

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF



2024

JUNE 6, 2024

PESONEN STADIUM, LONG LAKE, MINNESOTA

COMMENCEMENT

THE VALUE OF CONNECTEDNESS

Congratulations, Class of 2024!

I am so proud that each of you has navigated your unique journey to arrive at this point. Your achievements are truly commendable! You leave here on solid ground academically with deep knowledge of what it means to be a person of character. Now, as you cross the stage to become cherished Orono alumni, my wish is that you also recognize the profound value of *connectedness*.

In a world that often emphasizes individuality and personal success, it is essential to remember the importance of our connections—to ourselves, each other, and our communities.

Strength in self-awareness. During your time here, you have discovered your passions, your strengths, and your areas for growth. As you step into the next chapter of your lives, continue to nurture this self-awareness and self-connection. Understand your values, set meaningful goals, and pursue your dreams with authenticity and integrity.

Power in collaboration. The relationships you have built with your peers, teachers, coaches, advisors, and community mentors have provided incredible opportunities to collaborate and learn from one another. These connections have not only supported your academic endeavors but have also enriched your lives in countless ways. Remember the lessons learned from group projects, shared challenges, and collective achievements. Carry forward the spirit of teamwork and the willingness to both give and receive support.

Joy in engagement. We are all part of an intricate network of relationships that extend beyond our immediate circles. As you move forward, whether to college, the workforce, or other adventures, seek out opportunities to belong and connect. Engage with your communities, contribute positively, and be a force for good. Your actions, no matter how small, can create ripples of change that benefit society.

Class of 2024, I urge you to cherish and cultivate connections. Your individual journeys are enriched by the relationships you build along the way.

Kristine Flesher, Ed.D.
Superintendent

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL

COMMENCEMENT

73rd GRADUATING CLASS

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024

PESONEN STADIUM
LONG LAKE, MINNESOTA

7:00 P.M. PROCESSION BEGINS



PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL

(please stand)

Pomp and Circumstance by Edward Elgar
Orono High School Wind Ensemble under the
direction of Mr. Tim Arnold

WELCOME

Dr. Amy Steiner, Orono High School Principal

NATIONAL ANTHEM

(please remain standing)

The Star-Spangled Banner, music by
John Stafford Smith, lyrics by Francis Scott Key
Performed by the Orono High School Chamber
Choir under the direction of Ms. Nichole Brenna
and Mr. Mark Hemingway

SUPERINTENDENT'S ADDRESS

Dr. Kristine Flesher

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Loch Lomond, traditional Scottish folk song,
arr. by Jonathan Quick
Orono High School Chamber Choir

HONORED STAFF MEMBERS

Selected by the Class of 2024

Introduced by Dr. Amy Steiner, Principal
Mr. Jeremy Buch, Ms. Tatum Fjelstad, Mr. Paul Ivers,
Mr. Keith Jurek, Mr. Andrew Kahler,
Mr. Robert Smalling, Ms. Michelle Swenson,
Mr. Barry Wohler

ADDRESS TO THE CLASS

Dr. Amy Steiner, Principal

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Festive Overture by Dmitri Shostakovich
Orono High School Wind Ensemble

**INTRODUCTION OF
STUDENT SPEAKERS**

Natalie Close and Carys Summers
Student Body Presidents

STUDENT SPEAKERS

Grant Hemenway
Matthew Kasbohm

**PRESENTATION OF THE
CLASS OF 2024**

Dr. Amy Steiner, Principal

READERS Shana Borgen, Kathryn Haagenson & Lauren Handrick
Orono High School Counselors

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS Mr. Michael Bash, Chair
Orono Board of Education Ms. Sarah Borchers, Vice Chair
Ms. Laura Wallander, Clerk
Ms. Ali Howe, Treasurer
Ms. Wendy Lundsgaard, Director
Mr. Todd Madson, Director

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE *Highland Cathedral*
Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb, Composers
Meridith Richmond, Bagpiper

**CONFIRMATION OF THE
CLASS OF 2024** Dr. Amy Steiner, Principal

CONCLUDING REMARKS Dr. Amy Steiner, Principal

RECESSIONAL *Fanfare and Recessional*
composed by Edward Elgar, arr. James Ployhar
Orono High School Wind Ensemble
*Guests are asked to remain in their seats until graduates
and faculty have exited.*

Congratulatory photo opportunities on the
Spartan Plaza immediately following Commencement
Sponsored by Spartan Parent Association

Thank you to Cooper Shannon Photography for
capturing the Commencement celebration. You can
download photos following the event at:
<https://bit.ly/2024-COMMENCEMENT>

Junior Class Escorts: Adeline Furst, Ashley Ishaug,
Alisha Shah, and Stewart Royal

