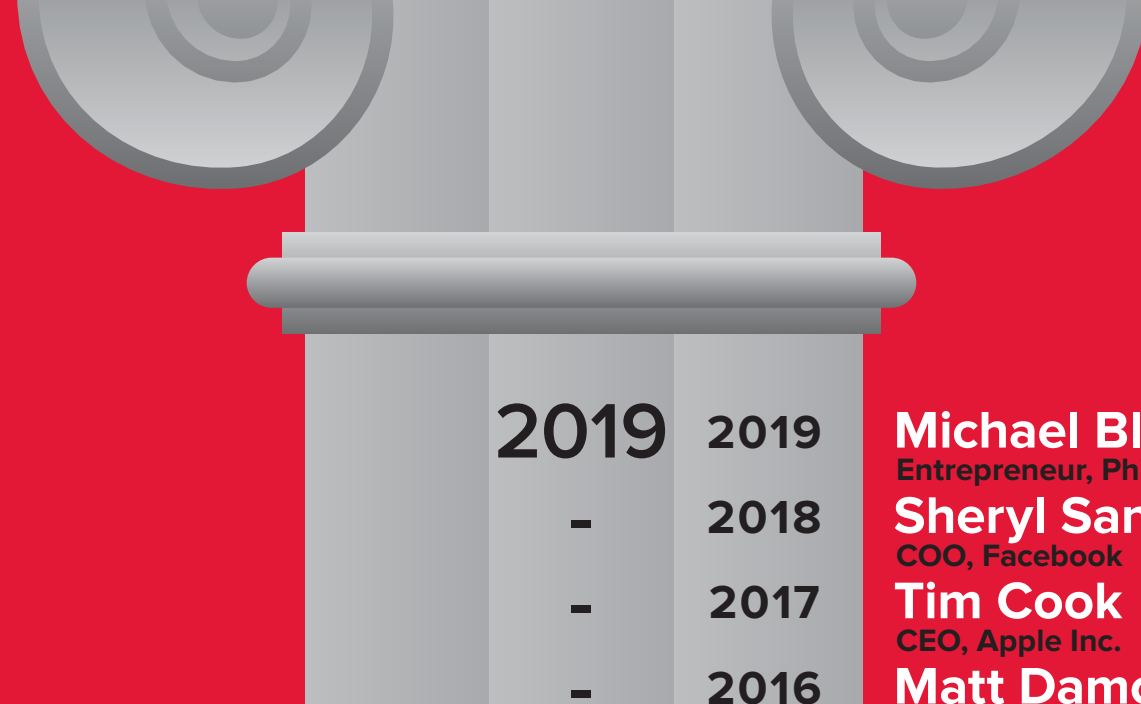


# A HISTORY OF

# MIT Commencement Speakers

- 1880** First MIT Commencement speaker of record (Rev. George E. Ellis)
- 114** MIT Commencement speakers since 1880
- 40** CEOs, chairs, directors, and organization presidents
- 22** MIT alumni
- 11** MIT presidents
- 6** World leaders (Annan, Barco, Clinton, Gore, Salinas, Schmidt)
- 5** Clergy, spiritual leaders, and theologians
- 2** Minutes of silence in lieu of a speaker in 1970
- 0** Commencement exercises in 1918-1919 due to World War I



	2019	2019	<b>Michael Bloomberg</b> Entrepreneur, Philanthropist, and former New York City mayor
	-	2018	<b>Sheryl Sandberg</b> COO, Facebook
	-	2017	<b>Tim Cook</b> CEO, Apple Inc.
