

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Saya Woolfalk

Saya Woolfalk is a New York based multimedia artist known for her exploration of hybridity, and science. Woolfalk uses science fiction and fantasy to reimagine the world in multiple dimensions. Woolfalk received a B.A. in Visual Art and Economics from Brown University in 2001 and earned her M.F.A. in Sculpture at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2004. Her work has been exhibited across Asia, Europe, and the United States and can be found in the collections of several major institutions including the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY; the Newark Museum, NJ; and the Seattle Art Museum, WA. Woolfalk has delivered numerous public lectures, including a recent TEDX Talk.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

James Brantley

Established in 2003, this award is presented annually by the Alumni Council to an alum who has demonstrated outstanding artistic achievement. Collectively, the recipients reflect the diversity and talent of the alumni body. James Brantley is a contemporary painter and life-long Philadelphian. Upon graduating from Simon Gratz High School in the Nicetown neighborhood of North Philadelphia in 1963, Brantley began studying art at the PAFA. After serving honorably in the United States Army and completing one tour of duty in Vietnam and Stateside, he completed PAFA’s four-year Certificate Program in Painting in 1971. He then enrolled in the General Studies Program at The Philadelphia College of Art in 1971 and studied 19th and 20th Century Art History at the University of Pennsylvania in 1972. His works sit at the intersection of abstraction and figurative painting. He is both a master painter and a compelling storyteller, who continues to remain true to his artistic vision and personal identity as an artist.

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Michael Kowbuz

Established in 2015, this award is presented annually by the Alumni Council and recognizes alumni who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to their community. Originally from Canada, Michael Kowbuz holds an MFA from PAFA and an MA in Community College Teaching from Northern Michigan University. He makes drawings, paintings and prints and has exhibited both regionally and nationally. His work is about looking at filtered images of the world, whether via reflections, photographs or the fog of memory, articulating these visions and asking the question “What is real?” Mike is co-proprietor of Cerulean Arts Gallery and Studio in Philadelphia.



COMMENCEMENT

May 12, 2023

2023 Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

Jason Connor

Anna L. Gefke

Leroy David Nunnery III

Margaret M. Reisert

2023 Master of Fine Arts Degree

Margaret A Bearse

Arda Ergin

Taylor Pate

Margaret E Bennett

Audrey Davis Fox

Erik Peterson

Kristina Denzel Bickford

Julio Roberto Galvez Monzon

Xiaomei Rosen

Marguerite Bosco

Makenna Rose Glessner

Rachel Elizabeth Saunders

Kailey Mackenzie Brown

Kelly Jean Lawler

Lasha Ivette Stewart

Helen Hart Cardamone

Adriana Ruby Lobel

Sarah Elizabeth Swartz

Yujun Pan

Yiren Zhu



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS
Commencement

May 12, 2023

Academic Processional

Welcoming Remarks

Anne E. McCollum
Chair, Board of Trustees

Reginald M. Browne
Chair, Board of Governors

President’s Remarks

Eric C. Pryor
President & Chief Executive Officer

Commencement Speaker Introduction

Dr. Anna O. Marley
Chief of Curatorial Affairs

Commencement Address

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Awards Presentation

Clint Jukkala
Executive Dean of the College of Fine Arts

Alumni Service Award

Presented by: Lydia Hamilton Brown
Alumni Council President
Recipient: Michael Kowbuz

Class Speaker, MFA Program

Julio Roberto Galvez Monzon

Candidates for the MFA Degree and
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

Dr. Kevin Richards
Chair of Graduate Programs

Conclusion

Clint Jukkala