



LANDMARK  
COLLEGE

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2022  
CLICK FAMILY SPORTS CENTER,  
LANDMARK COLLEGE

10:00 a.m.

Putney, Vermont

# Commencement

Saturday, December 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

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**Academic Procession**

Joshua Moyse, *Mace Bearer*  
Jarad Weeks, *Bagpipes*,  
Trustees, Faculty, Staff, and Graduates

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**Invocation**

Michael Luciani,  
*Vice President for Student Affairs*

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**Welcome**

Dr. Peter Eden, *President*

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**Musical Interlude**

The Landmark College Ensemble & Chorus

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**Presentation of Awards**

Community Service Award  
Academic Deans' Award

Michael Luciani  
Dr. Gail Gibson Sheffield,  
*Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Undergraduate Student Research Award

Dr. Adam Lalor,

*Vice President for Neurodiversity Research and Innovation*

Charles Drake Award

Dr. Peter Eden

President's Award

Dr. Peter Eden

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**Conferring of Degrees**

Dr. Peter Eden  
Dr. Gail Gibson Sheffield

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**Class Gift Presentation**

Fall Class of 2022

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**Alumni Welcome**

Tricia Stanley, *Director of Alumni Relations*

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**Alma Mater**

The Landmark College Ensemble,  
Chorus, & Community

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**Closing Remarks**

Dr. Peter Eden, *President*

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**Recessional**

Landmark College Ensemble

**Landmark College Ensemble:** Frank Klucken, violin; Kevin Keith, tuba;  
Stephen Glover, piano

**The Landmark College Chorus:** Isabelle Bachman, Corwin Beliz, Den  
Bernard, Catherine Brogan, Tamar Cohen, Sabrina Cohn, Cayman Cross,  
Diana D'Onofrio, Tim Dyer, Angelina Ferruci, Sophie Gravel, Julia Gray,  
Kieran Jennings, Charles Karwowski, Katherine Mague, Liam Mulholland,  
Val Proskauer Valerio, James Ricci, Jacob Stole, Daniel Williams

*Please join us in the Strauch Family Student Center Café Court immediately  
following the ceremony for a reception in honor of the graduates.*

# 2022 Fall Graduates

## Associate of Arts

### General Studies

Tyra Cole  
Guinevere Downey  
James Peyrouse-Bremer  
Matthew Snell  
Jackson Spector  
Alexander Tanowitz  
William Weinlaeder

### Business Studies

Venkatesh Chandrasekaran

### Liberal Studies

Elinor Attridge  
Nathan Bartram  
Miranda Brooks  
Cayman Cross  
Jalen Cyrus  
Matthew Dupray  
Megan Eklund  
Tanner Harris  
Benjamin Hertog  
Joshua Long  
Briege Lottinger  
Emma Lucarelli  
Rachel Moore  
Tyler Person

## Associate of Science

### Life Science

Angelina Ferucci  
Hannah Goldman\*  
Rebecca Scheff\*◆

### Computer Science

Alexander Marin

## Bachelor of Science

*Each baccalaureate student was required to complete a capstone project of their choosing.*

### Computer Science

Gerald Belton◆: “Hermes: A University-Oriented Chat Application”

Serik Czarnecki: “Hermes: A University-Oriented Chat Application”

Christopher Ferraina◆: “Quizzy: A Social Media Web Application for Note Sharing”

Jonathan Gerraughty: “Quizzy: A Social Media Web Application for Note Sharing”

Katie Hoder◆: “Manahawk: A Trading Card Collection Management System”

Gabrielle Ortega◆: “Hermes: A University-Oriented Chat Application”

# 2022 Fall Graduates

## Bachelor of Arts

*Each baccalaureate student was required to complete a capstone project of their choosing.*

### **Liberal Studies**

Hannah Bellinson<sup>o</sup>: *“Jewish Voice from a Rural Vermont College”*

Benjamin Small: *“Helping People Overcome Their Fear of Spiders”*

Julie Vartain: *“Representing Autistic Characters in Fiction”*

### **Psychology**

Mariana Borbon Bours: *“Using Executive Function Concepts to Help CDI Run Efficiently”*