*A special thank you to Otten Brothers Garden
Center & Landscaping for their many years of
stage decoration.*



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

ADMINISTRATION & FACULTY

Dr. Kristine Flesher, Superintendent

Dr. Amy Steiner, Principal

Mr. Jeff Aman, Associate Principal

Mr. Paul Brunner, Director of Athletics & Student Activities

Mr. Jesse Allex

Mr. Tim Arnold

Ms. Kelsie Balon Peck

Mr. Charles Bohl

Ms. Shana Borgen

Mr. Thomas Borrell

Mr. Paul Brauchle

Ms. Nichole Brenna

Ms. Shannon Briggs

Mr. Jeremy Buch

Ms. Sarah Cole

Ms. Jessica Curtis

Ms. Iris Erickson

Ms. Donna Ferber

Ms. Renate Fiora

Ms. Tatum Fjelstad

Ms. Cara Forbrook

Ms. Kristin Frey

Ms. Jessica Frie

Mr. Brian Goudy

Ms. Kathryn Haagenson

Ms. Lauren Handrick

Ms. Jennifer Henry

Ms. Erin Head

Ms. Sara Ibs

Ms. Jennifer Ivers

Mr. Paul Ivers

Mr. Keith Jurek

Mr. Andrew Kahler

Ms. Kristen Lekatz

Mr. Jarrett Lundquist

Mr. Dennis Lynn

Ms. Danielle Malin

Mr. Mark McConnell

Mr. Quinn Montgomery

Ms. Erin Murray

Ms. Michelle Naylor

Ms. Grace Nohner

Ms. Lisa O'Halloran

Ms. Leslie O'Meara

Ms. Gretchen Ospina

Dr. Kirsten Pardun-Johannsen

Ms. Ann Peiler

Ms. Abby Perrin

Mr. Nathan Porter

Ms. Mallory Purdy

Mr. Gregory Pusch

Ms. Brandy Randall

Ms. Ericka Ronnings

Dr. Jennifer Runck

Mr. Peter Sherman

Ms. Sandhya Singh

Mr. Robert Smalling

Ms. Jill Sowada

Ms. Jennifer Springmeyer

Mr. Joseph Suchomel

Ms. Shiow-Jen Sun

Ms. Michelle Swenson

Ms. Marie Techam

Mr. Philip Troy

Mr. Mark Vonder Haar

Mr. Jeffrey Weiland

Mr. Lawrence Williams

Mr. Barry Wohler

Ms. Lori Wooley

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2024

GRADUATES

Jada Marie Abed ‡*
Tamer Ussama Abukhadra
Rylan Hunter Adsem
Drew Cameron Anderson *
Peyton Myron Anderson *
Sarah Marie Anseth *†
Ivette Deloya Arcos
Kaitlyn Mae Arnes
Alexis Elaine Arnold *†
Estelle Grace Atkinson *†
Maya Delphene Augeson
Paige Victoria Alton Baker
Rory Robert Alton Baker *
Owen Thomas Barkley *
Caden Alexander Barnes
Leah Rose Barry ‡*Ω
Dexter Reed Benson ‡*†Ω
Charlotte Elise Bertram ‡*†
Grace Catherine Bickett ‡*†
Alfie Rupert Bolgar
Jacob David Boner
Nathan Steven Boner
Sindri Margarete Bonner ‡*†
Aliza Ann Botzet Johnson ‡*†
Nevaeh Kathleen Bourgea
Spencer James Bowe ‡*Ω
Claire Maria Brann
Corah Amelia Breiter ‡*†
Christopher Dennis Byrnes ‡*
Kaelin Rose Carpenter ‡*†
Gya Nicole Casado
Logan Reid Chappell
Adam Philippe Charrier *†∏
Lisle Thomas Cherwien
Domenick Luciano Cline ‡*†
Natalie Walton Close ‡*†
Isabelle Christine Courteau
Jonah Sky Cowden ‡*†

Fallon Caroline Dalager-Aberle *†
Cameron Glenn De Lange
Madeleine Janis Dore ‡*†£
Caden Thomas Duffee
Cayden Quinn Effertz
John Andrew Engebretson
Alexander Scott Engle ‡*Ω
Claire Elise Erb *†∏
Hattie Jane Etzel φ
Jack Creighton Eugster ‡*Ω
Brooks Michael Fegers
Noah Joseph Feldmann
Kieran Joseph Foley
Everett Alexander Forbes *
Hunter McArthur Fox φ
Kyiv Aleksander James Frederick
Owen Fitzgerald Gagne *
Emanuela Ghenadijevna Gariuc
Samuel Steven Garthwait *
Jackson Anthony Gilster
Ethan Andrew Gmach
Alondra Pamela Gonzalez Corrales
Nicholas Owen Govrik
Audrey Helen Gratton ‡*†
Alexandra Paige Groenke
Charlie Thomas Gronholz *†φ
Isabelle Jane Haag
Nathan Edward Halloff
Jordan Louis Hansen
Emily Gerda Hedberg ‡*†∏
Sylvie Jane Hedeem *
Grant Jeffrey Hemenway
Lila Cadence Higgins
Aiden Joseph Hills
Owen Louis Hirt ‡*†
Will Daniel Hoffman
Hailey Robin Holmes
Haley Jane Holzschuh

