A Brief History of Class Day

The tradition of the Princeton Class Day dates back as early as 1856, and in 1898 was described as “a day over which the Graduating Class has full charge and which we run to suit ourselves, in our characteristic way.” Although seniors no longer smoke long white clay pipes before smashing them on the cannon, Class Day still features student speeches, remarks by the University President, and the presentation of awards. During the twenty-first century, prominent Class Day speakers have come to entertain and advise the class; recent speakers have included comedians, journalists, and politicians. Other elements of contemporary Class Day exercises include the presentation of a symbolic key to the campus by the University President, the wearing of orange and black class jackets, and the singing of “Old Nassau.”

A Brief History of Class Jackets

Senior class jackets, popularly known as “beer jackets,” are a common sight on Class Day. This article of clothing traces its origins to 1912, when a group of students decided to wear blue denim overalls and jackets to prevent beer from spotting their clothes. The following year, the Class of 1913 followed suit, but chose to wear white instead of blue. After the First World War, costumes were embellished with humorous logos, including jabs at Prohibition. Although overalls were abandoned following the Second World War, beer jackets have remained an integral part of Commencement activities. This year’s class jacket was designed by Genie Choi ’24. Class Day and Class Jacket Histories courtesy of the Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library.

Recently Selected Speakers

- **2023** Teri Sewell ’86
- **2022** Anthony Fauci
- **2021** Trevor Noah
- **2020** Marshawn Lynch
- **2019** Ellie Kemper ’02
- **2018** Cory Booker
- **2017** Baz Luhrmann
- **2016** Jodi Picoult ’87
- **2015** Christopher Nolan
- **2014** Al Gore
- **2013** David Remnick ’81
- **2012** Steve Carell
- **2011** Brooke Shields ’87
- **2010** Charles Gibson ’65
- **2009** Katie Couric
- **2008** Stephen Colbert
- **2007** Bradley Whitford
- **2006** Bill Clinton
- **2005** Chevy Chase
- **2004** Jon Stewart
Schedule of Events

Welcome
Aisha Chebbi ’24
Julie Levey ’24
Brian S.-K. Li ‘24
Class Day Chairs

President’s Remarks
Christopher L. Eisgruber ’83
20th President of Princeton University

Class President’s Remarks
Sydney Johnson ’24
Class President
Presentation of Class Prizes

**Regan Crotty ’00**
Dean of Undergraduate Students

Acknowledgement of Pyne Prize Winners
Allen Macy Dulles Class of 1951 Award
Frederick Douglass Service Award
Harold Willis Dodds Achievement Prize
W. Sanderson Detwiler 1903 Prize
Walter E. Hope Class of 1901 Medal

Student Remarks

**Sierra Stern ’24**
Class Herald

Priscilla Glickman ’92
Memorial Prize

**Kimberly de los Santos**
John C. Bogle ’51 and Burton G. Malkiel *64
Executive Director,
Pace Center for Civic Engagement
Presentation of Athletic Awards

John Mack '00
Ford Family Director of Athletics

William Winston Roper Trophy
C. Otto von Kienbusch Award

Student Remarks

Rohit Narayanan '24
Class Herald

Induction of Honorary Class Members

Presentations by:
Ive Jones '24, Class Vice President
Elliott Hyon '24, Class Secretary
Eric Ahn '24, Class Treasurer
Lauren Fahlberg '24, Class Social Chair

Keynote Address

Sam Waterston

Closing Remarks

Aisha Chebbi '24
Julie Levey '24
Brian S.-K. Li '24
Class Day Chairs
Spirit of Princeton Award Recipients

Aisha Chebbi ’24
Joshua Coan ’24
Stephen Daniels ’24
Max Diallo Jakobsen ’24
Archika Dogra ’24
Madeleine LeBeau ’24
Austen Mazenko ’24
Hailey Mead ’24

Singing of Old Nassau

Anna Eaton ’24
Madeleine LeBeau ’24
Rupert Peacock ’24
Oscar Platt ’24
Danielle Samake ’24
Molly Truman ’24
Thank you!

