



# 2025

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UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW ENGLAND

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE  
GRADUATION CEREMONY



COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE  
CLASS OF 2025  
GRADUATION CEREMONY

May 17, 2025  
3 p.m.

Merrill Auditorium | Portland, Maine

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## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

The University of New England is Maine's largest independent university, with two beautiful coastal campuses in Maine, a one-of-a-kind study-abroad campus in Tangier, Morocco, and an array of flexible online offerings. In an uncommonly welcoming and supportive community, we offer hands-on learning, empowering students to make a positive impact in a world full of challenges. We are the state's top provider of health professionals and home to Maine's only medical and dental colleges, a variety of other interprofessionally aligned health care programs, and nationally recognized programs in the marine sciences, the natural and social sciences, business, the humanities, and the arts. Visit [www.une.edu](http://www.une.edu).

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## COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

The University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine was founded in 1978 on a beautiful coastal campus in southern Maine. It is the only osteopathic medical school in New England. The college currently enrolls approximately 700 medical students, about half of whom come from the six-state New England region and the rest from other U.S. states and a number of foreign countries. To date, the college has graduated more than 3,500 osteopathic physicians.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine emphasizes the education of primary care physicians. More than 60 % of its graduates go on to practice in the primary care specialties. The college has a 2+2 curriculum: two years of didactic training followed by two years of clinical clerkships. The College of Osteopathic Medicine is committed to meeting the challenge of training physicians for the 21st century.

The medical school is housed in the 80,000-square-foot Harold Alfond Center for Health Sciences, a modern science education facility and a major medical and health sciences resource for the region. The Pickus Center for Biomedical Research, with its Cécile Morgane Research Laboratories, offers students and faculty exceptional facilities for conducting research. Leonard Hall is an educational facility offering the latest in state-of-the-art educational technology that allows for case-based learning and other innovative educational learning experiences.

The University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association.

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# THE POMP BEHIND THE CIRCUMSTANCE

## *Academic Regalia*

### THE GOWN

The history of the academic gown goes back to the 12th century. During this period, everyone — both men and women, royalty, lay folk, clerics, tradesmen, students — wore long flowing robes. The apparel varied in elegance according to the rank and wealth of the owner, from simple rough worsteds to rich gold brocades wrought with tassels and trimmed with colorful velvet and rich furs. It was in this period that the first organized bodies of learning were formed. From the gowns worn in the “universities” of the period have evolved the academic costumes of today.

The bachelor's gown is a simple design falling straight from a rather elaborate yoke with long pointed sleeves. The gown worn by a master has long, closed, somewhat fuller sleeves, which reach nearly to the wearer's knees. The arms go through slits at the elbow, giving the appearance of short sleeves. The doctoral gown is cut much fuller and has large bell-shaped sleeves. The gowns are usually, but not always, black, and those of bachelors and masters are generally devoid of ornamentation. The doctoral gowns are distinguished by the five-inch velvet panel around the neck and down both sides of the front as well as by three-inch velvet bars sewn on each sleeve. The color of the velvet trim may be black or may indicate the nature of the degree. For example, the color designating a Doctor of Medicine is green.

### THE HOOD

The hood seems to have had a somewhat practical origin. Medieval monks used their hoods for two purposes: to protect their shaved heads in the winter and as a container to collect alms.

Today, the hood serves as the most symbolic part of the academic regalia by which the observer can ascertain the wearer's level and kind of degree. The bachelor's hood is the smallest, being three feet long. The velvet trim along the edges, indicating the nature of the degree, is two inches wide. The master's hood is six inches longer and bears a three-inch velvet trim.

The doctoral hood presented today is a full four feet long and exhibits a five-inch, green velvet trim indicating the medical degree.

The colorful interior of the hood, visible from behind, indicates by hue the degree-granting institution. The University of New England's colors are blue and grey.



**PIONEER OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE MEDAL RECIPIENT**  
**ROGER T. PELLI, D.O. '86, FACOFP**

Roger T. Pelli, D.O. '86, FACOFP, graduated from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his residency in family medicine at the Osteopathic Hospital of Maine in Portland, now the Maine Medical Center - Brighton Campus. He began practicing osteopathic family medicine in central Aroostook County, Maine, in 1989. From 2004 until December 2013, Pelli worked as a hospitalist and lead hospitalist for Northern Light Health A. R. Gould Hospital. He also served as the Northern Regional Medical Information Officer and the hospital's physician advisor to the utilization management department. Pelli retired in October 2021 from his practice as a consultant, where he performed inpatient and outpatient evaluations and provided osteopathic manipulative treatments for acute and chronic pain, including treating patients in the newborn nursery. He has been married to his wife, Lynn, for 52 years, and they live together with two adult children and four grandchildren.

