



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMENCEMENT

# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025 · 1:00 P.M.  
EAST CAMPUS GREEN

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment

**Katie Lynch**

Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies and  
Environmental Leadership Program

Welcoming Remarks

**Richard York**

Director and Professor of Environmental Studies  
Professor of Sociology

Celebrating Graduate Accomplishments

**Alexandra Rempel**

Director of Graduate Studies  
Associate Professor of Environmental Studies and Architecture

Celebrating Undergraduate Accomplishments

**Peg Boulay**

Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies and  
Environmental Leadership Program

Reflections

**Manuela Mena**

Baccalaureate Candidate, Environmental Studies

**Megan Hayes**

Doctoral Candidate, Environmental Studies

Conferral of Graduate Degrees

**Alexandra Rempel**

Conferral of Undergraduate Degrees

**Katie Lynch**

Closing Remarks

**Katie Lynch**

Recessional, Adjournment and Reception

**School of Music and Dance, Jazz Students  
University of Oregon Catering**

# UNIVERSITY HONORS

## Summa Cum Laude

*Top 2 percent of the university graduating class*

Benjamin Adams

Skylar Volz

## Magna Cum Laude

*Top 5 percent of the university graduating class*

Madeline Baker

Zoelle Ranstad

Jensen Cunz

Kyla Schmitt

Nalah Evans

Annalisa Shehab

Eleanor Hunger

Max Springer

Svea Neunfinger

Eliot Tom

## Cum Laude

*Top 10 percent of the university graduating class*

Josie Alberts

Sylvio Letey-Moore

Olivia Katharine Black

Tiana Littlejohn

Madison Brown

Tara Jolie Marasco

Maggie Darst

Liam Martin

Cambria Davies

Stephanie Metzger

LaMar Davis

Emma Milanes Gomez

Denali Deardorff

Gillian Miller

Katelynn Delaney

Maia Minson

Alisa Dougherty

Maya Pickhardt

Jane Duncan

Ruby Margaret Prose

Liam Fagan

Adrienne Rizzo

Maya Feldman-Dragich

Hannah Shriver

Kate Forsman

Marina Thompson

Scout Gesuale

Sarah Ann Weber

Nathan King

Vincent Thomas Williams

Peyton King

*"I do have reasons for hope: Our clever brains, the resilience of nature, the indomitable human spirit, and above all, the commitment of young people when they're empowered to take action."*

*— Jane Goodall*

# Environmental Leadership Program

The Environmental Leadership Program is Environmental Studies’ flagship interdisciplinary community-based learning program. We match student teams with non-profit organizations, government agencies and schools to address local environmental needs. Our students gain collaboration, communication, and technical professional skills while providing valuable assistance to our community partners. During 2024-25, ELP students implemented seven projects. The Aves Compartidas, Climate Science, and Wild Wanderers teams developed and implemented place-based curricula for elementary and middle school students. Their curricula linked to Next Generation Science Standards and included interactive classroom lessons and inspiring, engaging field trips. The Oregon Ash, Restoration & Research, and Wildlife & Parks teams used a variety of field methods to monitor plants, pollinators, and wildlife, as well as survey park visitors about management issues. Their data and recommendations will shape land management, park policy and ecological restoration actions. The Learning with Fire team was involved in several stages of the “good fire” management cycle—including site preparation, post-fire seeding and monitoring—with an emphasis on decolonial methods in service of revitalization of cultural burning. Six teams presented their projects at the 2025 UO Undergraduate Symposium. We are proud of their accomplishments and their contributions to our community!

