

COLLEGE of DESIGN

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



## COMMENCEMENT

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Northrop Auditorium



# **COLLEGE OF DESIGN COMMENCEMENT**

Thursday, May 15, 2025

## **PROCESSIONAL**

### **WELCOME**

Prasad Boradkar, PhD, *Dean*

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Larissa Loden '07, '09, *CEO, Larissa Loden Jewelry*

### **STUDENT SPEAKERS**

Vinuthna Akurati, *Graphic Design BFA*

Lillian Kuiken, *Product Design BS*

Mariangel Meza, *Architecture MS*

### **PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES**

Trevor Miller, *Assistant Dean, Strategy and Advancement*

### **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Mary C. Turner, *Regent, University of Minnesota*

### **PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES**

Prasad Boradkar, PhD, *Dean*

## **RECESSIONAL**

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PLEDGE OF UNITY**

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities is located on traditional, ancestral, and contemporary lands of the Dakota People. We are committed to recognizing the complex history of this land by honoring the truth of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together now. We acknowledge the need to end the violence against missing and murdered Indigenous women—a local and national epidemic. We resist the culture of anti-Black racism in our community, which has led to the deaths of Jamar Clark, Philando Castile, George Floyd, Daunte Wright, Winston Smith, and Amir Locke, among countless other Black Americans across our nation. We stand with our Hmong, Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander communities against the rise of xenophobic violence since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are committed to advocating for equity and fostering a sense of belonging for our queer and trans community members. We know that words are not enough and remain committed to the work of eradicating injustices against all Black people, Indigenous people, people of color, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Through Design Justice, the College of Design is immersed in initiatives that create opportunities for historically underinvested groups within the design industry and academia. Learn more about our work and how you can get involved at [design.umn.edu/justice](https://design.umn.edu/justice).

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Larissa Loden '07, '09, is a proud University of Minnesota alumna. A designer, entrepreneur, and changemaker, Larissa embodies the spirit of creativity, resilience, and purpose-driven design. While working as a middle school art teacher, she transformed a creative side hustle into Larissa Loden Jewelry, a nationally recognized brand known for its bold, minimal designs and unapologetic personality. Today, her woman-owned business has grown into a dedicated team of artisans and creatives, with her jewelry featured in over 600 retailers across the country.

Beyond her success as a designer, Larissa is a passionate advocate for sustainability, social justice, and mental health awareness in entrepreneurship. Her company has donated over \$50,000 to causes that align with its values, reflecting her commitment to creating positive change through her work.

## **CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES**

This program contains the names of College of Design students who have applied to graduate from the fall 2024 semester through the fall 2025 semester. This is not an official University of Minnesota graduation list.

## **HONORS AND DISTINCTION**

Graduation with designated Latin honors (cum laude, magna cum laude, summa cum laude) is limited to students who participate in the University of Minnesota Honors Program. Students must complete honors requirements, including a capstone or thesis project in their major, and, in their last 60 University of Minnesota credits, maintain a 3.50 GPA for cum laude, a 3.66 GPA for magna cum laude, and a 3.75 GPA for summa cum laude honors. To graduate with distinction, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher at graduation. To graduate with high distinction, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.90 or higher. Candidates for academic honors are noted in this program.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGED SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

This University of Minnesota award recognizes undergraduate students for outstanding community contributions. To be eligible, students enroll in the Community Engagement Scholars Program (CESP). As participants, students must complete at least eight credits of community-engaged learning coursework, at least 400 hours of community engagement, and six reflections. Scholars also complete an Integrative Community Engagement Project (ICEP) that results in the creation of a sustainable project for a community partner organization.

## **PRESIDENT'S EMERGING SCHOLARS**

The President's Emerging Scholars (PES) program is a four-year opportunity for select undergraduate students with diverse backgrounds and characteristics. There are approximately 350 students from various colleges graduating from the PES program this spring. Graduates will be honored with a purple commencement cord.

