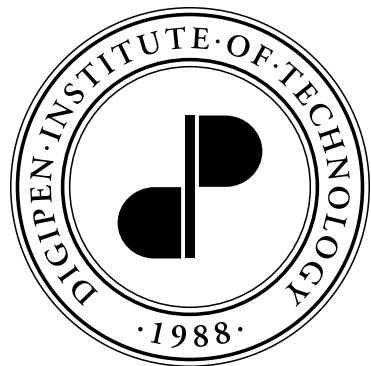


Sunday, April 25th, 2021

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

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*Class of 2021*



2021 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

# *A Message from the President*

April 25, 2021

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on your achievement! I am very proud of each and every one of you, and you should be proud of your accomplishments. Graduating from DigiPen is a formidable feat, and although it may have tested your abilities at times, you succeeded with all the hard work, discipline, and perseverance that you dedicated to your education. The honor we bestow on you today is well deserved, and I applaud you.

As we send you off into the world to make your mark, please allow me to offer you four pieces of advice that I have given to my own children. First, as a college graduate, you are now among the small percentage of people who are the most educated in the world. With this privilege comes great responsibility. Therefore, as you begin this new chapter in your lives, I encourage you to strive for excellence in all you do. With the solid foundation you have built during your years at DigiPen, you are armed with the knowledge and expertise to excel in the careers you have chosen. Continue to use your imagination to achieve great things, and persevere when times get tough, as there is no easy road to success.

Second, as you pursue your dreams, continue to live by the values, ethics, and integrity that we have encouraged you to uphold during your years at DigiPen. Your integrity will speak more about you than you imagine. Be kind to those you live and work with, and remember to express gratitude to those who help you because they, too, have contributed to your success. Along the way, reach out and give back to even those who do not know you, for this is the kind of giving that is most rewarding.

Third, continue your pursuit of knowledge and self-improvement, because learning is a life-long process. Learn more about your field of work, the subjects that intrigue you, the world, and yourself. My father often told me that the only treasure that I can count on and take with me anywhere in the world is my knowledge. Today, I pass on to you the same advice that served me well throughout the years.

Finally, be humble. The virtue of humility will allow you to cultivate other virtues. It will help you build character and give you the insight to understand others more fully. Humility is also necessary in your quest for knowledge. It has been said that, “If we do not learn humility, we will learn nothing.” As you become more successful in your careers and become leaders in the industry, you may at one point feel that you know it all. But there is always something new to learn. Be humble so that you can expand your minds and your hearts.

Together with your loved ones, the entire DigiPen family congratulates you on your achievement, and we celebrate your new beginning. I encourage you to stay connected to your alma mater, and we eagerly look forward to hearing about the outstanding accomplishments I know you will achieve.

With all my best wishes,

**Claude Comair**

*President and Founder*

*DigiPen Institute of Technology*

# Order of Exercises

## **OPENING REMARKS BY MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

Angela Kugler, *Senior Vice President of External Affairs*

## **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

DigiPen Vocal Ensemble

## **WELCOME BY THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT**

Jason Thiel, *Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in Real-Time Interactive Simulation Student & President of the Associated Students of DigiPen*

## **INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**

Angela Kugler, *Senior Vice President of External Affairs*

## **COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

Susanna Pollack, *President of Games for Change*

## **RECOGNITION OF THE FACULTY**

Dr. Erik Mohrmann, *Dean of Faculty*

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATE STUDENT HONORS**

Dr. Erik Mohrmann, *Dean of Faculty*

Honors are awarded to graduate candidates who have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or greater.

**Master of Science in Computer Science**

Shao-Yang Huang  
Konstantin Udovickij  
Dhrumil Shukla  
Dushyant Shukla  
Silvia Barbero Rodriguez  
Weichuan Sun

**Master of Fine Arts in Digital Arts**

Trang Ta

**PRESENTATION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT VALEDICTORIANS**

Dr. Erik Mohrmann, *Dean of Faculty*

Valedictorians are undergraduate students who have achieved the highest GPA in their degree program's graduating class.

