

LANDMARK
COLLEGE

# Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, December 14th, 2024 at 10 a.m.
Click Family Sports Center, Landmark College
Putney, Vermont

## Commencement

Saturday, December 14th, 2024 at 10 a.m.

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

	Trustees, Faculty, Staff, and Graduates	
Invocation	Michael Luciani, Vice President for Student Affairs	
Welcome	Dr. Jim Dlugos, Interim President	
Musical Interlude	The Landmark College Ensemble & Chorus	
Presentation of Awards		
Community Service Award	d Michael Luciani	
Academic Deans' Award	Dr. Karrie Kalich,	
	Vice President for Academic Affairs	
Undergraduate Student Re	esearch Award Dr. Adam Lalor,	
Vice Preside	ent for Neurodiversity Research and Innovation	
Charles Drake Award	Dr. Jim Dlugos	
President's Award	Dr. Jim Dlugos	
Conferring of Degrees Dr. Jim Dluş		
	Dr. Karrie Kalich	
Class Gift Presentation	Fall Class of 2024	
Alumni Welcome	Tricia Stanley, Director of Alumni Relations	
Alma Mater	The Landmark College Ensemble,	
	Chorus, & Community	
Closing Remarks	Bretton Himsworth '90, Trustee	

#### Recessional

Landmark College Ensemble

**Landmark College Ensemble:** Coleman Bongardt, violin; Dr. Pamela Sheffler, violin; Joey Parenti, bells; Sarah Matkins, flute; Kevin Keith, baritone horn; Ben Tozier, baritone sax; Noah Stanger, tube; Felix Mann, guitar; Stephen Glover, piano

**The Landmark College Chorus:** Lua Amanat, Addison Copeland, Foster Eddy, Ari Ferber, Angel Ferrucci, Maddee Gailing, Elena Gertsek, Sophie Gravel, Adam Lee, Emma Lucarelli, Dr. Katherine Mague, Felix Mann, Sean Miller, Ian Rottman, Zina Sagoo, Brenden Van Culin, Katherine Waterman

 ${\it Please join us in the dining hall for a reception in honor of the graduates.}$ 

## 2024 Fall Graduates

#### Associate of Arts

#### **General Studies**

Karina Rose Alaniz\* Ryan Mitchell Catherine Brogan Giovanni Morey Daniel Covino Joseph Parenti Stephen Danyla Zachary Riccardo Jack Erkan\* Joshua Sampaio\* Parker Hirsch Graham Stack **Emily Lighthall** Spencer Stein Chloe Lindsay Orion Stekoll Richard Little\* Katelyn Williams

#### **Liberal Studies**

Kris Archuleta Jesse Kohl
Den Bernard Ryan Laprade
Aesop Rose Block Christopher Levesque
Timothy Dyer Riley Mahan\*
Michael Elias-Marcellin Sophia Gravel\* Jesse Pomerantz
Ethan Greenberg Alice Quall
Talia Katz.

### Associate of Science

#### **Computer Science**

Marcus Aluia Henry Mutschler\*◆

#### **Life Science**

Isabella Caputo-Starkweather Dante De La Vega Rodriguez\* Jacob Stolle Favio Terrero-Dupiton\*◆

- ° Golden Key Honor Society
- \* Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
- ^ Communication
- $\Omega$  Psychology
- u Humanities
- € Environmental Science
- ¤ Education
- ∞ Natural 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 AS or BS Life Science or Computer Science programs.

## 2024 Fall Graduates

#### **Bachelor of Arts**

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

#### **Liberal Studies**

Grady Allen: "Ishmael, Romanticism Art, and the Natural World"

Robert Connelly: "The influence of JRR Tolkien on popular culture"

Timothy Dyer: "Internships and Neurodiverse Students"

Cullen Elwell: "A Sustainability Plan for Smaller Institutions"

Joshua Hancock: "A Border Community – Derby Line, VT"

Noah Janssen: "Esports on the College Campus"

Henry Osborne: "The Purity Problem"

Madeleine Symons: "Zen-Hobbit, Eco-Friendly, Sustainable Architecture"

#### **Communication & Entrepreneurial Leadership**

Nathan Bartram: "Expanding MOOver to LC for a More Accessible Campus"

Zachary Hahn\*o: "Neurodiversity and Adapting to Workplace Change: A Guide to the Uncertain" Lindsey Robison: "The Ballad of Boots and Pablo: One Woman's Sisyphean Effort to Raise \$500 for a Pet Owner in Need"

Matthew Snell: "The Film Industry, Emotional Storytelling, Networking: and a Guide on How to get your Film Noticed"

#### **Psychology**

Will Donohue\*°: "A Social Constructivist Approach to Social-Emotional Learning"

#### **Integrated Arts**

Elinor Attridge: "Leisure and Play: Reclamation of Nostalgia"

Tanner Harris: "Lego Fire: An Experience in Memory and Community"

- ° Golden Key Honor Society
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## 2024 Fall Graduates

#### **Bachelor of Science**

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

#### **Biology**

Kenneth Schlegel\*o: "Wolves and the Importance of Apex Predators in Ecosystems"

#### **Computer Science**

Luke Hensel: "AI Nutrition: A Research Paper and Website"

Henry Rosenberg: "Autism is Everywhere: From Medical Program to Social Movement"

#### Life Science

Angel Ferrucci<sup>o</sup>: "Investigating Accessibility in Forensic Science for the Visually Impaired"