## **KUSSKE DESIGN INITIATIVE STUDENT COHORT**

A generous commitment from the Manitou Fund to the College of Design at the University of Minnesota honors the memory of distinguished alumnus Christopher Arthur Kusske (BLA '78). The Kusske Design Initiative (KDI) reflects his legacy through widely inclusive events and collaborations among a growing design community. KDI supports a student cohort made up of select undergraduate Kusske Scholars and graduate Kusske Fellows, along with undergraduate and graduate Kusske Assistants. These students are important collaborators in advancing the dialogue across disciplines and strengthening our college culture through interdisciplinary dialogue, co-creativity, and celebration of the natural world. Graduating members of the KDI student cohort are noted in this program and will be honored with a turquoise and black commencement cord.

# UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

## APPAREL DESIGN BS

Maram Mohammed Algazi  
Tyne Andrews, *candidate for distinction*  
Olivia Bartol  
Gina Bradford  
Mara Christianson  
Laura Dahlin  
Alex Despot, *candidate for high distinction*  
Isabel DeVerter  
Audrey Friesen  
Benny Garner  
Elizabeth Harder  
Elizabeth Heimbach  
Anna Keith

Phoebe Kotecki  
Svea Krisetya  
Tierra Ruggenberg, *candidate for distinction*  
Mae Sann  
Samantha Schaffer  
Devin Schwartz, *candidate for high distinction*  
Chloe Simpson  
Siobhan Sullivan, *with distinction*  
Kue Thao  
Greta Wolsky  
Chou Yang, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
T-Jay Yang

## ARCHITECTURE BS

Ethan Barber, *summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for distinction*  
Isaac Bernal, *candidate for high distinction*  
Ingrid Blanco-Abundez  
Julia Frances Brand  
Greta Brzezinski, *candidate for distinction*  
Elena Candamil  
Zach Carlson  
Aubrey Chelich  
Isabel Conway, *summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Elizabeth Cremeans, *summa cum laude*  
Ben Crouse, *cum laude*  
Ian Dawson  
Lindsay Dawson  
Abigail Green, *candidate for distinction*  
Anna Grzeszczak  
Claudia Guan  
Ciera Hanson, *summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for distinction*  
Jacob Hanson, *candidate for distinction*  
Clara Harter  
McKenna Hebeisen, *candidate for distinction*  
Faye Henry, *candidate for high distinction*  
Lilly Holmberg  
Sangwoo Kim, *candidate for high distinction*  
Clarisa Kramer  
Levi Larson

Harrison Lehmann  
Caitlyn Leising, *candidate for distinction*  
Aria Lissick, *candidate for distinction*  
Kent Loiseaux-Purcell  
Adrien McCabe  
Bahja Abdulqadir Mohamed  
Aaron Murphy  
Thy Nguyen  
Sarah Niemiec, *candidate for distinction*  
Chloe O'Neill  
Julia Oelkers, *summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Joy Quach  
Aubrey Rekstad, *candidate for high distinction*  
Aidan Rich  
Stevie Samuels, *candidate for distinction*  
Hannah Schaffer, *summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Logan Schommer  
Nicholas Scott, *candidate for high distinction*  
Maia Sherry, *candidate for distinction*  
Zubeida Siad  
Jon Taylor  
Cassidy Thompson, *candidate for distinction*  
Carel Tulus, *summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for distinction*  
Muahmong Vang,  
*President's Emerging Scholars*

## ARCHITECTURE BS (CONT'D)

Jordan Voigt, *summa cum laude*,  
*candidate for distinction*  
Sage Wesenberg, *candidate for distinction*  
Madelyn Wielgus

Aurora Williams  
Franklin Xiao  
Ruth Zaw

## ARCHITECTURE BDA

Jodi Anderson  
Aiman Arif  
Gabriela Baires  
Narely Baron-Flores  
Isaac Berg  
Shia Bintliff  
Avery Blas  
Natalie Bollensen  
Zaida Brock  
Malia Bronson  
Jacob Cave, *candidate for distinction*  
Evan Chilson  
Danielle Croom, *summa cum laude*,  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Anaf Deressa  
Isra Dirie  
Justin Duncan  
Jazmine Estrada Gomez,  
*candidate for distinction*  
Gavin Faber  
Lexi Gargas  
Beau Gaulin, *with high distinction*  
Jenna Guiton  
Jake Gustafson  
Jiwon Hong  
Ainsley Houlihan  
Molly Hunt  
Samantha Katz  
Jack Kornetzke  
Ryan Lear, *candidate for distinction*  
Ana Paula López Soria  
Melanie Lu Dominguez  
Thomas Markusen