**Bachelor of Fine Arts in Digital Art and Animation**

Caleb Michael Hesse

**Bachelor of Arts in Game Design**

Wyatt Mason Waters

**Bachelor of Arts in Music and Sound Design**

Aron Nyaribo Roberts

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering**

Junsung Ahn

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**

Jack Albert Klein

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Game Design**

Michael Timothy Crouch

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Digital Audio**

Ott Henry Folsom Smithson

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in Real-Time Interactive Simulation**

Jared Augustus Joyal

## **PRESENTATION BY THE NOMINATED STUDENT SPEAKER**

The Student Speaker exemplifies the high academic and professional standards of DigiPen and was nominated by DigiPen's faculty and staff.

### **Felix Knight**

*Bachelor of Arts in Game Design*

## **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES**

During the ceremony, student names will be read by degree program in alphabetical order. A full list of student names is shown on the following pages.

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

Claude Comair, *President and Founder*

## **RECESSIONAL**

DigiPen Canon, DigiPen Vocal Ensemble & DigiPen Jazz Ensemble

# 2021 Graduation Candidates

## MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN DIGITAL ARTS

Scott Crichley Blue	Brittany A Katz
Min Chun Chen	Zhi Min
Dakota Houston Emil Curry	Megan June Roberts
Nico Dolci	Trang Ta <sup>‡</sup>

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Silvia Barbero Rodriguez <sup>‡</sup>	Dhruvil Shukla <sup>‡</sup>
Ivan Cazares	Dushyant Shukla <sup>‡</sup>
Vineet Amarjeet Dogra	Weichuan Sun <sup>‡</sup>
Matthew Gilbert	Konstantin Udovickij <sup>‡</sup>
Taksh Goyal	Abhikalp Prakash Unakal
Shao-Yang Huang <sup>‡</sup>	Yuan-kai Wang
Jake Lewandosky	Angela Wu
Chase Alexander Rayment	

## BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN DIGITAL ART AND ANIMATION

Daniel John Allard	Asia Cowen
May Amonchairoek	Luc Robert DeBenon
Jonathan Ang	Mitchell Thomas Malone Dixon
Edward Aoki	Hannah Dunlap
Han Bao	Alissa Lincoln Gowan
Arthur Leevander Bates	Brittany Hathcoat
Genevieve Bega <sup>*</sup>	Akashdeep Singh Hehar
Connor Y Binford	Caleb Michael Hesse <sup>*</sup>
Jack L Blanchard	Weerakorn Inthapibool
Maggie Elizabeth Brown	Tanpitcha Jinklab
Ryan Alexander Chan	Cody Johnson
Griffin Coleman	Emma Ruth Johnson
Clayton Steve Cowden	Carmel Kho

<sup>‡</sup>Graduating with Distinction, <sup>\*</sup>cum laude, <sup>\*\*</sup>magna cum laude, <sup>\*\*\*</sup>summa cum laude



Ryanna Kim  
Dylan King  
Delaney Alice Kohler  
Robert Lasica  
Aeriel M Lee  
Nichapron Limpronpugdee  
Sarah Lintakoon  
Nelson Lo  
Adolfo E Makoukdji  
Andrew Maldonado  
Hannah Marquardt  
Jacob Marshall  
Sabrina Rhianne Martinez  
Owen William McCubbin  
Thanumpa Mohprasit  
Alexander Dean Novasio  
Kai Oliver  
Amanda Christine Parks

Yen Viet Pham  
Punnut Pongampan  
Rowan Postyeni  
Weston M Powers  
Kira Premack  
Jacob Steven Daniel  
Saunderson  
Connor Joseph Schultz  
Allora Rebecca Scott  
Christopher Alan Shell  
Annie Rose Shepard  
Santiparp Steenholt  
Eryn Suchara  
Jasmine Khea Sunheng  
AD Taeza\*  
Anja Thomsen  
Nat Upayokin  
Brian Mitchell Wong

**BACHELOR OF ARTS  
IN GAME DESIGN**

Alex Anderson  
Brendon Banville  
Cameron Bowman  
Oliver D Clubb  
Collin William Cromwell  
Chris Dalton  
Cathy Dang  
Thomas R Davis  
Bryce Thomas Denmark  
Andrew Duong  
Jarrod William Ehlert  
Belle Grace Farmer  
Brianna Rose Ferderer  
Harrison Green  
Marshall Heffernan\*  
Devin Hentz  
Gal Klapfer  
Felix Knight\*\*  
Stephen Andrew Kolodychuk

