About Earlham

Earlham today includes Earlham College, an undergraduate liberal arts college, the Earlham College Graduate Programs in Education, and the Earlham School of Religion.

Earlham’s programs are informed by the distinctive perspectives and values of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). We challenge ourselves to seek truth, wherever truth may lead, so that we may grow in both intellect and spirit as we prepare to lead and to serve in today’s world.

Earlham’s faculty work to awaken the “teacher within,” encouraging students to become lifelong learners. Earlham students actively shape and influence their own education, both inside and outside the classroom. Together, we are an intentional community that seeks to make a difference in the world for good. We challenge one another to grow in our capabilities and commitment, and we seek to lead lives that demonstrate our guiding values.

The Graduate Programs in Education continue the Earlham tradition of excellence by preparing teachers who are student-centered. Education students are encouraged to enhance their unique pedagogical voices and draw on teaching strategies that encourage and excite learning in all students.

An Earlham School of Religion education is likewise shaped by Quaker principles and practices. A Christian graduate theological school in the Quaker tradition, ESR prepares students for leadership that empowers and ministry that serves. Using a transformative model of education, ESR encourages students to explore the intellectual, spiritual and practical dimensions of their calls to ministry.

Commencement Program

President Anne Houtman, presiding

PRELUDE
Selections from the Class of 2023

PROCESSIONAL
"Pomp and Circumstance," Sir Edward Elgar

INVOCATION
Earlham School of Religion
Katarina Stenstedt

OPENING STILLNESS
Anne Houtman, President
Earlham College and Earlham School of Religion

WELCOME FROM THE CLASSES OF 2023
Earlham College
Ahmed Deeb and Prinshu Gautam
Earlham Graduate Programs in Education
Sydney Fuller and Ferris Odeh

GREETINGS
Raymond F. Ontko
Chair, Board of Trustees
Wendy Smiseck
Chair, Alumni Council

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Anne Houtman, President
Earlham College
Thomas Hamm, Clerk of the Faculty
Earlham Graduate Programs in Education
Sydney Fuller and Ferris Odeh

BENEDICTION
Alexander Eastman and Vaishnavi Walande

MOMENT OF STILLNESS

RECESSIONAL

POSTLUDE
Selections from the Class of 2023
The Academic Procession

A colorful aspect of the Commencement ceremony is the academic procession. Strong traditions govern the use of the caps, gowns and hoods worn by many members of the academic community in the formal ceremony today. The academic apparel worn at Earlham’s Commencement dates back to the Middle Ages. Then, voluminous gowns were worn to ward off the damp and cold of medieval buildings, with mortar boards used as hats. When those styles were abandoned by laymen, clergy and scholars continued to wear the robes, with variations in style and color identifying different monastic orders.

From the three items of academic attire—the cap, gown and hood—it is possible to distinguish the institution from which the wearer was graduated, the field of learning in which the degree was earned, and the level of degree—bachelor, master or doctorate. The institution granting the degree is indicated by the colors of the lining of the hood. The degree is indicated by the width of the velvet trimming, becoming wider from bachelor’s to master’s to doctorate. The color of the velvet trimming indicates the discipline or field of study.

The academic disciplines of Earlham faculty, trustees and distinguished guests are represented by the following colors:

- Agriculture: Maize
- Arts, Letters, Humanities: White
- Commerce, Business: Drab
- Economics: Copper
- Education: Light Blue
- Engineering: Orange
- Fine Arts: Brown
- Journalism: Crimson
- Law: Purple
- Library Science: Lemon
- Medicine: Green
- Music: Pink
- Nursing: Apricot
- Oratory: Silver Gray
- Philosophy: Dark Blue
- Physical Education: Sage Green
- Science: Golden Yellow
- Social Work: Citron
- Theology: Scarlet

HONORARY FACULTY USHERS
Peter Blair, Professor of Biology
Gene Hambrick, Senior Executive Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity

HONORARY JUNIOR USHERS FOR THE CLASS OF 2023
Class of 2024
Quentin Berry
Audrey Elliott
Olvia Kyrk
Isao Sakai
Mia Wong
Earlham College

Earlham is a nationally recognized liberal arts institution whose mission, centered on Quaker principles, is "to be a learning community that seeks to envision and achieve a more perfect human society." Earlham's long devotion to academic excellence has been matched by its concern for spiritual values and high social purpose. Noticeable on campus is a spirit of concern, a sense of responsibility for world issues and freedom of thought.