Sam Meelberg  
Amatakariima Moallim  
Annisa Mohamed,  
*President's Emerging Scholars*  
Ijahara Mosissa  
Jake Mowry  
Nancy Ortiz  
Olivia Otto, *candidate for distinction*  
Cristel Domenica Paredes Panchana  
Clare Pearson, *candidate for high distinction*  
Lauren Peckham  
Madeline Portway-Esterrich  
Brittney Riley, *candidate for high distinction*  
Alexander Robinson  
Milla Sadowy  
Mumtaz Salad  
Elizabeth Sand  
Kallie Self, *candidate for distinction*  
Jacob Soldo  
Ben Steinmetz, *candidate for distinction*  
Justin Swanson  
Alexander Taft  
Isabella Tesnow  
Mya Thant  
Takara Tornga, *candidate for high distinction*  
Colin Urban  
Daniel Vanacker  
Tyler VandeCorput  
Raya Vermilyea  
Zipporah Williams  
Lucas Yelich  
Rylee Yoder

## GRAPHIC DESIGN BFA

Riley Abashian  
Ella Kristine Adams  
Vinuthna Akurati  
Vipassana Ale  
Gabe Antoine  
Isabel Avery, *candidate for distinction*  
Tigerlily Bass, *candidate for distinction*  
Tommy Berdahl  
Sofia Berens  
Grace Biglow, *with distinction*  
Grace Blackwell  
Pamela Blaeser, *candidate for distinction*  
Emma Boehle, *candidate for distinction*  
Cara Bortnem  
Lucy Bowman  
Sylvie Broeker  
Alissa Campbell  
Myles Carlson  
Julia Cedergren, *with distinction*  
Christian Charles  
Sumin Choi  
Alexander Clarity  
Sarah Cohen  
Hanni Dinh  
Laura Dotson, *candidate for high distinction*  
U'Dinin Erskine  
Laurel Feggestad  
Sofia Frank  
Morgan Frederick, *candidate for distinction*  
Cole Garcia  
Willa Gore  
Isabella Guidarelli,  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Jennifer Gullickson  
Alyssa Hahn  
Mia Hansen, *candidate for distinction*  
Mae Harmsen, *candidate for high distinction*  
Grey Hedin  
Artie Hillman  
Tiffany Ho, *candidate for high distinction*  
Ruth Hoban  
Faith Jepson  
Sidney Johnson, *candidate for distinction*  
Carter Johnston  
Emma Kaiser  
Timothy Karamushko  
Melanie Ketelsen, *candidate for high distinction*  
Ella Kindt  
Kaci Kopf, *with high distinction*  
Red Kuehn  
Maggie Kwan, *candidate for distinction,*  
*President's Emerging Scholars*  
Dilan Lange  
Lyndsey Le Nguyen  
Tavis Lee  
Noah Liebl  
Naomi Liew  
Julia Line, *with high distinction*  
Benjamin Litzau  
Sophie Livingston  
Mai Vang Lor  
Carson Magsayo  
Bryce Mason, *candidate for high distinction*  
Rory McNamara  
Lucy Meath  
Angelika Mehes, *candidate for high distinction*  
Zoe Meyer, *candidate for distinction*  
Le Nguyen  
Tianna Nguyen, *candidate for high distinction*  
Tina Nguyen  
Luke Noble  
Renata Novacek  
Emmanuella Amarachi Nwanekpe  
Finnola Patneaud  
Isabelle Patzer  
Anneli Paulson  
Quynh Pham, *with high distinction,*  
*President's Emerging Scholars*  
Samuel Preboske  
Sadie Quimby  
Jake Rhode  
Charisma Robb  
Rachel Romkema  
Kirsten Rud, *candidate for distinction*  
Alex Ruiz Shimada  
Cassie Rust  
Colleen Schneider,  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Madison Schwartz, *candidate for high*  
*distinction*

