., Health Education

NATHAN DOMBROSKI
M.S.T., Physical Education

DANYKA DONEGAN
M.S., Sport Management

MIRANDA EDMONDSON
M.S.T., Health Education

THOMAS FAVA
M.S.T., Physical Education

MAKAYLA FERGUSON
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

HAILEY FINN
M.S., Athletic Training

TYLER FRENCH
M.S.T., Health Education

ANDREW FUDALA
M.S.T., Physical Education

COLE GIANGUZZI
M.S.T., Health Education

BRENNIA GIOFFE
M.S.T., Physical Education

AMANDA GISBERT
M.S.Ed., Literacy Education

ALAINA GODICI
M.S.T., Health Education

ZACHARY GOODMAN
M.S., Sport Management

JIMMY GRACIEVSKI
M.S., Sport Management

DANIELLE GRECO
M.S.Ed., Teaching English as a Second Language

JASON HASELKORN
M.S., Sport Management

EMILY HESPELER
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

MARYKELLY HILTON
M.S.T., Physical Education

KACIE HUBBARD
M.S., Sport Management

MATTHEW HULL
M.S.T., Physical Education

MICAHIAH HUMES
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

PAIGE ISBELL
M.S., Sport Management

ERIKA JANNY
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

CLARENCE JOHNSON
M.S., Sport Management

CRISTAL JOSEPH
M.S., Sport Management

BENJAMIN KANE
M.S.T., Physical Education

COURTNEY KANE
M.S.T., Health Education

JAYDEN KELLEY
M.S., Community Health

KAITLYN KELLEY
M.S.T., Health Education

SEAN KENNEDY
M.S.T., Health Education

JENNA KRATZ
M.S.T., Health Education

ALYSON KROTENBERG
C.A.S., Therapeutic Recreation

ELIZABETH KUZEL
M.S.T., Physical Education

THOMAS LALENA
M.S., Sport Management

JAMIE LACHALL
M.S., Sport Management

JESSICA LANGAN
M.S.T., Physical Education

BENJAMIN LANGLLOTZ
M.S.T., Health Education

NICHOLAS LAROCQUE
M.S., Exercise Science

MESSIAH LEARY
M.S., Sport Management

KEVIN LENNON
M.S., Athletic Training

KENNETH MACUMBER
M.S., Exercise Science

ABIGAIL MADIGAN
M.S.T., Health Education

ANNA MADISON
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

DARIA MAJKRZAK
M.S.T., Health Education

MICHAEL MAMMOLA
M.S.T., Health Education

LAUREN MANNING
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

ANTHONY MARCUCCILLI
M.S., Sport Management

JILLIAN MASSIMINO
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

JUSTIN MAURER
M.S.Ed., Physical Education Leadership

TYLER McDONALD
M.S.T., Health Education

ABIGAIL MCDOWELL
M.S.T., Health Education

MICHAEL MCKNIGHT
M.S., Community Health

MEREDITH MEAGLEY
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

BRADEN MELVENEY
M.S., Sport Management

RAND MICHAELS
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

MATTHEW MILANO
M.S.T., Health Education

REBECCA MORGAN
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

MICHAEL MOSKOWITZ
M.S., Sport Management

SEAN MULVIHILL
M.S.T., Physical Education

PEYTON NADEAU
M.S., Athletic Training

ANTHONY NESCI
M.S.T., Physical Education

EMILEY NILL
M.S.T., Health Education

JENNA NORTON
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

JULIE PANGBORN
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

GILBERT JOSHUA PECHO
M.S., Athletic Training

JESSICA PEGG
M.S., Exercise Science

MATTHEW PESTLE
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

KRISTINA PETRELLA
M.S., Community Health

JACOB PFEIFER
M.S.T., Physical Education

MADELINE PIERCE
M.S.T., Health Education

SYDNEY PLUTA
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

OLIVIA POGOZELSKI
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

MEGAN PUTNAM
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

ALEXA RAMONETTI
M.S.T., Health Education

ALISSA RAVITCH
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

TAYLOR RINGER
M.S., Athletic Training

BRITTNEY RONAN
C.A.S., Therapeutic Recreation

KARILYN RUTLEDGE
M.S.T., Health Education

RICHARD SAMUELS
M.S.T., Health Education

CLAYTON SANTIAGO
M.S.T., Health Education

EZRA SCHUTT
M.S.T., Health Education

LAUREN SCIDA
M.S.T., Health Education

RACHAEL SCOONES
C.A.S., Therapeutic Recreation

JESSICA SHEAR
M.S.T., Physical Education

LINDSAY SIEFERT
M.S.T., Health Education

HOLLY SLEETH
M.S.T., Health Education

SEAN SMILEY
M.S., Sport Management

HANNAH SMITHERS
M.S.T., Health Education

DANIELLE SOMMERS
M.S.T., Health Education

OLIVIA SPOSATO
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

CALEB STEVENS
M.S.T., Physical Education

CIERRA STONE
M.S.T., Health Education

ABBEY STOWELL
M.S.T., Physical Education

MARK SUKHNANAN
M.S., Sport Management

MEGHANN TANNER
M.S., Sport Management

ALLISON TEACHOUT
M.S.T., Health Education