Julia Gray: *“Self-Advocacy Training for Neurodivergent College Students”*

Lydia Haswell: *“Tips for Dog Trainers: Using Emotional Regulation Strategies to Manage Frustration”*

Nicole Metzger: *“Making Special Education Trauma-Informed: Recommendations for Preservice Training”*

### **Communication & Entrepreneurial Leadership**

John Belinski: *“Indecisiveness Among College Students”*

Destany Hankard: *“Sharkfood: The Journey of Creating and Closing a Food Delivery Service at a Rural Campus”*

Christian Laureano: *“Optics in Inclusivity”*

Brendan Lemieux: *“Importance of Mentoring at College”*

Martha Meigs: *“The Giving Hat Tree Project”*

Kenneth Pepper: *“Creation of a Hospitality & Management Bachelor’s Degree”*

John Vasquez: *“SO, YOU ARE NOW IN COLLEGE! WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE? A Pathway to Discovering Your Niche Through Your College Journey”*

- o Golden Key Honor Society
- \* Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
- ^ Communication
- Ω Psychology
- μ Humanities
- € Environmental Science
- Education
- ∞ Computer Science

- ◆ AIE-STEMPLOS scholars are a group of students at Landmark College that receive scholarship funds from the NSF and participate in cohort activities related to identifying and participating in internship activities. Students are in the A.S. or B.S. Life Science or Computer Science programs.

# 2022 Fall Graduates

## Post-Baccalaureate

### **Certificate in Learning Differences and Neurodiversity**

Deborah Berkeley	Alissa Leavitt
Christena Bowers	Robin Lowell
Jessica Connors	Doug Lynch
Any Curran	Brookex Orosz
Katharine Davis	Madison Overbey
Lisa Forrester	Mary Piro
Taylor Garnes Rohena	Betsy Ralph-Tollefson
Carolyn Gonzalez	Megan Riedl
Angela Grecia	Dana Roth
Jennifer Hewerdine	Keena Seward
Karen Howell	Ryan Therriault
Erin Johnson Montgomery	Eleanor Thomas
Candace Joles	Allison Viera
Hayley Kandler	Christina Vlad
Patti Keller	Avery Williams
Delaney King	Sara Zaino
Joshua Krohn	
Gillian Krohn	

## About the Awards

**THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD** is given to the student or students who have unselfishly given of themselves to the activities of the Landmark College community.

**THE ACADEMIC DEANS' AWARD** is given to the student or students who have best demonstrated the qualities that define academic successes at Landmark College. These qualities include hard work, seriousness toward learning, intellectual development, and measurable achievement such as grades.

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD** is presented to one, or more, graduating student each semester at commencement. Eligibility is based on active engagement in a research project under the supervision of a faculty and/or staff member for at least one semester or intersession term. Engagement in research includes, but is not limited to, research undertaken as part of an internship, the LCIRT Research Mentorship Program, and College- or grant-funded systematic investigations.

**THE CHARLES DRAKE AWARD** is awarded to a student or students whose personal qualities inspire the Landmark College community. This student is not a quitter, but is one who lives in the tradition of Dr. Charles Drake, whose lifetime of vision and courage helped to found the College. This is a student who gives 100 percent, who goes the extra mile, and who perseveres in the pursuit of his or her goals. This student helps the rest of us realize that we have more resources to draw upon than we think, and helps us keep going when we feel discouraged.

**THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD** is given to the student who has best exemplified the principles we believe in here at Landmark College. This student is talented and energetic, meets difficulties head-on, works hard and is dedicated to their studies. This student also finds time to contribute to the well-being of other persons and to the life of the Landmark College community as a whole.

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

December, 2022

## Ellie Attridge

*“Personally, I experience the greatest degree of pleasure in having contact with works of art. They furnish me with happy feelings of an intensity that I cannot derive from other sources.” – Albert Einstein*

If you haven't met Ellie Attridge yet, I suggest you drop everything you are doing and introduce yourself immediately after this ceremony concludes. Ellie is one of those people who glow from within and whose enthusiasm is contagious. She is described by her professors as dedicated, highly engaged, eager to learn new skills, hard-working, supportive of her classmates, and ready to lend a hand. Ellie, it has been a delight having you as part of the Landmark community. You will always be remembered for your unique perspectives, limitless curiosity, and artistic creations with googly eyes shared simply to make us smile.