# ORDER OF CEREMONIES

## MUSICAL SELECTIONS

Portland Brass

## PROCESSIONAL

Portland Brass

## MACE BEARER

Rebecca Rowe, Ph.D.

## WELCOME

Gwendolyn Mahon, M.Sc., Ph.D.  
*Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, University Of New England*

## OPENING REMARKS

Jane E. Carreiro, D.O. '88, *Vice President for Health Affairs; Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine*

## PIONEER OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Roger T. Pelli, D.O. '86, FACOFP

## STUDENT ADDRESS

Carissa Fowers, D.O. *Candidate, President, Class of 2025*

## HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Jane E. Carreiro, D.O. '88, *Vice President for Health Affairs; Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine*

## OSTEOPATHIC OATH

Jodie Hermann, D.O. '06, *President, Maine Osteopathic Association;*  
*President, UNE COM Alumni Association*

## RECESSIONAL

Portland Brass

## PREVIOUS PIONEER OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE MEDAL RECIPIENTS

1992	Harrison Aldrich, D.O. William Bergen, D.O. Robert R. Brown, D.O.	2010	Brian Brock, D.O. Stephen C. Shannon, D.O. '86, M.P.H.
1993	Charles DiPerri, D.O.	2011	Edward M. Friedman, D.O.
1994	Hadley Hoyt, D.O.	2012	Sandra Featherman, Ph.D.
1995	Arthur J. VanDerburgh, D.O.	2013	John B. Crosby, J.D. David R. Manyan, Ph.D.
1996	Andrew M. Longley Sr., D.O.	2014	James M. Norton, Ph.D. Bruce P. Bates, D.O.
1997	Wilber V. Cole, D.O.	2015	Boyd R. Buser, D.O. Erik N. Steele, D.O. '87, FAAFP
1998	Sarah Simpson, D.O. Edyth Craig, D.O.	2016	John V. Chang, D.O. '84, M.Sc., FACEP, FAAUCM
1999	Martyn E. Richardson, D.O.	2017	Frederic N. Schwartz, D.O., FACOFP
2000	M. Carman Pettapiece, D.O.	2018	Harold Alfond
2001	Jack S. Ketchum, MBA William E. Wyatt, D.O.	2019	Kathryne A. Leonard, D.O. Robert T. Leonard Jr., D.O., FAACS, FISHRS
2002	Lawrence E. Bouchard, D.O. John G. Goulding, D.O.	2020	Charles D. Radis, D.O.
2003	J. Jerry Rodos, D.O.	2021	Karen J. Nichols, D.O.
2004	Steven I. Weisberger, D.O. '83	2022	Patricia A. Kelley, M.S.
2005	William A. Seeglitz Sr., D.O.	2023	UNE COM Class of 1982
2006	William J. Kirmes, D.O.	2024	Regen Gallagher '95, D.O. '99, MBA Barbara J. Winterson, Ph.D.
2007	Gene Yonuschot, Ph.D.		
2008	J. Chase Rand, D.O.		
2009	John D. Downing Ira M. Stockwell, D.O.		

## DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

<b>Hemani Agrawal</b> Galloway, NJ <i>Emergency Medicine; St. Joseph's Medical Center, Paterson, NJ</i>	<b>Marah Aymen Alian</b> North Haven, CT <i>Department of Anesthesia; NIH T32 Research Fellowship, Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT</i>	<b>Sarah Bahai</b> North Berwick, ME  <b>Matija Viola Barrett</b> Bosque Farms, NM
<b>Safa Fathima Ahmed</b> Glendale Heights, IL <i>Family Medicine; Mercyhealth GME Consortium Family Medicine Residency Program, Rockford, IL</i>	<b>Patrick Sean Allen*</b> Wilmington, MA <i>Internal Medicine; Maine Medical Center, Portland, ME</i>	<b>Soha Bayginejad**</b> Trabuco Canyon, CA <i>Internal Medicine; Riverside University Health System, Moreno Valley, CA</i>
<b>Alara Akyatan</b> Washington D.C. <i>Emergency Medicine; Brown University, Providence, RI</i>	<b>Cassia Araujo-Lane</b> Winchester, MA <i>Psychiatry; Northern Light Acadia Hospital, Bangor, ME</i>	<b>Mitchell T. Becker</b> Middleton, MA <i>Family Medicine; Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine, Augusta, ME</i>
<b>Vythithandesh Alagappan</b> Pittsford, NY <i>Medicine; Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA</i>	<b>Elizabeth Argy</b> Cotuit, MA	<b>Katherine Adeline Below</b> Piedmont, SC
<b>Gwen Torvy Beaman Alber</b> North Yarmouth, ME <i>Emergency Medicine; University of Connecticut, Farmington, CT</i>	<b>Emily Lynn Atkinson</b> Mint Hill, NC <i>Pediatrics; Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA Edwyn M. Smith, D.D.S. Endowed Scholarship, 2021-2022</i>	<b>Daniel M. Bergeron</b> Naugatuck, CT <i>Pathology-Anatomic and Clinical; Yale New Haven Hospital/Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT</i>
<b>Michael O. Alen*</b> Boca Raton, FL	<b>Jessica Marcella Auclair*</b> Falls Church, VA <i>Psychiatry; University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School - Baystate, Springfield, MA</i>	

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Patricia A. Kelley Endowed Scholarship, 2022-2023  
Harvard Pilgrim Rural Clinical Rotation Program, 2023-2024  
Dr. and Mason Allen Scholarship and Dr. Lawrence Newth Fellowship, 2023-2024  
Di Perri-SMOG Endowed Scholarship, 2024-2025  
Jack Parfitt Award

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Dr. Mason Allen Scholarship and Dr. Lawrence Newth Fellowship, 2023-2024

**Ryan Andrew Burns**

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**Charles D. Calenda**

Chelmsford, MA

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Roswell P. Bates D.O. Endowed Scholarship, 2023-2024

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Alisha Malhotra

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Julia Sydney Marcus^+

Greenwich, CT

Ashley Glass Marvel

Biddeford, ME

Saint Francis Hospital,

Hartford, CT

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Winchester, MA

Louis Leite, D.O., and Kelly Leite,

D.O., Scholarship, 2024-2025

Maria Allison Mazzu

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Medicine Preliminary/Neurology;

Brooke Army Medical Center,

Houston, TX

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Meredith Dee McCue^‡

Ormond Beach, FL

Leah Beth Merker\*

Katonah, NY

Bethany Robyn Miles

Gorham, ME

Psychiatry - Rural Track; Maine

Medical Center, Portland, ME

Finance Authority of Maine,

2021-2025

Rachel E. Milia\*\*

East Patchogue, NY

Alyssa Hailey Milneº

Salem, NH

Family Medicine; New Hampshire

Dartmouth Family Medicine,

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Mila Mirzakandovaº

Brooklyn, NY

Pediatrics; New York University,

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Samuel D. Moelis\*\*

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Anesthesiology; Mount Sinai

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Viraj Moholkar\*

Northborough, MA

Aryn S. Morgan\*\*

Bloomfield, CT

Samantha Paige Morganº\*\*\*

Monroe Center, IL

Pediatrics; University of

Wisconsin-Madison; Madison, WI

Kevin Thomas Moriarty

Bayonne, NJ

Transitional; Westchester

Medical Center, Valhalla, NY

Daniel R. Muldoon\*

Liverpool, NY

Anesthesiology; Update Medical

University, Syracuse, NY

Julienne Anza Mumpini\*\*

Bedford, NH

Emergency Medicine;

George Washington University,

Washington D.C

Melissa Rose Murphy

Ridgefield, CT

Neurology; Stony Brook University

Hospital, Stony Brook, NY

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Psychiatry; Portsmouth Regional

Hospital, Portsmouth, NH

Christoph Albert Niederhauser\*\*

Auburn, ME

General Surgery;

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical

Center, Lebanon, NH

Earl R. Freeman, Jr. D.O.