Earlham students earn the Bachelor of Arts Degree. Major studies encompass 41 departmental and interdisciplinary fields. Innovation in educational programs and cross-cultural education are hallmarks of Earlham College. A leader in international education, Earlham currently offers off-campus programs in several countries around the world and within the United States. Students are intellectually challenged by faculty that are both excited about teaching and committed to the development of genuine enthusiasm for liberal learning, which is why Earlham consistently ranks in the top 20 colleges for "Best Classroom Experience" according to the Princeton Review. Earlham programs have received national recognition for their ability to prepare students for excellence in leadership for an increasingly complex, global society.

CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE

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<th>Honors</th>
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<td>College Honors</td>
<td>Dharamasala, India</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Earlham Graduate Programs in Education

“It is worth acknowledging, in all humility, that, though there are many great, beautiful, noble callings for human beings—ministry, healing, protecting the powerless through the law, making art, music and literature, the most wonderful things that human beings are privileged to do—none of them is more valuable to the human race, to the future of the planet, or to our own souls, than the work of teaching.”

— Professor Emeritus of English Paul Lacey

Earlham is proud to contribute to this valuable work through the Graduate Programs in Education. These programs are unique, as they focus on the discovery and renewal of the teacher within. Both the Master of Arts in Teaching and the Master of Education degrees are designed to be transformational for individuals who wish, in turn, to transform the lives of others. Both programs are grounded in Quaker principles including a respect for persons, integrity, simplicity, community, peace and justice. These values are manifested throughout both the Master of Arts in Teaching and the Master of Education programs.

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Sydney Fuller
Seattle, Washington

Morgan Thomas Mack
Richmond, Indiana

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF EDUCATION

Emmaly Bisard
Indianapolis, Indiana

Michael Medley
West Chester, Ohio

Anthony Phillips
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Yuseff Malik Carpenter II
Douglasville, Georgia

Shane Claudius Mills
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Zachery Swearingen
Romeoville, Illinois

Nathaniel Hemmerich
Kokomo, Indiana

Ferris Samir Odeh
Lifta Jerusalem, Palestine

Caleigh Zolman
North Manchester, Indiana
Earlham School of Religion

Earlham School of Religion is a seminary of the Religious Society of Friends. Here, Friends and those from other traditions undertake formal theological study and ministry preparation. The School of Religion operates with its own dean and faculty and offers the Master of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees and several certificates. ESR manages the Lilly grant which supports the Quaker Leadership Center, offering non-degree learning and Quaker leadership development.

The presence of ESR in close association with Earlham College brings it in touch with many currents of contemporary intellectual life. As Earlham College is known nationally for its high academic standards, these same standards characterize ESR. Further enriching the ESR learning experience, a partnership with Bethany Theological Seminary began in 1994.

ESR assists students in developing a faith consistent with personal Christian revelation and religious experience. Students achieve competence in the biblical, historical and theological disciplines while developing practical skills and an empowering style of ministry. ESR students and faculty participate in the larger Christian community and its concern for the peoples of the world.

As a graduate center serving all Quakers, ESR develops Friends leadership for both programmed and unprogrammed meetings. The school provides a research and study center for Friends and encourages Friends’ involvement in theological and cultural dialogue. While fostering unity in the Religious Society of Friends, ESR continues to clarify and sustain the Quaker vision.

A note on regalia

The practice of wearing academic regalia originated in the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities were taking form. Scholars, whether student or teacher, customarily wore the dress of a cleric. With few exceptions, these medieval scholars had taken orders, made certain vows, and perhaps been tonsured. Long gowns were worn, and hoods served to cover the tonsured head.

The American tradition of hooding extends approximately 100 years. TheEarlham tradition began approximately 70 years ago, while the School of Religion’s practice is about 40 years old. These hoods connect us with an honored tradition associated with intellectual and spiritual freedom.

The master’s hood which we award today is three-and-one-half feet long. It is black in color, with two white stripes which distinguish it from a bachelor’s or doctorate hood. The hood is trimmed with a scarlet border, signifying the theology degree. It is lined with fabric representing the institutional colors—in our case, maroon and white.