	-	2016	<b>Matt Damon</b> Actor, Filmmaker, and Social Activist
	-	2015	<b>Megan Smith '86, SM '88</b> United States Chief Technology Officer
	-	2014	<b>Ellen Kullman</b> CEO and Chair, DuPont
	-	2013	<b>Draw Houston '05</b> CEO and Founder, Dropbox
	-	2012	<b>Salman Khan '98</b> Founder, Khan Academy
	-	2011	<b>Ursula Burns</b> CEO, Xerox
	2010	2010	<b>Raymond S. Stata '57, SM '58</b> Chair and Founder, Analog Devices
	-	2009	<b>Deval Patrick</b> Massachusetts Governor
	-	2008	<b>Muhammad Yunus</b> 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner
	-	2007	<b>Charles Vest HM '94</b> Former MIT President
	-	2006	<b>Ben Bernanke PhD '79</b> Chair, Federal Reserve Board
	-	2005	<b>Irwin M. Jacobs '57, ScD '59</b> Co-Founder and Chair, Qualcomm
	-	2004	<b>Elias Zerhouni</b> Director, National Institutes of Health
	-	2003	<b>George Mitchell</b> Former United States Senator
	-	2002	<b>James Wolfensohn</b> President, World Bank Group
	-	2001	<b>Daniel Goldin</b> NASA Administrator
	2000	2000	<b>Carly Fiorina SM '89</b> President and CEO, Hewlett-Packard
	-	1999	<b>Ray Magliozzi '72</b> Host, "Car Talk"
	-	1999	<b>Tom Magliozzi '58</b> Host, "Car Talk"
	-	1998	<b>William Jefferson Clinton</b> United States President
	-	1998	<b>David Ho</b> CEO and Director, Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center
	-	1997	<b>Kofi Annan SM '72</b> United Nations Secretary-General
	-	1996	<b>Albert Gore</b> United States Vice President
	-	1995	<b>Hanna H. Gray</b> President Emeritus, University of Chicago
	-	1994	<b>Karim Aga Khan IV</b> Spiritual Leader, Shia Ismaili Muslims
	-	1993	<b>Carlos Salinas de Gortari</b> President, United Mexican States
	-	1992	<b>Leslie Aspin PhD '66</b> United States Representative from Wisconsin
	-	1991	<b>Walter E. Massey</b> Director, National Science Foundation
	1990	1990	<b>Virgilio Barco '43</b> President, Republic of Colombia
	-	1989	<b>Paul E. Tsongas</b> Former United States Senator from Massachusetts
	-	1988	<b>A. Bartlett Giamatti</b> President, National League of Professional Baseball Clubs
	-	1987	<b>Kenneth H. Olsen '50, SM '52</b> Founder and President, Digital Equipment Corp.
	-	1986	<b>William R. Hewlett SM '36</b> Vice Chair, Hewlett-Packard
	-	1985	<b>Lee A. Iacocca</b> Chair and CEO, Chrysler Corporation
	-	1984	<b>Shirley Chisholm</b> United States Representative from New York
	-	1983	<b>Helmut Schmidt</b> Former Chancellor, Federal Republic of Germany
	-	1982	<b>Katharine Graham</b> Chair and CEO, Washington Post Co.
	-	1981	<b>Paul E. Gray '54, SM '55, ScD '60</b> MIT President
	1980	1980	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1979	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1978	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1977	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1976	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1975	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1974	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1973	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1972	<b>Jerome Wiesner HM '71</b> MIT President
	-	1971	<b>Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66</b> MIT President
	1970	1970	<b>Two minutes of silence to consider what can be done "to help resolve the conflicts which divide mankind."</b>
	-	1969	<b>Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66</b> MIT President
	-	1968	<b>Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66</b> MIT President
	-	1967	<b>Howard Wesley Johnson HM '66</b> MIT President
	-	1966	<b>Julius Stratton '23, SM '26</b> MIT President
	-	1965	<b>Julius Stratton '23, SM '26</b> MIT President
	-	1964	<b>Julius Stratton '23, SM '26</b> MIT President
	-	1963	<b>Eugene R. Black</b> Former President, World Bank
	-	1962	<b>Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh</b> President, University of Notre Dame
	-	1961	<b>Frank Stanton</b> President, Columbia Broadcasting System
	1960	1960	<b>Edwin H. Land</b> President, Polaroid Corporation
	-	1959	<b>John Cowles</b> President, Minneapolis Star and Tribune Co.
