



May 2022

Durbin to speak at 162nd commencement



U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Illinois, will deliver the address at the [162nd Commencement Convocation](#) at Augustana College on Sunday, May 22.

Sen. Durbin is the fourth Illinois senator to speak at an Augustana commencement in recent years, following Adlai E. Stevenson, Alan Dixon and Mark Kirk.

→ [Learn more](#)



History presenters, from left, Luke Melton, Liam Edmund Kelly, Fatima Dominguez, Alondra Ochoa and advisor Dr. Lendol Calder.

What they learned this year

The breadth of a liberal arts education was on full display at our annual Celebration of Learning, where students and faculty presented their academic work for the year.

A sample of the day's topics shows the range of interests:

- The physics of drift-skating
- International efforts to combat sex cybercrime
- Art therapy and a "rage room"
- The legacies of WWII Japanese militarism
- Human-computer interaction
- The ethics of emotional support animals
- Naloxone education materials
- The effectiveness of lasers to unblock arteries

→ [Learn more](#)

More Than I Imagined



"I was on campus for not 30 minutes and knew I had found my place. I wanted to be surrounded by people who would make me excited to learn, and that is exactly what I have experienced."

To read the first-person accounts of our soon-to-be alumni is to feel hopeful about the world.

See Cheyenne Bartelt and her classmates in [More Than I Imagined](#).

Little volunteers needed!

The Augustana Baby and Child Lab is studying how children ages 30-36 months learn words. During a videoconference, we will invite you and your child to read a book or watch a video together. Then, your child will play a language game with a member of our research team.

All participants receive compensation. If you are interested, [fill out this eligibility form](#).



Physics winner loves figuring out how things work

Junior Amanda Gravelle of Bloomington, Ill., has been awarded a \$5,000 Rossing Physics Scholarship for 2022-23. She is one of only 14 exemplary physics students nationwide to receive the award.

Like many Augustana students, she pursues multiple interests. Faculty advisors in her three majors — engineering physics, environmental studies and art history — help her balance everything. → [Learn more](#)



[Class notes](#)

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Save the date

June 4 Alumni gathering and Cubs vs. Cardinals game at Wrigley Field. [Tickets](#).

June 16-17 ViKitty/Augie Doggy events (Peoria June 16; Moline and Chicago June 17)

June 24 Alumni and friends coffee in Chicago. [RSVP](#)

June 24 Alumni and friends coffee in Bettendorf, Iowa. [RSVP](#)

July 19 Twin Cities welcome for [Andrea Talentino](#), incoming president. [RSVP](#)

Aug 20 Quad Cities Pops (The Music of Elton John)

Sept. 8 Ravinia in Chicago with Stevie Nicks

Oct. 14-16 [Homecoming](#)

Oct. 15 [Presidential inauguration](#)