#### Post-Baccalaureate

## Certificate in Learning Differences and Neurodiversity: Specialization in Executive Function

Rebecca Beile Christopher Johnson John Bellotti Samuel Marion Elizabeth McCarron Eileen Bosco Dominique Branco Ryan McLaughlin Elisse Buhmann Robin Meyer Misty Chisum Christin Monroe Theresa Oscar Alexandra Darby Natalie Emge Laura Pietak Maria Ferretti Maggie Roberts Kristina Follansbee Kelly Ross Kelly Ghaffary Travis Sadler Lisa Shrem Lauren Goldstein Julie Hannan Joel Singer Heather Thrush Cynthia House Mary Catherine Jackson Lillian Vogel-Albanese

## **About the Awards**

**THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD** is given to the student or students who have unselfishly given of themselves and 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 success 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 students 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 14, 2024

#### Karina Rose Alaniz

Karina, you are a remarkable human with a deep intellect, strength of character and spirituality. I pity the person that doesn't take the space to hear what you have to say (or underestimates you on the soccer field). You are quiet and reserved, but the well runs deep and I have watched you flourish and quietly command respect as a role model in and out of the classroom. You have found strength in your work ethic, conscientiousness, creativity and sense of harmony; the worry that held you back in the beginning has given way to a glorious sense of self and a smile that warms any recipient. In your time at Landmark, you have contributed to many corners of the campus, athletics, and student life. But most importantly, you have honored your own perceptions and process and found faith in yourself. An art piece you gifted to me depicts this journey and stays in my office as an inspiration to others. It has been a privilege to be a part of your experience at Landmark. We have all been the beneficiary of your insights and kindness; your peaceful, grounded presence will have a lasting impact. Be well.

Rebecca Matte

## **Grady Allen**

Today, we celebrate Grady Allen and the remarkable journey you've taken to earn your B.A. in Liberal Studies. Your academic success has been matched by your artistic spirit and dedication. From our conversations about your capstone project on Ishmael, Romanticism painting, and the natural world, it's been inspiring to see how you blend disciplines and explore deep intellectual connections. You have a unique ability to see beauty in all things, whether in your art, your studies, or the world around you. Your passion, purpose, and even your love for the Pittsburgh Pirates reflects the dedication you bring to everything you do. As you move forward, I'm excited to see how you'll continue to inspire with your creativity and thoughtfulness. Congratulations, Grady! Here's to your next adventure. Keep creating, keep dreaming, and keep cheering for the Bucs!

**Brian Cohen** 

#### **Marcus Aluia**

When I first met Marcus, he wasn't as social as he is now. In fact, he didn't share much at all, except for his love of LARPing (Live Action Role Playing). So, we started a LARPing group on campus for a couple months. And as time went on, Marcus became comfortable with speaking more, even when it wasn't about LARPing. He has become a very social and exemplary student, one whose progress I'm very proud of. Marcus, we will miss seeing you at the social table as well as the many other events you've helped support. We look forward to seeing you during Alumni Weekend.

**Gus Zarefsky** 

#### Kris Archuleta

Kris, my boy, you've done it! I expected no less, of course. To me, you're the embodiment of a Landmark student. And I'm not talking about going to class and doing the right things right. (You can do that in your sleep.) Naw, I'm talking about that infectious energy you bring to the table every day. Consider the following: in the last semester alone, you and I had no less than sixty conversations before classes in the morning—mostly revolving around our shared misery of the Bengals and Patriots—and you weren't even in my classes, bud. My point here is that you go out of your way to include others into the conversation, to give them a home in a crowd—that is who we are at LC, and why I'm so proud of you. You deserve this, okay? Well done.

**Tyler Baker** 

## Ellie Attridge

Even before you see Ellie, an entire field of vibrant color announces itself as she gets closer. She is usually clad in a mix of neon greens and pinks and pulls a cart of magical sculptures, toys, tools, and kinesthetic puppets—all ready to spring to life as she shares them. Like a modern-day tinker, Ellie brings this array of magic and humor to all that she touches. While growing into a capable student at Landmark, she never lost sight of the most critical component of her approach to her art and life: the ability to experience and spark wonder, play, and laughter. We will miss you, Ellie!

**Christie Herbert** 

#### Nate Bartram

Nate, I have to tell you, this is tough for me to write. It feels like I have not taught a semester at Landmark without you on my roster – probably because it is factually accurate – and the thought that I'll run a 3000-level course without your enthusiastic, infectious presence is a hard pill to swallow. You're a kind soul, Nate, who will undoubtedly leave a trail of thoughtfulness wherever life's journey takes you next. Thank you for providing me, and countless others, with excellent friendship and quality conversations about the Patriots. Your presence will be sorely missed, but don't forget that you will always have a home here at LC. Now go forth and make the world a better place!

**Tyler Baker** 

#### **Den Bernard**

Den, your kindness and loyalty have been a source of strength and warmth for everyone around you. You've brought a supportive and caring presence to the Landmark community, always willing to lend a hand and make others feel valued. Your love for animals speaks to your compassionate heart, and it's clear you bring that same care into everything you do. Your hard work and dedication are truly inspiring, and they've made a difference in countless ways. As you pursue your B.A. in Psychology, I know you'll continue to make a positive impact wherever you go. Congratulations on reaching this milestone. Wishing you the very best in all your endeavors.

