



# 2016

TRIBUTE DINNER



# 2016

SENIOR TRIBUTES

Following Pingree tradition, graduating seniors annually ask members of the faculty and staff to write tributes in their honor, highlighting their unique passions, achievements, and most cherished personality traits. These tributes, excerpted and published on the following pages, are read before the community at the Senior Tribute Dinner and again as students cross the stage at Commencement. As evidenced by the heartfelt reflections, commendations, and praise shared by their mentors, the Class of 2016 will forever be remembered for their humor, intellect, compassion, and drive.



**CHELSEA CLAIRE ALBANO**  
Savannah College of Art and Design

Your **mature** independence gained the admiration of peers and adults in this community. You let your passions guide your Pingree journey but left space to enhance your résumé — demonstrating **dedication** and sometimes **bravery**.

—Beth Savarese



**CASSIDY ALANA ASSAD**  
Fairfield University

She gives of herself, through everything she does. We'll miss you but you've left your mark — your **beaming smile**, your **winning spark**.

—Meg O'Neill



**JUSTIN WILLIAM ASSAD**  
Assumption College

Your accomplishments as an **athlete**, student, and **leader** are impressive. You embrace challenges and bring **enthusiasm** with you to both athletics and the classroom. Your passions inspire us all.

—Ann Lyons



**GRIFFIN CUSHING BEAL**

Union College

You are known by your **curiosity**, a gift for **conversation**, and ability to engage your peers and teachers, full of wonderful **playfulness**, a supreme **optimist**, friend, and quiet **leader**.

—Edward Kloman



**PARKER SYLVIE BEATRICE**

Texas Christian University

You approach each day with a thoughtful **curiosity** and **appreciation** for everything and everyone. As you embark on this next adventure, trust your **instincts** and value your own abilities as you generously do for others.

—Merrill Stabler



**NICOLA V. BOTHWICK**

*With Distinction*  
Bowdoin College

You vaulted into Pingree and set a high bar. **Scholar, athlete, artist, leader**. Most importantly you modeled **balance**, high achievement coupled with an **easygoing** nature.

—Susan Esty



**EMMA HAVEN BRANDT**

*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
St. Lawrence University

Always in pursuit of a better world for all, you revel in and radiate **enthusiasm** for the meanings and messages you **discover**. You **empower** us to embrace the **natural**, outside world so that we might find **peace** within.

—Eric Haltmeier



**EMILY J. BROADHURST**

Fairfield University

It is easy to see why people love to be around you. You bring a **smile**, unswerving **loyalty**, and genuine **dedication** to any classroom, game, or event. May you shine brightly and continue to share your **zest** for life.

—Meg O'Neill



**CARA JEANNE CAHILL**

*With Distinction*  
University of Vermont

Whether it be in the **classroom**, on the **ice**, or on the **field**, you never settled for anything less than the **best**. Throughout it all, you were never fazed, masterfully juggling these responsibilities. Your **warmth** is infectious.

—Casey Finch



**CONNOR ANTHONY CAPOZZI**  
*With Distinction*  
 University of Massachusetts, Lowell

With a **digital mind** and an **analog soul**, you brilliantly showcase how one person can holistically embody the roles of **saxman**, keyboard **rock god**, **technology wizard**, and supportive **collaborator**.

—Eric Haltmeier



**MATTHEW R. CAVANAUGH**  
 University of Massachusetts,  
 Amherst

His glass overflows with **ideas**, **humor**, **enthusiasm**, a little tardiness and a whole lot of questions. His **curiosity** and **witty observations** remind us what connects people: authentic interest in others.

—Kristin Brown



**KANIKA CHITNIS**  
 Boston University

Kanika defines the word **courage**. Beneath the surface Kanika has developed a strong sense of **responsibility** and a loudly ticking **ethical clock**. She's learned to advocate for herself, while still showing **respect**.

—John Glessner



**CAMERON LOUIS CURLEY**  
*With Distinction*  
 College of the Holy Cross

Not the loudest voice in the hall, but when you **smile**...the light of galaxies shines in your eyes. With a scientist's **mind**, a philosopher's **spirit**, and a hero's **heart**, there's no knowing where you will land, but what a trip it shall be!

