

61ST ANNUAL CONVOCATION & INVESTITURE
OF LAUREATES TO
THE LINCOLN ACADEMY OF ILLINOIS

Saturday, the third day of May
Two thousand twenty-five

The Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
Foellinger Great Hall
Champaign, Illinois

Lincoln appreciated the power of 'living histories' as a source of wisdom and inspiration for future generations. The Lincoln Academy of Illinois was created to recognize the living histories of those who walk among us believing, as Lincoln did, that those living histories remind future generations of the endless possibilities ahead. We gather to recognize the living histories of our time – individuals who exemplify the highest ideals of their respective callings, whose lives and contributions to society perpetuate the complete spectrum of human endeavor. They are the 'Lincoln hearted' people among us.

Dr. Thomas F. Schwartz
Laureate of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois
Illinois State Historian
1993-2011

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

*Honoring the Great Citizens of Today –
Celebrating the Great Citizens for Tomorrow*

Welcoming Music

The Copper Ridge Quintet

Call to Order

Sergeant at Arms Dennis Lyle, Regent of the Academy

Processional*

President of the Academy the Governor of the State of Illinois,
The Chancellor of the Academy,
Class of 2025 Lincoln Laureates,
Officers & Regents,
General Trustees,
Rectors,
Academic Trustees

The Copper Ridge Quintet

Pledge of Allegiance*

The National Anthem*

The Other Guys
University of Illinois

Convocation Welcome & Opening Address

The Honorable Ronald D. Spears, Chancellor

**Please stand as you are able*

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Decoration of Laureates

BONNIE BLAIR

SANDRA CISNEROS

JEANNE GANG

JANICE K. JACKSON

CAROL MARIN

JULIEANNA L. RICHARDSON

The Honorable JB Pritzker, President of the Academy, and The Honorable Ronald D. Spears, Chancellor of the Academy, will preside.

Remarks

The Honorable JB Pritzker
Governor of the State of Illinois

Installation of New Chancellor

Illinois

Varsity Men's Glee Club
University of Illinois

Recessional*

The Copper Ridge Quintet

**Please stand as you are able*

History of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

The Lincoln Academy was established by proclamation of the Governor of Illinois in 1964, shortly after the New York World's Fair. During the World's Fair a reception was given for some of our state's most celebrated sons and daughters which impressed Governor Otto Kerner and gave birth to a program to recognize distinguished Illinoisans annually through the establishment of the Order of Lincoln.

The ***Order of Lincoln*** honors individuals whose contributions to the betterment of humanity have been accomplished in Illinois, or whose achievements have brought honor to the state because of their identity with it, whether by birth or residence. It is the state's highest civilian award for professional achievement and public service.

Funds raised at the Academy's Order of Lincoln Convocation help provide the Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement awards and the 'Lincoln Medallion' which will be presented by the Academy's President to each of 50

Student Laureates at a separate ceremony held in Springfield later this year.

Thus, the Lincoln Academy honors the Great Citizens of Today and Celebrates the Great Citizens for Tomorrow -- knowing that now, as always, our state and nation need what Vachel Lindsay called 'Lincoln-hearted' men and women.

The insignia of the Order of Lincoln is a variant of the Maltese cross (with ten points rather than eight). The obverse displays the Arms of the State of Illinois encircled by the inscription 'Palmarum Qui Meruit, Ferat' ('Let him who merits bear the palm'—words from Horatio Viscount Nelson). The reverse central disc features the likeness of President Lincoln in gold. The cross is suspended from a ribbon in the colors of the state's symbols: red for the state bird, the cardinal; violet for the state flower; and green for the state tree, the oak.

The first Convocation and Investiture of Laureates to the Order of Lincoln was held on our 16th President's birthday, February 12, 1965, at the Chicago Historical Society. Convocations have been held in locations across the state every year since then. During the Lincoln Bicentennial in 2009, a special Bicentennial Edition of the Order of Lincoln was established, and thirty distinguished Lincoln scholars, collectors, artists, and curators from around the world were honored.

In 1992, Governor Jim Edgar, President of the Lincoln Academy, initiated the creation of a Hall of Fame of Historic Illinoisans whose achievements and contributions were made prior to the establishment of the Lincoln Academy in 1964. Fifty Hall of Fame Honorees were selected. In 2018, in recognition of the Bicentennial of Illinois, the Hall of Fame was re-constituted. Six new members of the Hall of Fame were selected by Academy Trustees.

The mission of the Lincoln Academy was expanded in 1975 by the Student Laureate Program, in which an outstanding senior from each of the four-year degree-granting colleges and universities in Illinois and one student representing our state's community colleges are honored. Since inception over 2,500 young Illinois leaders have been honored.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Bonnie Blair

The first American woman to win five gold medals at the Olympic Winter Games, speedskater **Bonnie Blair** dominated both on and off the ice. Her monumental career began at just four years old in her hometown of Champaign. She made her Olympic debut less than two decades later at the 1984 Sarajevo Games.