Jacquie Serebrani-Kesner

#### **Aesop Rose Block**

So, there I was, my first semester teaching at Landmark, wide-eyed and completely unsure of how to approach students about their interests, when you walked up to me after class and asked if I wanted to watch one of your favorite music videos. I still have no idea what I watched (I know it was animated, and from Japan, so that's pretty good, right?), but I remember how your willingness to talk with me made me feel (like I belonged). The moral of this story is that you have a welcoming soul and a wonderful ability to relate to others through your interests. Thank you for sharing who you are with not only me, but all of us here in the LC community – it truly means a lot. Today, we get to not only celebrate the person you are, but the accomplishments you have to show for your hard work. Congratulations, Aesop!

**Tyler Baker** 

## Catherine Brogan

Congratulations on this milestone, Catherine! You came to Landmark College full of ideas and energy, and it was wonderful to watch you synthesize your creativity with the lessons you've learned here. Your ability to harness your talents to the task at hand is going to take you places, as will your commitment to learning how to be a leader. Take this moment to celebrate all you've accomplished.

**Chris Lenois** 

## Isabella Caputo-Starkweather

When Isabella asked me to write her tribute, I thought immediately of her grit, her determination and her dry sense of humor. Isabella took my Writing 1012 class twice, because the first time, she battled such an intensive illness that absences kept her from being able to complete the work. Nevertheless, as we say about indomitable women like Isabella, she persisted. When she could she came to class, and I must confess, I always looked forward to her being there: no matter what stood in her way, Isabella was always prepared. She could discuss intensively the reading, the implications of the reading and the ideas that the reading engendered. She could apply her skillful reading to her writing and her research, and she could always bring the class itself along to a greater understanding of the tasks, the ideas and the implications. And she could laugh...for wry sense of humor and persistence in bringing out the lighter side of what we read, thought about and discussed, there was no one to match Isabella. It is with the greatest of pleasure that I congratulate her on her accomplishments and with the utmost confidence that I foresee her grit, determination and humor carrying her far.

**Adrienne Major** 

### **Robert Connelly**

You've taken classes that pushed your understanding, travelled to new locations, tackled challenges that you thought you'd never get through... and here you are, walking across the graduation stage. I know that you are leaving Landmark with more confidence in your abilities and new strategies in your pocket. All the best in your unfolding future.

Peg Alden

#### **Daniel Covino**

This tribute is about a trinity, a testament to the three muses you invoke in your marvelous "Moloch." In phrases that echo Bob Dylan's Three Angels, you render manifestations of Moloch in contemporary society. I savor your tuneful litany, a dithyramb of "endless empty suburban streets" and "no loitering signs." Perusing this poem—and your portfolio—I am struck by your mastery of "The E.P. Three," Ezra Pound's triumvirate criteria for successful poetry: logopoeia (the dance of the intellect), melopoeia (an ear for linguistic music), and phanopoeia (visual intelligence). In both Creative Writing and in Spoken Word, you flourished with your caustic wit and eloquent phrasing, and I appreciated your appreciation of Allen Ginsberg and David Lynch. Your literary prowess was evident in both your poetry and prose, and I hope that you will continue to write beyond graduation.

**John Rose** 

#### Stephen Danyla

The mind is no problem needing solving like a car whose ignition just won't turn. Capabilities ever evolving – you can't demand how it will learn. In this vessel of seeming confusion is the capacity for solution.

Joshua Chapa

#### Dante De La Vega Rodriguez

Dante, your journey has been nothing short of inspiring. You have not only stepped up to embrace who you are but have also led by example, demonstrating what it means to shine bright. Your commitment to helping others discover their own light is truly commendable.

Through your guidance, many have found the courage to step up and participated in CDI and Pa Lante center programs. You have tapped into the potential of those around you, empowering them to lead and succeed.

As you move forward, continue to be the beacon of hope and support that you have always been. We celebrate your accomplishments today, and we look forward to seeing the incredible impact you will make in the future. Congratulations, Dante, on this remarkable achievement and all that lies ahead!

**Marc Thurman** 

## Will Donohue

Congrats, Will, on making it to the end of your Landmark College journey. I've had the pleasure these last few years—across many classes and an internship together—to witness your tremendous growth as both a student and a leader on campus. Between our time at the Center for Neurodiversity and working on your capstone project, I've been struck by your unwavering determination to learn more about psychology and advocate for issues related to disability and neurodiversity. Year after year, you've steadily grown more confident in your natural orientation towards helping others, making you universally well-respected among faculty, staff, and other students. Given your unique combination of compassion, lived experience, and curiosity, I have no doubts you'll find success in whatever path you choose moving forward. I'm looking forward to seeing where your next journey takes you!

**Tim Beck** 

#### **Timothy Dyer**

It has been a pleasure and a privilege getting to know over the past semesters as both your faculty advisor and as your instructor in a number of courses. You have always been an enthusiastic student with a keen interest in the subject matter we're exploring (no matter what it is!), and I've watched your academic capabilities grow during our time together. I'm excited to see you leave Landmark, though I'm also sorry to see you go. I sincerely wish you the very best!

Dan Miller

#### Michael Elias-Marcellin

The first thing that stood out when meeting Michael for the first time was the attention paid by looking directly into my eyes when we spoke. It's been such a pleasure and honor to witness Michael's maturing in their years here. I so appreciate the openness and the dry wit that is conveyed with a slight upturn of the corner of their smile. I wish you the best, Michael, and wish for you to grow into the person you desire.

**Jeff Huyett** 

#### Cullen Elwell

Cullen is a visionary thinker who focuses on how ideas and systems can be made sustainable. A leader committed to collaboration, community-building, and placemaking, he has co-founded student organizations, mentored peers, and championed campus initiatives like the installation of a Peace Pole and the Reusable Grab-n-Go container program. Through his many roles on campus—including serving twice as president of student government and as student alumni chair—he works to bring people together and create meaningful change.