—Kathy Karch



**MICHAEL J. CURLEY**  
*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
 Northeastern University

You excelled here, surprising yourself with your keen **intellect**, clever **insights**, impressive 100 time, and talents in Spanish and ceramics. You helped others along the way. You amused us with your **impish smirk** and **lightning-quick wit**.

—Susan Esty



**COURTNEY ELIZABETH DOWD**  
 Villanova University

**Kind. Thoughtful. Fun. Elegant**, yet...**goofy**. Your favorite place at Pingree has always been the Art Room. You are genuinely kind. You are a **leader** and so prepared for Villanova.

—Eric Stacey



### NIKOLAUS D. DREHER

*With Distinction*

Indiana University at Bloomington

You are both a **leader** and a true **team player**, always asking thought-provoking questions and encouraging others to be and do their best. Luckily for all of us, you bring your **A-Game** everyday.

—Meg O'Neill



### ELIZA APPLETON EDDY

*With Distinction*

University of Virginia

You may not know because Eliza keeps her own counsel. But remember — it is often the **quiet observer** who sees the most and the **patient listener** who has much to say.

—Mary Dyer



### OSARUMEN JOSHUA EDOSOMWAN

Emmanuel College

**Cerebral, sensitive, spiritual,** and **intellectual**, you've grown into ease in many areas. We are grateful for your **smile**, your **humor**, your **stuntman** alter-ego. You made your place here, now spread those crane's wings!

—Jay Esty



### CHARLOTTE HASWELL ESTY

*With High Distinction*

Dartmouth College

Your legacy emerged on the track: an **anchor**. You remain tethered to your ideals: **scholarship, sportsmanship, equity, friendship, family**. You anchor us with your **wisdom, integrity, loyalty, spirit** and hearty-chuckle.

—Kristin Brown



### MICHAEL VINCENT FEMIA

Miami University, Ohio

In your time here, your **support, silliness, advice,** and **antics**, rendered you a valued member of this family. By taking advantage of every opportunity, you put Pingree in a **bear hug**, and we have loved that **comfort** and **strength**.

—Stacey Nicholson



### RACHEL ELIZABETH FOSTER

*Cum Laude, with Highest Distinction*

Brown University

Relentless **questioner**, a voracious **bibliophile**, a destroyer of test curves, a rare, **blue-moon talent** at just about everything she undertakes, but ask her about her greatest **passion** and she'll tell you about... yes, JV Girls Hockey.

—Jay Esty



**CHARLOTTE ANN GRINNELL**  
Elon University

You **warmed** our hearts with your **positive perspective**, taught us the value of **giving** a compliment, and always put others in front of you. All the while you never strayed from being Charlotte Grinnell.

—Beth Savarese



**HADI HAZEM HAMDAN**  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Your universal **wonder** echoes loudly in the classrooms, on the fields, and through your quiet and **exemplary character**. **Inquisitive** student, you are that **optimistic** and **energized** student who resonates **integrity, awe, and diligence**.

—Edward Kloman



**ALEXANDER FREDERIK MUNK HANSEN**  
Colgate University

Alex is **intelligent, kind, and sophisticated**. Having lived all over the world, his **global outlook** and experience make him **mature** and **introspective**. But more impressive is his love and **commitment** to his family and friends.

—Meg Farley



**KIRBY MARGARET HEFFRIN**  
Connecticut College

You are **known by all** because you are **not afraid** to have your voice heard. **Courage** is what it takes to succeed in life and you have that in spades.

—Eric Stacey



**ALYSSA JAIME (AJ) HELMAN**  
*With Distinction*  
Emerson College

You **draw, paint, build, sing, act, dance, and create**. When faced with adversity, you never give up, allowing your **strength** and **confidence** to grow.

—Thom Smoker



**ISABELLE GLORIA HOFFMAN**  
*With Distinction*  
University of Rochester

A **shining** personality full of **positivity** and good **humor**, Isabelle always finds the best qualities in everyone and everything she does. She is **gracious, kind**, and one of the most **optimistic** people I know.