## GRAPHIC DESIGN BFA (CONT'D)

Josephine Seidelmann, *with high distinction*  
Julia Sheehan, *candidate for distinction*  
Audra Sims, *Kuske Scholar, summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Elle Smarzinski  
Joey Snippes, *with distinction*  
Emily Statz  
Lucy Stedman, *candidate for distinction*  
Heidi Stiles, *candidate for high distinction*  
Maria Stipek  
Thomas Thao, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
La Tuttle, *candidate for high distinction*

Martha Vaughan, *candidate for distinction*  
William Walker  
Youyou Wu, *candidate for distinction*  
Janet Xiong  
Krystle Xue  
Nati Yeshiwas  
Min Yu  
Leo Zeigle  
Zhan Zhou  
Lauren Zimney  
Sophia Zizzo

## INTERIOR DESIGN BS

Emma Almburg  
Harleigh Bingle  
Tristian Bjork  
Lindsey Carlson  
Deanna Crowe  
Caitlin Drews, *candidate for distinction,*  
*President's Emerging Scholars*  
Katie Gondek  
Sydney Heise  
Sophia Hofmann  
Betsy Holmstrom  
Ellen Kilgore, *candidate for distinction*  
Ellie Kukielka  
Ellie Larson  
Nathan Lee  
Isabella Luna

Marisa McLaughlin  
Rainey Mercil, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
Hanna Muñoz-Halvorson  
Lillian Osterberg  
Erika Pedregon  
Catja Peterson  
Trung Pham  
Emma Rhode  
Emily Rosdahl, *candidate for distinction*  
Anneka Salstrom  
Hannah Schneider,  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Jamee Swenson  
Lee Tuggle  
Gage Vizecky  
Gabriella Wollo

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE BLA

Joseph Bean  
McKenzie Dropik  
Joseph Miller

Sabrina Nelson, *candidate for high distinction*  
Amy Nguyen  
Adam Pike

## PRODUCT DESIGN BS

Benjamin Anderson, *Kusske Research Assistant*  
Grady Anderson  
Neha Shyam Aramkuni,  
*Kusske Research Assistant*  
Michael Brascugli  
Emerson Brooks  
Brian Carter  
Zev Cohen, *candidate for distinction*  
Paige Deason  
Lucy Egbert  
Kiki Gerard, *candidate for distinction*  
Hannah Gootzeit, *candidate for high distinction*  
William Herbek, *candidate for distinction*  
Harley Holmes  
Madeline Jeanne Koul, *candidate for distinction*  
Lillian Kuiken, *Community Engaged Scholar*  
Eliot Michaels  
Killian Miller

Charles Neale  
Theo Nguyen, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
Michelle Nunez Lamardo  
Jack Phiravanh, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
Mykaila Reynen  
Sydney Ring  
Paula Rodríguez Rivero  
Steven Schutz  
Gannon Simonett  
Ella Sirjord  
Davyd Tennis  
Adam Thao, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
Grace Twohig  
Brooke Visker, *candidate for distinction*  
Irene Zeng, *summa cum laude,*  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Emmett Ziaja

## RETAIL AND CONSUMER STUDIES BS

Maram Mohammed Algazi  
Brooke Aulizia  
Sophia Biedny  
Sidney Brant  
Samantha Brooks  
Norah Brotman  
Jasmin Bryan-Moreira,  
*candidate for high distinction*  
Diya Chopra  
Amanda Dahl, *candidate for distinction*  
Emma Gruye  
Maya Hansen  
Ashlie Hanson  
Nasrin Hassan  
Jiayu Hu, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
Brooke Jackson, *candidate for distinction*  
Quinn Kamarauskas  
Carly Killian, *candidate for high distinction*  
Annika Klein, *candidate for distinction*  
Drew Korth  
Lauren Krob

