SPECIAL COMMENCEMENT EVENTS with 2019 Honorary Degree Recipients
Friday, May 24

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

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

4:30 p.m.— Sidney J. Watson Arena
The Baccalaureate Ceremony, featuring a keynote address by honorary degree recipient Earl Lewis, social historian and former president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Bowdoin College’s
2019 Honorary Degree Recipients

For the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters
EARL LEWIS

Earl Lewis is a prominent social historian and champion of the humanities and the liberal arts. Former president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, he is currently founding director of the Center for Social Solutions and professor of history and Afro-American and African studies at the University of Michigan. A graduate of Concordia College, he earned a PhD at the University of Minnesota in 1984. After teaching at the University of California–Berkeley and the University of Michigan, he moved to Emory University, where he served as executive vice president for academic affairs and provost as well as the Asa Griggs Candler Professor of History and African American Studies. Lewis was Emory’s first African American provost and at the time the highest-ranking African American administrator in the university’s history. In 2013, Lewis became the sixth president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, where he reshaped key program areas and reaffirmed the Foundation’s commitment to the humanities, the arts, and higher education. Lewis was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2008.
For the Degree of Doctor of Science

NADIA A. ROSENTHAL

Nadia Rosenthal, a researcher in mammalian molecular genetics, is scientific director at the Jackson Laboratory for Mammalian Genetics in Bar Harbor, Maine. In a career combining groundbreaking scholarship with a commitment to training future researchers, Rosenthal has explored the genetics of muscle and cardiac development and the role of growth factors, stem cells, and the immune system on tissue regeneration. She began college at the University of North Wales in the UK and graduated from Harvard University, where she earned a PhD in biochemistry. After teaching at Harvard Medical School and the Boston University School of Medicine, Rosenthal established the mouse biology program for the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Rome. Remaining in her position at EMBL, she joined Imperial College in London as director of science for the Harefield Heart Science Center and chair of cardiovascular science in 2005 and established the Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute in 2007. Author or coauthor of nearly 200 articles and eight books or monographs, Rosenthal has served as editor of The New England Journal of Medicine, editor-in-chief of Differentiation, and founding editor of Disease Models and Mechanisms.

For the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters

SIR PAUL M. RUDDOCK

Sir Paul M. Ruddock, philanthropist and supporter of the arts, is cofounder of the investment management firm Lansdowne Partners and former CEO of Lansdowne Partners Limited. He has BA and MA degrees in jurisprudence from the University of Oxford. For twenty years Ruddock has served as chair of the board of trustees of the Victoria and Albert Museum, where he and his wife, Lady Jill Shaw Ruddock ’77, were the lead funders of the renovation of the medieval wing’s thirteen galleries comprising the Paul and Jill Ruddock Galleries of the Renaissance City and the William and Eileen Ruddock Gallery of Early Medieval Art. They also funded the Victoria and Albert Museum’s Ruddock Family Cast Court and the British Museum’s Sutton Hoo and medieval galleries, and they are helping fund the renovation of the Musée du Moyen Age in Paris, for which Ruddock received the French government’s Chevalier dans Ordre des Arts et Lettres. A senior honorary research fellow at the Victoria and Albert Museum and a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, Ruddock was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2012 for services to the arts and philanthropy.

For the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters

SHELDON M. STONE ’74

Sheldon M. Stone ’74 is cofounder and principal of Oaktree Capital Management. A first-generation college student and financial aid recipient who has never forgotten that his opportunity was made possible by others, Stone has made gifts that have supported hundreds of students and have been instrumental in making Bowdoin’s need-blind, no-loan policies possible. After graduating from Bowdoin, Stone earned an MBA at Columbia University, where he serves on the board of overseers for the business school. He began his career as an analyst, investment manager, and director of corporate finance for the Prudential Insurance Company. He joined Citibank Investment Management in 1983 and became senior vice president and managing director at Trust Company of the West in 1985. In 1995, he cofounded Oaktree Capital Group. As a member of Bowdoin’s board of trustees, Stone served as chair of the Investment Committee from 2004 to 2009, he continues to serve on the Investment Committee as an emeritus board member. Stone’s remarkable record of public service includes chair emeritus of the California Community Foundation, trustee of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, and trustee of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History Foundation.