

University of Maine School of Law



Annual Commencement



Saturday, May 22, 2021

Program

Presiding

LEIGH I. SAUFLEY
Dean

Greetings

JAMES R. ERWIN
Chair, Board of Trustees
University of Maine System

DANNEL MALLOY
Chancellor
University of Maine System

Student Address

SANCHITA MUKHERJEE
Class of 2021

L. Kinvin Wroth Award

ARIA EEE
Executive Director
Maine Board of Overseers

Keynote Address

MARY L. BONAUTO
Civil Rights Project Director
GLBTQ Legal Advocates and Defenders (GLAD)

Awards

SARA WOLFF
Chair, Awards Committee
Legal Writing Professor

KAYLEIGH CLEARY
President
Student Bar Association

Presentation of Graduates

DMITRY BAM
Vice Dean/Provost & Professor of Law

Aria Eee '94

L. Kinvin Wroth Distinguished Alumna Award Recipient

Aria Eee serves as the executive director of Maine's Board of Overseers of the Bar. Her primary responsibilities include assisting the Board in its fiduciary obligations, advising Maine lawyers on ethical concerns, and presenting legal education programs.

Prior to her appointment as the Board's executive director, Aria served for many years in the Bar Counsel's office. Aria began her career as a National Association of Public Interest Law (NAPIL) fellow assisting Passamaquoddy Tribal clients and then as counsel for the Passamaquoddy Tribe's Housing Authority (Pleasant Point). She was a solo practitioner in Washington County before serving for several years as an assistant attorney general.

As an adjunct professor, Aria teaches Professional Responsibility at the University of Maine School of Law. Aria is a member of the American Bar Association, the Maine State Bar Association, the Gignoux Inn of Court, and various affinity bar groups. She graduated from the University of Alabama and the University of Maine School of Law.



L. Kinvin Wroth Distinguished Alumnus/a Award, Previous Honorees

1992	Hon. Daniel E. Wathen, '65	2006	Patricia A. Peard, '88
1993	David B. Hawkes, '69	2007	Ira J. Waldman, '76
1994	Michael E. Carpenter, '83	2008	Peter McKenney, '77
1995	Hon. Susan W. Calkins, '70	2009	Hon. Vendeau Vafiades, '85
1996	Hon. Nancy Diesel Mills, '82	2010	Hon. Margaret J. Kravchuk, '76
1996	S. Peter Mills, '73	2011	David J. Evans, '78
1997	Rosalyn Bernstein, '86	2012	Hon. Joseph Jabar, '71
1998	Hon. Leigh Ingalls Sauflay, '80	2013	Hon. John A. Woodcock, '76
1999	Mark W. Lawrence, '90	2014	Eleanor M. Baker, '78
2000	G. Steven Rowe, '87	2015	Hon. Janet T. Mills, '76
2001	Steven A. Hammond, '77	2016	J. Trevor Hughes, '95
2002	John H. Montgomery, '77	2017	Hon. Michael A. Fagone, '97
2003	Richard L. Roe, '77	2018	Hilary Rapkin, '93
2004	Paula D. Silsby, '76	2019	Hon. Lance Walker, '00
2005	John K. Veroneau, '89		

Mary L. Bonauto

Keynote Speaker

Since 1990, Mary Bonauto has been an attorney and civil rights project director at GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD). GLAD works in the New England states and nationally to secure equality and equity under law for LGBTQ people and people living with HIV, and to challenge systems and policies that have historically disadvantaged LGBTQ people, people of color, and people disenfranchised by their converging identities.

Mary began her legal career at Portland's Mittel & Heffernan (now Mittel Asen) in 1987. She left for the opportunity to do full-time LGBTQ civil rights work, including enforcement of the second in the nation law forbidding sexual orientation discrimination. Her recent work in Maine and beyond includes challenging the transgender military ban, addressing anti-LGBTQ discrimination as discrimination based on sex, defending conversion therapy bans, updating family laws, furthering student and parent rights in school contexts, engaging the juvenile justice and child welfare systems, and litigation addressing free speech and the free exercise of religion.