**Eve Léons**

## Jack Belinski

Let me tell you about Jack. He is kind, caring, and a loyal true friend to others. He is truly in awe of the world and fascinated by new information and perspectives. Jack notices things and strives to learn from everything. He doesn't always trust his memory, so he takes a lot of notes, meticulous notes, neat and tiny. Somehow this all comes together again to help guide him when needed. Jack is a bright student and he has much to be proud of academically; but when I think of Jack, I think of his character, his trusting nature, his belief in the basic goodness of people, and, more than anything else, his incredible lack of guile.

So, Jack, remember that it's OK to be a bit easy on yourself, but keep aiming high. Congratulations, Jack.

**Andy Donahue**

## **Hannah Bellinson**

Hannah, from our first advising meeting to your final capstone project, you have proven yourself to be one of the most creative, caring, and persistent students that I've worked with at Landmark. You not only deal effectively with challenges you are confronted with, you actively seek out those challenges. I know that this has been important to your own scholarly process, but it's also been a gift to the rest of the Landmark community as you tackle (and encourage us to tackle) difficult and complex issues that we face as a community. I can't wait to see where this tenacity, compassion, and creativity take you in the future.

**Peg Alden**

## **Gerald Belton**

Gerald, you have been described as kind, meticulous, professional, and personable by the admissions team. You have been a treasure to work with over the years. I have had the pleasure to watch your confidence grow, especially when it comes to public speaking. You sure do know how to put a crowd at ease with your contagious smile and positive energy. My favorite part of your story is when you speak about becoming the "social butterfly" you are today. I've witnessed the deep connections that you have made on this campus, through the Rise Up Center to your computer science crew, and more. I encourage you to keep laughing and to stay confident. I look forward to staying connected as you continue your journey. Welcome to your new status as a fellow alumnus.

**Erica Loveland**

## **Mariana Borbon Bours**

When you first explored the major, you did not know if psychology was the right choice. After all, you love science, and this was a different direction. Psychology was new and therefore a risk, but you decided to try. Since then, it's been excellence all the way, and the program has benefitted by having you in it. Your ability to make important commitments despite uncertainty is one of your most memorable strengths. Life is twisty and never certain, so this will serve you well in whatever you do next. Grace and good cheer are among the gifts you have given the community, and we thank you for it. Congratulations.

**Solvegi Shmulsky**



## Miranda Brooks

*“Imagination does not become great until human beings, given the courage and the strength, use it to create.” – Maria Montessori*

The first time I met Miranda over Zoom, she was holding a baby she was watching and calmly taking detailed notes with her free hand. If you have ever met a baby, you will know that this is no small feat. Here at Landmark Miranda has grown and demonstrated her competency in many ways and her work showcases her natural creativity and imagination. Teachers comment that as a student, she is active, engaged, and adept at providing insights that elevate discussions and enrich the class community. Miranda is most at home when her coursework aligns with her interest in education - an area in which she has tremendous background knowledge. A natural with small children and at her best when caring for babies and toddlers, Miranda plans to continue her studies in early childhood education and begin work at a daycare center as head teacher in a toddler room. Miranda, please know that Landmark College will always be one of your homes. Congratulations!

**Eve Léons**

## Venkatesh Chandrasekaran

Venkatesh, known as “Venki” to most, is the kind of student that can brighten the classroom mood even on the dreariest of Vermont winter days. Maybe it’s Venki’s trademark bright-eyed look and wide smile when a light bulb goes off in his brain, or his inquisitiveness and curiosity, or his kind-heartedness. Most likely it’s a combination of all. Having supervised Venki directly in his internship for Voices TV, I have also observed his determination to grow his repertoire of production skills in front of and behind the camera. He has enthusiastically stepped into the roles of news anchor, weather reporter, teleprompter operator, and more. I am positive that Venki will approach all future endeavors with the same determination and bright-eyed enthusiasm. Congratulations, Venki!