It was at the 1988 Calgary Games, in the 500 meter, that she earned her first Olympic gold medal, and in World Record time. She also went on to bring home a bronze medal in the 1,000 meter at the same games. Her dominance in the sport continued at the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville where she added two more gold medals - again in the 500 meter and the 1,000 meter races. And to recognize her exceptional place in the history of sports, Blair received the Sullivan Award, granted to the top American amateur athlete.

Blair stood atop the podium for her final two gold medals at the 1994 Olympic Games in Lillehammer, again demonstrating her preeminence in both the 500 meter and 1,000 meter races. Her consistent victories made her the first woman ever to win three consecutive Olympic gold medals in the 500 meter, earning her the recognition of Sports Illustrated Female Athlete of the Year. Her reign holds today as the most highly decorated American woman in Winter Olympic history.

In 1995, Blair won the World Sprint Championships in what is now her hometown of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Later that year, she retired from the sport, and then shortly after, married four-time Olympian, David Cruikshank.

Since retiring, Blair has worked extensively with the Alzheimer's Association, dedicated to honoring the memory of her mother, Eleanor. Since 2011, she has hosted an annual Walk to End Alzheimer's, which culminates with the "Blair Cares" award, recognizing a volunteer who embodies the same passion as Blair. Additionally, she has made an impact through the American Brain Tumor Association, in memory of her brother, Rob, and extends her tireless fundraising efforts to the Leukemia Association, in memory of her sister, Mary.

A motivational speaker and philanthropist, Blair is also the Director of Community Engagement for the DASH Project Inc, Developing Athletes for Speedskating High-Performance. She has been an active member of the Pettit National Ice Center's Board of Directors since 1996. Adding to her impressive sports accolades, she also has been inducted into the US Speedskating Hall of Fame, Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame, the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame, and the United States Olympic Hall of Fame.

An Illinois native, Blair now resides in Wisconsin with her husband where they have raised and coached their children, Grant and Blair.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Sandra Cisneros

Chicago native **Sandra Cisneros** is a short-story writer, poet, novelist, essayist, performer, artist, and activist. She has received numerous honors, including a prestigious National Medal of Arts, created by Congress and bestowed by the President of the United States as the nation's highest recognition in the arts.

One of seven children, and the only daughter in the family, Cisneros attended Loyola University of Chicago. She graduated in 1976 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. She then attended the University of Iowa, where in 1978, she received a Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing.

Cisneros returned to Chicago, using her talents as a teacher and counselor at Latino Youth Alternative High School, then as an artist-in-the-schools teaching creative writing, and later as an arts administrator and college recruiter at her alma mater, Loyola University. She went on to serve as a visiting writer at California State University at Chico, the University of California Berkeley, the University of Michigan Ann Arbor, and the University of New Mexico.

In 1984, she published *The House on Mango Street*, which tells the story of a young Latina growing up in Chicago. It has gone on to sell more than eight million copies and is now required reading in middle schools, high schools, and universities across the country.

Cisneros has received many other honors for her poetry, short stories, and fiction, including the Texas Institute of Letters Dobie-Paisano Fellowship, two National Endowment for the Arts fellowships, the Texas Medal of the Arts, a Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellowship, and the PEN/Nabokov Award for Achievement in International Literature. More recently, she received a Poetry Foundation Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize and the Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award from the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation. Her books have been translated into more than 25 languages.

As a 1995 recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, Cisneros helped organize Los MacArturos, a caucus of Latino awardees united in community service, and founded two nonprofits. The Alfred Cisneros Del Moral Foundation, a grant-giving institution, served Texas writers for fifteen years. Macondo Writers Workshop, with a mission to help and encourage writers who are committed to activism, celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2025. This year, Cisneros will receive the Ivan Sandrof Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Book Critics Circle. And in July, an opera based on *The House on Mango Street*, a collaboration with composer Derek Bermel, will premiere at The Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown, NY.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Jeanne Gang

Architect **Jeanne Gang** is the founding partner of Studio Gang, an international architecture and urban design practice with offices in Chicago, New York, San Francisco, and Paris. Her inquisitive, forward-looking approach to design – unique in its pursuit of new technical and material possibilities as well as in its expansion of the active role of designers in society – has distinguished her as a leading architect of her generation.

An Illinois native, Gang is the architect of two towers that have redefined Chicago's skyline: the 101-story St. Regis Chicago, now the city's third-tallest building, and the 82-story, undulating Aqua Tower. Other completed projects include the John W. Boyer Center, the University of Chicago's new hub for scholarship and exchange in Paris; Richard Gilder Center for Science, Education, and Innovation at the American Museum of Natural History in New York; the reimagined Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts in Little Rock; Writers Theatre, a professional theater in Glencoe, Illinois; and the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership at Kalamazoo College in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Gang's ongoing work includes major cultural and civic projects throughout the Americas and Europe, such as a new United States Embassy in Brasilia; Stanford University's new Sustainability Commons in Palo Alto; and an expansion of the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock. Soaring buildings in Toronto, Paris, and Boston are also underway.

