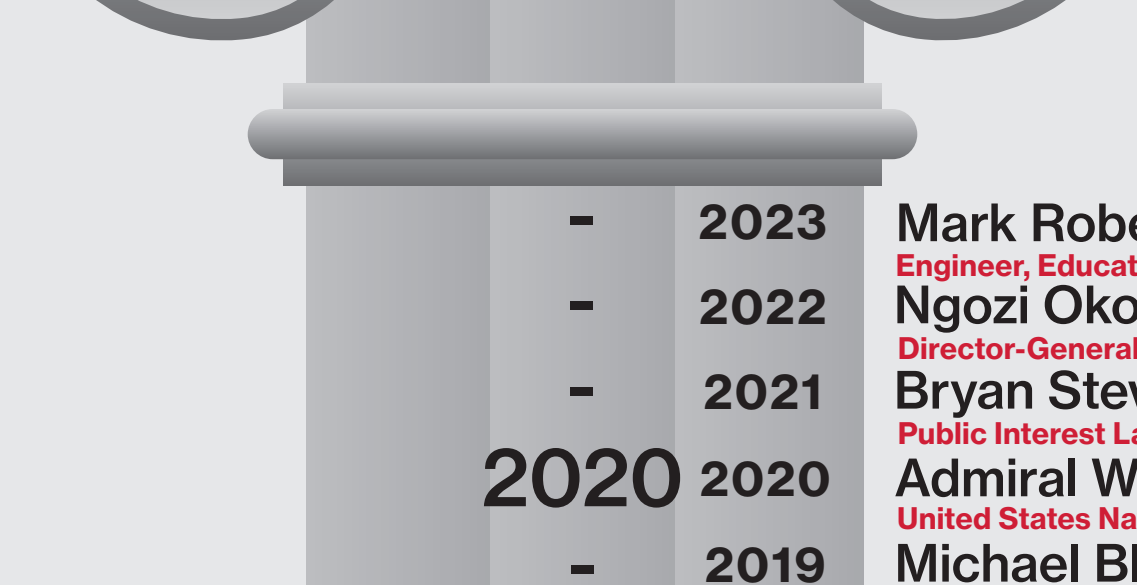


A HISTORY OF

MIT Commencement Speakers

- 1880** First MIT Commencement speaker of record (Rev. George E. Ellis)
- 118** MIT Commencement speakers since 1880
- 42** CEOs, chairs, directors, and organization presidents
- 23** MIT alumni
- 11** MIT presidents
- 6** World leaders (Annan, Barco, Clinton, Gore, Salinas, Schmidt)
- 5** Clergy, spiritual leaders, and theologians
- 2** Minutes of silence in lieu of a speaker in 1970
- 0** Commencement exercises in 1918–1919 due to World War I



	2023	Mark Rober <i>Engineer, Educator, and Founder of CrunchLabs</i>
	2022	Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala MCP '78, PhD '81 <i>Director-General, World Trade Organization</i>
	2021	Bryan Stevenson <i>Public Interest Lawyer, Professor, and Social Justice Activist</i>
2020	2020	Admiral William McRaven <i>United States Navy four-star admiral</i>
	2019	Michael Bloomberg <i>Entrepreneur, Philanthropist, and former New York City mayor</i>
	2018	Sheryl Sandberg <i>COO, Facebook</i>
	2017	Tim Cook <i>CEO, Apple Inc.</i>
	2016	Matt Damon <i>Actor, Filmmaker, and Social Activist</i>
	2015	Megan Smith '86, SM '88 <i>United States Chief Technology Officer</i>
	2014	Ellen Kullman <i>CEO and Chair, DuPont</i>
	2013	Drew Houston '05 <i>CEO and Founder, Dropbox</i>
	2012	Salman Khan '98 <i>Founder, Khan Academy</i>
	2011	Ursula Burns <i>CEO, Xerox</i>
2010	2010	Raymond S. Stata '57, SM '58 <i>Chair and Founder, Analog Devices</i>
	2009	Deval Patrick <i>Massachusetts Governor</i>
	2008	Muhammad Yunus <i>2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner</i>
	2007	Charles Vest HM '94 <i>Former MIT President</i>
	2006	Ben Bernanke PhD '79 <i>Chair, Federal Reserve Board</i>
	2005	Irwin M. Jacobs '57, ScD '59 <i>Co-Founder and Chair, Qualcomm</i>
	2004	Elias Zerhouni <i>Director, National Institutes of Health</i>
	2003	George Mitchell <i>Former United States Senator</i>
	2002	James Wolfensohn <i>President, World Bank Group</i>
	2001	Daniel Goldin <i>NASA Administrator</i>
2000	2000	Carly Fiorina SM '89 <i>President and CEO, Hewlett-Packard</i>
	1999	Ray Magliozzi '72 <i>Host, "Car Talk"</i>
	1999	Tom Magliozzi '58 <i>Host, "Car Talk"</i>
	1998	William Jefferson Clinton <i>United States President</i>
	1998	David Ho <i>CEO and Director, Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center</i>
	1997	Kofi Annan SM '72 <i>United Nations Secretary-General</i>
	1996	Albert Gore <i>United States Vice President</i>
	1995	Hanna H. Gray <i>President Emeritus, University of Chicago</i>
	1994	Karim Aga Khan IV <i>Spiritual Leader, Shia Ismaili Muslims</i>
	1993	Carlos Salinas de Gortari <i>President, United Mexican States</i>
	1992	Leslie Aspin PhD '66 <i>United States Representative from Wisconsin</i>
	1991	Walter E. Massey <i>Director, National Science Foundation</i>
1990	1990	Virgilio Barco '43 <i>President, Republic of Colombia</i>
	1989	Paul E. Tsongas <i>Former United States Senator from Massachusetts</i>
	1988	A. Bartlett Giamatti <i>President, National League of Professional Baseball Clubs</i>
	1987	Kenneth H. Olsen '50, SM '52 <i>Founder and President, Digital Equipment Corp.</i>
	1986	William R. Hewlett SM '36 <i>Vice Chair, Hewlett-Packard</i>
	1985	Lee A. Iacocca <i>Chair and CEO, Chrysler Corporation</i>
	1984	Shirley Chisholm <i>United States Representative from New York</i>
	1983	Helmut Schmidt <i>Former Chancellor, Federal Republic of Germany</i>
	1982	Katharine Graham <i>Chair and CEO, Washington Post Co.</i>
	1981	Paul E. Gray '54, SM '55, ScD '60 <i>MIT President</i>
1980	1980	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1979	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1978	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1977	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1976	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1975	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1974	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1973	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1972	Jerome Wiesner HM '71 <i>MIT President</i>
	1971	Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66 <i>MIT President</i>
1970	1970	Two minutes of silence to consider what can be done <i>"to help resolve the conflicts which divide mankind."</i>
	1969	Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66 <i>MIT President</i>
	1968	Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66 <i>MIT President</i>