**Gyuri Kepes**

## Tyra Cole

Tyra, acting is essential for you; the rest of it is not as much. For someone like me, that's awesome. I'm going to miss you in class, all low-key, until that moment when you take the stage, become someone else, and wow the audience. Today, again, you have that opportunity. As you enter the stage, you will be one person, and when you take your cross and exit, you will be a different one. You will be a graduate with your future in front of you. Usually, I say, "congratulations," but for you, it can only be one thing: Break a leg, Tyra. You got this.

**Josh Moyse**

## Cayman Cross

Cayman is a constant reminder to me of the balance between potential and kinetic energy. Like the energy stored in a flexed tendon, he is laser-focused while he processes information. I can almost see the potential energy stored in his body and mind, waiting... As soon as he is given a challenge, I see that energy spring into action, and, as a scholar and an athlete, he acts without hesitation. Cayman is not one to waste time when there is a task to accomplish! Cayman, I hope that you continue to maintain the finely-honed balance of your potential and kinetic energies to accomplish your dreams!

**Kim Coleman**

## Jalen Cyrus

I first came to know Jalen as an introspective and quiet student in a Fall 2020 section of my Introduction to Communication course. Regrettably, social distancing, masking and general pandemic malaise precluded us from generating the usual rapport between student and professor. It wasn't until last semester when Jalen unexpectedly showed up to the TV studio, that I truly understood his character. He immediately volunteered to become our first-ever resident weather reporter and took off flying. He read the weather while navigating through tricky graphics with ease and quickly developed into a trusted weatherman personality. Through my interactions with Jalen the weatherman I have come to truly admire him as a person. He is a quick learner, amiable, patient, and observant. Just a couple of weeks ago, Jalen signed off one last time as our "chief meteorologist." He will be missed at the station. Congratulations, Jalen!

**Gyuri Kepes**

## Serik Czarnecki

One of the first things I noticed about Serik was his style. He stood out in a positive way, but it was not just his choice of clothes, it was a combination of things that you can both immediately appreciate and continue to be impressed by. Serik is confident and curious. Both of those attributes are contagious, positively impactful and refreshing, but above all he combines those things with ambition. Serik puts his talents together and really shows them off, yet never comes off as egotistical—a delicate balance to achieve but it seems natural to him. I think it is because he continues to choose self-improvement as his motivator. Serik, this will take you far, further than this degree (which is no small feat), and I can see that you are going to make an impressive life for yourself. I hope you have all the luck that can contribute to such a thing and congratulations on making it look so easy thus far.

**Josh Ascani**

## Guinevere Downey

When you think of a leader who isn't afraid to lead or to allow others to lead, you think of Guinevere. She is someone who believes in others and isn't afraid to speak the truth and ask the tough questions. Congratulations to a star who is ready for what's coming next.

**Marc Thurman**

## Matthew Dupray

Matthew, it has been a pleasure getting to know you over the past couple of years, as both your instructor and your advisor. Over that time, I've had the privilege of watching you grow as both a student and person. I've seen you become more independent, focused, and, best of all, better able to develop your own sense of who and what you are striving to be. I'm grateful to have been a part of this process for you and look forward to seeing where you go from here!

**Dan Miller**

## Megan Eklund

*“Genius is one percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration.”*

- Thomas Edison

Megan Eklund is a treat to work with because she is committed to doing the best she can, regardless of the difficulty of the task at hand. She is often praised by her professors for her high level of commitment, dedication, positive energy, depth of analysis, and engagement with course ideas. She does all this and more while being cheerful and encouraging to those lucky enough to be around her. Always ready to try new experiences, Megan became a WLMC DJ - known by many as MC<sup>2</sup>. This past summer, Megan participated in an internship through Broad Futures and worked for the American Red Cross. Currently, she is taking five classes and doing exceedingly well in all of them, which is no small feat. Megan, while we wish you could stay with us forever, we congratulate you and wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Please don't forget to keep in touch!