Guiding the next generation of architects, Gang is a Professor in Practice at her alma mater, the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where her teaching and research focus on the cultural and environmental aspects of buildings' reuse. She also has authored four books on architecture. Her most recent, *The Art of Architectural Grafting*, was released last year in both French and English editions. Her work has been exhibited widely, including at the Museum of Modern Art, the International Venice Architecture Biennale, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Gang is a MacArthur Fellow, 2017 William A. Bernoudy Architect in Residence at the American Academy in Rome, an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the American Institute of Architects' College of Fellows. She has been honored with the Cooper Hewitt National Design Award in Architecture and was named one of 2019's most influential people in the world by TIME Magazine. Further accolades include WSJ. Magazine's 2022 Architecture Innovator of the Year, the 2022 ULI Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development, the 2023 Charlotte Perriand Award, and Architectural Review's Architect of the Year.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Janice Jackson

Chicago native **Janice K. Jackson, EdD** has spent her career making instrumental strides in the field of education, now as the CEO of Hope Chicago and formerly as CEO of Chicago Public Schools (CPS) – making history as the first CPS alum to serve in that role. Jackson is a renowned leader with a track record of improving academic outcomes in urban school systems and providing educational leadership.

Jackson graduated from Chicago State University (CSU) with a degree in history and secondary education. While working as a social studies teacher and debate team coach at South Shore Community High School, she continued her studies at CSU, earning a master's degree in history.

In 2003, she helped acquire a \$500,000 grant from the Gates Foundation to underwrite the establishment of Al Raby High School and Jackson served as founding principal. After Al Raby became one of the district's most successful neighborhood schools, Jackson was tapped to open another, George Westinghouse College Prep, whose success is recognized nationally due to its thriving world language program and partnerships.

While she was transforming educational experiences for others, she returned to the classroom herself, this time at the University of Illinois Chicago, where she earned a second master's degree, in education in leadership and administration, followed by a doctorate in Urban Education Leadership.

In 2014, her leadership talents took her into CPS administration, where as a Network Chief she oversaw 26 schools and 14,000 students. She went on to serve as Chief Education Officer, and in 2017, was promoted to CEO. Her 22-year tenure with the district is most notable for the district's results in advancing equitable student outcomes. Jackson's efforts, along with those of Chicago's dedicated teachers and principals, propelled students to record-breaking gains in academic achievement, graduation, and post-secondary completion.

Jackson departed CPS in 2021 and today serves as CEO of Hope Chicago, a public-private partnership working to drive economic mobility for disinvested communities through scholarships for Chicago families at scale. In three short years, Hope Chicago has enrolled more than 1,800 students from Chicago's South, Southwest and West Sides – plus approximately 200 Parent Scholars – in postsecondary and workforce programs completely debt-free.

Jackson serves as a Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and served as a Distinguished Fellow at the University of Chicago Institute for Politics. In 2024, she was named the Inspire Change Changemaker by the Chicago Bears. Jackson resides on Chicago's South Side with her husband, Torrence, and two children.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Carol Marin

Native Illinoisan **Carol Marin** is an esteemed journalist and Peabody Award-winning reporter. Her career affiliations include WMAQ-TV Chicago, CBS News, “60 Minutes,” and the Evening News with Dan Rather. She also served as a columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times and was a regular contributor to “Chicago Tonight” on WTTW, a public broadcast station. Her reporting focused on critical news involving local and statewide government, public policy, public corruption and organized crime, and politics.

Marin’s influential career in journalism began after graduating from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. In 1972, she began as a reporter, anchor, and assistant news director at WBIR-TV in Knoxville, Tennessee. Four years later, her career took her to WSM-TV in Nashville, where she played a significant role in investigative reporting.

Marin returned to Illinois after she was hired by the NBC-owned and operated station, WMAQ-TV. She would spend nearly two decades as part of WMAQ’s broadcasting team. In her next role, Marin was hired by CBS News, where she worked as a network correspondent and an investigative reporter.

In 1997, Marin received the prestigious Peabody Award. She and producer Don Moseley received another Peabody Award in 1998 for their documentary on the facially disfigured. The duo went on to receive national Emmys in 1989 and 1998, as well as two Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Awards in 1986 and 1998, recognizing their exceptional reporting.

2002 was an illustrious year for Marin. Together with Moseley, she formed an independent documentary company, Marin Corp Productions, and also received the coveted Gracie Award from American Women in Radio & Television. Their Marin Corp Productions, which is located at DePaul University in Chicago, where the dynamic news duo also launched the Center for Journalism Integrity and Excellence, has produced programs for CNN and The New York Times/Discovery Channel.

Marin returned to WMAQ in 2004, as the station’s political editor. Two years later she also signed on as a contributor to *Chicago Tonight* on WTTW. Her outstanding journalism once again culminated in industry recognition, this time earning her a third Peabody Award for investigative reporting in 2015.