The depth of Cullen's thinking is another hallmark of his leadership. His mind is one that is comfortable with the deep dive—whether exploring the minutiae of transportation systems, refining processes, or mastering the arcane rules of parliamentary procedure.

What stands out most to me, however, is the quiet strength of his leadership, rooted in kindness, empathy, and a willingness to uplift others. Thoughtful and patient, Cullen interacts with others in ways that exemplify care, support, and inclusivity, both in big and small ways.

Cullen, thank you for your care, your vision, and your willingness to build something greater than yourself. Landmark is a better place for your contributions, and wherever your journey takes you, your impact will continue to be felt.

**Jamie Harvey** 

#### Jack Erkan

Congratulations on completing your associate degree Jman! This achievement reflects your hard work and dedication to craft. Your weekly radio show, "Jman's Jams," is a true testament to your commitment and passion, bringing joy to all your listeners every Saturday morning. You are not only a talented DJ and voice actor, but also a caring and positive individual who inspires all around you, proving that a loving attitude has a big impact on others. You have shown us all the importance of perseverance and kindness and the Landmark community wishes you all the best!

**Eric Matte** 

## Angel Ferucci

Angel has been a remarkable student, approaching the challenges of chemistry with a bright smile and an eagerness to learn. She was a calming presence in class and lab, always ready to help her classmates when they needed support. Her passion for forensics and commitment to accessible science shone through in her capstone project. I'll never forget the excitement she shared upon deciding to pursue her B.S. in Life Science. That same enthusiasm and dedication have carried her through to this moment. Congratulations, Angelina, on completing your degree—we can't wait to see the impact you'll make in the world pursuing your passion for forensics!

**Christin Monroe** 

## Sophie Gravel

Sophie, watching you blossom has been a privilege and a joy. Your love for music, especially the soulful melodies of contemporary blues, has filled our days with warmth and inspiration. You've brought a unique rhythm to our advising meetings, one that resonates with heart and authenticity. As you pursue your dreams in the world of entertainment, may your passion and creativity guide you to stages and audiences waiting for your unique voice. Remember to stay true to the soulful spirit that makes you so special. The future is bright, Sophie, and I have no doubt it will be as extraordinary as you are.

**Jacquie Serebrani-Kesner** 

## **Ethan Greenberg**

Ethan, I've had the pleasure of working with you in several "experiential" settings...our anthropology classes, an independent study, and a study abroad trip to Japan. What stands out for me the most is your role in the collaborative research project we did with the Vermont Folk Life Center. You had no difficulty demonstrating your understanding of research methods, your cultural competence, and your sense of humor. These will serve you well as you move further into your academic career. I'm eager to see where they lead you.

Peg Alden

#### Zach Hahn

Congratulations, Zach! Your unwavering sense of community, selflessness, and dedication to serving others truly shine. I was fortunate to be assigned as your first Landmark advisor when you arrived in 2019 as a young, determined, and ambitious student, though still developing your confidence. When I returned three years after retiring, I was thrilled to see how much you had grown into one of our brightest Landmark stars!

Your academic achievements are nothing short of exceptional. Consistent recognition on the Dean's List and your induction into Phi Theta Kappa and Golden Key Honor Societies are testaments to your hard work and dedication. Yet, your contributions go far beyond the classroom.

Michael Gianetto noted how your inspiring work with the Putney Fire Department and genuine engagement with Landmark's Office of Campus Safety have set a remarkable example of leadership and collaboration. Similarly, Eric Gobel-Lynch highlighted your exceptional leadership in Landmark's Esports Club, where you supported your teammates and helped transform the club into a competitive team. Your efforts provided Landmark students with a new opportunity to build community and showcase their talents.

Professors Landin and Crocker praised you as an independent learner and worker who consistently supports others in the classroom, serving as a role model for your peers.

Your positivity, thoughtfulness, and drive leave a lasting impression on everyone you meet, Zach. We have been truly fortunate to have you in our community. Wishing you continued success and fulfillment in all your future endeavors!

**Denise Manning Higgins** 

#### Josh Hanock

Josh, Josh, Josh – this was the hardest tribute that I've had to write in my long, illustrious career at LC because you are a standout for many reasons. There's the part about your endless curiosity for topics far and wide; no degree can dictate what your mind wishes to study and pursue. After all, few people can jump from Yacht Rock classics to guessing country names on a map in the same conversation. We also have to acknowledge how much you care for your community and those around you. It's a rare quality, bud, so don't lose sight of what it means to others. You have to remember that life is kinda like a path we pave as we walk it; moving forward can sometimes be a pain, but you're certainly never alone in that endeavor. Keep moving forward with courage and don't forget: I, along with so many others here at LC, am extraordinarily proud of you.

**Tyler Baker** 

#### **Tanner Harris**

To say that Tanner is a critical thinker and creative problem solver would be a serious understatement! Over the past several years I've witnessed him take basic tools and transform ordinary materials, almost alchemically, into new objects or apparatuses that transcend their humble beginnings and previous intended purposes. Tanner constantly innovates in the studio, always trying new combinations of forms and concepts in order to find new ways to challenge his craft. He is happiest working in methods that cross the line between artistic disciplines; a photograph becomes a painting, a painting becomes a sculpture, a sculpture becomes a way of telling a story...Tanner is rarely satisfied working in just one medium, which is the quintessence of the integrated arts, his ability to adapt and invent will serve him well throughout his life and career. Luckily for us all, Tanner is also very much a team player; bringing out the best in others with his thoughtful feedback on their work during critiques and his camaraderie in the studio. Whether he's darting off to the FAB LAB to fashion some new thing he's built for the studios in the Art Department or dashing off as a first responder to fight fires with the Putney Fire Department, Tanner puts others before himself and he seems to always have a mind towards making a difference in his community.