Benjamin Adams	Zo Hill Sparks	Jayda Danae Roberts
Samantha Armida Albin	Sydney Holtz	Carter Rosato
Xavier Aldredge	Deanna Jacobs	Ari Rubenstein
Maya Beal	Finnegan Johnston	Mason Ruggiero
Catryn Beddoes	Andy Lam	Jai Shah
Olivia Katharine Black	Kanoa Lanoza	Alaina Sharp
Madison Brown	Lydia Lewis	Grace Sheaman
William Burleigh	Tianna Littlejohn	Annalisa Shehab
Cambria Davies	Mollie Markey	Erin Frances Skinner
LaMar Davis	Declan McCarty	Jeffrey Squires
Grace DeBlase	Manuela Mena	Julie Streett
Samuel Dehmer	Emma Milanés Gomez	Eliot Tom
Iris Duxbury	Gillian Miller	Camille Tommeraason
Maya Feldman-Dragich	David Mora-Flores	Vincent Thomas Williams
Kate Forsman	Shannon Elinore O’Connell	Rachel Van Horn
Abigail Franklin	Lily Ornelas	Skylar Volz
Rachel Sofia Freeby	Jacob Pargeter	Daniel Kurt Wiebe
Pazia Greenberg	Gabrielle Pearse	Chole Wood
Bella Gulzow	Morgan Potts	James Young
Eli Hanser-Young	Alice Puk	
Alyson Elizabeth Hefferle	Zoelle Ranstad	

## DEGREE CANDIDATES

Note: Not an official degree list. Students listed are eligible to participate in the commencement ceremony at the time this program was printed.

### Doctoral Candidates

**Megan Hayes**

“How to Love an Oyster: Attachment, Sensation, Tenderness”

**Yumna Imtiaz**

“Architectural Transition and Thermal Stress in the Residential Buildings of the Hunza Valley, Northern Pakistan”

### Master’s Candidates

**Holly Amer**

“Quantifying Environmental Covariate Impact on Riparian Reforestation in Western Oregon, USA”

**Ashley R. Kemper**

“Leverage Points for Change in Fast Fashion”

**Lydia Lapporte**

“Kelp Collapse, Otherwise”

**Hana Matsumoto**

“Assessing Arctic and Boreal Vegetation Shifts Using Landscape Modeling, Remote Sensing and Machine Learning”

**Edith Sackitey**

“Water Quality and WASH in Focus: Greywater Monitoring in Transitional Housing Communities in Eugene”

**Christian Tensuan**

“Examining Information Networks During Wildfire Evacuations”

**Ethan Diego Torres**

“Investigating the Effects of Mycorrhizal Inoculation on Native-Invasive Plant Interactions Post-Fire”

*“At first, I thought I was fighting to save rubber trees. Then, I thought I was fighting to save the Amazon rainforest. Now, I realize I am fighting for humanity.”*  
— Chico Mendes

# Baccalaureate Candidates

## Environmental Studies

Samantha Armida Albin <sup>4 7</sup>  
Xavier Aldredge <sup>7</sup>  
Taryn Allgower  
Katarina Allison  
Justine Arias  
Madeline Baker <sup>2</sup>  
Maya Beal <sup>7</sup>  
Catryn Beddoes <sup>7</sup>  
John Henry Bentivoglio  
Olivia Katharine Black <sup>3 4 5 7</sup>  
Elly Boen  
Madison Brown <sup>3 5 7</sup>  
William Burleigh <sup>7</sup>  
Benjamin Cabanatuan  
Oakley Carlson  
Jason Chaney  
Charlie Chapman  
Reece Clotfelter  
Laykesnow Concannon  
Konnor Cunningham  
Jensen Cunz <sup>2 5</sup>  
Maggie Darst <sup>3 4</sup>  
Cambria Davies <sup>3 7</sup>  
LaMar Davis <sup>3 7</sup>  
Maxwell Dayton  
Denali Deardorff <sup>3</sup>  
Grace DeBlase <sup>7</sup>  
Samuel Dehmer <sup>7</sup>  
Katelynn Delaney <sup>3</sup>  
Sameer Deogun  
Melody DeStefano  
Alisa Dougherty <sup>3 5</sup>  
Iris Duxbury <sup>7</sup>  
Nalah Evans <sup>2 4 5</sup>  
Maya Feldman-Dragich <sup>3 7</sup>  
Emma Rose Fitzpatrick  
Jessica Fox  
Abigail Franklin <sup>7</sup>  
Rachel Sofia Freeby <sup>7</sup>

