COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND
Friday and Saturday, May 24–25, 2019
Getting Around Campus

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Commencement Information on Campus

Information Table, David Saul Smith Union (lower level)
Thursday, May 23, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, May 24, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Office of Events and Summer Programs, Coles Tower (first floor)
Thursday, May 23, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, May 24, 9:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Commencement Mobile App and Website
Access complete information about Commencement Weekend and
sign up to receive text notifications on your mobile device.
1. Go to Bowdoin/app and tap “Download on the AppStore.”
2. In the app, search for “2019 Bowdoin Commencement”
and tap on the guide.
Information is also available on the Commencement website—
bowdoin.edu/commencement.

Emergency Assistance
In the event of a medical or other emergency, please contact Bowdoin Safety and Security by dialing 3500 from any phone inside a campus building, 207-725-3500 from your mobile phone, or by using an outdoor emergency phone (masked with a blue lamp).

For more information go to bowdoin.edu/commencement.
Dear Bowdoin Families,

On Saturday, May 25, 2019, Bowdoin will celebrate its 214th Commencement. It is a great day for our students—and for all of us—and I warmly invite you to take part in the events of the weekend.

In addition to recognizing the achievements of the Class of 2019, Bowdoin will award honorary degrees to Earl Lewis, social historian and former president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Nadia A. Rosenthal, geneticist and scientific director at the Jackson Laboratory; Sir Paul M. Ruddock, philanthropist and supporter of the arts; and Sheldon M. Stone ’74, philanthropist, founding member and principal of Oaktree Capital Management, and Bowdoin trustee emeritus. The College has bestowed honorary degrees since its first Commencement in 1806, and we look forward to having this year’s accomplished guests with us for the weekend.

The Commencement ceremony is a Bowdoin tradition that brings us all together to celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates and wish them well in their future endeavors. We look forward to sharing this exciting day with you.

Sincerely,

Clayton S. Rose

President
FRIDAY, MAY 24

8:30 a.m.
Annual Meeting of Phi Beta Kappa.
Kanbar Auditorium, Studzinski Recital Hall.

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Breakfast available. Moulton Union Dining Hall.
Meal tickets required. See Weekend Dining on page 6.

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Hawthorne-Longfellow Library and George J. Mitchell Department of
Special Collections & Archives Open House.

11:00 a.m. – noon
Seniors Concert.
Kanbar Auditorium, Studzinski Recital Hall.

11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Academic Department and Program Open Houses.
Note: Not all Open Houses begin at 11:00 a.m. A complete listing,
including times and locations, is available on the Commencement
mobile app, at bowdoin.edu/commencement, and, during
Commencement Weekend, at the information table in David Saul
Smith Union.

11:30 a.m.
Tour of the Bowdoin College Museum of Art.
Meet in the Museum’s glass pavilion.

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Lunch available. Moulton Union Dining Hall.
Meal tickets required. See Weekend Dining on page 6.

Schedule of Events

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
A conversation with honorary degree recipient Nadia A. Rosenthal,
geneticist and scientific director at the Jackson Laboratory for
Mammalian Genetics.
Kresge Auditorium, Visual Arts Center.

2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
A conversation with honorary degree recipient Sir Paul M. Ruddock,
philanthropist and supporter of the arts.
Kanbar Auditorium, Studzinski Recital Hall.

4:30 p.m.
The Baccalaureate ceremony marks the official close of the academic
year and the coming together of seniors and their families. It features
remarks by President Clayton Rose, a speech by a graduating senior,
and a keynote address by honorary degree recipient Earl Lewis,
former president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
Sidney J. Watson Arena.

5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
Lobster Bake for members of the Class of 2019, their families
and guests, faculty, and staff. Seating in Farley Field House. Buffet
service in a tent on the west side of Farley; entrance on Coffin Street.
Meal tickets required. See Weekend Dining on page 6.
SATURDAY, MAY 25

8:20 a.m.
Graduating seniors meet in front of Baxter House to line up for the Commencement procession.

9:05 a.m.
Faculty meet in front of Hubbard Hall, and alumni meet in front of the Visual Arts Center to line up for the Commencement procession.