**Samuel Rowlett** 

#### Luke Hensel

Today, we recognize a student who is completing his journey through our computer science program. Over the years, I've had the opportunity to watch him grow—from learning foundational concepts to completing his capstone project. While programming has presented its challenges, his ability to think logically and algorithmically has always been a strength, as evidenced in his success in mathematics. He is a dependable student, known for his near-perfect attendance and steady commitment to his work, qualities that will undoubtedly serve him well in the future. Beyond the classroom, his true passion lies in cooking, and I hope he finds a way to combine his computer science skills with his love of culinary arts. Whether it's creating innovative recipes or developing tech solutions for the food industry, the possibilities are exciting.

P. Kevin Keith

#### Parker Hirsch

Today, we celebrate a remarkable individual, Parker Hirsch, whose dedication as a volunteer for CDI and Interfaith has made a significant impact. Congratulations on your graduation!

Parker, your unwavering commitment, and boundless energy have not gone unnoticed. You've stepped up to be true to yourself and have led by example, inspiring those around you. Your time to shine is now, and you are truly doing just that.

As you embark on this new chapter, carry forward that spirit of service and leadership. We honor your achievements today and look forward to the incredible journey that lies ahead. Congratulations, Parker, on this well-deserved recognition and all the future successes that await you!

Marc Thurman

#### Noah Janssen

When I first met you, you were a shadowy figure behind a picture of a cat with cornrows; now, just a year later, you are a partner I consistently rely on in and out of practice to bring energy and excellence to an esports program that owes much of its potential to your efforts. One of the first things I learned about you was your love of cooking – little did I know that included whipping up something delightful on the playing field as much as in the kitchen. Your return to Landmark after a foray into the world of work has been purposeful as you rejoined this community as a leader, RA, and student ready to seize the opportunities ahead of you. As you transition from student to professional, I know that your passions will guide you toward meaningful work where your energy, enthusiasm, and efficiency will be a credit to all those around you. It has been a privilege to join you for this part of your journey, from being a pseudo coach in Indiana to earning the prestigious Sports Leadership Award and leading Landmark College into its esports era. Congratulations on reaching this point; this is only the beginning of many great things to follow, and I'm excited to see what you cook up.

**Eric Gobel-Lynch** 

#### Talia Katz

Talia, it has been a pleasure working with you at Landmark. Over the past year, you've shown incredible empathy for others' opinions and feelings, paired with sharp observation skills. These strengths have made you an excellent student and a promising writer. You tackled the challenges of your writing-intensive classes with determination, embodying Maya Angelou's words: "There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside of you." Through your resilience and campus activism, you've inspired others to find their voices and share their stories. Congratulations on this amazing accomplishment!

**Scott Schaedler** 

#### Jesse Kohl

Jesse, congratulations on your graduation—and for winning the Ken Kesey award—the student most on the bus—at the John Rose Convention, a majestic, madcap happening where every student who ever played the role of me in class—and there are twenty-eight of you—will convene in the Administration Building auditorium, each luminary down on hands and knees to push a loaf of Wonder Bread, feigning the yeast is Kesey's bus whisking students to the Marina exorcism. "I bequeath the Ken Kesey Award to Jesse Kohl," I will shout and make engine noises, pushing a loaf myself. "You're either on the bus or off the bus,' quoth Kesey, "and Jesse is on the bus, occupying a wheat seat behind Neal Cassady at the wheel. He flourished in his role as me in class, donning turtlenecks and hornrimmed glasses, asking incisive questions. He rocked Creative Writing with his scintillating gothic tales, and he made Research and Analysis groove, fusing arcane notions from The Doors of Perception, The Marriage of Heaven and Hell, Waking Life, and My Dinner with Andre." Onward and upward—Further!—Jesse! "I am he as you are me." I will see you at the convention.

**John Rose** 

## Ryan Laprade

"I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down!" – Unknown Punster

Congratulations on earning this well-deserved degree, Ryan! Here at Landmark, you became known as a student with a positive attitude and dedication to learning, who always had a generous supply of puns and jokes at the ready. Professors appreciated your "buoyant intellectual energy during class discussions" and willingness to ask questions to deepen your understanding. Moreover, professors commented on your work ethic and noted that when the course material became challenging, you were the one who kept everyone's spirits up. Ryan, thanks for all you have shared with the Landmark community! We look forward to seeing where life takes you next!

**Eve Léons** 

## **Chris Levesque**

Oh, Chris—this is a big moment for both of us. Your first college graduation and my first tribute to an advisee! I'm not sure what I should focus on. Should I mention that you are the most joyous, infectiously kind student that I have had the pleasure of teaching? Is it important to linger on your sense of compassion, justice, and fairness that, collectively, make you the type of friend a friend would like to have? Or do I need to bring up how much I admire your willingness to offer compliments and words of gratitude, especially when folks need it most? Maybe I should thank you for being the only student who appreciates that I call Google 'the Googz Machine'? Nah, I'll probably address each thing and then say a bit about how stinkin' proud I am of you once I get to the end of the paragraph, you know, something like, "Chris, great work—I'm so stinkin' proud of you, bud." I think that sounds pretty good to me.