Sau Ching Leung  
Kieran Luscombe  
Blaise Markley  
Justice Colt Mealer  
Francesco Morando  
Tyler Austin Peterman  
Devin Mackenzie Rapp  
Paul Rivas  
David Scott Robson  
Shane Micheal Staller  
Louis Sutton  
Timofey Talinskiy  
Pedro Souza Lopes Torres  
Wyatt Mason Waters\*\*  
Shania Marie Williams  
Kyle Wood  
Ryan Patrick Woods  
Pataratorn Yimtae

*\*cum laude, \*\*magna cum laude, \*\*\*summa cum laude*

**BACHELOR OF ARTS  
IN MUSIC AND SOUND DESIGN**

Ryan Banister	Ariel Jae Kim*
Michael Joseph Baughman	Joshua Daniel Mickelson
Eric Bergman	Aron Nyaribo Roberts*
Cameron Taelor Espinoza	Christopher Matthew Underwood

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING**

Junsung Ahn***	Jonathan Kornich**
Lindsey Anderson	Collin Micheal MacDicken**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Shareef Ali Abdoul-Raheem	Thomas Goodwin
Jonathan Loren Ackerman	Jack Albert Klein**
Gerrit Bjorn Binkhorst	Weston Michael Mitchell*
Anthony Brigante	Abhishek Mohan
Lux Duncan Jones Cardell	Jake Najera

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND GAME DESIGN**

Cole William Astaire	Kyeongeeun Lee
Shivam Bhatnagar	Dilan Mac
Sierra Marie Brooks	John Daniel Francis O'Brien
Michael T Crouch**	Kyle Powell
Max De Nadai	Maximillian Raschke
Dimitar Dinkov	Tate Sliwa
Paul Michael Hause	Hsianghsuan Tung
Devin Wray Jackson	Cass White
Aaron Johnson	Craig J Williams
Austin Grant Kennedy	

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND DIGITAL AUDIO**

Elgin Matthew Ciani	Taylor Keaton Osmond
Samuel Aaron McCann	Ott Henry Folsom Smithson*
August McCubbin	Megan Works

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE IN REAL-TIME  
INTERACTIVE SIMULATION**

Christian Angelo Ayson	Chiho Kwon
Jihoon Bae	Benjamin Hans Lantrip
Brendon Paul Bankston	Brian Lu
Charles Paul Boudousquie	Rahil Ismail Momin
Nicholas Bugliarelli	Cody Lee Morgan
Wei Yu Chen	Daniel Matthew Onstott
Walt Cho	Spencer Coltrane Park*
Braxton DeHate*	Jeffrey James Peterson
Matthew DeLuca	Maxxwell Plum
Ryan Adam-Lewis Dugie	Andrey Ponomarev*
Charles James Eichelberger	Collin Lee Quinn
Woonggi Eun	Aditya Ravi Chandran***
Johnathan Javin Faehn	Whitcomb Riley
Coseo Corbin Frerichs	Jake Ryan
Thomas Walker Frisbie	Samuel Swenson Schimmel**
Michael Scott Fritz**	Jeremy Joseph Scott*
Ilgwon Ha	Seongwook Shin**
Samuel Robert Hardin	Quinton Silas Skinner*
Louis Hong	Levi Sklaroff
Jaejun Jang	Joseph Justin Arthur Slone
Jared Augustus Joyal***	Achira Sophathammarungsee
Minsu Kang	Quintin Matthew Steiner
Timur Kazhimuratov**	Christopher R. Thomas
Hyunseok Kim	Alexander Robert Townsend
HyunSung Kim	Aron Vainer
Sangdae Kim	David Thomas Walker
Min Ji Kim	Colton Worrell
Junki Kim	Hun Yang
Seth Andrew Kohler*	

*\*cum laude, \*\*magna cum laude, \*\*\*summa cum laude*

# Ceremony Music

## DIGIPEN VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Stephen O'Bent *Director, Vocal Ensemble  
and Chamber Singers*