The Class of 2024 would like to thank the following retiring faculty members for their commitment to the education of undergraduate students at Princeton:

**Jeremy Adelman**  
Henry Charles Lea  
Professor of History

**Orley Ashenfelter**  
Joseph Douglas Green 1895  
Professor of Economics

**Curtis Callan Jr.**  
James S. McDonnell  
Distinguished University  
Professor of Physics

**Pablo Debenedetti**  
Class of 1950 Professor in  
Engineering and Applied Science  
Professor of Chemical and  
Biological Engineering

**Bruce Draine**  
Professor of  
Astrophysical Sciences

**William Jordan**  
Dayton-Stockton  
Professor of History

**Bruce Koel**  
Professor of Chemical and  
Biological Engineering

**Michael Koortbojian**  
M. Taylor Pyne Professor of Art  
and Archaeology

**Rena Lederman**  
Professor of Anthropology

**Daniel Marlow**  
Evans Crawford 1911 Professor of  
Physics

**Peter Meyers**  
Professor of Physics

**Stephen Pacala**  
Frederick D. Petrie Professor in  
Ecology and Evolutionary  
Biology

**Elaine Pagels**  
Harrington Spear Paine  
Foundation Professor of Religion

**Peter Singer**  
Ira W. DeCamp Professor of  
Bioethics in the University  
Center for Human Values

**Robert Vanderbei**  
Professor of Operations  
Research and Financial  
Engineering

**Andrew Watsky**  
P.Y. and Kinmay W. Tang  
Professor in Japanese Art  
Professor of Art and Archaeology

**Nikolaus Wegmann**  
Professor of German

**Susan Wheeler**  
Professor of Creative Writing in  
the Lewis Center for the Arts

**Keith Whittington**  
William Nelson Cromwell  
Professor of Politics
my cat will miss prospect garden 2Pi Pham Stoking ambition, impact, and growth. Aaron Buck Serendipitous collisions, broader perspectives, forging community Aaron Ventresca Now, God is my friend Abigail Brown Old mountain peaks are new plains Adam Kelch Opportunities, Rigor, Friends, Exploration Adithya Sriram the days were filled with euphoria Aditi Desai Someday I will surpass you Lawrence. Aidan Matthews Graduating with a love for watermelon Aisha Chebbi This was fun! I had fun. AJ Salcedo Take the leap- It’s worth it! Akaneh Wang Little did I know, there’s more. Alaina Chiriyan Kandath Joby open eyes, arms, minds, and hearts Albert Lee Lots of music and many flies Albert Zhou Be kind, be grateful, be curious Alessandra Yan Ask for forgiveness, not permission. Alex Heine Despite it all, we’re so back. Alex Slomba Chalice with the wines of fellowship Alex Trestka Constant symbols of faith and love Alexander Egol love ya, mean it (now) Alexandra Politowicz part-time presence, full-time in black Alina Chen friends expanded my definition of love <3 Alison Lee Egg crackers and it gets better Amber Chow what you’d expect yet entirely unexpected. Ambri Ma Amidst chaos, small things bring joy. Amelia Kauffmann Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid. Amir Shapour Mohammadi Running along the towpath at dusk. Amy Ciceu what wucox trip, you’re you today Ana Palacios Disclose and Divest from Israeli Apartheid Ana Villada Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid. Andres Blanco Bonilla Disclose. Divest. Disclose. Divest. Disclose. Divest. Aneekah Uddin The ‘Prince’ Newsroom, Tower, Butler: Home Anika Buch Grab life by the b**** Anna Eaton Misrach is here with us today Anna Maria Chedia No one told Anne Anne Grinder I spelled my middle name wrong Annie Liang So it goes beautifully Antea Garo Keep calm and think different. Archie McKenzie Wanna go to USG movies tonight? Archika Dogra LET GO AND LET GOD Arin Gardner Stealth and finesse hitherto undreamt of Arin Mukherjee Experiences that you will not forget. Arjun Jagjivan I don’t know what to write Arnab Kumar From the river to the sea Ashley Hyun Not by power, not by might Athena Angélique Dobles Forever thankful to mom and dad! Audrey Royall Live with integrity Austin Mills Grateful Bear Lockshin Virtual beginnings, real friendships, Princeton memories Ben Cai The blue of Neptune’s mighty realm. Ben Howe Personal growth amidst trees and construction. Benjamin Benjadol man this school is no joke Bill Ao Friends, Thoughts, Growth, Excitement, Knowledge, Community Brendan Kehoe Celebrating diversity of perspective. Questioning everything. Brett Zeligson Canned water led to lasting friendships Brian Li Together we struggle, Together we prevail Brian Lou Grateful for music, movement, curiosity, friendship. Bridgette Schafer Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Brooklyn Northcross Did you know that Strecker Bridge... Bryan Boyd Happiness is only real when shared Burke Pagano Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Calla Schultz Learned, cheered, danced: tiger spirit forever! Campbell Schouten Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid. Cara Khalifeh Missed the good for the great Carlos Cortez I ate Carrington Johnson The best ships are friendships :) Casey Beidel I’ve grown to love peeling oranges. Cecilia Quirk I can excuse everything but boredom Charlie Rogers hardest I’ve worked, hardest I’ve laughed Charlotte Kunesh Thank you for a wonderful time. Chenhan Zhang meaningful knowledge is shared and embodied Chioma Ugwonali Trust yourself to explore the unknown Chris Park
Six Word Memoirs