	1967	Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66 <i>MIT President</i>
	1966	Julius Stratton '23, SM '26 <i>MIT President</i>
	1965	Julius Stratton '23, SM '26 <i>MIT President</i>
	1964	Julius Stratton '23, SM '26 <i>MIT President</i>
	1963	Eugene R. Black <i>Former President, World Bank</i>
	1962	Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh <i>President, University of Notre Dame</i>
	1961	Frank Stanton <i>President, Columbia Broadcasting System</i>
1960	1960	Edwin H. Land <i>President, Polaroid Corporation</i>
	1959	John Cowles <i>President, Minneapolis Star and Tribune Co.</i>
	1958	John Jay McCloy <i>Chair, Chase Manhattan Bank</i>
	1957	John William Gardner <i>President, Carnegie Corporation of New York</i>
	1956	Neil Hosler McElroy <i>President, Procter and Gamble Co.</i>
	1955	Sir Roger Makins <i>1st Baron Sherfield, British Ambassador to the United States</i>
	1954	Clarence B. Randall <i>Chair, United States Commission of Foreign Economic Policy</i>
	1953	Lewis W. Douglas '17 <i>Former United States Ambassador to Great Britain</i>
	1952	Edward A. Weeks, Jr. <i>Editor, Atlantic Monthly</i>
	1951	Harold R. Medina <i>Judge, United States District Court for Southern District of New York</i>
1950	1950	Chester Irving Barnard <i>President, Rockefeller Foundation</i>
	1949	James Phinney Baxter III <i>President, Williams College</i>
	1948	Arthur Holly Compton <i>Chancellor, Washington University, and 1927 Nobel Prize winner</i>
	1947	Warren Robinson Austin <i>United States Delegate to the United Nations General Assembly</i>
	1946	Lt. Gen. James Doolittle SM '24, ScD '25 <i>Former Commanding General, United States Eighth Air Force</i>
	1945	Captain Dashiell Livingston Madeira <i>Director of Training, US Naval Personnel, Undergraduate Commencement speaker</i>
	1944	Claude Moore Fuess <i>Headmaster, Phillips Academy, Advanced Commencement speaker</i>
	1944	Bradley Dewey ScD '40 <i>President, Dewey & Almy Chemical Co., Undergraduate Commencement speaker</i>
	1943	Clarence Decatur Howe <i>Minister of Munitions and Supply Dominion of Canada, Advanced Commencement speaker</i>
	1943	John W. M. Bunker HM '50 <i>MIT Dean for Graduate School, Advanced Commencement speaker</i>
	1942	Karl Taylor Compton HM '31 <i>MIT President, Undergraduate Commencement speaker</i>
	1942	Samuel Cate Prescott 1894 <i>MIT Dean of Science</i>
	1941	Robert Erastus Wilson <i>President, Pan-American Petroleum and Transport Co.</i>
1940	1940	Henning Webb Prentiss, Jr. <i>President, National Association of Manufacturers</i>
	1939	Sir Harold Hartley <i>Vice President, London, Midland, and Scottish Railways</i>
	1938	Charles Donagh Maginnis <i>President, American Institute of Architects</i>
	1937	Gano Dunn <i>President, J.G. White Engineering Corp.</i>
	1936	Newton Diehl Baker <i>Former United States Secretary of War</i>
	1935	Major General William Harvey Tschappat <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1935	Rear Admiral Charles Phillips Snyder <i>United States Navy, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1935	Isaiah Bowman <i>President-Elect, Johns Hopkins University, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1934	Brigadier General Alston Hamilton <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1934	Rear Admiral Henry Hughes Hough <i>United States Navy, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1934	Howard Walter Blakeslee <i>Science Editor, Associated Press, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1933	Major General Fox Conner <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1933	Rear Admiral George Henry Rock <i>United States Navy, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1933	Abbott Lawrence Lowell HM '28 <i>Retiring President, Harvard University, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1932	Sir Henry W. Thornton <i>President, Canadian National Railways, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1932	Brigadier General Alston Hamilton <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1932	Commander Henry Eastin Rossell <i>United States Navy, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1931	Major General Fox Conner <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1931	Rear Admiral Louis McCoy <i>United States Navy, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1931	Ray Lyman Wilbur <i>United States Secretary of the Interior, General Commencement speaker</i>