	-	1958	<b>John Jay McCloy</b> Chair, Chase Manhattan Bank
	-	1957	<b>John William Gardner</b> President, Carnegie Corporation of New York
	-	1956	<b>Neil Hosler McElroy</b> President, Proctor and Gamble Co.
	-	1955	<b>Sir Roger Makins</b> 1st Baron, Sheffield, British Ambassador to the United States
	-	1954	<b>Clarence B. Randall</b> Chair, United States Commission of Foreign Economic Policy
	-	1953	<b>Lewis W. Douglas '17</b> Former United States Ambassador to Great Britain
	-	1952	<b>Edward A. Weeks, Jr.</b> Editor, Atlantic Monthly
	-	1951	<b>Harold R. Medina</b> Judge, United States District Court for Southern District of New York
	1950	1950	<b>Chester Irving Barnard</b> President, Rockefeller Foundation
	-	1949	<b>James Phinney Baxter III</b> President, Williams College
	-	1948	<b>Arthur Holly Compton</b> Chancellor, Washington University, and 1927 Nobel Prize winner
	-	1947	<b>Warren Robinson Austin</b> United States Delegate to the United Nations General Assembly
	-	1946	<b>Lt. Gen. James Doolittle SM '24, ScD '25</b> Former Commanding General, United States Eighth Air Force
Undergraduate	-	1945	<b>Captain Dashiell Livingston Madeira</b> Director of Training, Bureau of United States Naval Personnel
Advanced	-	1944	<b>Claude Moore Fuess</b> Headmaster, Phillips Academy
Undergraduate	-	1944	<b>Bradley Dewey ScD '40</b> President, Dewey & Almy Chemical Co.
Advanced	-	1943	<b>Clarence Decatur Howe</b> Minister of Munitions and Supply, Dominion of Canada
Advanced	-	1943	<b>John W. M. Bunker HM '50</b> MIT Dean for Graduate School
Undergraduate	-	1942	<b>Karl Taylor Compton HM '31</b> MIT President
	-	1942	<b>Samuel Cate Prescott 1894</b> MIT Dean of Science
	-	1941	<b>Robert Erastus Wilson</b> President, Pan-American Petroleum and Transport Co.
	1940	1940	<b>Henning Webb Prentiss, Jr.</b> President, National Association of Manufacturers
	-	1939	<b>Sir Harold Hartley</b> Vice President, London, Midland, and Scottish Railways
	-	1938	<b>Charles Donagh Maginnis</b> President, American Institute of Architects
	-	1937	<b>Gano Dunn</b> President, J.G. White Engineering Corp.