It was in 2020 that Marin announced she would be making her departure from WMAQ and WTTW. A respected journalist known throughout Chicagoland, Marin continues in her role as founding director of the Center for Journalism Integrity and Excellence.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Julieanna Richardson

Committed to making a meaningful difference in all her endeavors, **Julieanna L. Richardson's** influential efforts hold a storied place in our nation's history. As founder and president of *The HistoryMakers*, a Chicago-based nonprofit, she heads this nonpartisan, digital, archival collection of African-American oral histories.

Richardson graduated from Brandeis University with a double-major in theatre arts and American studies. There, she encountered her first experience with the power of oral history while studying the Harlem Renaissance. Richardson went on to graduate from Harvard Law School in 1980 and started her career as a corporate attorney for the Chicago law firm of Jenner & Block. She later took her first role in the media industry, as cable administrator for the City of Chicago Office of Cable Communications.

Her career blossomed when she founded Shop Chicago, a regional shopping channel. From there, Richardson created her own production company, SCTN Teleproductions. Over the next eight years, SCTN Teleproductions managed three local cable channels and served as the local production extension for C-SPAN.

In 1999, without any formal training or funding, Richardson began an archive, compiling over 3,500 African American video oral histories. One of the first was that of Tuskegee Airman Colonel Bill Thompson. Others include United States Secretary of State and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Colin Powell, Cubs legend Ernie Banks, poet and author Maya Angelou, President Barack Obama, and many other influential voices. In her work documenting the African American experience in our nation's history, Richardson's archive contains over 348 Illinoisans, more than any other state on record.

In 2012, the United States Library of Congress became the permanent repository for Richardson's collection, making it only their second major African American oral history collection, the first being, *Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project*. The culmination of these archives stands together in our national library, powerful stories from the formerly enslaved to the African American experience of our society today. Additionally, the National Football League donated its archive of Black player interviews which includes Hall of Famer and retired wide receiver Jerry Rice.

Richardson is widely recognized for her historic work, which demonstrates that history is always in the making. She has received honorary degrees from Howard University, Dominican University and Brandeis University. She was honored as a prominent Chicagoan, receiving the Chicago History Museum's John Hope Franklin Making History Award.

In Gratitude to Our Convocation Sponsors

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The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Honorary Convocation Chair

We are honored that Lincoln Laureate Jean Driscoll is serving as our Honorary Convocation Chair. A U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame inductee, she has won five gold, three silver, and four bronze medals in four Summer Paralympic Games. She won the women's wheelchair division of the Boston Marathon eight times, more than any other female athlete in any division. In 1990, she was named a Student Laureate and in 2012 she received The Order of Lincoln.

Appreciation to Convocation Host Committee Members

It is with sincere gratitude that we thank the Host Committee for their work in planning tonight's event. The Committee was led by Co-Chairs Regent and Officer Margaret Cline and Donna Greene. The Committee Members were Sharon Allen, Jayne DeLuce, Amy Durukan, Trustee Bob Easter, Jim Fessler, Tanya Gallagher, Bianca Green, Sue Grey, Regent Julie Gunn, Jane Hays, Chris Randles, Amy Randolph, and Grant Thompson.

The Musicians

We are grateful to the individuals sharing their musical talents with us this evening. The Men's Varsity Glee Club and its a cappella subset The Other Guys are devoting performance time during finals week to join us. We truly appreciate that The Copper Ridge Quintet presented by 1st Choice Music Services are adding a special distinction to the ceremony with their professional brass ensemble.

Gratitude to this Evening's Guests and Sponsors

Thank you for attending this evening's ceremony to recognize the 61st Class of Lincoln Laureates. Your support of this ceremony, as well as gifts to the Spirit of Lincoln Endowment, advance and sustain the Academy's commitment to educate our next generation with the leadership and character attributes recognized in Abraham Lincoln.

The Spirit of Lincoln Endowment Fund and The Elizabeth Hubert Malott Education Endowment Fund enable the Academy to elevate its visibility, provide sustained support of current activities, and allow for expanded initiatives of the Academy across the state of Illinois and beyond. The top priority for these funds is providing sustaining funds for the annual Student Laureate Civic Engagement Awards. With a deep commitment to Illinois, the Lincoln Academy of Illinois seeks to ignite and inspire leadership in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln.

Organization of the Academy

The Lincoln Academy is a nonpartisan organization governed by a Board of Regents and a membership of General Trustees. Illinois' Governor is the President of the Academy, and the Board of Regents elects a Chancellor who serves as Chief Executive Officer. The General Trustees are appointed by the Governor or are elected by the Academy. Nine Rectors assist in identifying potential nominees for The Order of Lincoln. The Academic Trustees are the chief executive officers of all four-year colleges and universities in Illinois and three members at-large.