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF DIVINITY

David Breitzmann (Zae Illo)  
San Francisco, California

Jason Robert Kalis  
Sparta, Michigan

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGION

Katrina Marie Stenstedt  
Oakland, California

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF ARTS IN PEACE AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Katelyn E. Goodpaster  
New Castle, Indiana

Dominic Hindolo Saidu  
Freetown, Sierra Leone

Kevin Ventura  
Davie, Florida

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOPOETICS AND WRITING

Patricia Michelle Berry Lane  
Rochester Hills, Michigan

Mary Elizabeth Given  
Boulder Creek, California

Brenna Lynn Hagan  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rowan D. Light-Wills  
Chicago, Illinois

Raymond William Rischpater  
Boulder Creek, California

CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN QUAKER STUDIES

Katie Breslin  
Richmond, Indiana
ACADEMIC AWARDS

Carl W. Ackerman-Ralph W. Nicholson Award
Maya Claggett
Peniel Ibe
Evangeline Lyon
Idai Makoni
Melissa Velasquez
Grace Wiley

Howard Alexander Award
Antonio Midence Ordonez
Dorje Weisman
Katrina Ziebarth

American Chemical Society Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry
Ethan Khandaker

American Chemical Society Undergraduate Award in Physical Chemistry
Alyssa Johnson

American Institute of Chemistry Student Award
Doug Wagner

D.J. Angus Scientech Educational Foundation Award
Calamity Webster

Bain-Swiggett Poetry Prize
Oona Giebel
Amalia Silverheart

Arthur M. Charles Fellowship for International Studies
Bailey Owens
Gabrielle Rankenburg

CRC Press Chemistry Achievement Award
Fabijan Bagarić
Bailey Weaver

Clifford Crump Phi Beta Kappa Award
Enehi Edith Ameh
Gannon Murray

Davis Peace Award
Vaishnawi Walade

Lauren DeCou Memorial Award
Andre Moriel

Designation of Distinction in Global Engagement
Nicolas Quijano Franco
Ted Olivier Jacquet
Tsering Lhamo
Daryl Mifsud
Micah MacColl Nicholson

Earlham Environmental Leadership Award
Meeghan Kersten
Nathan Rivas

Anna Eves Award
Nathan Rivas

Anna Eves Scholarship
Kiya Marie McMahan

Charles A. Frueauff Foundation Award
Uapingena Prudence Kandjoze
Medrine L. Khanga

J. Arthur Funston Scholarship
Caleb Bove

Gettman Prize
Levi Schirch Goldberg

Lucy Moore Grave Marine Biology Award
Nathan Brophy

Thomas Clarkson Grave and Anna Hubbard Grave Graduate Scholarship in Natural Sciences
Ethan Khandaker
Katherine Mary Liu
Angel Robert
Jennifer Shamel

Bub Hanes Prize
Enehi Edith Ameh

Mary Jane Harvey Memorial Award
Charles “Mike” Martin

William Harvey Bio-Medical and Health Careers Scholarship
Robert Lemon

Len Holvik Award in Music
Duncan Pickering-Polstra
Blaise Rzeszut
Leigh Siler

Lewis M. Hoskins Award
Mary Bireley

Gertrude Paradies Hubbard Distinguished Student Award
Wisdom Boine
Antonio Midence Ordonez
Sumin Park

Jay Scholarship
Micah MacColl Nicholson

Janice Beard Kem and Charles Kem Award in Education
Mateo Gomone

Kendall-Reagan Prize in English
Leila Soliman

Raymond Grissom 2023 Graduate Award
Margaret Bartimole
Ashley Dawn Church
Emi Marie Hinosawa
Susie Johnson
Karina Steitz

David Koch ’66 Award in Public Service
Cristobaal Martinez
Kate Marie Wallace

Karen Keller LaFollette Award
Ariqa Ali

Russell M. Lawall Award in Biomedical Research
Tess Cunningham
Ahmed Deeb

Lauren DeCou Memorial Award
Andre Moriel

Designation of Distinction in Global Engagement
Nicolas Quijano Franco
Ted Olivier Jacquet
Tsering Lhamo
Daryl Mifsud
Micah MacColl Nicholson

Earlham Environmental Leadership Award
Meeghan Kersten
Nathan Rivas

Anna Eves Award
Nathan Rivas

Anna Eves Scholarship
Kiya Marie McMahan

Charles A. Frueauff Foundation Award
Uapingena Prudence Kandjoze
Medrine L. Khanga

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Caleb Bove

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Blaise Rzeszut
Leigh Siler

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Mary Bireley

Gertrude Paradies Hubbard Distinguished Student Award
Wisdom Boine
Antonio Midence Ordonez
Sumin Park