Mary's work in Maine has supported families and their children, ranging from domestic partnership recognition for University of Maine faculty and staff in 1996 to serving on the executive committee to win the freedom to marry on the ballot in 2012. With co-counsel, Mary secured Law Court victories allowing non-marital same-sex couples to serve as co-guardians (2003), to be recognized as de facto parents (2004), to adopt jointly (2007), and secure respect for their out-of-state marriages (2015). In 2014, GLAD won a groundbreaking Law Court ruling requiring that transgender students be respected for who they are at school.

Mary successfully argued for equal access to marriage for same-sex couples nationwide before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Obergefell v. Hodges* in 2015. Prior to *Obergefell*, Mary was co-counsel in Vermont litigation leading to the nation's first civil union law (1999) and lead counsel in the Massachusetts case which broke the historic barrier on same-sex couples marrying (2003), as well as litigating and consulting on cases and legislative efforts for marriage equality across the country. Mary led GLAD's challenges to the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), won the first District and Circuit Court rulings invalidating it, and coordinated amici briefs in *U.S. v. Windsor* at the Supreme Court (2013).

Mary serves on the Chief Justice's Justice For Children Task Force, and served on the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Task Force (2019-20). She is a MacArthur Fellow and lecturer at Harvard Law School. She graduated from Hamilton College and Northeastern University School of Law.



Pro Bono Service

Lawyers have an ethical and professional responsibility for *pro bono publico* service, including provision of legal services to clients in need and other contributions to the public good. In keeping with this tradition of public service, the faculty of the University of Maine School of Law adopted a voluntary student *pro bono* legal service standard that encourages each student to provide a minimum of 80 hours of *pro bono* legal service and/or law-related community service prior to graduation.

The following members of the Class of 2021 have met this aspirational standard, and we gratefully acknowledge and honor their contributions to the public good.

Caroline Abigail Anson
Nicholas Benfaremo
Shianne Micole Bowlin
Suzannah Cyr Dowling
Paige Elizabeth Eggleston
Michael James Flaherty
Rezvaneh Ganji
Laura Lantry Greenwood
Sheilan F. Hamasoor

Meredith Norfleet Harrell
Kristin Elyse King
Manali Anand Kulkarni
Kelsey Lee
Timothy James Lueders-Dumont
Sanchita Mukherjee
Cheryl A. Saniuk-Heinig
Katherine Camille Skinner
Nicole Suzanne Williamson

CLASS OF 2021

J.D. HONORS

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Suzannah Cyr Dowling
Maye Carolyn Emlein

Susan Miriam Weidner

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Nina Joyce Ciffolillo
Nicholas P. Janzen
Allison D. McGonagle

Cheryl A. Saniuk-Heinig
Joseph H. Shagoury
Nicholas J. Stiles

CUM LAUDE

Shianne Micole Bowlin
Benjamin Tyler Everett
Kelsey Elizabeth Gagnon
Laura Lantry Greenwood
Mikala Lynn Holt
Taylor Andrew Krowitz
Kelsey Lee
Ellex Nastasha Loper
William Nealley

Everett T. O'Malley
Daniel J. Pulaski
Katherine Jeannette Randall
Stephanie J. Rogers
Jonathan J. Ruterbories
Katherine Camille Skinner
Daya J. Taylor
Nicole Suzanne Williamson

LL.M. HONORS

With Distinction

Kathryn Frances Roberts King

CERTIFICATE IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCEANS LAW HONORS

With Distinction

Lexis Anderson
Nicholas P. Janzen
Sanchita Mukherjee

Elias R. Murphy
Joseph H. Shagoury

CERTIFICATE IN INFORMATION PRIVACY LAW HONORS

With Distinction

Brandon Lee Berg
Nathaniel D. Moore

Cheryl A. Saniuk-Heinig

University of Maine School of Law

Degree Candidates

Class of 2021

MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.)

Kathryn Frances Roberts King	Hampden ME	B.S.	1982	University of Maine
		M.S.	1984	Western Michigan University
		J.D.	2020	University of Maine School of Law

JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.)