Former Chancellors of the Academy

Michael Butler, Chicago (1965-1969)
Robert Bone, Bloomington (1969-1971)
William K. Alderfer, Chicago (1971-1975)
Thomas R. Mulroy, Chicago (1975-1979)
Marshall L. Burman, Chicago, (1979-1985)
John Trutter, Chicago (1985-2001)

The Honorable John B. Simon, Chicago (2001-2010)
Thomas S. Johnson, Rockford (2010-2015)
William Bennett, Chicago (2015-2016)
Stephanie Pace Marshall, PhD, Chicago (2016-2019)
Frank Clark, Chicago (2019-2022)
The Honorable Ronald D. Spears (2022-2025)

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

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Todd Shapiro*, Vice Chancellor

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The Honorable Pat Quinn

The Honorable Bruce Rauner
The Honorable George H. Ryan

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Hon. Ernest Wish

**Sustaining Member*

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Hall of Fame of Historic Illinoisans

Created in 1992 to recognize early contributions to our state's heritage
prior to the establishment of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois.

Robert Sengstacke Abbott
Jane Addams
John Peter Altgeld
Philip Danforth Armour
Priscilla Baltimore
Frank L. Baum
Black Hawk
Shadrach Bond
Myra Colby Bradwell
Williams Jennings Bryan
Daniel Burnham
Frances Xavier Cabrini
George Rogers Clark
Bessie Coleman
Edward Coles
Daniel Pope Cook
Richard J. Daley
Clarence Darrow
David Davis
Charles Gates Dawes
Eugene Debs
John Deere
Walter Elias Disney
Stephen A. Douglas
Theodore Dreiser
Otis Duncan
Ninian Edwards
Enrico Fermi
Eugene Field
Marshall Field
Lucy Louisa Coues Flower
Melville Weston Fuller
Harold 'Red' Grange
Ulysses S. Grant
Marion Mahoney Griffin
William Rainey Harper
Ernest Hemingway
William Henry Herndon
Henry Horner
William Lebaron Jenney
Mary 'Mother' Jones

John Jones
Keokuk
Kenesaw Mountain Landis
Julia Lathrop
Victor Freemont Lawson
Abraham Lincoln
Mary Lincoln
Vachel Lindsay
Gen. John A. Logan
Elijah Parish Lovejoy
Owen Lovejoy
Edgar Lee Masters
Cyrus Hall McCormick
Joseph Medill
Ralph Metcalfe
Robert Andrews Millikan
Harriet Monroe
George William Mundelein
Walter Loomis Newberry
Archange Chevallier Ouilmette
James Cleveland 'Jesse' Owens
Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable
George Mortimer Pullman
Julius Rosenwald
Carl Sandburg
Louis Henri Sullivan
Lorado Zadoc Taft
Christian Theodore Thomas
Emmet Till
Fr. Augustine (Augustus) Tolton
Lyman Trumbull
Harriet Elizabeth Vittum
Aaron Montgomery Ward
Ida Bell Wells-Barnett
Frances E. Willard
Daniel Hale Williams
Frank Lloyd Wright
William Wrigley, Jr.
Florenz Ziegfeld

Laureates of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

Laureates Inducted in 2024

60th Convocation – Chicago
Robert R. McCormick Theater
Chicago History Museum
Evelyn Brandt Thomas
Lewis Collens
Hon. Rita B. Garman (ret.)
Alison Krauss
Lester H. McKeever, Jr.
Raul I. Raymundo
James H. Thome

Laureates Inducted in 2023

59th Convocation – Springfield
House of Representatives,
State Capitol & Abraham
Lincoln Presidential Museum
His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory
Karen Hasara
John W. Rogers, Jr.
Thomas E. Skilling III
Jayne Carr Thompson
Paula Wolff

Laureates Inducted in 2022

58th Convocation – Elmhurst
Hammerschmidt Memorial
Chapel, Elmhurst University
William Brodsky
Debra Cafaro
Rebecca Carlisle Doyle
John M. McCarter, Jr.
Prof. Martha C. Nussbaum
Hon. Robert R. Thomas

Laureates Inducted in 2021

57th Convocation - Chicago
Robert R. McCormick Theater
Chicago History Museum
Capt. Scott D. Altman
Carol Ross Barney
Maj. Gen. John Borling
John Andrew McQuown*
Prof. John Rogers
Tommy Shimoda
Joanne C. Smith, MD*
Mavis Staples

Laureates Inducted in 2020

56th Convocation - Normal
Braden Auditorium in the
Bone Student Center
Illinois State University
Douglas 'Doug' Collins
Dr. Robert 'Robb' Fraley
Hon. Donald F. McHenry

Laureates Inducted in 2019

55th Convocation – Springfield
House of Representatives,
State Capitol & University of Illinois Springfield
Student Union
Jerry Colangelo
Edgar J. Curtis
Sheila C. Johnson
Hon. Benjamin K. Miller*
Dr. Olufunmilayo Olopade
George F. Will

Laureates Inducted in 2018

54th Convocation – Rockford
Coronado Performing Arts Center
Emily Bear
Richard 'Dick' Butkus*
Steven Shih Chen
Rev. Michael J. Garanzini, S.J.
Melody Hobson
Ed McMillan
Dr. Louis Philipson
Dave Rydell

