

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE



NINETEENTH COMMENCEMENT

October 20, 1991
The War Memorial
Trenton, New Jersey

The
Nineteenth Annual Commencement
of
Thomas Edison State College

2:00 p.m.
October 20, 1991

The War Memorial
Trenton, New Jersey

Dr. Jerry Ice
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Presiding

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Processional	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i> by Sir Edward Elgar
<i>America the Beautiful</i>	by Samuel A. Ward and Katherine Lee Bates
Welcome and Introduction	Christian Yegen Chairman Board of Trustees
Greetings	The Honorable Douglas Palmer Mayor, City of Trenton
Distinguished Service Award Presentation	Recipient: Patricia Danielson
Conferring of Honorary Degree	Dr. George A. Pruitt President
Doctor of Humane Letters <i>honoris causa</i>	Fred W. Friendly
Commencement Address	Fred W. Friendly Professor Emeritus Columbia University
Musical Presentation	<i>The Battle Hymn of the Republic</i> by Peter Wilhousky

Conferring of Degrees	Dr. George A. Pruitt President
Presidential Charge	Dr. George A. Pruitt President
Response for Graduates	Scott Moniak
Induction into the Alumni Association	Ida Hammond President Alumni Association
Closing Remarks	Dr. Jerry Ice Vice President for Academic Affairs
Singing of the Alma Mater	The North Jersey Philharmonic Glee Club
Recessional	<i>March</i> Gustav Holst

Everyone is asked to stand during the Processional, the singing of "America the Beautiful," the singing of the Alma Mater, and the Recessional.

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ARNOLD FLETCHER AWARD

The Arnold Fletcher Award recognizes Thomas Edison State College baccalaureate graduates for exceptional achievement in independent learning. Students selected have demonstrated excellence and have earned a large number of credits using one or more of the nontraditional learning modes recognized by the College: Assessment of Prior Learning through Portfolio, Testing, Guided Study, Correspondence Courses, and Nursing Performance Examinations.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Arnold Fletcher, Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1973-1983.

The Selection Committee, composed of the Coordinator of Liberal Arts Programs, Coordinator of Business Programs, Coordinator of Applied Science and Technology and Human Services Programs, Director of Nursing Program, and the Dean of the College, has selected the following to receive the Arnold Fletcher Award at the October 1991 Commencement:

Virginia A. Azarchi
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Mark P. Siino
John W. Stouffer
Charles W. Young

Graduates wearing the gold *double honor cords* are the Arnold Fletcher Honors Award recipients.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff of the College wishes to thank the Trenton Brass Quintet for providing music for the ceremony; Joseph Scannella and John Peraino, trumpets; Nancy Gallaher, horn; Peter Reichlin, trombone; Karl I. Megules, tuba and director of the group.

The staff also wish to thank the North Jersey Philharmonic Glee Club. Members are:

Dr. DeCosta Dawson, Conductor
Willis Coker, Accompanist
Norman Abraham
Rudy Adams
Maurice Barnes
Robert Bryant
Ben Champion
Lawrence Dantzler
Glen Gamble
Leroy Gibson
Harold Hargwood
Donald Harrison
Mark Hill
Victor Morrison
Larry Pleasant
Carl Preston, Jr.
Herbert Proctor
Paul Ray
Brendon Row
Robert Simmons
Alan Stephens
Leon Vaughan
Donald Watkins
Jonathan Williams
Ronald Williams

ACADEMIC HERALDRY: THE SYMBOLS OF LEARNING

While the current code concerning the types of academic costumes to be used by the colleges in the United States dates from 1960, distinctive academic dress dates from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The college or university commencement procession today is a pageant, alive and bright with a dress and ceremony deep in the tradition of the oldest universities.

Academic life as we know it today began in the Middle Ages—with Bologna and Paris, Oxford and Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Louvain—first in the Church, then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the Guild of the Master of Arts, where the bachelor was the apprentice of the master, and the dress was color-coded and patterned according to the academic level and discipline. Twelfth century records of Oxford University carry this justification for academic dress: "It is honorable and in accordance with reason that clerks to whom God has given an advantage of the lay folk in their adornments within, should likewise differ from the lay folk outwardly in dress."