Brooke Lambrecht  
Weston Lawrence  
Kayla Le  
Sheridan Lin  
Emily Masterman  
Grace McHugh  
Marie Migletz  
Estella Parma  
Lauren Riniker  
Hailey Runge  
Ava Sahin  
Gabriella Tanghe  
Kyndall Thomas  
Gianna Torrisi  
Randy Tran  
Melissa Vanselow  
Elsie Vollom, *President's Emerging Scholars*  
Avery Walz  
Mary Wu  
Maabe Yaya  
Alexa Yung, *candidate for distinction*

# GRADUATE DEGREES

## ARCHITECTURE MArch

Arshi Abu  
Zahra Adibzadeh  
Vedhagiri Karthikeya Arumua Ashok  
Keely Ashton  
Robin Baars  
Daniel Banker  
Ian Carroll  
Alexander Copeland  
Danielle Cramer  
Stephanie Dose  
Anna Dresang  
Mikoto Dyer  
Mackenna Esquivel  
Franco Garcia  
Mitchell Gauthier  
Julia Gerloff  
Bradyn Gratton  
Isaac Guenther  
Matthew Christian Gundershaug  
Emily Hall

Daniel Herrera  
Nash Kelly  
Ryan Loudenback  
Ashley Ly  
Olivia Mantsch  
Adam Meziou  
Ruweyda Mohamed  
Isaiah Nowak  
Leah Olson  
Maxwell Pearson  
Valeria Sassi Colombres  
Samantha Seebeck  
Nantida Thao  
Emmy Tong  
Ryan Valentino  
Jack Weiler  
Heather Willy  
Ryan Yin  
Emma Zielinski

## ARCHITECTURE MS

Arshi Abu  
Weimin Bao  
Nicolas Brueske  
Brandon Bryant  
Maia Davidson  
Mikoto Dyer  
Nathan Eckstein  
Robert Gay

Julia Gerloff  
Daniel Herrera  
Sanidhya Kumar  
Mariangel Meza Santiviago  
Ruweyda Mohamed  
Faustyn Pavicich  
Bahareh Shahsavari

## DESIGN MS

Udeshi Basu  
Alisha Ghaju  
Nandhitha Karunakaran,  
*Kusske Research Assistant*  
Giselle Kian  
Samuel Reed

Julia Rokhinson  
Yash Soni  
Erin Suski  
Milo Tacheny, *Kusske Fellow*  
Kallie Taylor  
Ran Wang

## **HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS MS**

Bradley Drahos

Alisha Ghaju

Minghe Lu

Maria Goretti Marroquin

Paith Philemon, *Kusske Research Assistant*

Jolene Rowan

Alvina Salim

Jade Xing

## **LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MLA**

Lucia Bennett

Jason Condit

Chang Li

## **DESIGN PhD**

Olaitan Adeleke

Stephanie Heidorn

Shiman Li

Alanna Norton

Augie Park

Jinsu Park

Chukwuma Nweje Udezeh

## **HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS PhD**

Eric Beaudette

Joshua Straub



# **WELCOME TO THE COLLEGE OF DESIGN ALUMNI COMMUNITY**

When you earn your degree at the College of Design, you also earn a place in our community of over 17,000 design alumni and 500,000 University alumni. There are many ways to tap into this community and stay connected after graduation—and we hope you do!

## **LOOKING FOR YOUR DREAM JOB?**

College of Design alumni have FREE access to career services for two years after graduation. In addition to University and design-specific career fairs, we also offer a variety of career-related webinars, professional networks, and resources through the University of Minnesota Alumni Association.

## **GET INVOLVED, SHARE YOUR NEWS, AND CHECK OUT A FULL LIST OF ALUMNI PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES.**



[z.umn.edu/CDesAlumni](https://z.umn.edu/CDesAlumni)

The University of Minnesota, founded in the belief that all people are enriched by understanding, is dedicated to the advancement of learning and the search for truth; to the sharing of this knowledge through education for a diverse community; and to the application of this knowledge to benefit the people of the state, the nation, and the world. The University's threefold mission of research and discovery, teaching and learning, and community engagement and public service is carried out on multiple campuses and throughout the state.

The University of Minnesota provides equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

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