Laureates Inducted in 2017

53rd Convocation – Chicago
Robert R. McCormick Theater
Chicago History Museum
Frank M. Clark
Richard H. Driehaus*
Hon. James F. Holderman*
R. Eden Martin
Ryne Sandberg
Samuel Knox Skinner
Harrison I. Steans*

Laureates Inducted in 2016

52nd Convocation – Peoria
Cotillion Ballroom
Marriott Pere Marquette Hotel
Robert Gilmore
Hon. Nancy Goodman Brinker
Hon. Ray LaHood
Leo Melamed
Scott Simon
Dr. Kevin Stein

Laureates Inducted in 2015

*51st Convocation – Springfield
House of Representatives,
State Capitol & Abraham
Lincoln Presidential Museum*
Arthur H. ‘Hy’ Bunn
Ertharin Cousin
J. Roland Folse
Hon. Sara Vaughn Gabbard
Gary Slutkin
W. Russell Withers, Jr.*

Laureates Inducted in 2014

*50th Convocation – Chicago
Simpson Auditorium &
Stanley Field Hall
The Field Museum*
John A. Canning, Jr.*
Hon. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Michael Krzyzewski
Newton N. Minow*
Bernard Rands
& Augusta Read Thomas
Rev. Donald Senior, C.P.*
Glenn F. Tilton

Laureates Inducted in 2013

*49th Convocation – Rock Island
Centennial Hall & Wallenberg Hall
on Augustana College Campus*
Brenda C. Barnes*
William Hammer
G. Timothy Johnson
Robert Lane
Robert Ontiveros*
Chad Pregracke

Laureates Inducted in 2012

*48th Convocation – Springfield
House of Representatives, State
Capitol & PNC Bank Atrium*
Jean Driscoll
W. James Farrell
James A. Lovell, Jr.
Naomi Burgos Lynn
Robert J. Miller*
William R. Schnirring*
N. Ronald Thunman*

Laureates Inducted in 2011

*47th Convocation – Urbana-
Champaign
Krannert Center for the
Performing Arts
University of Illinois*
Richard Gray* &
Mary Lackritz Gray
Shahid R. Khan
Shirley Madigan
Dawn Clark Netsch*
Timothy J. Nugent *

Laureates Inducted in 2010

*46th Convocation - Chicago
Rubloff Auditorium
The Art Institute of Chicago*
William J. Bauer
Doris K. Christopher
Mary A. Dempsey
Mannie Jackson
The Joffrey Ballet
Lester B. Knight, III

Laureates Inducted in 2009

*45th Convocation – Springfield
Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial
Abraham Lincoln
Presidential Museum*
Jean H. Baker
Gabor Boritt
Michael Burlingame
Richard Carwardine
Julie Cellini
Cullom Davis
Eric Foner
Allen C. Guelzo
Harold Holzer
Charles M. Hubbard
Ron Keller
Philip B. Kunhardt III &
Peter W. Kunhardt
John McClarey
Edna Greene Medford
LeRoy Neiman*
Don Pollack
Robert Provost Jr.
Bob Rogers
Thomas F. Schwartz
Jack Smith
Lowell* & Rhoda Sneller

Louise Taper
Wayne C. Temple*
Lily Tolpo*
Daniel R. Weinberg
Frank J. Williams
Douglas L. Wilson &
Rodney O. Davis

Laureates Inducted in 2008

*44th Convocation - Carbondale
Shyrock Auditorium
Southern Illinois University*
David Herbert Donald *
Irl F. Engelhardt
Joel M. Flaum*
William R. Norwood
Kenneth A. Shaw
Thomas M. Siebel

Laureates Inducted in 2007

*43rd Convocation - Chicago
James Simpson Theatre
The Field Museum*
Judith S. Block
Norman R. Bobins
Rev. Dr. John M. Buchanan*
Mary Ann G. McMorro*
Linda Johnson Rice

Laureates Inducted in 2006

*42nd Convocation - Springfield
Sangamon Auditorium
University of Illinois Springfield*
Rev. Thomas J. Behrens
Richard H. Moy*
William A. Osborn
Garry Wills
The Zhou Brothers

Laureates Inducted in 2005

*41st Convocation - Edwardsville
Dunham Theatre
Southern Illinois University*
Edward A. Brennan*
David S. Broder*
Nick Holonyak, Jr.*
George E. Inglett
Jacqueline Joyner-Kersee
Stephanie Pace Marshall

Laureates Inducted in 2004

*40th Convocation - Chicago
Rubloff Auditorium
Chicago Historical Society*

Michael Beschloss
Harry L. Crisp, II
George A. Ranney, Jr.
Louis "Studs" Terkel*
Ernest R. Wish

Laureates Inducted in 2003

*39th Convocation - Normal
Braden Auditorium*

Illinois State University
Sister Rosemary Connelley, RSM
Ronald J. Gidwitz
John W. Maitland, Jr.
Sherrill Milnes
Edward B. Rust
Rev. Addie L. Wyatt*

Laureates Inducted in 2002

*38th Convocation - Springfield
Sangamon Auditorium
University of Illinois Springfield*