	-	1936	<b>Newton Diehl Baker</b> Former United States Secretary of War
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1935	<b>Major General William Harvey Tschappat</b> United States Army
General	-	1935	<b>Rear Admiral Charles Phillips Snyder</b> United States Navy
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1934	<b>Isaiah Bowman</b> President-Elect, Johns Hopkins University
General	-	1934	<b>Brigadier General Alston Hamilton</b> United States Army
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1934	<b>Rear Admiral Henry Hughes Hough</b> United States Navy
General	-	1934	<b>Howard Walter Blakeslee</b> Science Editor, Associated Press
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1933	<b>Major General Fox Conner</b> United States Army
General	-	1933	<b>Rear Admiral George Henry Rock</b> United States Navy
General	-	1933	<b>Abbott Lawrence Lowell HM '28</b> Retiring President, Harvard University
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1932	<b>Sir Henry W. Thornton</b> President, Canadian National Railways
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1932	<b>Brigadier General Alston Hamilton</b> United States Army
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1931	<b>Commander Henry Eastin Rossell</b> United States Navy
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1931	<b>Major General Fox Conner</b> United States Army
General	-	1931	<b>Rear Admiral Louis McCoy</b> United States Navy
	-	1931	<b>Ray Lyman Wilbur</b> United States Secretary of the Interior
	1930	1930	<b>Sir William Henry Bragg</b> Scientist, London University, and 1915 Nobel Prize winner
	-	1929	<b>Hiram Bingham III</b> United States Senator from Connecticut
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1928	<b>John Hays Hammond</b> Mining Engineer
General	-	1927	<b>Brig. Gen. Preston Brown</b> United States Army
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1927	<b>John E. Aldred</b> Banker and Life Member, MIT Corporation
General	-	1926	<b>Brig. Gen. Malvern-Hill Barnum</b> United States Army
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1926	<b>Michael I. Pupin</b> Professor, Columbia University
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1925	<b>Major General Andre W. Brewster</b> United States Army
General	-	1925	<b>Dr. Charles A. Coffin 1886</b> Former President, General Electric Company
Reserve Officers Corps	-	1924	<b>Major General C.C. Williams</b> United States Army
General	-	1924	<b>Frank Edward Shepard 1887</b> Director, United States Mint
Reserve Officer Corps	-	1923	<b>Major General Andre W. Brewster</b> United States Army
General	-	1923	<b>Elisha Lee</b> Vice President, Pennsylvania Railroad
Reserve Officer Corps	-	1922	<b>Col. John Buffalo Christian</b> Head, MIT Department of Military Science
General	-	1922	<b>Elihu Thomson HM '28</b> MIT Acting President
	-	1921	<b>Elihu Thomson HM '28</b> MIT Acting President
	1920	1920	<b>Elihu Thomson HM '28</b> MIT Acting President
	-	1919	<b>No Commencement exercises</b> World War I
	-	1918	<b>No Commencement exercises</b> World War I
	-	1917	<b>Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08</b> MIT President
	-	1916	<b>J. Smith</b> Professor, University of West Virginia
	-	1916	<b>Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08</b> MIT President
	-	1915	<b>No Commencement address</b>
	-	1914	<b>No Commencement address</b>
	-	1913	<b>Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08</b> MIT President
	-	1912	<b>Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08</b> MIT President
	-	1911	<b>Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08</b> MIT President
	1910	1910	<b>Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08</b> MIT President
	-	1909	<b>Richard C. Maclaurin HM '08</b> MIT President
	-	1908	<b>Arthur A. Noyes</b> MIT Acting President
	-	1907	<b>Henry S. Pritchett HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1906	<b>Henry S. Pritchett HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1905	<b>Henry S. Pritchett HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1904	<b>Henry S. Pritchett HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1903	<b>Henry S. Pritchett HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1902	<b>Henry S. Pritchett HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1901	<b>Henry S. Pritchett HM '00</b> MIT President
	1900	1900	<b>James Mason Crafts HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1899	<b>James Mason Crafts HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1898	<b>James Mason Crafts HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1897	<b>James Mason Crafts HM '00</b> MIT President
	-	1896	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1895	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1894	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1893	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1892	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1891	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	1890	1890	<b>Augustus Lowell</b> Member, MIT Corporation
	-	1889	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1888	<b>Rev. Phillips Brooks</b> Rector, Trinity Church, Boston
	-	1888	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1887	<b>Rev. Phillips Brooks</b> Rector, Trinity Church, Boston
	-	1886	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1885	<b>John D. Runkle HM '00</b> MIT Professor of Mathematics
	-	1884	<b>No Commencement address</b>
	-	1883	<b>Francis A. Walker</b> MIT President
	-	1882	<b>William Barton Rogers</b> Former MIT President
	-	1881	<b>Rev. James Freeman Clarke</b> American Theologian
	-	1881	<b>William Barton Rogers</b> MIT President
	1880	1880	<b>Rev. George E. Ellis</b> Unitarian Clergyman