9:15 a.m.
Seniors begin Commencement procession from Baxter House.
Families and guests should be seated by 9:15 a.m.

10:00 a.m.
The 214th Commencement Exercises.
Terrace, Walker Art Building, Bowdoin College Museum of Art.

noon
Commencement Luncheon for members of the Class of 2019, their families and guests, alumni, faculty, and staff. Seating in Farley Field House. Buffet service in a tent on the west side of Farley; entrance on Coffin Street.
Meal tickets required. See Weekend Dining on page 6.

In observance of Memorial Day, wreaths will be laid at the three memorials to those from Bowdoin College who served, and in many cases died, in wartime. Two are located between Hubbard and Gibson Halls, and one is in Memorial Hall.

Honorands

BOWDOIN WILL AWARD FOUR HONORARY DEGREES AT COMMENCEMENT
Honorary degrees will be awarded to

Earl Lewis
social historian and former president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Nadia A. Rosenthal
geneticist and scientific director at the Jackson Laboratory for Mammalian Genetics

Sir Paul M. Ruddock
philanthropist and supporter of the arts

Sheldon M. Stone ’74
philanthropist, cofounder and principal of Oaktree Capital Management, and Bowdoin trustee emeritus
Weekend Dining

Commencement Weekend events include special meals catered by Bowdoin Dining Service. *Tickets are required for all meals.*

It is not necessary to order meal tickets for graduating seniors. They are guests of the College for Commencement Weekend meals and, in addition, receive two complimentary Commencement Luncheon tickets for guests.

Family and guest meal tickets may be purchased in advance by using the meal ticket order form included in the spring mailing to families. Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly encouraged to avoid higher costs and ticket lines when you arrive on campus. **Advance reservations must be made by Monday, May 13.** A limited number of tickets will be available for purchase at both the Lobster Bake and the Commencement Luncheon.

Meal tickets purchased in advance should be picked up by your senior between Monday, May 20, and Friday, May 24, at the Bowdoin Dining Service office on the second floor of Thorne Hall.

Vegetarian (V), vegan (VE), gluten-free (GF), and nut-free (NF) options are available at Commencement meals with no advance notice required. If you or a family member have a special diet that requires other accommodations, we ask that you contact our dietitian, Susanne D’Angelo-Cooley, at sdangelo@bowdoin.edu or 207-725-3542 two to three weeks in advance of Commencement. We encourage you to contact Susanne at any time for general dietary questions.

We recognize that some of our guests might be fasting for Ramadan during this time. Our dining service is prepared to provide guests with a to-go container so you can enjoy your meal at a different time. The Center for Religious and Spiritual Life will be open every evening during graduation week as a place for students and their families to enjoy their meals after sunset.

For other dining questions, please contact Bowdoin Dining Service at 207-725-3211, 207-725-3181, or Lisa Bouffard at lfox@bowdoin.edu.

General Information

Commencement Ceremony Location and Weather

The Commencement ceremony is held outside, in front of the Bowdoin College Museum of Art, under most weather conditions. May weather in Maine can be extremely variable; bring clothing appropriate for rain and cool temperatures, as well as for warm weather. There are no tickets for the outdoor ceremony, and you may bring as many guests as you wish.

In the event of severe weather, the ceremony will be held in the Sidney J. Watson Arena. Should the ceremony move inside, each senior will be issued four tickets for seating in Watson Arena. Family members and guests without tickets may watch a livestream of the ceremony on a large screen in Farley Field House, located adjacent to Watson Arena. The decision to move inside will be made on Commencement morning and communicated to families on the Commencement website and via notifications on the Commencement mobile app.
Guest Wi-Fi
Bowdoin provides wireless access for College guests in all campus buildings, the athletic fields, the Schiller Coastal Studies Center, and many outdoor campus spaces.

1. Choose the "BOWDOIN-GUEST" wireless network from your computer or mobile device.

2. A registration page will automatically load. If it does not, open a web browser and type in the registration page url: guestwlan.bowdoin.edu/guest.php

3. Fill in the registration information. Guests are not required to have a Bowdoin ID but will need to enter their name and email address.