—Sarah Carpenter



### SAEYOUNG HONG

*With Distinction*  
Northeastern University

You sometimes prefer to **listen** rather than speak, yet your face **brightens** and stories flow when talking about what you **love**. How exciting to see you embracing your **intelligence, empathy**, and sense of **adventure**.

—Mary Dyer



### HUNTER BRYCE JACQUES

Massachusetts Maritime Academy

You have met success and adversity with **maturity**. You will make a great **captain** because you know it's not what you say, it's **what you do** that makes all the difference.

—Rob VanTuyl



### JENNIFER LEE JENKINS

*With Distinction*  
Santa Clara University

Jenny performs random acts of **kindness** on a daily basis. She is **earnest**; committed to **excellence** in all she does. She is **eager** to make a difference...and she will!

—Meg Farley



### NATHANIEL YAKE JOHNSON

*Cum Laude, with Highest Distinction*  
Amherst College

Nate reminds us of **George Bailey**... in every way...except one. George Bailey didn't take **five APs** or **captain** two teams. Good luck Nate... a **wonderful life** awaits you.

—Rich Erickson



### VANESSA T. JONAH

Elon University

Vanessa can't help but see the best in classmates and teammates. She never strays from being **honest** and **direct**. We will miss her "**jaw-drop**" candid conversations and quick switch from **silly** to **serious**.

—Beth Savarese



### ALEXANDRE FOUAD KACHOUH

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

You are a true **citizen of the world**. In **moving beyond** the boundaries of France, you have **pushed** our own Pingree borders (and just a few football players!).

—Stacey Nicholson



**NICOLE CATHERINE  
KHACHADOURIAN**  
Providence College

Always connected to this **family**, you embody what it means to be part of something greater. With **selfless effort**, your **extensive contributions** at times slip under the radar. What you have is rare, **giving** without thought of recognition.

—Liz Taft



**JUNE FITZPATRICK KIELY**  
St. Lawrence University

Your **commitment** to being “**all in all the time**” has earned our respect and admiration, and you will always be remembered as a **positive influence** and an example of true **dedication** to Pingree School.

—Steve Carey



**MICHAEL STEVEN  
KOUROUBACALIS**  
Berklee College of Music

Something captures your interest and **watch out**, you’re performing, you are **prestissimo**, and you **wow** us all. No matter the tempo, you are always a **rockstar**.

—Meg O’Neill



**JASON PAUL LAFORTUNE**  
*With Distinction*  
University of Rochester

With vast **knowledge, skill**, and **perseverance**, he can use his smart-watch to connect his phone to his computer to access his home server in order to **bypass the firewall**, while taking apart your laptop!

—Dave Medvitz



**JESSICA JISOO LEE**  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

An **eye for detail**, you herded those whippersnappers off to performances, nipped their impish ways in the bud, and through it all **sang with such ease**. You **held our hands** for a moment, our hearts forever.

—Thom Smoker



**NINO LEONE**  
University of Connecticut

You have **strength**, and that strength isn’t just physical; **family, friends**, and **teammates** lean on you because of the deep reserves of **character** you possess.

—Chris Powers



### BETTY NERLANDE LOUIS

*With Distinction*  
Bowdoin College

Your lifelong pursuit of an education with your **dazzling intellect**, a shining example of how. Your branches of **innate generosity**, **determination**, and **intellectual talents** provide resplendent shade to all.

—Ann Foye



### RYAN W. LOVELL

University of Hartford

Ryan's obvious superpower: **charm**. Ryan's genuine superpower: **integrity**. **Mature** and **attuned**, you embrace the **honest**, harder way. You **trust** yourself, discern the world's ways, and know how to do the right thing.

—Carolyn Paczkowska



### ASHLEY LOUISE LUCEY

*With Distinction*  
Davidson College

**Observant, intelligent**, you know yourself and embrace the world on your own terms. **Disciplined, attentive**, profoundly **kind**, you are **grace** incarnate. Yours is a **spirit** we should bottle and share; we'd be better for it.

—Carolyn Paczkowska



### ZACHARY JON LUKE GORD

*With Distinction*  
University of Rochester

We have watched you transform into a **confident, witty**, and very **tall** man. You were always counted on to lead the group on the right path. Your **humble confidence** and **strength** are admirable.