Aiden Cvengros *Section Leader*

Gaven Flowers *Section Leader*

Karlye Shank *Section Leader*

Kailen Swensen *Section Leader*

Ina Almacen Zack Krolikowski

Anthony Bahn Erik Libouban-Gundersen

Gavin Boelens Antonio Leder

Hannah Brobeck Emma Lewarne

Eric Cayton August McCubbin

Aiden Cvengros Chase Miller

Cameron Espinoza Dylan Pautler

Bennett Ewanchyna Alex Raupp

Gaven Flowers Allora Scott

Yoh Ginoza Karlye Shank

Caleb Hesse John Sullivan

Harrison Jones Kailen Swensen

Ariel Kim Max Van Ginneken

Derek Knight Jared Van Komen

Colin Kolb Kylie Walette

Jem Kortlever Anya Yatskova

## DIGIPEN JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Eric Likkel *Director*

Kevin Jacobson *Trumpet*

Ariel Kim *Trombone and Baritone Horn*

Noah Laudolff *Piano*

Eric Likkel *Clarinet*

Axel McCrumb *Tenor Saxophone*

Joshua Mickelson *Alto Saxophone*

Aron Roberts *Guitar and Bass*

**“Star-Spangled Banner”**

Arranged by  
Connor Smith and Desmond Clark

Performed by  
Kylie Walette, Karlye Shank, and  
Stephen O’Bent

Video and audio production by  
Stephen O’Bent

**“DigiPen Canon”**

Composed by  
Bruce Stark

Arranged by  
Eric Likkel

Performed by  
The DigiPen Jazz Ensemble and  
the DigiPen Vocal Ensemble

Video and audio production by  
Stephen O’Bent

**“Level Up”**

Music and lyrics by  
Vienna Teng

Arranged by  
Katie Bent and Stephen O’Bent

Performed by  
The DigiPen Vocal Ensemble

Video and audio production by  
Stephen O’Bent

# Faculty

## ACADEMIC DEANS

Erik Mohrmann	<i>Dean of Faculty</i>
Jen Sward	<i>Associate Dean of Instruction and Assessment</i>
Vanessa Hemovich	<i>Assistant Dean of Professional Development</i>
Justin Chambers	<i>Assistant Dean of Articulation and Coordination</i>
Seth Atkinson	<i>Associate Dean of Learning Technology Resources</i>

## PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Mark Henne	<i>Master of Fine Arts in Digital Arts</i>
Dr. Dmitri Volper	<i>Master of Science in Computer Science</i>
Jazno Francoeur	<i>Bachelor of Fine Arts in Digital Art and Animation</i>
Jeremy Holcomb	<i>Bachelor of Arts in Game Design</i>
Lawrence Schwedler	<i>Bachelor of Arts in Music and Sound Design</i>
Lawrence Schwedler	<i>Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Digital Audio</i>
Ben Ellinger	<i>Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Game Design</i>
Dr. Jeremy Thomas	<i>Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering</i>
Dr. Pushpak Karnick	<i>Bachelor of Science in Computer Science</i>
Dr. Barnabas Bede	<i>Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in Machine Learning</i>
Dr. Pushpak Karnick	<i>Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in Real-Time Interactive Simulation</i>
Dr. Fara Nizamani	<i>Intensive English Program</i>

## DEPARTMENT OF ANIMATION AND PRODUCTION

Bradley Bradbury	Peter Moerhle
Matthew Brunner	Richard Morgan
Dan Daly	Christopher Mosio
Jazno Francoeur*	Randall Ng
John Hermanowski	Richard Sullivan
Mark Henne	YZ Tan
Leo Martinez	Matthew Vancil
Pamela Mathues	Rich Werner

## DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Alexander Carter	Jason Hanson
Antoine Abi Chacra	Gary Herron
Samir Abou Samra	Pushpak Karnick*
Ola Amayri	Matthew Mead
Rudy Castan	Matthew Osbond
Victor Cecci	Steven Rabin
Claude Comair	Gilberto Risado
Christopher Comair	Peter Toth
Ryan Davison	Tara von der Linden
Michael Dorgan	Dmitri Volper

## DEPARTMENT OF DIGITAL ARTS

Floyd Bishop	Mark Nelson
Randy Briley	Christopher Poplin
Matthew Dudley	Vinod Rams
Elijah Evenson	Nachshon Rubel
Zahra Haghiri	Brigitte Samson
Suzanne Kaufman	Alain Schneuwly*
Michelle Lu	Kamal Siegel

## DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Charles Duba	Jeremy Thomas*
Christian Hassard Gastelum	Lorena Villareal
Jobeda Khanam	