KATHERINE THOMS
M.S.T., Physical Education

IVAN TORRES
M.S., Sport Management

RACHEL TOWER
M.S.T., Health Education

SARAH TULLY
M.S.T., Health Education

DANIELLE VALENZA
M.S., Sport Management

DAVID VANGROL
M.S., Sport Management

JULIA VARLEY
M.S.T., Health Education

VALERIE VELARDI
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

SYDNEY WALZ
M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders

TYLER WEGMANN
M.S.T., Health Education

MARK WEIDMAN
M.S.T., Health Education

HUDSON WHITE
M.S.T., Health Education

MEADOW WITTMAN
M.S.T., Health Education

JONATHAN WOOD
M.S., Sport Management

KYLE WOOD
M.S., Sport Management

KAYLA YOUNG
M.S., Sport Management

NATASHA ZACCHIO
M.S., Therapeutic Recreation

ERIC ZAMBRANO
M.S., Sport Management

EDWARD ZAWADZKI
M.S., Sport Management

Academic Traditions

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The processional begins with the all-university gonfalonier, who leads in the faculty, followed by the schools of Arts and Sciences, Education and Professional Studies gonfaloniers, who lead in the students. The processional concludes when the mace bearer brings in the platform party, which consists of members of the administration and faculty leadership, the College Council, visiting dignitaries and honorees.

THE MACE

The mace is a ceremonial staff used as a symbol of authority. The mace bearer precedes the platform party and places the mace on a special stand where it remains while the official proceedings of Commencement are underway. SUNY Cortland's mace, the "Torch of Learning," is made of silver and rosewood and was created by local silversmith John Marshall.

THE GONFALONS

The four bright banners carried in the academic procession are called gonfalons. The red, white, black and grey gonfalon represents SUNY Cortland; in blue, grey and burgundy it represents the School of Arts and Sciences; in blue, purple and black it represents the School of Education; and in peach and green it represents the School of Professional Studies.

The gonfalons were designed by Libby Kowalski, professor emerita of art and art history, and Kathy Maher '84. The standards were made by the late Bard Prentiss, associate professor emeritus of art and art history, and J. Eric Kroot. Materials were provided by the Gilbert and Mary Cahill Foundation and the late Rozanne M. Brooks, distinguished teaching professor emerita of sociology/anthropology.

REGALIA

Commencement lends itself to the pageantry of an academic procession rooted in medieval times. The gowns and hoods worn by faculty members, candidates for graduation and platform dignitaries distinguish the institution from which the wearer was or will be graduated, the level of the degree earned and the field of learning.

In 1985, American colleges established a standard code of academic dress, specifying three types of gowns. The gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves, the gown for the master's degree has an oblong sleeve with the front part cut in an arc, and the gown for the doctoral degree has bell-shaped sleeves. The doctoral gown also is trimmed in velvet. The hood's inner lining, which folds out at the back and center, indicates the colors of the institution granting the degree, while the border, which comes around to

the front of the neck, represents the field of learning. The black mortarboard cap is standard. Its only distinguishing feature is a gold tassel worn by holders of the doctoral degree.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The silver medallion worn by the president at Commencement was designed by the late Gerald DiGiusto, professor of art and art history, and crafted by artist Linda Stewart in a project supported by the late Rozanne M. Brooks, distinguished teaching professor emerita of sociology/anthropology. It depicts the seven valleys of Cortland County.

THE KENTE STOLE

The Kente stole is a rich, multicolored, handwoven style of cloth that originated in Ghana, West Africa, and is revered throughout the Africana world. It is traditionally worn during important national ceremonies. The colors, patterns and ideogrammatic images of the Kente stole impart information about the wearer and highlight the importance of an event or a ceremony. Similar to the academic hood, the Kente stole is relatively new to commencement ceremonies in the United States and symbolizes higher education's connection to the rich cultures, intellectual traditions and academic achievements of the Africana world.