—Sarah Carpenter



### EVAN ARTHUR MARAVELIS

Assumption College

You have repeatedly proven that **determination, work ethic, consistency**, and a bit of **spirit** will take you to the **finish line** with your head held high. Your **fearlessness** in the face of **competition** has served you well.

—Stacey Nicholson



### DANIEL R. MASSILLON

*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
Cornell University

The 14-year-old **perfectly pitched** voice. The **spoken word** voice. The **performance** voice. The **impassioned** voice. The **empathetic** voice. Through your voice you spoke your **truth**, challenging us to do the same.

—Mary Dyer



**COREY F. MCGURN**  
Boston University

**Quiet, listening.** Quiet, **intense.** Quiet, **forceful.** Picking up on any theme? **Friendly.** Under the radar. **Amenable.** From soccer to class, Denmark to BU, you're a force who's made his presence felt here.

—Eric Stacey



**LAUREN ELIZABETH MENZIE**  
Tulane University

You are **generous** with your **heart**, your time, and your **laughter.** Always willing to listen, to **lend a hand**, to **jump right in**, you excel at bringing people together and making things happen.

—Meg O'Neill



**BRADY LEO MOKRZYCKI**  
Boston University

His **humor**, sometimes-disheveled-but-always-friendly demeanor, and **steady strength** fortify those who are lucky to count him as a **friend.** We are proud of the person he has become.

—Lila Teeters



**ABIGAIL ELIZABETH MOSSE**  
Drexel University

You are **sinews** and **nerves** and **muscle** (and **hair**) and all you can **imagine**, and you are NOT allowed to apologize for who you are. **You are.** And we can't wait to see what you will be.

—Jason Ries



**NICOLAS JACQUES NADEAU**  
*With Distinction*  
University of Toronto

You are an **inspiration** and a **gift.** From all of us at Pingree, to your family, to the Jimmy Fund, and to your future cancer patients, thank you for your **compassion, initiative,** and **devotion.**

—Christina Kennedy



**MIRANDA VIVIAN NOLAN**  
*With Distinction*  
Loyola University Maryland

You exit Pingree a published **writer**, literary **magazine editor**, captivating **presenter**, dependable **friend**, double-play-making **third baseman**, and of course, a jaw-dropping **dancer.**

—Beth Savarese



### RACHEL MARY NOVACK

*With Distinction*  
Boston University

She is a **wise**, frolic-loving **hipster**, who inspires her peers and teachers with her **compassion, generosity**, and **humor**. While others proclaim their **leadership**, Rachel shows it and sets a model for us all.

—Lila Teeters



### SAMUEL HILL OBER

*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
Babson College

His worldly **intellect** and deep **curiosity** have wowed, his goal-oriented approach has amazed, his **stalwart leadership** and impressive record of accomplishment have been **unimpeachable**, and he is a **natural** in front of a microphone.

—David Goff



### MOLLY GRACE O'BRIEN

Southern Methodist University

Molly is a **thoughtful** student, **loyal** to friends, family, and the Pingree community. She displayed her love of this school by **never stopping** and keeping in mind the interests of the **community**.

—Beth Savarese



### NICOLE ROSE O'CONNOR

*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
Bucknell University

Nicole is the rare **thinker** who is as impressive in the humanities as she is in the sciences. Hers is a **curious** and **attentive** mind that is always searching for greater **meaning** and deeper explanation.

—Mike Wilmot



### JEFFREY SCOTT OLIVEIRA

Salve Regina University

You **elevate**, traversing opponents on the **soccer** field and **basketball** floor and are equally ascendant in considering American Prospects and the Nature of your place.

—Edward Kloman



### GRIFFIN MICHAEL PATRICAN

University of Colorado, Boulder

Let's revel in four years of **generous laughter, playful accusations, deep conversations**, and a healthy dose of **keeping it real**. You have never let extraneous pressures inhibit who you are and will be.