Student protestors deserve protection. Eisgruber, shame! Julian Gottfried Early fears turn into senior cheers Julian Rodriguez Don’t love Zoom, do love orange. Julie Levey Nah, I’d win. Jupiter Ding Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Kaleb Boyd Disclose and divest from Israel apartheid Kapili Naehu-Ramos NCW, class, Tower, library, repeat. Grateful. Kareena Bhakta The p in Princeton is procrastination. Karina Wugang i love leilani from eco100 Kateri Espinosa Every day is a new beginning. Katerina Kourpas A place for growth and experiences Katherine Cho I’m writing from The Daily Princetonian... Katherine Dailey Princeton: The best place of all Kathleen Bishop A hot day at the zoo Kathy Yang it’s so over we’re so back Katie Rohrbaugh I am not who I was. Katie Shirk FREE FREE PALESTINE DIVEST FROM GENOCIDE Katrina Nix I guess I learnt rocket science. Kazuki Tojo Perseverance, steady, foresight, invincibility, guidance, fearlessness Keith Zhang A home away from home Kellsie Shan Disclose! Divest! Disclose! Divest! Disclose! Divest! Kenza Benazzouz I ride a unicycle to class :) Kerstin Fagerstrom ‘Seek first the kingdom of God’ Kevin Kim well that was an experience ig Kirsten Pardo Above all else, perceive the essence! Kit Foster tragicomedy of wanderlust looking for happiness Koji Kawamoto Not, in riches, half so dear Konstantin Howard Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Kristal Grant Gave you cookie, got you cookie Krystal Louise Raymundo AMAZING Kutorkor Kotey Team. Teammate. Self. Ladislav Topfer So much joy, so many memories. Lajayzia Wright Job’s not finished Joz Laura Esguerra Pyne 142 has my heart <3 Laura Wunderlich five years of friends, frolicking, firestone Lauren Fromkin Under God’s Power She Flourishes Lauren Maynard i love kateri from eco100 Leilani Bender Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Lenca Cuturela Grateful for family, friends, and football. Liam Johnson Willpower. Libby Blazes Fortune favors the bold -- speak loudly. Lindsay Sharman look around, stress less, smile more :) Lucy Huelskamp The vintage Bacchus sipped Luke Baxter So many chai notes - thank you! Madeleine LeBeau prioritize self-care and community building Magdely Diaz de Leon Charted unknown territories, now Princeton graduated Mahmudul Rapi Challenging, growth, love, laughter, kaizen Maia Sung Somehow, I am getting it done. Marlene Cardoza Peaceful protest is protected speech. Max Gotts Disclose and divest from Israeli Apartheid Melat Bekele Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Meredith Gallagher One thesis is just not enough Michelle Huang Jesus, Depression, Boba, PCF, Fiancé, Hope Mirai Choi reciprocity, community, and anti-exclusivity Miriam Beams Divest from Israeli apartheid and genocide. Mohammad Mohd Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid. Mollika Singh Drop the charges against your students! Myla Wailoo experience, growth, fun, exciting, roller coaster, transforming Nada Elfazary Princeton-Band, Linguistics, Struggles, Laughs Natasha Hurwitch Effort fueled fun, friendships forged forever. Nathalie Valdman Not a superhero, but still powerful. Nica Evans reciprocity, community, and anti-exclusivity Noori Zubieta the azure of the sky Owen Travis support student protests, drop the charges Paige Cromley Books Stacked, Hammer Thrown, Growth Known Paul Brennan Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Paul-Louis Biondi Great friends, fun times! Paulina Romero Couldn’t Have Made It Without God Persis Baah Old pond, frog jumps in, kerplunk! Peter Brown God really works in mysterious ways Peter Ng The only easy day was yesterday Peyton Werner In Christ’s embrace, grace guides Prince Takano Appreciate the little things. Rachel Chen