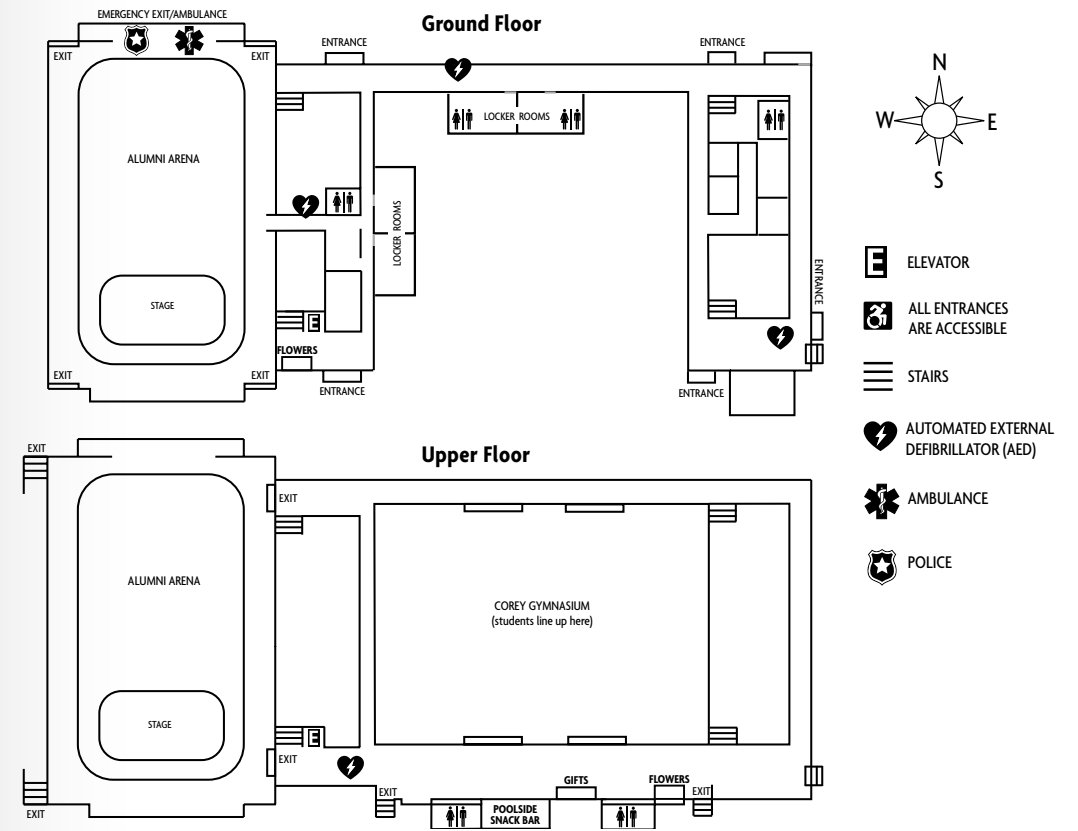
SPECIAL PERSON DESIGNATION

All graduates can designate a special person who has been instrumental in helping them achieve their higher education goals. This individual's name is read along with the graduate's name as they walk across the stage at the Commencement ceremony. Students who choose to name a special person do so when they apply for their degree.

INTERNATIONAL FLAG PRESENTATIONS

Graduating students representing countries from around the world have the opportunity to present their national flag to the provost during the Commencement ceremony. In the past, flags representing Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belize, Canada, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Haiti, India, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Republic of Congo, Romania, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, St. Lucia, Sweden, Thailand, The Gambia, Turkey and the United Kingdom were received. The 2024 ceremonies will feature the flags from Bangladesh and Chile. Flags are displayed on stage during the ceremony and afterward they are exhibited in the lobby of Corey Union and the foyer of Old Main.

Park Center Map and Facilities Information



AMBULANCE

An ambulance will be stationed in the northwest parking lot of the Park Center, just outside the overhead door.

EMERGENCY EXITS

In case of emergency, please proceed to the nearest exit in an orderly manner.

EMERGENCY PHONES

Locations on campus are identified by blue lights.

FLOWERS AND GIFTS

Campus Store staff will be selling flowers, diploma frames and assorted gifts on the upper and ground floors of Park Center from 5:30-8:30 p.m. See map for locations.

GUEST ASSISTANCE

Ushers are available for assistance and information.

LOST AND FOUND

For lost and found items, please contact the University Police Department, Whitaker Hall, Room 110, 607-753-2112.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Please stand to the side of the stage when taking pictures to avoid blocking the view of seated guests.

PROGRAM

A PDF of this Commencement program is available at cortland.edu/commencement.

RECEPTION

All students, guests, faculty and staff are invited to a reception in Park Center Corey Gymnasium immediately following the ceremony.

REFRESHMENTS

Refreshments may be purchased on the upper floor of the Park Center at the Poolside snack bar. Bottled water also is available for purchase on the ground floor of Park Center.

RESTROOMS

Park Center restrooms are indicated on the map.

SMOKING

Smoking and tobacco use are not permitted on campus.

