



# MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

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COMMENCEMENT

MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2025



# **MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS**

Commencement Exercises and Conferring of Degrees

Established 1915



## **PROCESSIONAL**

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND INVOCATION**

Mark Orten

*Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life*

*Chaplain of the College*

Jesse Bruchac

*Director, School of Abenaki*

## **OPENING**

Ian B. Baucom

*President*

## **MUSICAL SELECTION**

“Laurie’s Song” from *The Tender Land* by Aaron Copland

Gina Marie Falk

*Betty Ashbury Jones MA ’86 School of French ’25*

## **WELCOME**

Timothy W. Page

*Acting Dean of Language Schools*

## **COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

Virginia Ann Kamsky

## **CONFERRING OF MASTER OF ARTS DEGREES**

## **CONFERRING OF DOCTOR OF MODERN LANGUAGES DEGREES**

**CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREE**

Virginia Ann Kamsky

**MUSICAL SELECTION**

*Gamaliel Painter's Cane*

Ekaterina Kotcherguina, *German for Singers Program*

Please sing along (page 17)!

**CLOSING**

Timothy W. Page

**RECESSIONAL**

**PERFORMER**

Kevin Parizo, *piano*

**THE FRIEDA DERDEYN BAMBAS PRIZE IN  
FRENCH LITERARY STUDIES**

James Allen

**2025  
CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF ARTS**

**CHINESE**

Daniel Allegri *of Florida*  
Su-Ling Huang *of New York*  
Nancy Z. Legere *of Connecticut*  
Yan Ma *of California*  
Ian David Bray Rathkey *of Connecticut*  
Hui Ki Tse *of Hong Kong*

**FRENCH**

Antoine Donato Giovanni Albert *of Pennsylvania*  
James Allen *of California*  
Sydney DiCello Amspacher *of Pennsylvania*  
Lauren Grace Bundy *of Illinois*  
Fiona Elizabeth Ham Carey *of Connecticut*  
Nicolas Jahaan Emmanuel-Henderson *of California*  
Gina Marie Falk *of Massachusetts*  
Caroline Marie Finken *of Virginia*  
William Garcia *of California*  
Rachel Åsta Keck Grieve *of Illinois*  
Cody James Harpster *of Pennsylvania*  
Anne Marie Hutchinson *of Illinois*  
Anna Theresa Jurek *of Massachusetts*  
Miyona Katayama *of Hong Kong*  
Haleigh Royce Kidd *of Virginia*  
Thomas Joseph Lawrence *of Kentucky*  
Van Nguyen Tuong Le *of Vietnam*  
Carson Thomas Long *of Florida*  
Isobel McPhee *of Massachusetts*  
Adrien Meierovitch *of Kansas*  
Nicole Angelica Papageorgiou *of Massachusetts*  
Katerina Maria Michaela Quintela *of Florida*  
Zion Nicole Rogers *of Texas*

Amelia Katherine Ryan *of Massachusetts*  
Laurence Michael Webber *of Vermont*  
Delia Seton White *of Massachusetts*  
Luke David Williamson *of Texas*

### **GERMAN**

Jamie Kenneth Banks *of New York*  
Hannah McGuire Ellington *of Virginia*  
Ceilidh Morris *of Wisconsin*

### **HEBREW**

Shir Blonder *of Israel*  
Avital L. Lupovitch *of Illinois*  
Merav Talmor *of California*

### **ITALIAN**

Kevin W. Canning *of Maine*  
Marci Wutong Edwards *of Michigan*  
Stephen David Fodroczi *of Georgia*  
Jill Rosemary Martuscello *of Florida*  
Francesco Masala-Martínez *of Italy*  
Valentina Morello *of Italy*  
Massimo Gaetano Nicaso *of Canada*  
Henry Odysseus Sedgfield Forest Thomson *of California*