—Edward Kloman



**CALUM ANDREW PERRY**

St. Lawrence University

Cal is the ultimate **teammate** and **loyal friend**. With a **cool demeanor** and **crafty intellect**, he balances **playful curiosity** with a steady **work ethic**, which garners admiration from classmates and teachers alike.

—Tim Johnson



**SARA JUN PISANELLI**

*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
University of Michigan

Big **thinker, driven, imaginative**, killer sense of **humor** and incredibly **hard worker**. She is a **dedicated** friend, phenomenal student, and an **awesome** person.

—Meg Farley



**SUSAN BRADLEE POLESE**

Franklin and Marshall College

Whether emerging as an **independent voice** in our classrooms, taking a leap forward in **creativity**, relishing your role on athletic teams, or **sharing** your talents with others, we applaud your willingness to **stretch** yourself.

—Steve Carey



**ANIRUDH PULA**

*Cum Laude, with Highest Distinction*  
Brown University

From self-effacing **scientist** to ironic **improvise**r, modest **mathematician** to seasoned **swimmer**, committed Colbert fan to authentic **artist**, Ani has **depth**.

—Arlynn Polletta



**NATHAN FORESTER RAWLINS**

University of Denver

He has distinguished himself as an **interested** student who enjoys a **spirited debate**, a skilled and **determined** athlete, and a valued member of this community.

—Buddy Taft



**SOPHIA NOELLE RICCIARDELLI**

*With Distinction*  
Boston College

Blend your **sparkling** personality with a genuine **love of learning** and high personal standards and it is no wonder teachers consider you “a model of **aspiration, resolve** and **resiliency**.” Go forth confidently “**EVER TO EXCEL**.”

—Steve Carey



**MICHAEL RILEY**  
Connecticut College

With Mike every day is great. The most genuinely **optimistic** person imaginable, Mike ALWAYS **looks for good** in people. He will make the world a **better place**.

—Meg Farley



**THEODORE JAMES ROSEN**  
*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
Brown University

You are a **force**, a multitude of forces in fact. Your **diligence, kindness,** and **integrity** combine to make you an ultimate force for making **extraordinary** things happen.

—Meg O'Neill



**SAMUEL AARON ROTNER**  
Trinity College

You have proved your mettle on the **soccer** pitch, set records on the **ski** slopes, travelled across the **globe**, made lasting **connections** with many, and will be graduating a confident **thinker** and **learner**.

—Mike Wilmot



**JOSHUA JOSEPH RUCKER**  
Curry College

A skilled **navigator** you remain intact — **original**. At times **nonconformist**, pushing envelopes, invariably **adventurous, accommodating, kind**. You've faced obstacles and achievements, **smiling** and **persevering**.

—Liz Taft



**CAMERON MAXWELL SEGAL**  
*With Distinction*  
Connecticut College

You have evolved from a wide-eyed, eager freshman into a varsity **soccer-playing, guitar-strumming, song-singing**, coffee house-performing, fraternity-leave joking, **respected** senior.

—John Gistis



**RISHABH A. SHAH**  
*With Distinction*  
University of Michigan

You are you: **conscientious, purposeful, dependable**. A **fierce defender of rights**, a **technology wizard**, a **photographer** of powerful, beautiful moments. Continue to be yourself Rishabh, we love you for it.

—Meg O'Neill



**SHALEEN SHETH**

Babson College

Shaleen is an established **writer** and **filmmaker**. Her **inquisitiveness** and **intellectual curiosity** prevent her from leaving a question unasked, enhancing all conversations.

—Meg Farley



**DANYA SMITH**

Colby College

You made fast friends in classes, **amused** fellow advisees with your **wit**, and impressed teachers as someone who sees the big picture quickly. Your combination of **humility** and **abiding confidence** will serve you well.

—Mike Gracey



**MOLLIE BLOUNT SMITH**

*Cum Laude, with Highest Distinction*  
Middlebury College

A person of **many talents**, Mollie is not trapped or defined by them, nor does she brag about her accomplishments. She projects **modesty** and a **self-effacing** attitude to all with whom she comes in contact.

—John Glessner



**TIMOTHY FRANCIS  
DUCHAINED SMITH**

Hobart and William Smith Colleges

**Intellectually curious, patient listener, keen observer** — all words teachers used to describe you. These qualities served you well in the classroom, athletics, and afterschool activities.