Samuel Coye Adams	Yarmouth ME	B.S.	2011	Ithaca College
Ian Michael Anderson	Jonesboro ME	B.A.	2018	University of Maine
Lexis Anderson^	Falmouth ME	B.S.	2018	Yale University
Caroline Abigail Anson	Scarborough ME	B.A.	2013	Bates College
Brooke J. Bailey	Biddeford ME	B.A.	2018	University of Southern Maine
Paige Elizabeth Bebus	New Brighton MN	B.A.	2017	University of Minnesota - Duluth
Nicholas Benfaremo	New York NY	B.S.	1979	Manhattan College
		Ph.D.	1985	University of Pennsylvania
		B.S.E.E.	1989	Polytechnic University
Brandon Lee Berg*	Irvine CA	B.A.	2017	University of California Irvine
Emma G. Bilodeau	Auburn ME	B.A.	2016	Bates College
Jamie Paul Blair	Halifax NS CAN	B.A.	2018	Suffolk University
Shianne Micole Bowlin	Princeton IN	B.A./B.S.	2017	University of Southern Indiana
		M.S.	2018	Arizona State University
Frank Joseph Brancely IV	Saco ME	B.A.	2010	Bard College
		M.A.	2014	New York University
James Brenner	Austin TX	B.A.	2017	The University of Texas at San Antonio
Mehron D. Buerger	Springfield VA	B.A.	2016	George Mason University
Nina Joyce Ciffolillo	North Easton MA	B.A.	2016	McGill University - Canada
Abbie Eastman Cox	Sumner ME	B.A.	2017	Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Dylan J. Cox	Lewiston ME	B.A.	2017	Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Aimée Elizabeth Dodge	Jonesport ME	B.A.	2011	University of Maine
Suzannah Cyr Dowling	North Conway NH	B.A.	2005	Bates College
		M.A.	2010	Suffolk University
Paige Elizabeth Eggleston	Portland ME	B.A.	2013	University of Maine
Maye Carolyn Emlein	Portland ME	B.A.	2014	Wheaton College
		M.P.H.	2018	Boston University
Benjamin Tyler Everett	Fort Fairfield ME	B.A.	2016	University of Maine at Presque Isle
Michael James Flaherty	Portland ME	B.A.	2017	Marquette University
Casey Alexander Fournier	South Portland ME	B.A.	2018	University of Maine
Mark Nicholas Franco	Portland ME	B.A.	2016	University of Denver
Kelsey Elizabeth Gagnon	Orrington ME	B.S.	2010	University of New Hampshire

Rezvaneh Ganji	Tehran IRAN	B.A.	2007	University of Tehran - Iran
		M.A.	2009	New School for Social Research
		M. Phil.	2017	New School for Social Research
		Ph.D.	2018	New School for Social Research
Sander Blaine Goldthwait	Minneapolis MN	B.S.	2007	Iowa State University
Laura Lantry Greenwood	Lunenburg MA	B.A.	2015	University of Vermont
Irina Grigoryeva	Burlington MA	B.A.	2018	University of Massachusetts Amherst
Sheilan F. Hamasoor	Bismarck ND	B.A.	2018	University of North Dakota
Meredith Norfleet Harrell	Portland ME	B.A.	1996	New England College
		M.S.W.	2008	University of New England
Mikala Lynn Holt	Livermore ME	B.S.	2019	Husson University
Deanna Arlene House^	Portsmouth VA	B.A.	1991	University of Maine
		M.A.	1993	University of Maine
Nicholas P. Janzen^	New Orleans LA	B.A.	2012	University of Alabama
Mona Kesar	Hyderabad INDIA	B.A.	2008	Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University - India
		M.A.	2016	University for Peace - Costa Rica
Kristin Elyse King	Kennebunk ME	B.A.	2011	Saint Michael's College
Amanda Jacqueline Klein	Torrance CA	B.A.	2017	Sonoma State University
Taylor Andrew Krowitz	Lunenburg MA	B.A.	2015	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Manali Anand Kulkarni	Memphis TN	B.A.	2012	Rhodes College
		LL.M.	2016	Nottingham Law School, Nottingham Trent University - United Kingdom
James Mathew Langworthy	Houlton ME	B.A.	2017	University of Maine
Matthew D. Lauzon	Biddeford ME	B.S.	2007	Babson College
Kelsey Lee	Lincoln NE	B.A.	2013	University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Elizabeth Hayley Littlefield	North Berwick ME	B.A.	2018	University of Maine
Kyle Charles Lonabaugh	Woodbury NJ	B.A.	2017	University of Maine
Ellex Nastasha Loper	Norway ME	B.A.	2017	University of Southern Maine
Timothy James Lueders-Dumont	Lincoln VT	B.A.	2012	Skidmore College
Mikayla Martin	Cumberland Foreside ME	B.S.	2018	University of Southern Maine
Samuel Coleman Martin^	Portland ME	B.A.	2016	George Washington University
Wade Alan McCall	Minot ME	B.A.	1992	Atlantic Union College
		M.A.	1994	Seventh Day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University
Nicholas A. McCrillis	Scarborough ME	B.S.	2008	University of Maine
Allison D. McGonagle	South Portland ME	B.A.	2009	Fordham University
Griffin McShane*	Madison CT	B.S.	2018	Providence College
Rose E. Miller	Bangor ME	B.A.	2017	University of Maine at Farmington
Nathaniel D. Moore*	Austin TX	B.A./B.S.	2015	Texas State University
		M.A.	2017	Texas State University
Cassandra Lynn Morin	Auburn ME	B.A.	2016	University of Southern Maine
Sanchita Mukherjee^	Toronto ON CAN	B.S.	2018	University of Florida
Elias R. Murphy^	Poland ME	B.A.	2015	Juniata College