Frank W. Considine*
Lou Conte
Jack M. Greenberg
Rabbi Herman E. Schaalman
Bernard Shaw*
James B. Stewart

Laureates Inducted in 2001

*37th Convocation – Chicago
Rubloff Auditorium
The Art Institute of Chicago*

M. Cherif Bassiouni*
Henry B. Betts*
Roger Ebert*
Marian F. (Cindy) Pritzker*
Orion Samuelson
The Rev. John P. Smyth*

Laureates Inducted in 2000

*36th Convocation - Springfield
Illinois State Library*

Gwendolyn Brooks*
Lynn Martin
Monsignor Ignatius McDermott*
Andrew J. McKenna*
Robert Eugene Richards*
Harold B. Steele*
Scott F. Turow

Laureates Inducted in 1999

*35th Convocation –
Urbana-Champaign
Krannert Center*

*for the Performing Arts
University of Illinois*
Lester Crown
Jim Edgar
Robert D. Novak*
Stansfield Turner*

Laureates Inducted in 1998

*34th Convocation – Chicago
James R. Thompson Center*

Peter B. Bensinger*
Preston Jackson*
Martin E. Marty
Patrick G. Ryan
John M. D. Shalikashvili*
Paul Simon*

Laureates Inducted in 1997

*33rd Convocation – Springfield
House of Representatives*

Illinois State Capitol
Gwendolyn Brooks*
Leonard H. Lavin*
Ramsey E. Lewis, Jr.*
Robert H. Michel*
Jerry M. Reinsdorf
Seymour Simon *
Joseph Cardinal Bernardin*

Laureates Inducted in 1996

*32nd Convocation - Evanston
Pick-Staiger Concert Hall
Northwestern University*

Willard L. Boyd*
Stanley O. Ikenberry*
Jeane J. Kirkpatrick*
Sid Luckman*
Alan Schriesheim

Laureates Inducted in 1995

*31st Convocation - Carbondale
Shyrocks Auditorium*

Southern Illinois University
James S. Brady*
Joseph B. Kirsner*
William H. Kurtis
Robert H. Malott*
Arnold W. Weber*

Laureates Inducted in 1994

*30th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives*

Illinois State Capitol
Alan J. Dixon*
Robert W. Galvin*
Steven R. Nagel*
Rev. John T. Richardson*
Kay Smith*
Anthony J. Watson

Laureates Inducted in 1993

*29th Convocation – Chicago
Merle Reskin Theatre*

DePaul University
Etta Moten Barnett*
John H. Bryan*
Subrahmanyam Chandrasekhar*
Lester E. Fisher*
Richard Hunt*
James J. O'Connor*

Laureates Inducted in 1992

*28th Convocation – Decatur
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
Millikin University
Marajen Stevick Chinigo*
William B. Graham*
John O. Honnold, Jr.*
Paul C. Laterbur*
Osvaldo I. Lopez
W. Clement Stone**

Laureates Inducted in 1991

*27th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
Arnold O. Beckman*
Harry A. Blackmun*
Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley*
Norman A. Ross*
James R. Thompson*
Elmer H. Wavering**

Laureates Inducted in 1990

*26th Convocation – Chicago
Rockefeller Chapel
University of Chicago
Mortimer J. Adler*
Marshall L. Burman*
James S. Kemper, Jr.*
Leon M. Lederman*
James B. Stockdale*
William C. Warfield**

Laureates Inducted in 1989

*25th Convocation – Normal
Braden Auditorium
Illinois State University
John C. Corbally*
C. Geraldine Freund*
Eugene D. Funk, Jr.*
Hannah H. Gray
Elizabeth N. Paepcke**

Laureates Inducted in 1988

*24th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
Dwayne O. Andreas*
John Chancellor*
Abraham Lincoln Marovitz*
Raymond Joseph Meyer*
Patrick L. O'Malley**

Laureates Inducted in 1987

*23rd Convocation – Chicago
James R. Thompson Center
Michael Butler*
Paul Harvey*
Walter Massey
Walter Payton**

Laureates Inducted in 1986

*22nd Convocation – Peoria
Dingeldine Auditorium
Bradley University
James Beré*
William Harrison Fetridge*
Lawrence Rossi*
Maria Tallchief**

Laureates Inducted in 1985

*21st Convocation – Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
Ardis Krainik*
Hiram Henry Lesar*
Ruth Page*
Daniel James Terra**

Laureates Inducted in 1984

*20th Convocation - Evanston
Pick-Staiger Concert Hall
Northwestern University
Leigh B. Block*
Virginia L. Marmaduke*
Arthur C. Neilsen, Jr.*
John L. Strohm**

Laureates Inducted in 1983

*19th Convocation – Edwardsville
Communications Building Theater
Southern Illinois University
Thomas R. Mulroy*
Ralph Newman*
Mike Royko*
Bobby Short**

Laureates Inducted in 1982

*18th Convocation – Urbana-
Champaign, Krannert
Center for the Performing Arts,
University of Illinois
Donald L. Bitzer*
John R. Block*
Marva N. Collins*
Delyte W. Morris**

