CONVOCATION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023
HAY OUTDOOR THEATER
THE ANNA AND SAMUEL PINANSKI PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

The Pinanski Teaching Prize is awarded annually to members of the Wellesley College faculty to honor fine teaching. The Prize may be awarded to as many as three members of the faculty each year, preferably one in each of the College's three academic areas: humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. The Prize recognizes a particular strength, some style or method or course, or some other describable event that has been especially successful. The community does not know the names of the recipients until they are announced at commencement.

2023 PINANSKI TEACHING PRIZE RECIPIENTS

Ama Baafra Abeberese ’04
Associate Professor of Economics

Adam Matthews
Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences

Daniel Zitnick
Lecturer in Arabic Language

As a Wellesley College student, I will act with honesty, integrity, and respect. In making this commitment, I am accountable to the community and dedicate myself to a life of honor.

PROGRAM

PRELUDE
Yanvalou Drum and Dance Ensemble

ACADEMIC PROCESSION
Led by Alex Diesl, College Marshal

HYMN
“America the Beautiful,” led by Lucas O’Kelley ’24

BENE DiCTION
Dena Bodian

ACADEMIC RECESSION
Led by Alex Diesl

POSTLUDE
Carillons

Stepsinging immediately following convocation.

REMARKS
Paula A. Johnson, President
Andrew Shennan, Provost and Lia Gelin
Poorvu ’56 Dean of the College

Ingrid Bell ’24, College Government President

Dhanyashree Srikanth ’24, Chief Justice
TO ALMA MATER

To Alma Mater, Wellesley’s daughters,
All together join and sing,
Thro’ all her wealth of wood and waters,
Let your happy voices ring.
In ev’ry changing mood we love her,
Love her tow’rs and woods and lake,
Oh, changeful sky, bend blue above her!
Wake, ye birds, your chorus wake!

We’ll sing her praises now and ever,
Blessed fount of truth and love,
Our heart’s devotion, may it never
Faithless or unworthy prove.
We’ll give our lives and hopes to serve her,
Humblest, highest, noblest all,
A stainless name we will preserve her,
Answer to her ev’ry call.

–Lyrics by Anne Barrett Hughes, class of 1886
Arranged by Flora Smeallie Ward, class of 1886,
from the German air The Mountain Maiden

We acknowledge that Wellesley College is built on ancestral and traditional land of the Massachusetts people. We also recognize that the United States’ removal, termination, and assimilation policies and practices resulted in the forced settlement of Indigenous lands and the attempted erasure of Indigenous cultures and languages. We further acknowledge the oppression, injustices, and discrimination that Indigenous people have endured and that there is much work to be done on the important journey to reconciliation. We commit to strengthen our understanding of the history and contemporary lives of Indigenous peoples and to steward this land.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

III.

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness,
And every gain divine!

“Illustration” was written by Katharine Lee Bates, Wellesley class of 1880 and faculty member from 1885 to 1895. The song has been a feature of Wellesley’s commencement and convocation exercises since 1942.

I.

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!
UNDERGRADUATE PRIZES

ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS AWARD
Emma Sullivan ’24
Katherine Dalton ’24
(honorable mention)

NATALIE BOLTON FACULTY PRIZES IN ECONOMICS, ECONOMETRICS, DOMESTIC ECONOMICS, AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS
Clara Chambers ’24
Fatima Djalalova ’24
Rin Tsavalyuk ’24

NATHALIE BUCHET FELLOWSHIP
Rin Tsavalyuk ’24

CAMELLIA COMMUNITY CULTIVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD
Makayla Almonte ’24

CAMELLIA EMERGING LEADERSHIP AWARD
Isabela Sanchez Taipe ’26

JOHANNA MANKIEWICZ DAVIS PRIZE FOR PROSE FICTION
Nico Decker ’24
Maheen Haq ’24
Día Murillo ’24
Fareda El Gaderi ’24
(honorable mention)

KATHRYN WASSERMAN DAVIS ’28 ART PRIZE
Alex Cahn ’24

ELLA SMITH ELBERT ’88 PRIZE
Jade Young ’24

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN TRANSLATION
Lucy Montgomery ’25
Elizabeth Ray ’24

ERASMUS ESSAY PRIZE IN HISTORY
Ida Beckett ’24

ELIZABETH VOGEL FALK PRIZE IN GERMAN
Elizabeth Kolln ’25
Emily Levine ’24

ISABELLE EASTMAN FISK PERFORMANCE PRIZE FOR ACTING
Ashade Altine ’25

CARLO FRANÇOIS PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN FRENCH
Zoe Mitchell ’25
Meredith Swanson ’25

FANNIE LOU HAMER PRIZE IN AFRICANA STUDIES
Ozy Odocha ’26

MARTHA DAVENPORT HEARD SOPHOMORE PRIZE
Karen Cordova ’25
Amy Hu ’25
Caroline Jung ’25
Sally Kim ’25
Zoey Yan ’25

JACQUELINE AWARD FOR LITERARY ESSAY
Haley Lee-Burke ’24
(honorable mention)

JEWISH STUDIES WRITING PRIZE
Anabelle Meyers ’25
(first prize)
Laila Brustin ’25
(second prize)

GERMAINE LAFEUILLE PRIZE IN FRENCH
Miranda Christ ’25
Josefina Reyes Fernández ’24

SARA F. LANGER MEMORIAL AWARD IN GEOSCIENCES
Katherine Morin ’24

THE BARRY LYDGATE PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN FIRST-YEAR FRENCH LANGUAGE
Edith Bachmann ’26
Joyce Choi ’26
Ainsley Crist ’26

MARY C. LYONS PRIZE FOR WRITING
Mila Matney ’24
Noshin Saiyyara ’24
(honorable mention)

AGNES F. PERKINS PRIZE FOR PROSE
Emma Cohen ’25
Aidan Reid ’24
Micol Zhai ’24

CHARLOTTE PAUL REESE ’38 MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR CREATIVITY IN WRITING
Mila Matney ’24

MICHELLE RESPAUT FRENCH HOUSE FELLOWSHIP
Aissata Barry ’26
Kristal Maimo ’26
Rin Tsavalyuk ’24

SOUTH ASIA STUDIES WRITING PRIZE
Tazrean Hossain ’24
Jyontika Kapoor ’24

REBECCA SUMMERHAYS AWARD FOR GROWTH IN WRITING
Mara Casals ’26

THREE GENERATIONS PRIZE FOR FIRST-YEAR WRITING
Phoebe Zilliax Blodget ’26

THREE GENERATIONS PRIZE FOR WRITING IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
Anna Nesbitt ’25

VIRGINIA WAINWRIGHT SONNET PRIZE
Madison Courtney ’25
Fareda El Gaderi ’24

ETHEL FOLGER WILLIAMS PRIZE IN GERMAN
Sabrina Feldman ’25
Nyssa Youhn ’25

FLORENCE ANNETTE WING MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR LYRIC POETRY
Marty Martinage ’24

MARY ANN YOUNGREN MEMORIAL AWARD IN CRITICAL READING
Catie Hanna ’24
Anabelle Meyers ’25

For full descriptions of each of the above prizes, visit wellesley.edu/studentprizes.