Jay Scholarship
Micah MacColl Nicholson

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Mateo Gomone

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Margaret Bartimole
Ashley Dawn Church
Emi Marie Hinosawa
Susie Johnson
Karina Steitz

David Koch ’66 Award in Public Service
Cristobaal Martinez
Kate Marie Wallace

Karen Keller LaFollette Award
Ariqa Ali

Russell M. Lawall Award in Biomedical Research
Tess Cunningham
Ahmed Deeb
Russell M. Lawall Physics Award in Memory of Howard S. Brinton
Isaac Snediker-Morscheck

Florence Long Mathematics Award
Juan Junco

Anthony Maggard Neuroscience Award
Angel Robert

Russell L. Malcolm Pre-Medicine Award
Hunseong "Sean" Ahn

The Malcolm Scholarship
Aouss Azzouz
Risa McFee
Noah Radtke Kishimoto

Lillian Broox Manis Scholarship
Makaylah Lachelle Castelow

Manning Marable-AAAB Endowed Scholarship
Hallie Ralies
Johnette Williams

Millard S. Markle Award in Biology
Hannah Grushon
Nathen Peck

Charles Matlack Award
Quentin Berry

Vicki Penziner Matson Photographic Award
Joe Potter
Cameron Riley

Joseph and Mary Thorne Moore Graduate Scholarship in Religion
Nicola Gacy

Natural Science Division Outstanding Student Award
Kamden Deckard
Alexander Roberts
Abby Shuck

Peace Studies Faculty Award
Isao Sakai
Nolina Wilcox

Pi Sigma Alpha
Gloria Aligbe
Alexander Eastman
John Dinh Hoang
Tsering Lhamo
Anika Sullivan

Psychology Department Award
Patrick C. Elster

Janica Zuck Richards Memorial Award
Helena Crisíandia Aleluya José

William Roha Computer Science Endowed Award
Ana Verulidze

Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Excellence
Reece P. Zonts

Bayard Rustin Award
Calamity Webster

Warren Staebler Award
Patrick C. Elster

Wendell M. Stanley Senior Scholar-Athlete Award
Hunseong "Sean" Ahn
Md Ralf Ull Azam
Nick Carizales
Justin Dillhoff
Patrick C. Elster
Max Fries
Ian Gorley
Shang David Huang
Ben Kadlec
Christian Lancianese
Nathen Peck
Jacob Renner
Alexander Roberts
Samuel Sargent
Chance Strickley
Caleb Scott Wilgen
Yuto Yamada

Charles Stubs Award
Hannah Bart
Anabel Battino
Meeghan Kersten
Katherine Mary Liu

Verne F. Swaim Memorial Scholarship
Carlo Matias Montaño Balcázar

George Van Dyke Outstanding Athlete Award
Christian Lancianese
Erin Wagner

George Van Dyke Distinguished Student in Physics Award
Wisdom Boinde

Kathryn Weber Senior Scholar-Athlete Award
Gloria Aligbe
Kini Ann Brooks
Tess Cunningham
Kaitlin Hicks
Jenna Hoeh
Madison Huelskamp
Alyssa Johnson
Evangeline Lyon
Mollie Lyon
Guinevere Schalck
Regan Seeman
Jennifer Shamel
Karina Stetz
Elena Stirm
Erin Wagner
Johnette Williams

Phi Beta Kappa
Enehi Ameh
Wisdom Boinde
Tess Cunningham
Kamden Deckard
Ahmed Deeb
Alexander Eastman
Patrick Colin Elster
Shang David Huang
Alyssa Johnson
Eva Sophia Marotta
Sumin Park
Travis Andrew Reid
Samuel Gregory Sargent
Elie Seibert
Trystin Smith
Ana Verulidze
Katrina Siemsen Ziebarth
Message from the President

Dear Class of 2023,

Since 1847, generations of Earlham students have experienced a blend of classroom learning and experiential education that has transformed their lives—and the world—for good.

However, few students have shown the remarkable resilience that you have. In your second semester in college, the whole world changed over the course of one week in March. You barely had time to get used to your courses when we suspended in-person classes at the start of the pandemic—but even so, you made a difference. You scrambled to help organize an early commencement ceremony for the then-senior class. Chances are, these were people that you hadn’t even met because you never had the opportunity to. But even then, you knew that Earlhamites share an uncommon commitment to community.

Masks, Zoom meetings and distance—whether 6 feet or 600 miles—can’t change that.