**Eve Léons**

## Christopher Ferraina

Chris, congratulations on earning your Bachelor of Science in Computer Science! During your time at Landmark, you have continued to achieve, including receiving the Career Readiness Award and being awarded a LEAP grant for continued development of your creative gaming software business. While at LC you have explored a variety of activities and taken on new challenges, including a gig hosting a WLMC radio show, a research internship, and an exciting opportunity with the Norman Rockwell Museum. You have a diverse interest in history and economics, you are a voracious reader, with a great sense of humor. You remained focused and dedicated to academics and are applying those same skills to a diligent exploration of opportunities post-graduation. We look forward to hearing about your adventures and successes yet to come. It has been an honor to work with you during your Landmark journey.

**Mickey Cronin**

## Angelina Ferucci

Despite the challenging subject of chemistry, Angelina always showed up early to class with a smile on her face. She regularly helped her classmates when they were confused and was a calming presence both in the classroom and in the lab. I remember the day Angelina shared with me that she would be staying for her Bachelor of Science in Life Science and how excited she was to continue her educational journey. I want to congratulate Angelina on completing her Associate of Science in Life Science and I look forward to having her next year in organic chemistry.

**Christin Monroe**

## Jonathan Gerraughty

I remember vividly the first time we met. After reviewing the syllabus for the first class in the computer science sequence, you came to me and said that you thought you already knew the content we would be learning. After a brief conversation, it was very apparent that this was true, and we promptly moved up to the next class. I also remember the time that you came up with an elegant solution on how to get around the missing ANDI instruction in the AVR Instruction Set: “just use SUBI -1.” Time and time again, you’ve proven that you are a hard worker who consistently demonstrates a positive, can-do attitude combined with a strong work ethic. You are also quick to lend a hand on the field, in the dorms, in the classroom, or in the lab. You even found time to create a Landmark cause célèbre: we won’t forget your Bob Ross! You’ve been a great friend and teammate to many and an exemplary student in the classroom. Landmark College will miss you!

**P. Kevin Keith**

## Hannah Goldman

I have known Hannah for a year and a half and have observed a vast amount of growth compared to when she started in Principles of Chemistry I as a first-year student. After completing her first semester of chemistry, Hannah participated in an independent chemistry research project and presented her experience at the Landmark College Student Leadership Conference. Hannah then went on to spend her summer doing biomedical research at the University of Vermont. I want to congratulate her on completing her Associate of Science in Life Science and look forward to having Hannah assist me next semester developing new neurodiverse friendly protocols for organic chemistry.

**Christin Monroe**

## Julia Gray

“My goal is to graduate with my bachelor’s degree ASAP.” That’s what you said to me in advising when we first met. After decades of school, you said you were ready to be done, to earn a degree and move on. That’s a normal sentiment, but your efforts have been truly outstanding. In addition to being a thoughtful and capable student, you put in extra. You pursued the B.A. with determination, loading up on credits and studying all summer with no breaks. This attests to your power of focus and dedication, strengths that will serve you well. Congratulations on this important step and fond wishes for what comes next.

**Solvegi Shmulsky**

## Tanner Harris

Tanner arrived at college with a plan to be a firefighter. He’s done that, forging a great relationship with the Putney Fire Department in the process. He continues to attain new levels of skill and competency, making him a better firefighter and a stronger student. Tanner has also shown great leadership in the Idea Lab makerspace on campus and hopefully will continue to push for more of a place for makers and creators such as himself. He came in with a lot of knowledge using 3-D printers and the laser cutter, and he advocated for more machinery and equipment to be purchased. Tanner won some funding to launch a drone flying business and helped to start a remote control vehicle club. It feels like whatever he sets his mind to he will achieve—who knows what he’ll come up with next!

**Clark Johnson**

## Lydia Haswell

It’s been a true joy watching your journey at Landmark College since our first class together. Last spring, I had the pleasure of attending your capstone presentation. You delivered an engaging talk exploring the use of emotional regulation strategies for training dogs. Your advisor, Solvegi Shmulsky, observes that you are a model of independence and tenacity. You have selected coursework and co-curricular activities reflecting your strengths and interests, and you have become adept at identifying opportunities for creating your own internships to further your professional skills. Overall, you have worked steadily and determinedly in pursuit of your personal and academic goals. Congratulations for all you have accomplished and best wishes in your next endeavors!