Commencement Party

MACE BEARER

Dr. Kathleen Lawrence
*Chair, Faculty Senate
Professor, Communications
and Media Studies*

GONFALONIERS

All-University

Dr. Laura Gathagan
Associate Professor, History

Arts and Sciences

Dr. Vincent DeTuri
Associate Dean

Education

Dr. Kimberly Rombach '88, M '93
Interim Associate Dean

Professional Studies

Dr. Eileen Gravani
Associate Dean

MARSHALS

Platform Party

Dr. Andrea Lachance
Dean, School of Education

Dr. Lynn E. MacDonald
*Interim Dean, School of
Professional Studies*

Dr. R. Bruce Mattingly
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Faculty

Dr. Peter McGinnis
*Distinguished Service Professor,
Kinesiology*

Students

Dr. Alexis Blavos
Professor, Health

Daniela Baban Hurrle
Director, International Programs

At-Large

Michael Bersani
*Communications Officer,
President's Office*

Dr. Ann Blanton
*Associate Professor,
Communication Disorders
and Sciences*

Dr. Jena Curtis
Professor, Health

Nancy Diller
*Curriculum Coordinator,
Academic Affairs*

Patrick Donnelly '01
Instructor, Kinesiology

Dr. Dominick Fantacone
*Director, Research and
Sponsored Programs*

Michael Foki
*International Student Advisor,
International Programs*

Dr. John Foley
*Distinguished Professor,
Physical Education*

Dr. Beth Klein
*Campus Sustainability
Coordinator; SUNY Distinguished
Service Professor, Childhood/
Early Childhood Education*

Dr. Nimisha Muttiah
*Assistant Professor,
Communications Disorders
and Sciences*

Dr. Samantha Moss M '18
Assistant Professor, Kinesiology

Dr. Lori Reichel
Assistant Professor, Health

Dr. Mary Schlarb
*Assistant Vice Provost for
Student Achievement*

Dr. Ryan Vooris '08
*Associate Professor and Chair,
Sport Management*

Dr. Chris L. Widdall '00, M '03
*Assistant Dean for Assessment
and Accreditation; Associate
Professor, Childhood/Early
Childhood Education, Health*

Dr. Kim Wieczorek
*Associate Professor and Chair,
Childhood/Early Childhood
Education*

READER

Thomas Fuchs
Lecturer, Physical Education

Graduate Commencement Committee

Michael Bersani
Mikaela Blackman
Daniel Condon
Frank Cullen '06
Tracey DelVecchio
John Donovan
Daniel Dryja '04
Denise DuBrava
Carolynn MacNay-Knight
Tanya Maggs
Todd Malone '11
Joseph Mascetta '24, *SGA President*
Dr. Peter McGinnis, *co-chair*
Daniel Poorman
Philip Roys
Bradford Snyder
April Thompson, *co-chair*
Alyssa Wakula '22
Lisa Walker
Dr. Kim Wieczorek

SPECIAL THANKS

Administrative Computing Services
Campus Event Management
Custodial Services
Division of Institutional Advancement
Duplicating Center
Facilities Operations and Services
Information Systems and Security
Marketing Office
Registrar's Office
Student Ushers
SUNY Cortland Alumni Association
SUNY Cortland Auxiliary Services Catering
The Campus Store
University Police Department

COLLEGE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Linda May Armstrong '76
Elizabeth Arnold
Anneka Bowler
Lynn Brown
Thomas Gallagher, *chair*
Andrea Haenlin-Mott
Robert J. Haight
Renee L. James, Esq. '82
John Reagan
Bruce R. Tytler M '88, C.A.S. '05

Welcome to the Alumni Family

SUNY Cortland has graduated more than 87,000 students, and you are joining the ranks of alumni who reside in all 50 states and nearly 60 countries. We encourage you to continue your involvement with your alma mater through our reunion programs, regional events and special gatherings.



By keeping Alumni Engagement updated with your current residential and email addresses, you will be assured of receiving event invitations and publications such as our alumni magazine, *Columns*, and online newsletter, *Red Dragon Tales*. Scan the QR code or visit RedDragonNetwork.org/update to register your alumni profile.



Stay connected with SUNY Cortland, friends and classmates by following the Alumni Association Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and X accounts.

Please visit RedDragonNetwork.org for details about alumni events and much more. Watch for information about programming tailored to our newest alumni.

We are pleased to have you as a member of the SUNY Cortland Alumni Association and wish you a bright and successful future.



Share your Commencement photos
#Cortland24



Alma Mater

By lofty elm trees shaded round,
Tioughnioga near,
Our grand old Cortland College stands,
To all of us how dear!
We'll sing to thee, dear Alma Mater,
Of love that shall never die,
We'll strive for thy glory eternal,
Keep thy stainless honor high.
Inspiring each son and each daughter
The noblest aims to try,
All thy fame and thy spirit,
Thy might are ours
As the swift years hurry by.