### **JAPANESE**

Adam Mc Erlean Bowen *of Michigan*  
William Hiro McCormick *of Massachusetts*  
Melvin Rivera Muniz *of Florida*  
Masako Shishikura *of Japan*

## **KOREAN**

Jessica Gail Brown *of Texas*  
Chong Sook Lim *of California*  
Michael Ormsbee *of New York*  
Semin Seo *of Texas*

## **RUSSIAN**

Samuel Proffitt Driver *of Pennsylvania*  
Melody M. Sobey *of Mississippi*  
Adam Laten Willson *of Florida*

## **SPANISH**

Alexander Aguilar Ramirez *of North Carolina*  
Jennifer E. Aquino *of Puerto Rico*  
Jarred Melvin Booth *of Connecticut*  
Nicole Lee Forgione *of Massachusetts*  
Daisy Jose Sanchez *of California*  
Samuel Owen LaFarge *of Massachusetts*  
Shannon Claire Magni *of New York*  
Ana Paulina Martínez *of Ecuador*  
Carmen Delia Matus-Cázares *of California*  
Kerry Midori McFadden *of Nebraska*  
Margaret Nesi *of Connecticut*  
Jacquelyn Ornelas *of California*  
Antonio Pisig *of California*  
Mallory Jane Powers *of California*  
Minoo Rahbar *of California*  
Gloria Ramos-Bustos *of California*  
Liam Timothy Smith *of Pennsylvania*  
Lexis Elizabeth Sullens *of Tennessee*  
Sayra Alejandra Trejo Amezcua *of California*  
Marsela D. Velazquez *of California*  
Catherine Anne Worthington *of Florida*  
Francisco Luc Zafón-Whalen *of Massachusetts*

*Includes students who received their degrees on March 1, 2025, those who are receiving their degrees today, and those who will receive their degrees on March 1, 2026.*

**2025**  
**CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF**  
**DOCTOR OF MODERN LANGUAGES**

**THE GERMAN SCHOOL**

Bettina L. Hoops *of Michigan*

*First Language:* German    *Second Language:* French

**THE SCHOOL OF HEBREW**

Danielle K. Shenhar *of New York*

*First Language:* Hebrew    *Second Language:* Spanish

**THE ITALIAN SCHOOL**

Teresiana Matarrese *of California*

*First Language:* Italian    *Second Language:* Spanish

Jacquelyn Taylor Sorci *of New York*

*First Language:* Italian    *Second Language:* Spanish



**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER  
HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT**

**VIRGINIA (GINNY) ANN KAMSKY**

Virginia (Ginny) Ann Kamsky is founder, chair, and chief executive officer of Kamsky Associates, Inc. (KAI), a strategic advisory firm with offices in Beijing and New York City. Ginny began her career at Chase Manhattan Bank and was a member of the first Chase Bank delegation to China, heading Chase's corporate China division and drafting the first foreign commercial bank loan to China. Ginny served during the Obama Administration as a member of the U.S. Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel, where she received the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award, the highest honorary award the Secretary of the Navy can confer on a Department of the Navy civilian employee. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on the Committee on Corporate Affairs at the Council on Foreign Relations. Ginny served for 10 years as chairman of the Board of Trustees and CEO of China Institute in America.

She graduated from Princeton University and was awarded a graduate school fellowship in the MPA program at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Ginny's writings have appeared in *The Harvard Business Review* and *Directors & Boards Magazine*, and she was featured on PBS in *Adam Smith's Money World* and *The Heart of the Dragon*. Ginny attended the School of Japanese at the Middlebury Language Schools. She speaks Chinese and Japanese and currently resides in New York City and Beijing.

## MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Timothy W. Page  
*Acting Dean of Language Schools*

### **GERMAN SCHOOL**

(founded 1915)

Bettina Matthias, *Director*

### **BETTY ASHBURY JONES MA '86**

#### **SCHOOL OF FRENCH**

(founded 1916)

Armelle Crouzières-Ingenthron,  
*Director*

### **SCHOOL OF SPANISH**

(founded 1917)

Jacobo Sefamí, *Director*

### **ITALIAN SCHOOL**

(founded 1932)

Donato Santeramo, *Director*

### **KATHRYN WASSERMAN DAVIS**

#### **SCHOOL OF RUSSIAN**

(founded 1945)

Tatiana Smorodinska, *Director*

### **CHINESE SCHOOL**

(founded 1966)

Cecilia Chang, *Director*

### **SCHOOL OF JAPANESE**

(founded 1970)

Motoko Tabuse, *Director*

### **ARABIC SCHOOL**

(founded 1982)

Nader Morkus, *Director*

### **PORTUGUESE SCHOOL**

(founded 2003)

Luis Gonçalves, *Director*

### **SCHOOL OF HEBREW**

(founded 2008)

Elizabeth Gerner, *Codirector*

Adi Raz, *Codirector*

### **SCHOOL OF KOREAN**

(founded 2015)

Sahie Kang, *Director*

### **SCHOOL OF ABENAKI**

(founded 2020)

Jesse Bruchac, *Director*

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL**

(founded 2022)

Kelley Calvert, *Director*

## STAFF OF THE LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Laura Bachand, *Assistant to the Dean*  
Molly Baker, *Associate Dean of Admissions*  
Kara Gennarelli Doner, *Admissions Systems Specialist*  
Eman Hayyat, *Director of Operations*  
Anna Jackson, *Assistant Director of Enrollment*  
Emily Kimberly, *Senior Business and Financial Operations Analyst*  
Thor Sawin, *Associate Dean of Curriculum*

Lesley Huston, *Abenaki and French*  
Matthew Guiffre, *Arabic*  
Mimi Clark, *Chinese*  
Christina Bailey, *English*  
Sheila Schwaneflugel, *French*  
Tina Ilgner, *German*  
Ori Tzuriel, *Hebrew*  
Joseph Tamagni, *Italian*  
Robin Piya, *Japanese and Korean*  
Laura Bachand, *Portuguese*  
Oliver Carling, *Russian*  
Haviland Johannesson-Forgit, *Spanish*  
Holly Stark, *Spanish*

## MIDDLEBURY C.V. STARR SCHOOLS ABROAD

Carlos Vélez

*Dean of International Programs*

### SCHOOL IN ARGENTINA

Claudio González Chiaramonte

*Associate Professor and Director*

### SCHOOL IN BRAZIL

Sean McIntyre

*Associate Professor and Director*

### SCHOOL IN CAMEROON

Christiane Magnido

*Associate Professor and Director*

### SCHOOL IN CHILE

Juan Pastene

*Director*

### SCHOOL IN GREATER CHINA

Zhang Kai

*Director, Beijing*

Hung I-Chiao

*Director, Taiwan*

### SCHOOL IN FRANCE

David Paoli

*Associate Professor and Director*

Amy Tondou

*Associate Director*

### SCHOOL IN GERMANY

Heike Fahrenberg

*Associate Professor and Director*

### SCHOOL IN ITALY

Rosa Cuda

*Associate Professor and Director*

### SCHOOL IN JAPAN

Sanae Eda

*Associate Professor and Director*

### SCHOOL IN JORDAN

Kerstin Wilsch

*Associate Professor and Director*

**SCHOOL IN MOROCCO**

Samir Jaafar  
*Associate Professor and Director*

**SCHOOL IN PUERTO RICO**

Teresa Peña-Jordan  
*Associate Professor and Director*

**SCHOOL IN RUSSIA**

(currently in Kazakhstan)

