

# 61<sup>ST</sup> COMMENCEMENT CLASS OF 2025

Saturday, May 24, 2025  
11:00 a.m.



**York**  
SCHOOL

# Class of 2025

Alexa Sarai Arango-Cuevas

Veronika Barlow

Trevor Albayda Bernardino

Oisín Ciarán Burke

Sasha Mae Campbell

Yolanda Chen

Natalia Nizhoni Dokie

Ilan Miles River Fadem

Emily Elizabeth Geiser

Liliana Olivia Gill

Vanitha Anisha Glover

Izel Kiyari Gomez

Charles Granville Hamper

Hazel Jade Herzog

Jayden Matthew Isabella

Gavin Riley Jones

Jordan Alexander Jones

Eric Ingvar Karp

Bryan Kim

Alvin Jinfei Liu

Anderson Owen Mahoney

Isabella Adam Rega

Esbeidy Rodriguez Calvo

Haven Ila Steiner

Alexander Taylor Stihler

Diego Miguel Suárez

Regan Namiko Aguilar Takashima

Alessia Torrente

Elias Gordon Tripp

Garrett Karl Webster

Brandon Joshua Whaley

Yingxuan Wu

# 2025 Commencement

## Procession of the Class of 2025

Greeting	Doug Key, Head of School
Welcome	Alexa Arango-Cuevas '25, Student Body President
"Time After Time" Rob Hyman, arr. Andy Beck	York Chamber Choir
Valedictory Address	Alvin Liu '25
Charge to the Class	Michael Borrowman
Presentation of Awards	York Faculty
Recognition of Service	Doug Key, Head of School
"Go Your Own Way" Fleetwood Mac	York School Seniors, Ayden Kanter '27 & Chris Lopez, Jazz Band Director
Welcome New Alumni	Ilang Guiroy '05
Awarding of Diplomas	Marianne Gawain '76, Trustee Emeritus Doug Key, Head of School Jon Zeljo, Assistant Head of School Dean Partlow, Director of College Counseling
Class of 2025 Farewell	Brandon Whaley, Class of 2025 President
Closing	Doug Key, Head of School
Recessional	York School Jazz Band



### HONOR REGALIA LEGEND

Red & Black: Honor Roll Recognition

Gold: Distinguished Scholar

Red & Yellow: Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica

Dark & Light Purple: National Chinese Honor Society

# York School Awards

*Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 20, 2025*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARD

### **The Rising Falcon Award**

*Presented to a rising senior who shows great character and extraordinary academic promise*

Xinyao Zhang '26

## ACADEMICS

### **Honor Roll Recognition**

*Presented to seniors who have earned honor roll recognition for at least six of eight semesters during high school*

Trevor Bernardino '25, Sasha Campbell '25, Yolanda Chen '25, Emily Geiser '25, Hazel Herzog '25, Gavin Jones '25, Jordan Jones '25, Eric Karp '25, Bryan Kim '25, Alvin Liu '25, Anderson Mahoney '25, Regan Takashima '25, Eli Tripp '25, Garrett Webster '25, Winnie Wu '25

### **English Award**

Gavin Jones '25

Regan Takashima '25

### **History Award**

Anderson Mahoney '25

### **Spanish Award**

Sofia Navarro-Macias '27

Alex Stihler '25

# York School Awards

*Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 20, 2025*

## **Kylan Alexander Huffman '90 Humanities Award**

*Presented to a rising senior who demonstrates excellence in the humanities, including English, history, and language*

Aless Gapasin '26

## **Mathematics Award**

Eric Li '26

## **R.P. Balles York School Mathematics Scholars**

*Recognizes the two most outstanding seniors in mathematics*

Alvin Liu '25

Eric Karp '25

## **Science Awards**

Biology – Xinyao Zhang '26

Chemistry – Alvin Liu '25

Physics – Eric Karp '25

## **Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica**

Alexa Arango-Cuevas '25, Trevor Bernardino '25, Sasha Campbell '25,  
Vanitha Glover '25, Alex Stihler '25, Alessia Torrente '25, Brandon Whaley '25