**Linda Kerr**

## **Benji Hertog**

When I first met Benji in February of 2022, I encountered a confident young man ready to step into his future. Although he is finishing his Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies this semester, Benji plans to continue at Landmark to earn his Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Entrepreneurial Leadership. This semester has been a particular success for Benji in producing A-level work, but also in establishing his independence on campus. I enjoy Benji's sense of humor and straightforward, pragmatic approach to challenges. I know these skills will sustain his success in whatever endeavors he chooses.

Benji, my favorite quote is from Eleanor Roosevelt, who famously said, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Believe in yourself and you will achieve whatever you can dream of. Congratulations!

**Margie Salvante**

## **Katherine Hoder**

I remember our first programming class together and the amount of promise that you showed as a computer science student. You've lived up to those expectations and more. But it's not just me who has been impressed. Dr. Assister says that you work very hard and never give up, even when you are faced with challenges that might have made others quit. Dr. Wallace wrote about how hard you worked in your internship and how proud they are of you getting your first job offer. All of us are very proud of you and will miss you at Landmark College, but we know that you are well prepared as you embark on your next chapter as a professional programmer.

**P. Kevin Keith**

## **Christian Laureano**

To the most kind, polite, and conscientious student I can think of, thank you for being you through the hundreds of hours we have spent together. Working with you, in all of the contexts we've shared, WLMC Radio, Voices TV, class, WLMC Station Manager, I will appreciate our times together because of who you are as a person. Thank you for your dedication to Landmark. We have all benefited from your presence, and you will be missed. Congratulations, Christian, on your diploma.

**Eric Matte**

## Brendan Lemieux

I have had the privilege of working with Brendan in three different history classes over his time at Landmark College, and along that trajectory, I have witnessed him grow into quite the “whole student.” He has always been diligent in his academics; I could see this in the first freshman-level American history class I had with him. His depth of research in a later personal history course unearthed a rich family background steeped in cultural and regional history. But as I witness Brendan now in his final semester, I see a young man who has grown more holistically and socially, as well. His long-standing work with the LC radio station as both a DJ and an intern were high-water marks for Brendan’s growth beyond academics and show a young man ready and capable of putting his COMEL degree to work. Congratulations, Brendan, and good luck!

**Brian Cohen**

## Joshua Long

Congratulations on earning your Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies! You have worked steadily toward this goal and have developed great resilience in your academic and personal life, along with a valuable sense of your place in the world. And not only did you work diligently for each of your classes, you also stayed on top of each NASCAR season and discovered RC Cola. Go, RC Crew! You will be missed here for your energy, your devotion to summer, and your positive outlook.

**Jeremy Holch**

## Briege Lottinger

*“It’s okay not to know what to do with the rest of your life. It’s a journey to find your direction or your passions, so don’t get frustrated by the mistakes and setbacks as they happen to all of us” – Selena Gomez*

Briege, it has been great working with you over the last year and a half. While you have encountered some challenges, you have been using your support network to navigate and move forward on your academic journey. We have had discussions on what is next for you, and I look forward to continuing to witness your growth and confidence increase as you keep reaching for your goals. Be proud of what you have achieved and make sure to keep working toward new goals for yourself.

**Sarah McMahon**



## Alex Marin

Not a boozing Yahoo, you hobnobbed in the rafters with Fluxus and Duchamp, cheering for my performance of Flatland Circus Tightrope Walk, an homage (like this tribute) to your divergent thinking prowess. I etched in circus sawdust your splendid zodiac haiku, noting its exemplary jump cut imagery, and I cited your wonderfully counterintuitive essay on “The Waking” and “Do Not Go Gentle,” that fabulous treatise that transposed acceptance and rejection. It is no coincidence that you are a juggler, as you fuse ideas so well to reach a cogent conclusion. I savored our office hours sessions when you interweaved “The Allegory of the Cave” with *Waking Life*. With your knack for novelty, flair for synthesis, and verbal dexterity, you have great potential for continued success.