You shifted to online learning. Then you came back. You found new ways of learning and building community. You spoke out against injustice. You stood up for the most vulnerable members of our community—on campus and off. Many of you found a way to study abroad or do internships in person. In true Earlhamite fashion, you worked through this uncertainty with grace, creativity and resolve.

As you graduate today, I hope you will reflect on your time at Earlham and the tremendous resilience you have demonstrated to get here today. In your time here, you have not only earned a degree, you have also learned how to adapt and thrive. In doing so, I have no doubt that you will go on to change the world.

Congratulations and best wishes to you on this momentous day!

Anne Houtman, D.Phil.
President, Earlham College and Earlham School of Religion

Message from the Board

On behalf of the Earlham Board of Trustees, it is my privilege and pleasure to congratulate the graduating Class of 2023 of Earlham College, the Earlham School of Religion and Earlham’s Graduate Programs in Education. I also congratulate the family, friends and faculty who have supported the graduates on the way to this day.

Each year the Office of Admissions profiles the incoming class and shares the profile with the class at the beginning of their Earlham experience. The reports are both fun and full of promise. They invariably show an incoming class of people who will work hard, love well, play exuberantly and extend to others both compassion and justice. Over the time you have been here these qualities have been refined, broadened as well as deepened. Although it has not always been comfortable or easy, you have grown in this hotbed of thought, reflection, argument and action we call Earlham.

I would like to share with you another profile. It is a profile of you in the future, say 10, 25 and 50 years from now. My confidence in seeing you in the future is based on your earlier profile, the special nature of Earlham and the hearing of the life stories of the fellow alumni who have preceded you. You will have lived lives that will have made a difference to your families, your communities and the world around you.

You will have been willing to see the world differently and thereby see solutions to problems that seem intractable. You will have been good shepherds for the society, the environment and the world in which we live. You will have been innovators and agents for positive change. You will have been peacemakers.

As a trustee, I am always aware that Earlham is trying to prepare students to live in a world we can hardly imagine. Let us know where and how it should evolve toward the future. Come back to the warmth of the Earlham community frequently and add your life stories to our rich heritage. The College, School of Religion and the Graduate Programs in Education will need your support to continue to other future generations the educational excellence you have enjoyed.

Our hopes and wishes go with you. Congratulations.

Raymond F. Ontko ’84
Chair, Board of Trustees
Greetings Class of 2023!

So here it is, the moment you’ve all been waiting for! Commencement. And with that comes a warm welcome to the ranks of the Alumni Association—more than 20,000 alumni who are living in every state in the nation and six continents (maybe all seven, knowing how Earlhamites are).

I’ve never met a boring Earlham student or alumnus. Every single one has a rich story to tell, has been to interesting places and has done things that are astounding. Whether they are a biodiversity cataloger in the Amazon, true crime author in the Midwest, teacher in Japan, geological surveyor in Alaska, fire investigator in New York City, journalist in Hollywood, healthcare provider in Africa, mathematician for NASA or a potter in a commune in New Mexico, they work for good in the world.

I encourage you to make a connection with them. Ask for their story and share yours because you never know where that might lead—Earlhamite comradery and even collaboration certainly don’t stop once you’ve graduated. Use the resources Earlham and its alumni have to offer and be that resource when you have those insights and gifts to share.

Earlhamites do amazing things in small and large ways. Do your amazing thing. Gather those sticks and light a fire and leave it burning, because when you leave the light for someone else, they have a chance to do amazing things, too.

Welcome to the Earlham Alumni Association, Class of 2023.

On behalf of the Alumni Council,

Wendy Wentworth Smiseck, Class of 1991
THOMAS HAMM

Thomas Hamm joined Earlham College in 1987, and a year later settled into a joint appointment teaching history and serving as college archivist. He retired from Lilly Library as director of special collections in 2020, but continued as professor of history and holder of the Trueblood Chair in Christian Thought. His contributions to the campus community include decades of collegiality, legendary tours of Earlham Cemetery, and holding the campus record for time on the Faculty Meeting facing bench: four years as clerk and five years as recording clerk of the Faculty. While at Earlham, he wrote or edited eight books, including *Earlham College: A History, 1847–1997*, and numerous articles and book chapters. In retirement, he plans to continue with research and writing and to volunteer in the college’s Friends Collection.
CONGRATULATIONS!

Stay connected to the Earlham community at earlham.edu/alumni