**Tyler Baker** 

## **Emily Lighthall**

Emily, Congratulations on completing your associate degree! You have maintained a consistently high level of commitment to your coursework while also continuing to develop your interests and abilities in handcrafts and culinary arts. You are generous in your willingness to share your artistic efforts with others. (Homemade soap!) I've missed our weekly advising sessions this semester but am happy to see that you are making progress toward your bachelor's degree here at Landmark. Best wishes for great success going forward!

Jeremy Holch

## Chloe Lindsay

Chloe, your journey has shown a true dedication to growth and creativity. As you continue to understand the importance of patience and being a good listener, you'll find these values will be essential in your work assisting others. Your passion for fashion design adds a beautiful dimension to your creativity, and it's clear you're eager to share that with those around you. You are already a strong self-advocate, and I know your confidence will only continue to grow with practice and persistence. Keep embracing your path, Chloe—the world awaits you.

**Jacquie Serebrani-Kesner** 

#### **Richard Little**

When I agreed to take on an intern, I never expected to gain a colleague to work together in creating a cohesive office environment. Richard is a very thoughtful and empathetic person, who I have had the privilege to see gain confidence in himself. I am humbled to be a small part of Richard's journey here at Landmark College and know that he will continue to thrive and bring goodness to wherever he goes next. Richard, remember you have a voice and never lose it. Be Proud of Yourself!

**Cindy Brown** 

## Riley Mahan

"I probably shouldn't brag, but dag, I amaze and astonish." – Hamilton

Riley, a musical theater quote was the only way to begin your tribute! In your short time at Landmark you have certainly left your mark. We joke about your multiple majors and concentrations and every semester you try to convince me that 8+ classes is doable. In reality, your love of learning and curiosity are gifts. You put your heart into everything that you do and consistently set high expectations for yourself, and then proceed to crush those expectations. Congratulations on this milestone! I cannot wait to watch you continue to amaze and astonish.

**Heather Stinson** 

#### Ryan Mitchell

Ryan, congratulations on completing your associate degree! That's a big step toward earning your bachelor's degree. You have worked diligently and consistently and will, I'm sure, continue to do the same. I've always enjoyed our "off-topic" conversations about the weather as well as your stories about family and previous educational experiences. As you go forward, always be open to making use of the support resources available here to ensure success, including the Career Connections office as you consider your future beyond Landmark. Best wishes for further success!

**Jeremy Holch** 

#### Giovanni Morey

Gio is an amazingly kind and thoughtful person who I had the privilege of spending time with over the summer of 2024 in the Science of Baking course. Gio regularly engaged in the course and, more importantly, regularly checked in on his classmates. Gio took has high emotional intelligence and great empathy. He regularly showed attentiveness to ensuring that everyone in the course was following the hands-on activities and was quick to lend a hand. Gio is also a person who can show true joy, and his enthusiasm was often infectious to those around him including myself. I have no doubt that Gio can do whatever he sets his mind to, but it is my hope that whatever he does that he remains true to himself and the characteristics that make him a truly exception person.

**John Vitale** 

## **Henry Mutschler**

While our intelligence remains artificial, It falls to those whose numbers are quite minimal To make sure these infernal contraptions work And unmake the errors when blue screens go berserk. Having conquered those indecipherable lines, The future's tech is yours and the pride is all mine.

**Joshua Chapa** 

#### **Henry Osborne**

I first met Henry two years ago in a Civil Rights and Social Movements class, and it was apparent then that critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and general kindness would shape your Landmark journey. Earning your B.A. in Liberal Studies reflects the dedication you've shown to exploring subjects from religion and philosophy to history and politics. Your critical thinking, especially in your capstone project on the Purity Campaign, has challenged conventional ideas and sparked insightful discussions. Whether analyzing complex topics or sharing experiences, like life in Savannah or driving through New England winters, your curiosity and kindness are evident in all you do. Congratulations, Henry! Your intellectual depth and thoughtful approach will continue to inspire and make an impact in the next chapter of your journey. Here's to your bright future ahead!

**Brian Cohen** 

#### Joey Parenti

"I've long believed that good food, good eating, is all about risk." – Anthony Bourdain

Joey, in your time at Landmark you have taken so many risks. You tackled challenging coursework. You advocated for yourself and changed majors. You have gone on trips and explored new cities (and their food scenes!). As you graduate, you are about to take yet another risk and pursue your passion for culinary arts. I hope you continue to take risks, both in life and in cooking!

**Heather Stinson** 

## **Anthony Philippino**

A heartfelt and so deserved congratulations! You've earned a college degree that meets national rigor and academic achievement standards. Along the way, professors have noted your great insights in class, your historical insights and meaningful writing. Just as importantly, you've developed friendships. Dominic, through all the highs and lows you persevered, demonstrating a superb work ethic. At the same time, you have a most friendly, thoughtful disposition. I have so appreciated getting to know you and wish you continued success, keep in touch!

**Wayne Hartz** 

#### Jesse Pomerantz

I had the pleasure of having Jesse in my "HIS1012: Renaissance to Present" and "SOC3014: Sports in U.S. Society" courses during his tenure at Landmark. He was a student who would frequently provide insightful contributions to discussions just when it seemed that the class might not have been paying attention—and he could also be good with quick, wry observations of the sort that help to make teaching fun. Alas, while I was never able to convince Jesse to join the Malcolm Butler Fan Club, I nevertheless commend him for displaying impressive patience with the imperative pedagogical emphasis the Sports class placed on glorifying the Boston sports franchises at the expense of Seattle's. Jesse, you were such a positive presence in my classes, and those who work with you in your future endeavors will be lucky to have you in any capacity as part of their team. Keep in touch, and I wish you the very best moving forward!