Laureates Inducted in 1981

*17th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
Thomas G. Ayers*
James W. Cronin*
Ronald W. Reagan*
Adlai E. Stevenson III*
John T. Trutter**

Laureates Inducted in 1980

*16th Convocation – Chicago
The Chicago Cultural Center
Paul Findley*
John Hope Franklin*
Arthur Rubloff**

Laureates Inducted in 1979

*15th Convocation – Carbondale
Shyrock Auditorium
Southern Illinois University
John B. Anderson*
Joan Walsh Anglund*
William Alexander Hewitt*
Robert Stephen Ingersoll*
Leon Orris Jacobson*
Albert Jenner, Jr.*
Clayton Kirkpatrick*
Marjorie Lawrence**

Laureates Inducted in 1978

*14th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
Robert Gehlmann Bone*
Irving Lee Dilliard*
Ann Landers*
Brooks McCormick*
Samuel H. Shapiro*
William G. Stratton*
Daniel Walker**

Laureates Inducted in 1977

13th Convocation – Peoria
Scottish Rite Cathedral
 Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith*
 Charlton Heston*
 Celeste Holm*
 Otto Kerner*
 Hyman George Rickover*
 Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen*

Laureates Inducted in 1976

12th Convocation – Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
 Rev. Preston Bradley*
 Gaylord A. Freeman, Jr.*
 Louis Goldblatt*
 Burl Ives*
 Edward Hirsh Levi*
 Louis Courtenay Sudler*

Laureate Inducted in 1975

11th Convocation – Lincoln
Johnson Center for the
Performing Arts
Lincoln College
 Samuel Weiler Witwer, Sr.*

Laureates Inducted in 1974

10th Convocation – Chicago
Orchestra Hall
 William Russell Arrington*
 Saul Bellow*
 Chicago Symphony Orchestra
 Benjamin (Benny) Goodman*
 William John Kuhfuss*

Laureates Inducted in 1973

9th Convocation – Moline
Administration Center
Deere & Company
 Richard B. Ogilvie*
 Frank Everson Vandiver*

Laureates Inducted in 1972

8th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
 Jack Benny*
 David Dodds Henry*
 Percy Lavon Julian*
 Mark Van Doren*

Laureates Inducted in 1971

7th Convocation – Rockford
Maddox Theatre
Rockford College
 Archibald MacLeish*

Laureate Inducted in 1970

6th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
 Paul McClelland Angle*
 Ernest (Ernie) Banks*
 William J. Campbell*
 William C. Westmoreland*

Laureate Inducted in 1969

5th Convocation – Chicago
Palmer House
 David Matthew Kennedy*

Laureates Inducted in 1968

4th Convocation - Springfield
House of Representatives
Illinois State Capitol
 Ivan LeLorraine Albright*
 John B. (Jack) Brickhouse*
 Katherine Dunham*
 Arthur Goldberg*
 William Edward McManus*
 Edward L. Ryerson*
 Rabbi Jacob Joseph Weinstein*
 Roy Wilkins*

Laureates Inducted in 1967

3rd Convocation – Springfield
Senate Chambers
Illinois State Capitol
 William Carl Ackermann*
 Roger Adams*
 Paul H. Douglas*
 Hugh Downs*
 Charles (Chick) Evans, Jr.*
 The Fine Arts Quintet– Leonard Sorkin*,
 Abram Loft*, George Sopkin*,
 Gerald Stanick*
 Richard Buckminster Fuller*
 John Simpson Hastings*
 Raymond Marcellus Hilliard*
 Charles Brenton Huggins*
 Mahalia Jackson*

Wayne Andrew Johnston*
 Irving (Kup) Kupcinec*
 George Littlewood Luthy*
 James Winchester Montgomery*
 Charles B. Shuman*
 Martin Wagner*
 Robert Elkington Wood*

Laureates Inducted in 1966

2nd Convocation – Chicago
Chicago Historical Society
 George Wells Beadle*
 Edwin Carlos (Bill) Berry*
 Edgar Hugh Storer Chandler*
 Everett McKinley Dirksen*
 Marshall Field IV*
 Carol Fox*
 George Stanley Halas, Sr.*
 Ben Walter Heineman, Sr.*
 John Harold Johnson*
 Karl Albert Meyer*
 Ludwig Mies van der Rohe*
 Franklin Faller Offner*
 James Michael Roche*
 Walter V. Schaefer*
 Robert Martin Trueblood*
 Benjamin Coppage Willis*

Laureates Inducted in 1965

1st Convocation – Chicago
Chicago Historical Society
 John Bardeen*
 Joseph Leopold Block*
 John Stephen Boyle*
 Richard Gibbs Browne*
 Avery Brundage*
 James Edwards Day*
 Rudolph Ganz*
 William H. (Bill) Mauldin*
 Albert Cardinal Meyer*
 Nathan Mortimer Newmark*
 William Alan Patterson*
 Ward Louis Quaal*
 Adlai E. Stevenson II*

** Laureates who are deceased*