4. Once the registration is complete, click "Log In."

5. Access to Bowdoin’s guest wireless will expire in twenty-four hours but can be renewed by following steps 1-4 above.

Special Assistance
Bowdoin College is committed to making its campus accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Events and Summer Programs at events@bowdoin.edu or 207-725-3433, or visit the Accessibility page on the Commencement website (bowdoin.edu/commencement). Assistive listening devices (free of charge) and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation will be available at both the Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies. Other forms of accessibility aids may need to be arranged in advance. Please notify the Events Office at least two weeks prior to Commencement so we may work with you to address your individual needs. All parking lots contain designated accessible parking spaces (see map at the back of the brochure for parking locations, designated with a ⚡).

Parking and Shuttles
All campus parking lots are open to Commencement guests (see map at the back of the brochure for parking locations, designated with a ⚡). Golf carts, driven by volunteers, run on Friday beginning at 3:30 p.m. from the main campus to Baccalaureate and from the Lobster Bake to parking. On Saturday, golf carts run between 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. from North Campus Drive and in front of the Chapel to the Commencement ceremony. Following the ceremony, both golf carts and larger shuttle buses are available to transport guests from the Quad to the luncheon (buses pick up in front of Moulton Union; golf carts pick up in front of the Chapel and Hubbard Hall) and from the luncheon to parking.

Pets and Service Animals
Pets are prohibited inside all campus buildings and at all dining events. Service animals are welcome.

College Alcohol Policy
The Bowdoin community is reminded that no one under the age of twenty-one may purchase, procure, transport, or consume alcoholic beverages. State law and College policy prohibit the public consumption of alcohol, and the College’s liquor license prohibits us from allowing guests to bring their own liquor into any College reception or dining event. Proper identification is required at all functions where alcohol is served. The College asks for your compliance.

Commencement Gifts
The Bowdoin Store, located in the David Saul Smith Union, sells Bowdoin diploma frames, class rings, and other gifts. Items can be purchased online at store.bowdoin.edu, by calling 800-524-2225, or by visiting the store during Commencement Weekend.

Lost and Found
Lost items will be turned in at the Security Communications Center at Rhodes Hall. Inquiries can be made in person or by calling 207-725-3314.
Graduating Classes

The first:
seven graduates in 1806

The smallest:
three graduates in 1807

Best-known:
Class of 1825,
with Hawthorne and Longfellow

First black graduate:
John Brown Russwurm, 1826

First woman graduate:
Susan D. Jacobson, 1971

Graduation Speeches

Until 1877, every graduate had a speaking part. Addresses were given in Latin, German, and occasionally Greek or Hebrew. The custom of selecting student Commencement speakers through competition began in the 1880s.

Honorary Degrees

In the early years, students who had received degrees from one institution could also receive reciprocal degrees from another. In 1806, thirteen Harvard graduates also took Bowdoin degrees. Faculty also frequently added Bowdoin master’s degrees to their list of credentials. Bowdoin currently awards several honorary degrees each year. There are approximately 126 living Bowdoin honorary degree holders.

Historic Celebrations

1806: The first Commencement was held in the second meetinghouse of First Parish Church across the street from the College.

1824: In Portland, an honorary degree was awarded to the Marquis de Lafayette.

1832: Commencement during Bowdoin’s semicentennial celebration took place in a large tent on the Quad. Franklin Pierce (1824) and Nathaniel Hawthorne (1825) were in attendance.

1875: On the day before Commencement, at the fiftieth reunion of the Class of 1825, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow recited his poem “Morituri Salutamus,” an elegiac reflection on youth and age.

1909: Admiral Robert E. Peary (1877) received an LLD in honor of his reaching the North Pole.

2005: Bowdoin celebrated its 200th Commencement.
Degrees Awarded

Bowdoin now confers only the bachelor of arts degree. To date, 32,094 degrees in academic programs have been awarded.

From 1821 to 1921, Bowdoin’s Medical School of Maine awarded degrees to more than 2,000 doctors.

Bachelor of science degrees were awarded from 1875 through 1883 (including to Robert E. Peary in 1877) through a scientific department inaugurated by President Joshua Chamberlain; and again from 1914 through 1949 to those whose programs emphasized mathematics over the classics.

Bowdoin also granted a total of 274 master’s degrees in mathematics between 1962 and 1974.