**John Rose**

## Martha Meigs

Actress Carrie Fisher, who played Princess Leia in *Star Wars*, said, “Stay afraid, but do it anyway. What’s important is the action. You don’t have to wait to be confident. Just do it and eventually the confidence will follow.” This quote personifies you, Martha, and all the good work and growth you’ve done over the years at Landmark. You have accomplished many wonderful things, including your Giving Hat Tree project providing hats for the homeless. We’re proud of you—congratulations!

**Lee Crocker**

## Nicole Metzger

Faculty describe you as curious, reliable, good-natured, and organized, but I want to pay tribute to a different strength: Your ability to envision and plan for the future, which was apparent in our first advising meeting. You arrived with about ten practical questions, such as “Where can I register for courses online?” “Are faculty office hours updated?” “How can I get permission to record a class?” This might seem like a small thing, but it demonstrates a high degree of thinking things through. Foresight is an important strength because it gives your actions purpose, in this case building toward the achievement of a bachelor’s degree in psychology. Congratulations on this day and everything it represents.

**Solvegi Shmulsky**

## Rachel Moore

Rachel, this associate degree was a bit of an unexpected bonus on your way to your bachelor's degree. I hope that you take time to recognize the work that has brought you to this milestone. You deserve to bask for a bit in your successes. After serving as both your advisor and professor this semester, it is clear to me that your academic capabilities can take you as far as you choose to go. I look forward to continuing our work together in the spring.

**Peg Alden**

## Gabriella Ortega

Hellen Keller once said, "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all." Gaby is an adventurer. Over the three and a half years I have known Gaby, she has faced hard challenges in and outside the classroom. She took them all head-on in a true adventurer's spirit and has become a stronger, wiser, and savvier woman. I can't wait to see what adventure you take on next. Congratulations, Gaby!

**Alexis Bird**

## Kenny Pepper

Kenny, it has been a true pleasure working with you all these semesters. Though the LC media outlets, we've seen each other at our highs and lows, in sickness (COVID) and in health, through good times and tough times. Each experience has made me more grateful to have you as a student. You have done tremendous work during your time here, you have much to be proud of, and you leave behind a legacy of your efforts. Thank you for sharing your journey with me and congratulations on your diploma.

**Eric Matte**

## Tyler Person

*“Whatever you choose for a career path, remember the struggles along the way are only meant to shape you for your purpose.” – Chadwick Boseman*

Tyler, it has been great working with you over the last year and a half. You have worked hard academically, engaged with friends, and thought about what is next for you. We discussed your goals and the impact you hope to have on others, and I am sure that you will find a fulfilling career. While you have encountered some challenges, you have faced them head on and sought out support. It has been great to witness this growth and support you as you navigate what is next for you and kickstart the next part of your academic journey. Remember that wherever your journey takes you next, you have a strong support network of people who want to help you achieve all you put your mind to. Good luck with all that life has for you. I know you will do amazing things!

**Sarah McMahon**

## James Peyrouse Bremer

Over the nearly three years that I've been working with you, James, witnessing your understanding and skills as a student develop has been like watching a green vine grow a hundred leaves and reach up and over the side of a house—right before my very eyes. The friendliest person one could ever hope to meet, you are a hard-working, independent learner who is confident enough to ask for support and humble enough to listen to feedback. You set your own goals, accomplish the tasks asked of you, and engage your delightfully social soul far & wide—in classes, clubs, campus activities, and everywhere else . . . just so long as no one asks you to do any of these things before 10 in the morning!

**Alice Fogel**

## **Becky Scheff**

Becky is a singular individual, a unique intelligence untethered by conventional thinking; she digs deeper. Perhaps that's why she appended sticky notes filled with comments and corrections to entries in a library reference book on animal behavior. This unexpected act of annotation still makes me smile. One of the pillars of information literacy is the idea of "scholarship as conversation." I think this includes sticky notes left in encyclopedias.