There are three principle features of academic dress: the gown, the cap, and the hood. Their design and heraldry were, from as early as the eleventh and twelfth centuries in the great European universities, the outward sign of the bringing together of students and privileged persons under the same discipline.

To preserve their dignity and meaning, it early became necessary for these universities to set rules for academic dress. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895 and set up a suitable dress code of academic dress for the colleges and universities of the United States. In 1932 and again in 1959 the American Council on Education revised the code which, for the most part, governs the style of academic dress today.

THE GOWN. The flowing gown comes from the twelfth century. Many think it was worn in olden times as protection against the cold of unheated buildings. It has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath. It is black for all degrees, with pointed sleeves for the bachelor's degree; oblong sleeves for the master's degree; and bell-shaped for the doctor's degree. For the bachelor's or master's degree, the gown has no trimmings. For the doctor's degree, it is faced down the front with

velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves, in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline to which the degree pertains. Of late years, the official colors of the college may appear in the gown or its decorations.

THE CAP. When Roman law freed the slave, he won the privilege of wearing a cap. And so the academic cap is a sign of freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as square to symbolize the book, although some authorities claim that the mortar board is the symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline.

THE HOOD. Since almost all of the students and faculty in the medieval universities were clerics (minor church ecclesiastics) and were tonsured, the hood served to cover the shaved head from the cold of unheated buildings. Eventually the hood was superseded by the skull cap and evolved into a headdress more or less like those in use today. Heraldically, the hood is an inverted shield with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college. The color of the facing of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining of the hood designates the college or university from which the degree was granted.

The associate degree is a modern degree which dates back only several decades rather than centuries. In the hierarchy of the academic world, the associate degree is the modern entry point. Its equivalent in the guild of teachers would be that of a junior apprentice.

The hood is not worn by the associate graduate. The associate's cap and gown are grey.

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FRED W. FRIENDLY

Fred W. Friendly, the dean of American broadcast journalism, has received international recognition for a pioneering career in radio and television news which spans over 50 years.

Mr. Friendly began his broadcasting career on Rhode Island radio in 1937, where he wrote, produced, and narrated a series of dramatized biographies entitled, "Footprints in the Sands of Time." He was decorated for his service in World War II, and later produced documentary and other news programs with NBC and the first "I Can Hear It Now" record album for Columbia Records in 1948.

After serving as executive producer of the legendary "See It Now" series with Edward R. Murrow from 1950-1964, Mr. Friendly was president of CBS News from 1964-66 and was instrumental in the creation of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in 1967. Two programs he produced—"See It Now" and "CBS Reports"—received a total of 75 awards.

From 1966-80, he was an advisor on communications to the president of the Ford Foundation and originated and directed Media-Law Seminars, a teleconference series engaging members of the professions of law, journalism, government, and business in dialogues to encourage communication.

Mr. Friendly moved from broadcast journalism to the academy in 1968, when he became Edward R. Murrow Professor of Journalism and Chairman of the Broadcast Program at Columbia University. He also served as Distinguished Visiting Professor, Bryn Mawr College (1981), Visiting Professor, Yale University (1984), and Montgomery Fellow, Dartmouth College (1986). He is Edward R. Murrow professor emeritus, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, director of the Columbia University Seminars on Media and Society/Graduate School of Journalism, and the recipient of numerous academic awards for his service to journalism.

As a commentator on events that continue to shape our nation, Mr. Friendly has done more than any other single person to bring an understanding of the Constitution to the American public. He has published five books and numerous magazine and newspaper articles. He holds honorary degrees from several major colleges and universities; among them, Brown, Carnegie-Mellon, Columbia University, Utah, New York Law School, and today is receiving the Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, from Thomas Edison State College.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountains' majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

Music by Samuel A. Ward
Words by Katherine Lee Bates

ALMA MATER

Here's to our College
Our alma mater
You met the challenge of our needs.

Age didn't matter
Only our knowledge
We did indeed
Dare to succeed
In college.

You served our lifelong dream
You answered every need
Now on this day we pay you
Tribute-Honor.

Here's to our College
Our alma mater
All hail to thee
Edison State
All hail to thee.

Thomas Edison
State College
All hail to thee

Words and music by Roy Meriwether