Jim Cabral

#### **Alice Quall**

Alice, you have shown remarkable dedication and growth, surpassing your goals with determination. Watching you gain confidence has been inspiring, and it's clear you have an exciting journey ahead. Your progress is a testament to your resilience. As you continue forward, remember that stepping out on your own can be a powerful way to discover even more of your strengths. Embrace the opportunity to trust yourself, knowing that you have everything it takes to succeed independently. I'm so proud of how far you've come, Alice—keep reaching for the stars!

**Jacquie Serebrani-Kesner** 

## **Zachary Riccardo**

"Only those who attempt the absurd can achieve the impossible." – Albert Einstein

Congratulations, Zach! While completing your daily online course assignments may sometimes have felt absurd, given everything you have going on in your life, you persevered and have now officially reached a goal you once felt was impossible. Certainly, there were bumps in the road, but through it all, you maintained your sense of humor and a willingness to move forward, despite your challenges. Amongst your teachers, you were known for your thoughtfulness, gift for analysis, dedication to the academic process, and natural leadership abilities. These are high compliments indeed! Zach, we look forward to seeing the possibilities in your life reveal themselves as you continue your journey. Please keep in touch and know that Landmark will always be one of your homes.

**Eve Léons** 

#### **Lindsey Robison**

During my time knowing Lindsey, she has described her educational journey as both Sisyphean and Herculean—a testament to the immense effort and perseverance it required. Her path, which included two periods at Landmark College (separated by 9 years and a successful career as a dog trainer), is marked by resilience, determination, and fortitude. However, what has impressed me most about Lindsey isn't just her strength and resolve, it's her extraordinary abilities as a communicator. If we were to invoke another figure from mythology, Hermes, the messenger and guide between worlds, would be an apt choice. At Landmark, Lindsey has deftly traversed across various social domains, excelling as an RA, a dog trainer, a CDI leader, and the Station Manager of Voices TV. In these roles, she has inspired her peers and uplifted them with her empathetic and detail-oriented leadership, leaving an indelible impact that will be felt for years to come. Hermes, of course, is also known as a trickster. So, I must mention Lindsey's knack for a clever prank—like when she punked me not just on April Fools' Day, but also on Halloween and Thanksgiving (she'll happily share the details). Lindsey's metamorphosis into a confident leader and communicator is a testament to her hard work and dedication. Congratulations, Lindsey, on this remarkable achievement. With the wings you've grown (just like Hermes), who knows what heights you'll soar to next.

**Gyuri Kepes** 

## **Henry Rosenberg**

It's an honor to write a tribute for Henry, one of the most remarkable students that I've had the pleasure of teaching. Henry is not only hardworking and respectful but also incredibly kind, with a wonderful sense of humor. He often shares funny videos of his dog during our meetings, a simple gesture that always reminds me of what my primary role is as "teacher": to be a mentor and friend.

Henry's dedication is unmatched. He attends my office hours every week, eager to learn and improve. He never leaves class without explicit permission, even when I finish early, and other students begin to pack up. Instead, he'll approach me and ask, "Is it okay if I leave?" His commitment to punctuality and participation is unwavering, and on the rare occasion that he's late, he apologizes.

Once Henry graduates, his absence will be deeply felt. I hope he knows how much he's appreciated and that he stays in touch.

**Karina Assiter** 

### Josh Sampaio

Josh, your energy and positivity are forces that brighten every space you enter and are hard to ignore—even at 8:30 in the morning. While you appear almost impish, your open smile is without guile and makes others feel seen and appreciated. As a natural leader, you embraced your sense of responsibility and took on leadership roles on the athletic field, in student government, and in the Centers for Diversity and Inclusion. Your communication and motivational powers were on display at Spring Convocation, where you welcomed incoming students and shared your story and insights, including gratitude for those who support you. In your time here you have leaned into the phrase "all over the place" and applied your strengths for a good many corners of our campus. Josh, it has been an absolute joy to work with you, to witness your growth and benefit from your infectious enthusiasm. I can't wait to see what you do next!

**Rebecca Matte** 

## Kenneth Schlegel

Kenny, congratulations on a stellar Landmark career! Your consistent focus, hard work and output as a student led you to award-winning academic achievement. You developed outstanding knowledge mastery and fluency in the life sciences, and your focus on wildlife biology highlighted your thoughtful curiosity and connection to the natural world. Just as significant, you were an extraordinarily active and influential member of the Landmark community, becoming a leader by modeling positive connection to faculty, staff, and students, participation in myriad activities, and compassionate encouragement and support of your peers. As you head off to your next adventures, you carry with you a strength and a sparkle that you so commendably nurtured through your work at Landmark. We are all so excited for you, and so grateful for the time we shared with you. Well done! Stay in touch!