Nana Tsikhelashvili  
*Associate Professor and Director*

**SCHOOL IN SPAIN**

Patricia Rodríguez  
*Associate Professor and Director*

**SCHOOL IN THE  
UNITED KINGDOM**

Guy Perry  
*Principal*

**SCHOOL IN URUGUAY**

Claudio González Chiaramonte  
*Associate Professor and Director*

**PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE 2025–2026**

**PRESIDENT**

Ian B. Baucom

**CHARTER TRUSTEES**

Joseph W. Brown '90	George C. Lee II '88
Leilani M. Brown '93	Caroline Sneath McBride '75
Kirtley H. Cameron '95	Dennis D. Parker '77
G. Parker Harris III '89	Richard T. Scanlon '93
Lucienne M. Ide '97	Susan J. Scher '86
Catherine G. Lee '92	William F. Truscott '83

**TERM TRUSTEES**

Koby Altman '04	Xi-an (Andrew) Li '99
Belinda L. Badcock	Alice Jane (A.J.) Murphy '98
Barbara G. Cole	Anne Davis Peterson '85
Patrick Dorton '90	Suzanne Reider '87
Denver G. Edwards '88	Elizabeth Cromwell Speers '86
Alexander J. Finkelstein '97	Mark D. Spence '98
Graham C. Goldsmith '89	John E. Waldron '91
Carol L. Jones	Kashif Zafar '92

**ALUMNI TRUSTEES**

Zachary A. Bourque '01	Robert V. Sideli '77
Janine Hetherington '95	Danielle S. Virtue '82
Shawn P. Ryan '88	

**RECENT GRADUATE TRUSTEE**

Kenshin Cho '20

## TRUSTEES EMERITI

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James S. Davis '66

Allan R. Dragone Jr. '78

Churchill G. Franklin '71

Frederick M. Fritz '68

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Claire Waterhouse Gargalli '64

Robert C. Graham Jr., '63

Willard T. Jackson '51

William H. Kieffer III '64

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C. Irving Meeker '50

Patricia Judah Palmer '57

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Elisabeth Robert '78

Frank W. Sesno '77

Deborah G. Thomas '75

John R. Tormondsen '82

J. Edward Virtue '82

Marna C. Whittington

Linda Foster Whitton '80

Kendrick R. Wilson III

## **ABOUT THE MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS**

Middlebury Language Schools and graduate programs are recognized around the world for their excellence and their unique, immersive approach to language learning. Since the establishment of the first school—the German School—in 1915, nearly 50,000 students have attended one of the schools, and more than 12,000 have received advanced degrees. Today, students study 12 languages in Vermont, in addition to our graduate programs abroad in Argentina, France, Germany, Italy, Kazakhstan, and Spain. The English Language School is the newest Language School, located at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey.

The Middlebury Language Schools provide students of all levels with innovative instruction in language through a curriculum that incorporates linguistics, literature, culture, and area studies. The Middlebury Language Pledge® is a hallmark of the commitment students bring to their experience and commits them to communicating only in their language of study during their time spent on campus. The pledge creates the opportunity for unmatched growth in language ability.

## **GAMALIEL PAINTER'S CANE**

Gamaliel Painter's cane is one of the most treasured artifacts of the College. Once the walking stick of the founder of both the town and the College, today it is carried by the president in the academic procession. It serves as the College's mace and as a symbol of institutional strength and character. The president will present to members of the Class of 2025 a replica of the original cane, reminding the graduates that they go forward from Middlebury with the strength and character of the College always at their side.



## **GAMALIEL PAINTER'S CANE**

*Words by Charles B. Wright, Professor Emeritus of English, Hon DLitt, Class of 1915*

*Music by E. Pruda Harwood Wiley, Class of 1912*

*First sung at the Commencement Luncheon, June 20, 1917*

When Gamaliel Painter died,  
He was Middlebury's pride,  
A sturdy pioneer without a stain;  
And he left his all by will  
To the College on the Hill  
And included in a codicil a cane.

### **Chorus**

Oh, it's rap, rap, rap,  
And it's tap, tap, tap,  
If you listen you can hear it sounding plain;  
For a helper true and tried,  
As the generations glide,  
There is nothing like Gamaliel Painter's cane.







Middlebury Language  
Schools