Scholarship Fund, 2022-2023

Grace Ann O’Brien

Rehoboth, MA

Neurology; Maine Medical

Center, Portland, ME

Abigail Rose Palin

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Combined Adult/Child Psychiatry;

University of Vermont Medical

Center, Burlington, VT

Stephanie Elizah-Jeanne Pare

Saco, ME

Family Medicine; Maine-Dartmouth

Family Medicine, Augusta, ME

Dr. Mason Allen Scholarship and

Dr. Lawrence Newth Fellowship,

2023-2024

Di Perri-SMOG Endowed

Scholarship, 2024-2025

Matthew Parry

Piedmont, CA

Family Medicine; Portsmouth

Regional Hospital, Portsmouth, NH

Anjeli Patel

Belleville, NJ

Surgery-Preliminary; Hackensack

Meridian Health Palisades Medical

Center, North Bergen, NJ

Prakash A. Patel\*\*

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General Surgery; Tower

Health/Reading Hospital,

West Reading, PA

Isaac Peacock

Belgrade, ME

Jacqueline Marie Pesco

Hoboken, NJ

Pediatrics; Emory University

Hospital, Atlanta, GA

Edwyn M. Smith, D.D.S. Endowed

Scholarship, 2024-2025

Founders Endowed Scholarship,

2024-2025

Deanna Lynn Phipps\*

Merrimack, NH

General Surgery; Waterbury

Hospital, Waterbury, CT

Elefteria Puka

Providence, RI

Family Medicine; Hahnemann

Family Health Center/University

of Massachusetts Chan Medical

School, Worcester, MA

Aniqa Tasnim Rahman\*

Jamaica, NY

Transitional Year, Anesthesiology;

Zucker School of Medicine -

Northwell South Shore University

Hospital, Baystate, NY

Vanessa Rai

Malden, MA

Farah Rassamº^

Plymouth Meeting, PA

Louis Leite, D.O., and Kelly Leite,

D.O., Scholarship, 2023-2024

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Anesthesiology; University of

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John and Hannah Russell Endowed

Scholarship, 2023-2024

Camille Isabelle Reppertº

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**Philip N. Ripepi**

Jefferson Hills, PA

**Nida Thai Rit**

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*Osteopathic Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine; St. Barnabas Hospital, Bronx, NY*  
*Dr. Mason Allen Scholarship and Dr. Lawrence Newth Fellowship, 2023-2024*

**Caroline Dorothy Rizea\*\***

Howard Beach, NY  
*Obstetrics-Gynecology; Good Samaritan University Hospital, West Islip, NY*  
*Sauter Award*

**Colby Clyde Robinson**

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*Radiology-Diagnostic; Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL*

**Joseph Rorick Jr.**

Spencer, NY

**Austeja Subaciute Rubeski^**

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**Asma Asad Saeed**

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**Mikayla Anne Sargent**

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**Milly Sadie-Sue Seeley#**

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**Khaled W. Sharaan**

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*Internal Medicine; University of Connecticut, Farmington, CT*

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*Internal Medicine; Swedish Hospital, Chicago, IL*

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**Brandon K. Skwarto\***

Taunton, MA

**Darren Jerad Sousa**

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*Jack Fireman, D.O. Scholarship, 2023-2024*

**Rebecca Sprague**

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**Thomas Springer**

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*Finance Authority of Maine, 2020-2023, 2024-2025*  
*Dr. Mason Allen Scholarship and Dr. Lawrence Newth Fellowship, 2023-2024*

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**Austin Patrick Vaughan<sup>†\*\*</sup>**

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**Sofia Ana Maria von Fedak Raffensperger#**

Sharon, MA  
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I do hereby affirm my loyalty to the profession I am about to enter. I will be mindful always of my great responsibility to preserve the health and life of my patients, to retain their confidence and respect both as a physician and a friend who will guard their secrets with scrupulous honor and fidelity, to perform faithfully my professional duties, to employ only those recognized methods of treatment consistent with good judgment and with my skill and ability, keeping in mind always nature's laws and the body's inherent capacity for recovery.

I will be ever vigilant in aiding the general welfare of the community, sustaining its laws and institutions, not engaging in those practices which will in any way bring shame or discredit upon myself or my profession. I will give no drugs for deadly purposes to any person, though it be asked of me.

I will endeavor to work in accord with my colleagues in a spirit of progressive cooperation and never by word or act cast imputations upon them or their rightful practices.

I will look with respect and esteem upon all those who have taught me my art. To my college I will be loyal and strive always for its best interests and for the interests of the students who will come after me.

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