Oliver Frye  
Lizzie Gentry  
Kalani Gilman-Santiesteban  
Pazia Greenberg <sup>7</sup>  
Milo Greenway  
Bella Gulzow <sup>7</sup>  
Simon Hawley  
Sydney Holtz <sup>7</sup>  
Olivia Iparraguirre  
Deanna Jacobs <sup>7</sup>  
Finnegan Johnston <sup>7</sup>  
Stephenie Kerr  
Rose Kranwinkle  
Asher Krauel  
Lars Pieter Kroes  
Andy Lam <sup>7</sup>  
Kanoa Lanoza <sup>7</sup>  
Alvin John Levie  
Lydia Lewis <sup>7</sup>  
Leif Lindquist  
Tiana Littlejohn <sup>3 5 7</sup>  
Autumn Lukens  
Neve Luna  
Tara Jolie Marasco <sup>3</sup>  
Joshua Marion  
Liam Martin <sup>3 4</sup>  
Declan McCarty <sup>7</sup>  
Alexander Mckibben  
George McNamee  
Manuela Mena <sup>7</sup>  
Jordan Mercer  
Stephanie Metzger <sup>3 4 5</sup>  
Emma Milanes Gomez <sup>3 5 7</sup>  
Maria Miller  
Maia Minson <sup>3 5</sup>  
Ashley Molina  
David Mora-Flores <sup>7</sup>  
Max Morley  
Kelsey Murray

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<sup>1</sup> summa cum laude <sup>2</sup> magna cum laude <sup>3</sup> cum laude <sup>4</sup> department honors <sup>5</sup> Phi Beta Kappa <sup>6</sup> Oregon Six

<sup>7</sup> Environmental Leadership Program

Ella Nelson  
 Svea Neunfinger<sup>2</sup>  
 Shannon Elinore O'Connell<sup>7</sup>  
 Shannon Ohleyer  
 Lily Ornelas<sup>7</sup>  
 Gabrielle Pearse<sup>5 7</sup>  
 Tatiana Perrotte  
 Jackson M Perryman  
 Neely Phelan  
 Maya Pickhardt<sup>3 4</sup>  
 Morgan Potts<sup>7</sup>  
 Ruby Margaret Prose<sup>3 5</sup>  
 Serena Rose Quintana  
 Sam Raffetto  
 Zoelle Ranstad<sup>2 5 7</sup>  
 Olivia Reese  
 Chloe Richmond  
 Jayda Danae Roberts<sup>7</sup>  
 Ari Rubenstein<sup>7</sup>  
 Liliana Ruiz  
 Victoria Sanchez  
 Jai Shah<sup>7</sup>

Hannah Shriver<sup>3 4</sup>  
 Erin Frances Skinner<sup>7</sup>  
 Katherine Snyder  
 Kaya Snyder  
 Jessica Sornsena  
 Max Springer<sup>2 4 5</sup>  
 Julie Streett<sup>7</sup>  
 Sasha Stumpf  
 Khaner 'Kheg' Swanson  
 Chanel Tatsch  
 Rachel Van Horn<sup>7</sup>  
 Larissa Marie Vandehey  
 Olive Vigna  
 Ella Vollmer  
 Skylar Volz<sup>1 7</sup>  
 Cedar Ward  
 Ruby Weinkle-Matts  
 Abigail Wessels  
 David Wilcox  
 Vincent Thomas Williams<sup>3 7</sup>  
 Daelia Julenne Darnell Kehaulani Wong  
 Chole Wood<sup>7</sup>

## Environmental Science

Aria Abaei  
 Benjamin Adams<sup>1 5 7</sup>  
 Sigrid Allen<sup>4</sup>  
 Katerina Anders  
 Isabella Arshakian  
 Dylan Blair  
 Persephone Brosseau  
 Nicholas Burns<sup>4</sup>  
 Riley Conachan  
 Jane Duncan<sup>3</sup>  
 Lia Eilbeck  
 Liam Fagan<sup>3</sup>  
 Johnny Falzone  
 Kate Forsman<sup>5 7</sup>  
 Somerset Gammon  
 Scout Gesuale<sup>3 4 5</sup>  
 Amaya Gomez  
 Joshua Hansen