Thanks, construction, for waking me up Rachel Tam Six words? Only need one. Princeton was pretty cool even with COVID and everything and it gave me some unique experiences for sure! Rafael Collado closing chapter in a well-written book Reese Knopp Disclose and Divest from Israeli Apartheid. Reina Coulibaly had a great time! Reva Singh It's dangerous to go alone! Riri Jiang Birds of a feather s*** together Rishabh Rout if not today, try again tomorrow. Riya Gandhi Fire safety is coming, hide everything! Rodrigo Gallardo I love Mirae, God is good. Ryan McDowell WALK SIGN IS ON TO CROSS Ryan Vuono Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid. Sabrina Kim A journey of challenges and triumphs Sakhi Shah Did you read the Frosh Survey? Sam Kagan People are what makes the place Samantha DeVito Stop the genocide. Free, free Palestine! Sameer Riaz Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid. Sara Ryave History Department, Member of Cottage Club Sarah Brewer TigerLights on three... one, two, three! Sarah Fry Hot new bombshell enters the villa Sarah Pedersen Submitted at 11:59 pm Saumya Malik I went down to the Piraeus Sebastian Hayden Long live the Transatlantic Alliance! Seppe De Pauw Murray Dodge cookies and Frist grapes Shana Chen Keep Moving, There's Nothing in Stagnancy Shanzay Waseem orange- love, laughter, faith, friendship- tiger Shazra Raza Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Shireen Waraich She believed she could, she did Shirley Ren Noches largas, clases tempranas, recuerdos interminables. Siahra Castillo The crimson splendor of the flame Sijbren Kramer Do what you find most interesting. Songtao Li that's that me, espresso Sophia Fang But joy comes in the morning Stella Choi Music & crying laughing loving lying Stephanie Yen and saw it through, without exemption Steven Freidenrich The ruby with its royal tint Stone Yang Friends: Princeton's cornerstone, and my foundation. Suhas Kanamarlapudi Divest from genocide, Reinstate our friends. Svetlana Johnson thought provoking chaotic endeavors with friends Sydney Berry Triple booked, Jack of few trades Sydney Eck well...it always gets done somehow Sydney Johnson Finding home in the Orange Bubble Sydney Mullin Disclose and divest from Israeli apartheid Temi Ayeni Community found me through cadence Theodore Knoll The Power of Purpose is Profound Thomas Atwood People make Princeton what it is. Thussenthan Walter-Angelo for the plot x auntie energy Tiffanie Cheng Finished the race, kept the faith Tori Tinsley We Keep Us Safe. Toru Obunge Conquer you can—if you will Travis Chai Andrade when around, worked hard chopped medium Tristan Szapary Born in NYC. Hate the Knicks. Tucker Saland I love Israel, Am Yisrael Chai Ty Kay If it's easy, where's the fun? Umar Aulia Neuroscience, Writing, Music, Faith, Family, Friends Valeria Zuluaga-Sanchez growth, community, friendship, love, knowledge, wisdom Vanessa Leal Transformative, inspirational, challenging; forever a Tiger! Varun Deb Maybe orange suits me after all Veronica Arciprete pages turned, lessons learned, class adjourned Vicky Feng Making memory a tool for justice. Viktoria Cambas It was hard, but really fun Vivek Kolli Lead with empathy, follow with bravery Vivian Li #1 University in US. That's crazy. Warren Quan May the Force be with you. William Cutinella Tried to become a serious person. William Goldberg i will remember boba and coding Xander Gardner Cherished every single moment at Princeton Young Ha Yoo “All these Indians drive Teslas” Kateri Zaiya Gandhi One-dimensional / High-genus varieties / Few rational points Zander Hill
Yehuda Ari Braun Brown ’24