*\*Department Chair*

**DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS**

Michael Adams	Michael Lorefice
Iole Alessandrini	Lisa Dyson-Meighan
Travis Blaise	Steffon Moody
Antony De Fato	Douglas Parry
Ryan Finnerty	Lou Patnode
Kristin Frost	Alecia Rossano
Randi Ganulin	Nachshon Rubel
Sherif Habashi	Lawrence Ruelos
Bill Hooper	Daniel Samuels
Mark Kang-O'Higgins	Vencenza Surprise
Ebae Kim	John Thacker
Robert Kmiec*	Kenneth Turner Jr.
David Longo	Ryan Weatherly

**DEPARTMENT OF GAME SOFTWARE DESIGN  
AND PRODUCTION**

Vye Alexander	Jami Lukins
Shimon Alkon	William Morrison
Jennifer Ash	Thomas Olsen
Ellen Guon Beeman	Christopher Orth
Eric Cagle	Christin Overton
Justin Chambers	Matthew Picioccio
Johonna Cronk	Boyan Radakovich
Jerry Darcy	Richard Rowan*
Benjamin Ellinger	Rachel Rutherford
Eric Fleegal	Douglas Schilling*
Orvar Halldorsson	Michael Stockwell
Angela Hoffman	Jennifer Sward
Jeremy Holcomb	Walker Tate
Andrew Kaplan	Jason Wiser

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Claire Alexander-Joly	Christopher Hawk
Neils Clark	Vanessa Hemovich
Brandon Fryman	Thomas Hendrickson
Gregory Grewell	Bob Hodges



Asefeh Houshyari  
Humaira Jackson  
Hellen Kailiti  
Sonia Michaels  
Matthew Muth

Fara Nizamani\*  
James Peet  
Yuka Ruscha  
Kara Simon

#### DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Barnabas Bede\*  
Antonie Boerkoel  
Andy Demetre  
Matthew Klassen

Marissa Preciado  
Brigitta Vermesi  
Yilin Wu  
Alexander Young

#### DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

James Borchers  
Tacket Brown  
Peter Caruso  
Alexander Chadsey  
Gregory Dixon  
Sara Figueroa  
Nayoung Ham  
John Kim  
Steven Kirk  
Eric Likkel

Stephen O'Bent  
Carey Rayburn  
Olga Ruvinov  
Brian Schmidt  
Lawrence Schwedler  
Bruce Stark\*  
Sachiko Stark  
Matthew Wexler  
Nicholas Wiswell  
Rachel Yoder

#### DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Erik Mohrmann  
B. Race Roberson  
Abhay Shah

Natalia Solorzano\*  
Anand Thirumalai  
Karl Voss

#### LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

Seth Atkinson\*  
Iva Groudskova

# DigiPen Executive Leadership

Claude Comair *President & Founder*  
Michele Comair *Senior Executive Vice President & Co-Founder*  
Jason Chu *Chief Operating Officer – International*  
Chris Comair *Chief Operating Officer – Redmond*  
Samir Abou Samra *Chief Technology Officer – International*  
Michael Gats *Chief Financial Officer*

# Susanna Pollack

*President of Games for Change*



Susanna Pollack is a cross-sector leader, public speaker, and social entrepreneur. Susanna is the President of Games for Change and the annual Games for Change Festival, dubbed “the Sundance of video games.”

She has initiated dozens of programs to advance the games and immersive media for good sector serving clients such as American Express, Verizon, AARP, United Nations, Epic Games, Carnegie Foundation, and more. In

2017, Susanna launched XR for Change which builds a community of practice around radical new ways to improve lives using immersive technologies.

As an Executive Producer, Susanna spearheads impact media projects, bringing together award-winning creators with mission-oriented organizations. Current projects include *The Morning You Wake*, a partnership with renowned studios Archer’s Mark and Atlas V as well as Princeton University’s Science and Global Security Department, Oculus, and the MacArthur Foundation.

In 2015, she launched the G4C Student Challenge with the NYC Department of Education, which is now a national game design program that reaches 10,000 students annually, especially underserved youth. The program has attracted partners such as The New York Times, NYC Mayor’s Office, ACLU, General Motors, National Geographic, and more. For Verizon, she led the development of an XR Hackathon program that is being rolled out to 20 Verizon Innovation Schools over the next 2 years.

Prior to Games for Change, Susanna worked across both the commercial and public sector. This experience includes various senior positions at BBC Worldwide Americas, such as SVP of the US television distribution division where she led a team of 20 to raise \$50m annually. She was also SVP of BBC Children’s.

2021 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