1930	1930	Sir William Henry Bragg <i>Scientist, London University, and 1915 Nobel Prize winner</i>
	1928	Hiram Bingham III <i>United States Senator from Connecticut</i>
	1928	John Hays Hammond <i>Mining Engineer</i>
	1927	Brig. Gen. Preston Brown <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1927	John E. Aldred <i>Banker and Life Member, MIT Corporation, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1926	Brig. Gen. Malvern-Hill Barnum <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1926	Michael I. Pupin <i>Professor, Columbia University, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1925	Major General Andre W. Brewster <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1925	Dr. Charles A. Coffin 1886 <i>Former President, General Electric Company, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1924	Major General C.C. Williams <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1924	Frank Edward Shepard 1887 <i>Director, United States Mint, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1923	Major General Andre W. Brewster <i>United States Army, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1923	Elisha Lee <i>Vice President, Pennsylvania Railroad, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1922	Col. John Buffalo Brian <i>Head, MIT Department of Military Science, Reserve Officers Corps Commencement speaker</i>
	1922	Elihu Thomson HM '28 <i>MIT Acting President, General Commencement speaker</i>
	1921	Elihu Thomson HM '28 <i>MIT Acting President</i>
1920	1920	Elihu Thomson HM '28 <i>MIT Acting President</i>
	1919	No Commencement exercises <i>World War I</i>
	1918	No Commencement exercises <i>World War I</i>
	1917	Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08 <i>MIT President</i>
	1916	J. Smith <i>Professor, University of West Virginia</i>
	1915	Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08 <i>MIT President</i>
	1914	No Commencement address
	1913	Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08 <i>MIT President</i>
	1912	Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08 <i>MIT President</i>
	1911	Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08 <i>MIT President</i>
1910	1910	Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08 <i>MIT President</i>
	1909	Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08 <i>MIT President</i>
	1908	Arthur A. Noyes <i>MIT Acting President</i>
	1907	Henry S. Pritchett HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1906	Henry S. Pritchett HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1905	Henry S. Pritchett HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1904	Henry S. Pritchett HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1903	Henry S. Pritchett HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1902	Henry S. Pritchett HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1901	Henry S. Pritchett HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
1900	1900	James Mason Crafts HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1899	James Mason Crafts HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1898	James Mason Crafts HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1897	James Mason Crafts HM '00 <i>MIT President</i>
	1896	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1895	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1894	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1893	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1892	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1891	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
1890	1890	Augustus Lowell <i>Member, MIT Corporation</i>
	1889	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1889	Rev. Phillips Brooks <i>Rector, Trinity Church, Boston</i>
	1888	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1888	Rev. Phillips Brooks <i>Rector, Trinity Church, Boston</i>
	1887	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1886	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1885	John D. Runkle HM '00 <i>MIT Professor of Mathematics</i>
	1884	No Commencement address
	1883	Francis A. Walker <i>MIT President</i>
	1882	William Barton Rogers <i>Former MIT President</i>
	1881	Rev. James Freeman Clarke <i>American Theologian</i>
	1881	William Barton Rogers <i>MIT President</i>
1880	1880	Rev. George E. Ellis <i>Unitarian Clergyman</i>