—Ann Lyons



**HANNA ELIZABETH STASIUK**

*Cum Laude, with Highest Distinction*  
Vassar College

You see her **flying** down the hall, traveling from one event to the next, on a mission, always **in motion**. Off to class, her oasis, **intellectual** exchanges takes place making those around her better.

—Buddy Taft



**JOHN WILLIAM STAVROS**

*With Distinction*  
Fordham University

There is not single photo where Jake is not **smiling** or **deeply involved** in his classwork, his **game play**, or his **guitar jamming**. This is who he is — **happy, content, present, genuine**, and downright **perfectly photogenic**.

—David Goff



**ARJEN R. STEEGSTRA VI**  
Union College

Watch Arjen on the **lacrosse** field and you witness **confidence**, **mastery**, and **effortless grace**. Visit the art room and you will see exactly the same thing. It's amazing... he's got more **talent** than Superman and Batman combined.

—Rich Erickson



**JASMINE TANNOURY**  
Boston University

Jasmine's **ubiquitous audible merriment** has adorned the hallways, classrooms, and courts at Pingree. Her **glee** has been infectious and her accompanying **sense of humor** divine.

—David Goff



**MAXX KIDDE TROTSKY**  
Connecticut College

I cannot say for sure if he is the **most interesting man in the world**, but he is darn close. We know for sure his **thirst for success** has produced a **scholar**, an **All-American lacrosse player**, a **leader** on the field and rink, and a **friend** to all.

—Buddy Taft



**RACHEL LYNN TROWBRIDGE**  
*With Distinction*  
Skidmore College

You have taken your thoughts and opinions, once closely guarded, and discovered the **confidence** to bring **honest perspectives** to controversial topics. You make it look easy because of the **determination** and **grace** you bring to what you do.

—Mary Dyer



**PRASHASTI UPADHYAY**  
*Cum Laude, with High Distinction*  
Cornell University

You **dared** us to see, to open ourselves to the **unexpected**, and to **appreciate** what each of us brings. You spoke your **truth** and **challenged** us in all the right ways. We thank you, our **smart, sassy, beautiful** friend.

—Susan Esty



**AMANDA MORGAN UROSKIE**  
College of Charleston

You're an oldest child who **cares for others**. You're an **artist** who wants to go into business. People like you because you're **genuine, thoughtful, funny**.

—Eric Stacey



**RYAN MICHAEL VAN STRY**

Bentley University

You are the type of person who makes teachers want to teach and Pingree a place others want to be. As you prepare to embark on your post-Pingree life, I hope others know you as we do: **student, citizen, and friend.**

—Jon Gistis



**JOHN SALTONSTALL VANTUYL**

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

You have been going here for 18 years. You left a mark in the **classroom**, the **football field**, and the **cafeteria**. Watching you grow into a **strong scholar-athlete** has been a joy.

—Rob VanTuyl



**JAMES GLENN VASSALLO**

*With Distinction*  
Northeastern University

James's **extraordinary legacy** is rooted in his refusal to let any opportunity — especially **musical** opportunities — pass him by. James's gift is the **songs** he'll keep **singing**.

—Jay Esty



**RYAN EDWARD WAYSTACK**

University of Vermont

You have quite the amazing **perspective** and have worked hard to stay out of the buried tunnels. You **climbed** up and **skied, hiked, journaled, WOOFered,** and **photographed** it all, choosing to dwell in the **relentless daylight.**

—Edward Kloman



**ABBIE MACKAY WILLIAMS**

*With Distinction*  
Northeastern University

You've deftly mastered a multitude of skills and reached **new heights**. French-speaking, award-winning **photographer**, and **STEM queen** — your teachers have called you **measured, contemplative, realistic yet upbeat.**

—Susan Esty



**KERRI ANN ZERFOSS**

Northeastern University

You have a **quiet, soft demeanor**, but yet you're such an **intense competitor**. What amazes us is that you're a **supportive friend** and a **hard-working scholar** who does everything asked of you.

—Rob VanTuyl