Eli Hanser-Young<sup>7</sup>  
 Katherine Hanssler  
 Alyson Elizabeth Hefferle<sup>5 7</sup>  
 Zo Hill Sparks<sup>7</sup>  
 Eleanor Hunger<sup>2 5</sup>  
 Arthur Katahdin  
 Tess Keyes  
 Nathan King<sup>3 4 5</sup>  
 Peyton King<sup>3 5</sup>  
 Jackson Kvikstad  
 Maximilian Lanning  
 Sylvio Letey-Moore<sup>3 4</sup>  
 Lena Lovett  
 Cuyler Ruby Lusk  
 Mollie Markey<sup>7</sup>  
 Gillian Miller<sup>3 5 7</sup>  
 Emma Miller<sup>4</sup>  
 Grace O'Connell

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<sup>7</sup> Environmental Leadership Program

Jake Pargeter <sup>7</sup>  
 Chrstine Pearson  
 Jane Port  
 Alice Puk <sup>7</sup>  
 Adrienne Rizzo <sup>3</sup>  
 Betsy Robinson  
 Carter Rosato <sup>7</sup>  
 Mason Ruggiero <sup>7</sup>  
 Kate Ryan  
 Satori Savoie  
 Kyla Schmitt <sup>2 4 5</sup>  
 Alaina Sharp <sup>7</sup>  
 Carmen Sharpe-Velazquez  
 Grace Sheaman <sup>7</sup>  
 Annalisa Shehab <sup>2 5 7</sup>  
 Arthur Simonds  
 Claire Skinkis  
 Alexa Skrypkar  
 Julia Soderberg

Amelia Merriam Ho'oululāhui Styan  
 Jeffrey Squires <sup>7</sup>  
 Marina Thompson <sup>3 5</sup>  
 Eliot Tom <sup>2 5 7</sup>  
 Camille Tommeraason <sup>5 7</sup>  
 Gavin Tunney  
 Kylee Van Wagoner  
 Joseph Vierra  
 Sarah Ann Weber <sup>3 4 5 6</sup>  
 Kassandra Marie Weeks  
 Kenedi Welker  
 Ava Yvonne Wessel <sup>4</sup>  
 Kayla White-LaComb  
 Daniel Kurt Wiebe <sup>7</sup>  
 McKenna Wilson  
 Emma Woods  
 Andreas Wuthrich  
 James Young <sup>7</sup>  
 Jacob Zhu

## CORE FACULTY

Stacy Alaimo  
 Adell Amos  
 Lillian Aoki  
 Peg Boulay  
 Mark Carey  
 Ashley Cordes  
 Lauren Hallett  
 Leigh Johnson  
 Melissa Lucash  
 Katie Lynch

Rich Margerum  
 Ron Mitchell  
 Erin Moore  
 Nicolae Morar  
 Barbara Muraca  
 Lauren Ponisio  
 Alexandra Rempel  
 Kory Russel  
 Amanda Stasiewicz  
 Emily Scott

Lucas Silva  
 Sarah Stapleton  
 Sarah Wald  
 Peter Walker  
 Marsha Weisiger  
 Richard York

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”*  
 — Margaret Mead

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<sup>7</sup> Environmental Leadership Program



# UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

**John Karl Scholz**, President

**Christopher P. Long**, Provost and Senior Vice President

**Chris Poulsen**, Dean, Tykeson College of Arts and Sciences

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

To learn more about the UO Alumni Association,  
visit **[alumni.uoregon.edu](https://alumni.uoregon.edu)**

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## HONORING NATIVE PEOPLES AND LANDS

The University of Oregon is located on Kalapuya Ilihi, the traditional indigenous homeland of the Kalapuya people. Following treaties between 1851 and 1855, Kalapuya people were dispossessed of their indigenous homeland by the United States government and forcibly removed to the Coast Reservation in Western Oregon. Today, descendants are citizens of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians of Oregon, and continue to make important contributions in their communities, at UO, and across the land we now refer to as Oregon.

We express our respect for all federally recognized tribal nations of Oregon. This includes the Burns Paiute Tribe; the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians; the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon; the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon; the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs; the Coquille Indian Tribe; the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians; and the Klamath Tribes. We also express our respect for all other displaced Indigenous peoples who call Oregon home.