Maxwell Michael Hultmann ‡
 Lila Kaye James ‡*†π
 Peter Gabriel Jans *†
 Riley Bennett Jeremiason
 Bria Angella Johnson
 Ella Marie Johnson
 Grace Rose Johnson
 James Christopher Johnson *
 Lewis Kipling Johnson ‡*
 Madelyn Grace Johnson *†
 Steven Morrison Johnson Jr.
 Madeline Lauren Jonas *†
 Ksenia Sergeevna Kachula
 Jonathon Drew Kanive *†
 Matthew Robert Kasbohm *
 Sasha Rose Kelly
 Piper Ann Kimbrel *
 Colin Michael Knoll
 Gabrielle Mae Knooihuizen
 Ethan James Koch *
 Kaavya Kokate ‡
 Evie Jean Kompelien
 Maxwell Larson Kozar
 Gage Lucas Kracht *
 Ethan Mark Kremers *†
 Jackson Huntington Krueger *
 Gabriel David Lammers
 Anna Marie Lang
 Lauren Carolyn Larson *
 Andrew Jacob Lawson *
 Thomas Edward Lewin *
 Kyle Levi Lewis ×‡*
 Carson James Libby *
 Johnathan William Lisle *
 Payton Elizabeth Litz
 Abrianna Nicole Loop
 Margaret Eve Lundell ‡*†
 Victoria May Maas
 Katherine Cecelia Maiser

Wyatt Jeffery Malec
 Grace Kathryn Mandy
 Peyton Christina Manson
 Joseph Cole Mariani ‡*†Ω
 Lukas Rylan Martin
 Elizabeth Jeanne McCaherty π
 Kyle William McCaherty
 Haylie Ann McConn *
 Aidan Robert McDonald
 Brady William McPherson *†
 Carlos Mendez Tejada
 Addison Janet Merdan π
 Ayden Patrick Mette
 Emily Anita Middleton ‡†Ω£
 Halle Jennae Miller *
 Olivia Kathryn Monger *†
 Elijah Maximus Moody ‡
 Joseph David Mugaas *†
 Lydia Douglass Muldoon ‡*†
 Lily Kathryn Munsch ‡*†
 Connor Michael Murphy
 Allyson Grace Nafstad ‡*†
 Champ William Nelson
 Erik Thomas Nelson ‡
 Riley Eric Nelson
 Mara Sienna Newcomer
 Alexa Lee Niccum *φ
 Isabella Nikolov
 Kennedy Dawn Owen ‡*†
 Mason Lucas Pankonin
 Jack Karl Parresol
 Devin Allen Pearce *
 Danielle Catherine Pearson *
 Ian Robert Perl
 Ryan Hannah Perman ‡*†
 Hugh Gregory Perrill *
 Maxwell Charles Petersen
 Maxwell James Petersen
 Thomas Woodward Pillsbury

Alexandra Grace Pleimann ‡*
 William John Prodahl
 Lilian Christine Quale *†∏
 Kaedyn Thomas Radford
 Hailee Addison Rahn
 Middleton Elliott Randolph IV *†
 Sophia Jean Rapp ‡*†
 Nora Elle Redding ‡*†
 Allie Michel Renstrom-Jacobsen
 Naomi Athenea Reyes Martinez
 Domanick William Richards
 Vienne Cora Richardson *†
 Damon Lawrence Richmond ‡*†
 Sophia Lee Robertson
 Sarah Jacob Robson ‡*†
 Liam Martin Rodgers ‡
 Ellery Hughes Rohrer *†
 Brooke Shae Rose
 Walter Edward Royal ‡*†Ω
 Victor John Ruhland ‡*†
 Jack McGill Rusciano *
 Audrey Maya Sanden *
 Easton Jensen Sankey
 Logan Robert Schleeter
 Samuel Stephen Schmid *
 Rylan John Schultz *
 Ben Miko Setnicker *†
 Sam Murphy Setnicker
 Marcello Rober Sforza
 Clancy Anne Shelp
 Jack William Shideman
 Hayden Michael Simon
 Owen Thomas Skanse ‡*†