## **Distinguished Scholars**

Alexa Arango-Cuevas '25, Yolanda Chen '25, Emily Geiser '25, Hazel Herzog '25,  
Eric Karp '25, Alvin Liu '25, Alex Stihler '25, Diego Suarez '25,  
Regan Takashima '25, Garrett Webster '25, Brandon Whaley '25, Winnie Wu '25

# York School Awards

*Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 20, 2025*

## ARTS

### **Instrumental Music Award**

Bryan Kim '25

### **Vocal Music Award**

Oisín Burke '25

### **Theatre Award**

Alex Stihler '25

### **Visual Arts Award**

Charlie Hamper '25

### **Head of School Collection**

Yolanda Chen '25

## ATHLETICS

### **The Falcon Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Athletics**

Alexa Arango-Cuevas '25, Trevor Bernardino '25, Miles Fadem '25,  
Jayden Isabella '25, Bryan Kim '25, Alessia Torrente '25, Garrett Webster '25

### **York Sportsmanship Awards**

Yolanda Chen '25, Emily Geiser '25, Vanitha Glover '25, Lily Gill '25,  
Kiyari Gomez '25, Alvin Liu '25, Esbeidy Rodriguez-Calvo '25,  
Regan Takashima '25, Eli Tripp '25, Winnie Wu '25

# York School Awards

*Presented at the Awards Ceremony on May 20, 2025*

## **York Cup**

*An endowed award that honors non-senior students who have distinguished themselves in athletics*

Milana Wilson '27, Daniel Scott '27 and Gianni Zeljo '27

## **The Ben Doyle Award**

*Awarded to outstanding golfers*

Daniel Scott '27

## **MONTEREY COMMUNITY AWARDS**

### **Italian Catholic Federation Scholarship, Branch #36**

Trevor Bernardino '25

### **Salinas Elks Lodge Scholarship**

Brandon Whaley '25

### **Yellow Brick Road Scholarship**

Bryan Kim '25

# Supporting York's Mission

We are grateful for support from York's community of friends and donors — alumni, parents and grandparents, trustees, faculty and staff, community members, foundations, and businesses. Our donors ensure York provides educational programs of the highest quality, tuition assistance, new technology, classroom materials, faculty enrichment, vibrant arts and athletic programs, and campus enhancements.

## Gift in Honor of...

### **Veronika Barlow '25**

Julie and Christopher Barlow

### **Alexander Stihler '25**

David Stihler '93 and Catherine Stihler

### **Sasha Campbell '25**

Damon Campbell and Gina Michaels

### **Regan Takashima '25**

Edward Takashima '89  
and Monica Takashima

### **Alvin Liu '25**

Zhichao Liu and Yang Yang

### **Garrett Webster '25**

Meredith and Thomas Webster

### **Isabella Rega '25**

Jessamin and Richard Rega





# York Commencement History

In 1959, York School opened its doors in Pacific Grove with 12 boys in the 7th grade. The School moved to its current location in 1964 and the next year held its first commencement ceremony. On June 12, 1965, 11 members of the Class of 1965 received their diplomas and were celebrated as the young school's first graduates.

In 1970, York became co-ed and three girls who enrolled as seniors that year graduated in 1971. York's first female valedictorian was Marianne Gawain in 1976. Including the Class of 2025, York has had a total of 77 valedictorians.

The first commencement, and almost all subsequent ones, was celebrated in the Coburn Commons.

Only twice has the ceremony been held indoors due to inclement weather—in 1993 and 2012.

In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, commencement was held in the upper parking lot, and it was held on the Upper Field in

2021. The school started a new tradition in 2022,

holding commencement in the Gawain Family Theater for the first time.



For the past 20 years, the ceremony has increasingly focused on our students and teachers. Featured speakers are members of the graduating class and a faculty member selected to speak by the graduates. The role of the faculty speaker is to deliver a "charge" to the graduates as they commence the next chapter in their lives.

Finally, the graduates are welcomed to the York Alumni Community by a representative from the ranks.

To date, 2,111 students have graduated from York School. Today, we add 32 more graduates to our alumni community, the Class of 2025. We commend this year's graduating class and look forward to seeing where their paths lead them. Congratulations!

# Thank You!

We are grateful to the Junior Class Parents for the  
floral decorations and refreshments.



# **York** SCHOOL

**We inspire and prepare a diverse community of  
creative, independent thinkers**