As much as we love to complain, I think we'll all miss our Princeton community – a community where anyone looking for advice can just go on TigerConfessions and post things like “hey I just hooked up with my ex after going on three dates with their best friend who's also my roommate, what do I do?” Honey, we can't help you.

Daniel Drake ’24

Now in just a few short days, we'll all be settling into our jobs, our lives, or maybe our parents’ yacht in the Maldives. But no matter where you're going, life will never be as simple as it was here. Instead of deciding whether to hit Cottage or TI, you'll have to decide whether to lay off half your workers or cut your yearly CEO bonus. As we brave these tough decisions it will be easy to lose your way, to ignore the morals and principles you once wanted to uphold. My advice to you is this: strive to be who your Princeton application said you were.
Madeleine LeBeau ’24

For much of our first two years both on and off campus, we bonded over studying a great work of literature — and no, I’m not talking about the Princeton pre-read. I’m talking about the avant garde, critically acclaimed classic that was an intoxicating mix of mystery, fantasy, and medical jargon, and was the secret obsession of Princeton students and faculty members alike. I, of course, refer to the multi-volume opus entitled The Peculiar Memoranda: The Preclusion of Pathogens and the Covid Conundrum – as authored by Princeton’s own Dean Jill Dolan and Vice President Rochelle Calhoun.

Charles Mshombi ’24

We didn’t start with a bang, but despite our circumstances, we insisted on forming friendship with strangers, community with classmates, and a home out of what was once just a place. So yeah, we are a weird class. Heck, our class jacket looks like a tiger having a little too much fun with Nassau Hall! But I’ll miss this Great, Weird Class of 2024. Frankly, I may miss most of all those of you I never really got to know. But rest assured, when you are all famous and successful, I will lie and say we were best friends.

Chloe Satenberg ’24

Princeton has undergone so many changes during our time here. When I toured, one of my favorite things about campus was its serenity and beauty. Little did I know that our class would live through Princeton’s biggest face-lift of this century. I guess the University figured they already screwed our class over, why not wake us up at 6:00 am to the sound of jackhammering. Or wait, maybe that was just my upstairs neighbors... But hey, I’m an optimist—and an English major—so, bear with me here: the construction could be a metaphor for our Princeton experience. Just like campus, each of us is still under-construction.
Kazuki Tojo ’24

Gone are the days of single-ply toilet paper, or the relentless warzone that were the laundry rooms. I swear, Princeton students will manage to pull out your laundry the second after it finishes, yet arrive half an hour late to a 50-minute lecture. Whilst I will dearly miss the UNESCO World Heritage Site that is the Danny Devito shrine of Little Hall, I certainly will NOT miss waking up at 7:27 am to fight for a spot in ART 100. In all seriousness, though, this place will genuinely be missed. I love Princeton, and I always will.

Gabby Veciana ’24

Princeton doesn’t mess around. In our time here, we’ve seen simple spin classes become raves with neon lights and exclusive waitlists. We’ve seen the fall of the Tiger Confessions Facebook group replaced by student-coded and founded apps. We’ve watched men’s and women’s basketball prove to the nation that we ARE indeed a sports school. Well, at least the women did. And if that isn’t enough, we’ve seen every single person we know pretend to be a DJ. Everything we do here is full send—1000%.
Ceremony Information

Following the ceremony, seniors—denoted by class jackets—may pick up lunch for themselves and their four guests on Alexander Beach near Witherspoon Hall. If you return to Cannon Green to eat after the ceremony, please use the seats closest to Morrison Hall, as the other seats will be moved to prepare for this afternoon’s Graduate School Hooding Ceremony.

Please do not leave your seat to take photos. Note that any personal photos or videos taken during this event should be used for personal purposes only. Professional photographers take photos of all commencement events. Images are made available for free, courtesy of the University, at commencement.princeton.edu/photos.

To view live captioning of speakers’ remarks during the ceremony, please scan the following QR code:

In Memoriam

Misrach Ewunetie ‘24

Colophon

Illustrations by Bandara
Graphic Design by Itamar Katz
Old Nassau

Tune every heart and every voice,
Bid every care withdraw;
Let all with one accord rejoice,
In praise of Old Nassau

In praise of Old Nassau, we sing,
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!
Our hearts will give, while we shall live,
Three cheers for Old Nassau