William Adam Skoog
 Hazel Mae Solie ‡*†
 Eleanor Thorne Sowjia
 Sydney Kay Steiner *
 Adele Grace Strommen ‡*†
 Carys Frances Elizabeth Summers ‡*†
 Andrew Ethan Swearingen
 Kate Marie Swenson ‡*
 Elsa Grace Throldahl ‡*†∏
 Levi James Torgerson
 Isabelle Rene'e Torve *†
 Luke Thomas Tufvander
 Elliot Michael Tysdal *
 Elizabeth Jordan Uradnik
 Connor Charles Valene
 Morgan Amanda Walsh *†
 Aiden Michael Ward ‡*
 Maisie Katherine Wellman
 Luke Steven Wendling ×‡*
 Ellie Madison Wheaton ‡*†
 Natalie Anne Widen *†
 Madilyn Joanne Widener
 Brooklynn Emilee Wilson
 Javonte Antuan Wilson
 John Thomas Withrow ‡*†
 Jackson Jimmie Woodburn
 Kyle Piper Zinn ×‡
 Oleh Olehovych Zvirenko

× AP Capstone Diploma
 ‡ AP Scholars
 * Honor Graduate

† National Honor Society
 Ω National Merit Scholars
 ∏ Tri-M Music Honor Society

£ National Speech and Debate Honor Society
 φ Student enlisted in the Armed Forces

CONGRATULATIONS!

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The traditional academic procession features the faculty wearing distinctive apparel as an indication of scholarship and academic rank. The procession dates back to 1321 but was not adopted throughout the United States until 1900.

The use of the black robe in academic processions is thought to have arisen from the clerical practice of wearing a cape or mantle in religious processions in the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities arose from cathedral schools. Robes may be of any color and are sometimes trimmed with velvet or fur.

The academic hoods worn around the neck and down the back of the gown are lined with the official colors of the university conferring the degree. The binding edge of the hood distinguishes the subject to which the degree pertains. For example, many of our faculty wear hoods edged in light blue signifying their degree in education.

THANK YOU

We are grateful for the team at Orono High School that works diligently to make Commencement memorable for our graduates and families: Jesse Alex, Pamela Byrnes, Jessica Frie, Sigrid Heinen, Sue McCabe, Tammy O'Connor, Kristin Palm, and Adrienne Wikman.

"Take pride in how far you've come. Have faith in how far you can go. But don't forget to enjoy the journey."

— Michael Josephson, Founder, CHARACTER COUNTS!

A **white honor cord** is awarded to AP Scholars

- **AP SCHOLAR** is awarded to students who averaged 3.0 or higher on three AP exams by May 2024.
- **AP SCHOLAR WITH HONOR** is awarded to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and 3.0 or higher on four exams by May 2024.
- **AP SCHOLAR WITH DISTINCTION** is awarded to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3.0 or higher on five or more of these exams by May 2024.

A **red, silver** and **white** honor cord is awarded to students completing the AP Capstone Diploma requirements. These students earned a score of 3.0 or higher on AP Seminar, AP Research, and on four additional AP exams.

A **gold honor cord** is awarded to Honor Graduates who have achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher after seven semesters of coursework.

A **blue honor cord** is awarded to students earning National Merit honors (National Merit Finalist or National Merit Commended Student).

A **blue and yellow honor cord** is awarded to members of the National Honor Society. These students have maintained a 3.7 or higher unweighted GPA, and have been selected by faculty based on their outstanding leadership, character, and commitment to service.

HONOR DESIGNATIONS

- ⌘ AP Capstone Diploma
- ‡ AP Scholars
- * Honor Graduate
- † National Honor Society
- Ω National Merit Scholars
- ∏ Tri-M Music Honor Society
- £ National Speech and Debate Honor Society
- φ Student enlisted in the Armed Forces

ORONO FOUNDATION

Since 2000, our community has partnered with the Orono Foundation for Education to raise funds that bridge the gaps in Orono School District budgets due to state funding shortfalls and increases in inflation. These critical funds support district needs and help sustain excellence in Orono Schools. Because of your generosity, the Orono Foundation contributes to Advanced Placement (AP) course offerings, World Language courses, the CHARACTER COUNTS! program, teacher professional development, and facility and equipment upgrades to ensure that our schools remain at the forefront of innovation.

Thank you to our students, teachers, administrators, staff members, parents, families, and community members for your continued support which allows us to build a bridge for brighter tomorrow.

Graduates, on behalf of the Orono Foundation board of directors, committee members, and staff, congratulations and welcome to the Orono Alumni Association! Good luck as you move forward; know that Orono's excellent education has prepared you well. Please stay in touch!

*Learn more | [Donate](#) | [Nominate Alumni for a Distinguished or Promising Award](#)
oronofoundation.org*