Becky is also a talented artist. I'm particularly fond of her painted arm series: beautiful and intricate feathery patterns painted on her arms and hands, precious and ephemeral. Thank you, Becky, for sharing your love of art and ideas. It's a pleasure to know you and to share a little part of your journey. Your inquisitiveness and creativity will continue to serve you and the world well in whatever lies ahead.

**Jamie Harvey**

## **Ben Small**

Ben, congratulations on achieving your bachelor's degree! Although I've known you for several years, it's our work on your final, capstone project that stands out to me. It was a pleasure to see you choose a topic that you are passionate about and dig deeply to explore it from multiple angles. The project required perseverance and a willingness to take regular feedback from your peers and your instructor. You succeed on both those fronts with flying colors. I hope that you are proud, knowing that the posters you created will go a long way towards education the community about a topic near to your heart.

**Peg Alden**

## Matthew Snell

*“You have many years ahead of you to create the dreams that we can’t even imagine dreaming.” - Steven Spielberg*

Matthew Snell (a.k.a. DJ Hardstyle) has wanted to be a movie director since the moment he set foot on campus. At Landmark, he has taken advantage of every opportunity to move in that direction and build his skills. Gyuri Kepes noted that Matthew has performed wonderfully as program director for Voices TV. As part of this internship experience, he has produced at least six “behind the scenes” features on the billiards club, the library, DCAS, Voices TV, WLMC, as well as Halloween special. Matt is described by those who know him best as dependable, determined, thoughtful, kind, hard-working, curious, and self-motivated. Eric Matte mentioned that Matt is one of his favorite students of all time, exemplifying the model disc jockey at WLMC Radio. Indeed, Matt was awarded the WLMC Faculty Advisor Award last spring. Matthew’s advice to us all is “remember to stand up, raise your hands, and dance the way you would dance at a European DJ concert.” The Landmark community is thrilled that Matthew plans to continue his studies here at Landmark.

**Eve Léons**

## Alexander Tanowitz

Alex, it has been a great pleasure to share coaching and conversation with you at Landmark. Your passions for history, robotics, film, and games are joyful and contagious. You have a great capacity to ground your understanding of current issues in the context of historical events. You never retreat to a simple explanation, but instead, are comfortable dealing with ambiguity. Military history illustrates the truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it. I hope the skills that have made you an exemplary scholar, will also motivate you to lead and promote change in your community. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a small part of your journey. “From now on, you’re in charge of the heroics. So, if you need saving, just ask Alex.” - Tetsuo

**Scott Schaedler**

## Julie Vartain

I have come to know Julie Vartain to be a conscientious and fully engaged student that takes her academic work seriously. Both in class and outside of class, she has shown a keen interest in achieving her aspirations in the field of space science. She is attracted to the fast-paced dynamic environments that scientific work has to offer. Through her varied experiences and classwork, she has refined her goals to include both science and neurodiversity. She is excited to try her hand at science writing and creative writing. Through creative writing, she would like to represent autism in fiction. At the end of her fifth semester at Landmark, Julie is graduating with a strong sense of who she is today and who she would like to be in the future.

**Dorothy A. Osterholt**

## John Vasquez

John, thank you for all the hundreds of hours of dedication to your WLMC Radio shows. You have developed into quite a creative radio host and the radio station appreciates all your efforts. Personally speaking, I have enjoyed working with you over the years. You are kind, conscientious, and fun, and you work best under pressure! It's been a true pleasure to have been part of your learning journey. Congratulations on your diploma!

**Eric Matte**

## William Weinlaeder

Congratulations to Field Marshal William W., head of the Gate Defense Force! Your protagonist in your first novel, *Gates*. Will, you bring your creative energy to everything you do, to your course work, your writing, your social pragmatics summer internship, and to your ongoing work as a PEERS® assistant. During your time at Landmark, you have continued to evolve as a storyteller and writer. During the social pragmatics internship your storytelling skills were effective in your work with students. You can create a descriptive narrative that relays multiple perspectives of a concept or situation. Through this skill, you have shared your love of family, and your Alaskan home. Will, I hope you continue pursuing opportunities that allow you to demonstrate your leadership skills. I look forward to working with you next semester as you continue work on your bachelor's degree.

**Mickey Cronin**



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