William Nealley	Winterport ME	B.A.	2018	Brandeis University
Everett T. O'Malley	Oakfield WI	B.S.	2015	University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh
Jacqueline Mary Polvere	Greenwich CT	B.A.	2015	University of Connecticut
James Gettys Puckette	Radnor PA	B.S.	2017	Northeastern University
Daniel J. Pulaski	Buffalo NY	B.A.	2017	Hilbert College
Katherine Jeannette Randall	South Portland ME	B.A.	2018	University of Southern Maine
Elizabeth Janet Reed	Spearfish SD	B.S.	2018	Black Hills State University
Brittany Ashmore Ritter	Bangor ME	B.A.	2017	Husson University
Stephanie J. Rogers	Portland ME	B.A.	2015	University of Vermont
Jonathan J. Ruterbories	South Portland ME	B.A.	2018	Saint Louis University
Cheryl A. Saniuk-Heinig*	Boston MA	B.A.	2015	Syracuse University
Katherine Anne Sawyer	Minot ME	B.A.	2017	University of New England
Douglas Segnini*	Chelmsford MA	B.A.	2011	Emmanuel College
Joseph H. Shagoury^	Hallowell ME	B.A.	2015	Colby College
Jayden Taylor Sineiro	Fall River MA	B.S.	2017	Husson University
Katherine Camille Skinner	New Orleans LA	B.A.	2015	University of Southern Maine
Nicholas J. Stiles	Augusta ME	B.S.	2016	University of Maine at Augusta
Daya J. Taylor	Portland ME	B.A.	2007	University of Maine
Conor Wallace Todd	Mars Hill ME	B.A.	2018	University of Maine
Susan Miriam Weidner	Simsbury CT	B.A.	2014	Colby College
Lindsay R. White	Boston MA	B.A.	2012	William Smith College
Nicole Suzanne Williamson	Falls Church VA	B.A.	2012	Virginia Tech

^Denotes Certificate in Environmental and Oceans Law Recipients

**Denotes Certificate in Information Privacy Law Recipients*



The University of Maine School of Law

The University of Maine School of Law is the only law school in Maine, offering the J.D. (Juris Doctor), the post-professional LL.M. (Master of Laws), and the J.S.D. (Doctor of the Science of Law) degrees. Maine Law is committed to educational and scholarly excellence; to justice and the public interest; to professionalism, integrity, and high ethical standards; and to serving as a resource for the entire state. A rigorous core curriculum is augmented by Maine Law's strengths in environmental and oceans law, intellectual property and technology law, business and commercial law, international law, clinical programs, trial advocacy, and more. Maine Law prepares graduates to succeed in a global economy and to excel in a wide variety of careers in private and public sectors in Maine and throughout the world.

As a public institution, Maine Law takes seriously its responsibilities to the State of Maine and its citizens. Students and faculty advance the economic and social well-being of Maine through extensive research, policy development, clinical programs, internships, externships, and public interest fellowships. Graduates hold prominent leadership positions in law, government, business, and civic society. Located in the beautiful coastal city of Portland, the Law School is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a charter member of the Association of American Law Schools.