**Eric Rhomberg** 

#### **Matthew Snell**

There is a poem by American poet Douglas Malloch that reminds me of Matthew: "Good timber does not grow with ease, The stronger wind, the stronger trees; The farther sky, the greater length; The more the storm, the more the strength. By sun and cold, by rain and snow, In trees and men good timbers grow." Matthew is a good man, as solid as an oak—bending but never breaking in the face of many challenges, whether it's navigating a global pandemic or editing a newscast under pressure of a tight deadline. In every role he has taken on—as a student, intern, or Voices TV's resident weather reporter—he has proven himself to be reliable, honest, and determined to develop the skills needed to achieve his dream of working in the film industry. Matthew will continue to grow, reaching new heights, with his roots firmly planted at Landmark College and Voices TV. Congratulations, Matthew, on this incredible achievement.

**Gyuri Kepes** 

#### **Graham Stack**

Graham is a natural leader whose goodwill and empathy are evident in all he does. During his time at Landmark College, Graham has made a meaningful impact as Vice President of the Student Government Association, a campus ambassador, and an active participant in the Centers for Diversity and Inclusion.

Graham is also a passionate advocate. This was most evident during a campus town hall on the subject of hate speech, where he spoke powerfully about his experiences with antisemitism and called for accountability from administrators, urging timely responses and clear communication to address student concerns.

What stands out most for me, however, is the genuineness, warmth, and humor he brings to every interaction. It is these qualities that truly endear him to everyone who has the pleasure of knowing him. Graham, I am confident you will continue to bring these qualities into everything you do and everyone you meet.

**Jamie Harvey** 

#### **Spencer Stein**

Spencer, from the moment we met, your ambition to complete college has been clear. Elvis Presley might call your determination a "dream with a V8 engine." Your drive, combined with your attention to detail, has made you a strong student. Today, you're shifting into high gear, ready to make your mark in the world of business. I hope the skills that have made you an outstanding scholar will inspire you to lead and create positive change in your community. Congratulations!

**Scott Schaedler** 

#### Orion Stekoll

Orion came into my new media courses a couple of years ago, and immediately distinguished himself, as a student who could self-manage, initiate and complete projects, without much help; this is highly unusual. In those courses I soon realized that he was a quick study, and an inspired creator of digital compositions. Eventually, that translated into a love for Video Art, and other complex digital artworks. His work in the Introduction to Digital Arts course, additionally revealed, that he could produce photographic images in Photoshop, and sound compositions in Audacity, resulting into highly original photographs and soundscapes; riveting in their complexity and ingenuity. Obviously, I am very fond of Orion and have a great degree of respect for him. I sincerely hope that he will persevere on this path and wish him all the success he rightly deserves.

**Humberto Ramirez** 

#### **Jacob Stolle**

Jacob, you have a natural way of making everyone feel seen and valued, creating a warm environment wherever you go. Your passion for zoology shines through, and it's clear you have a deep respect for all living things. As you move toward your dream of becoming a zoologist, I have no doubt your compassion will be as vital to your work as your knowledge. The world of wildlife conservation is lucky to gain someone with your heart and dedication. Keep sharing your light, Jacob—it will illuminate the path ahead for both people and animals alike. Wishing you the very best in all your endeavors.

Jacquie Serebrani-Kesner

#### **Madeleine Symons**

You did it! Although I know you won't be at graduation, Madeleine, I'll be there celebrating for you and with you. You've worked so hard to get through this bachelor's degree and you deserve it. I have no doubt that this diploma, coupled with your brilliance and perseverance, will take you to an interesting next phase in your life. If I can ever be of assistance or support, please reach out.

Peg Alden

## **Favio Terrero-Dupiton**

Favio's journey at Landmark began online, where his dedication quickly caught the attention of his advisor, Eve Léons. It was a joy to welcome him into the AIE-STEMPLOS program during his first in-person semester, where he thrived. Since then, Favio has grown tremendously, representing Landmark at the University of Vermont's VBRN program and taking on leadership roles in both his classes and the AIE-STEMPLOS cohort. His quiet yet thoughtful contributions have consistently enriched classroom discussions. Favio's growth and leadership are truly inspiring, and we look forward to seeing all he will accomplish as he works towards his B.S. Congratulations, Favio!

**Christin Monroe** 

#### Katelyn Williams

Katelyn, your academic achievements are just one part of who you are. You are a caring, patient friend, always willing to lend a hand, and you are grateful for the small kindnesses in your day.

This past year, you've shown incredible strength and resilience, turning challenges into a deep passion for helping others. You embody Helen Keller's wisdom: "Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it." Stay brave and open-hearted as you shape the next chapter of your future. It's been an honor to be part of your journey. Congratulations!

**Scott Schaedler** 

## Tanya Wummer

Just when you think Tanya isn't paying attention, she comes out of nowhere with a Han Solo reference. You thought you were talking about math? Nope, you were talking about Beetlejuice. Tanya has an astounding knack for pop culture references. From left field, she brought humor and fun to my classroom.

**Doug Lynch** 

## Julia Yaeger

Jules, you are an exceptional student whose hard work and dedication have left a lasting impact on the Landmark College community. You have demonstrated excellence across your courses, earning high praise from your instructors for your thoughtful engagement, proactive communication, and consistent contributions to class discussions. Your aspirations to become a speech-language pathologist are a testament to your caring and driven nature. As Taylor Swift would say, you never go out of style—you've embraced this milestone with grace and determination. Your journey is just beginning, and I know you'll continue to shine fearlessly in all you do. Congratulations on earning your associate degree—time to celebrate this amazing accomplishment!

Pamela Sheffler



## Landmark College Alma Mater

As you gaze upon lush green hills
And inhale the crisp morning air;
Or enjoy the colors of the changing leaves,
Or of white and glist'ning snow;
You will find Landmark College
In such beauty to behold,
True to you, Landmark College,
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