

SUNY College Cortland

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2021

### Commencement & Convocation

State University of New York College at Cortland

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#### Recommended Citation

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**Record Group:**  
College Commencements & Convocations

## Overview of the Collection

Title:	College Commencements & Convocations
Inclusive Dates:	1871-2018 (inclusive)
Extent:	3.25 linear feet
Language:	English
Repository:	SUNY Cortland College Archives Memorial Library 81 Prospect Terrace Cortland, NY 13045 <a href="https://cortland.libguides.com/c.php?g=354291">https://cortland.libguides.com/c.php?g=354291</a>

## Biographical History

SUNY Cortland was founded in 1868 as the Cortland Normal school, located in downtown Cortland, NY. The first graduating class was 1871 and included ten students. In the beginning, two ceremonies took place each year, one for spring and one for winter (today there is only one ceremony). In 1919 a fire destroyed the Cortland Normal School building. The Normal School was rebuilt in a new location on top of the hill with the creation of Old Main in 1923 (later changed to the State Teachers College and finally SUNY Cortland). Since then, campus commencement had occurred in multiple locations. These include School Assembly Room (Original Normal School Building), Cortland Opera House, various public facilities, Brown Auditorium in Old Main, athletic fields, Lusk Field House built in 1962, and Park Center built in 1973.

## Scope and Content Note

The majority of materials contain photographs and programs. The photographs capture individual students, faculty, posed and ceremonial photographs. Convocation programs date back to the 1950's while commencement programs include the first graduating class to present day. They capture both the spring and winter ceremonies. Diplomas or certificates also exist and include some prominent Cortland figures such as Principle Harry DeWitt DeGroat. There is a small portion of multi-media materials on both commencement and convocation.

## Related Materials

Related materials exist in Digital Commons where the majority of these records reside online.

<https://digitalcommons.cortland.edu/alumnipublications/>

Additionally, ceremonial recordings exist on SUNY Cortland's webpage for Commencement which anyone may access. <https://www2.cortland.edu/commencement/>

To learn more about specific locations where commencement have been held, related materials may exist within the College Buildings Record Group. More information on specific presidents are located in College Presidents.

## Access

While the majority of the content have been digitized, not all materials are online. Travel to Cortland may be required to access the full scope of the materials. Additionally, the multi-media materials exist in formats that are not available for use at this time with the exception of materials that exist online.

## Preferred Citation

College Commencements & Convocations. SUNY Cortland College Archives, Memorial Library, State University of New York College at Cortland, Cortland, NY.

## Processing Information

This collection is fully processed and exists within updated folders and boxes.

## Finding Aid Information

Created by Zachary Clark, Fall 2020.

## Arrangement

The materials are arranged by the record group, then by subgroup, then series. It is processed primarily to the folder level with the exception of a few item level materials. The materials are arranged in two sub-groups; commencement and convocation.

## Inventory

### Sub-Group 1: History of Commencement

#### Series 1: Publicity

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 181	Folder 1	Programs	1870-1889

Box 181	Folder 2	Programs	1890-1909
Box 181	Folder 3	Programs	1910-1929
Box 181	Folder 4	Programs	1930-1949
Box 181	Folder 5	Programs	1950-1969
Box 181	Folder 6	Programs	1970-1989
Box 181	Folder 7	Programs	1990-1999
Box 181	Folder 8	Programs	2000-2006
Box 182	Folder 1	Programs	2007-2014
Box 182	Folder 5	Programs	2015-2019

### Series 2: Multi-Media Materials

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony A	May 12, 1996
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony B	May 12, 1996
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony A	May 15, 1999
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony B	May 15, 1999
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony B	May 15, 1999
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony A	May 20, 2000
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony B	May 19, 2001
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement, Ceremony A	May 17, 2003
Box 183	-	VHS Tape, Commencement,	2004
Box 183	-	CD Disc, Commencement, Part 1	May 16, 2009
Box 183	-	CD Disc, Commencement, Part 2	May 16, 2009

### Series 3: Photographs

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 1A		Head Shots of Graduates	1871-1899
Box 2A		Head Shots of Graduates	1900-1903
		(Folder 3 & 4 include photographs unidentified names, dates)	
Box 3A		Photo Album of Individual Graduates	Classes of 1884-1887
Box 4A		Photo Album of Individual Graduates	Class of 1887
Box 5A		Graduating Class Photographs	1871-1900
Box 6A		Graduating Class Photographs	1901-1916
Box 7A		Commencement Photographs	1920's-1990's
Frame	-	Framed Photograph of Graduating Class	1878
Frame	-	Framed Photograph of Graduating Class	1943
Frame	-	Framed Photograph of Graduating Class	1940's Circa

### Series 4: Diplomas

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 8A	-	Anna L. Atkins, Diploma	July 3, 1900
Box 8A	-	Floyd Lorenzo Atkins, Diploma	July 3, 1900
Box 8A	-	Florence Lorena Brotherton, Diploma	1907
Box 8A	-	Florence Lorena Brotherton, Diploma	1911
Box 8A	-	Florence Lorena Brotherton, Diploma	June 26, 1913
Box 8A	-	Lynn Eugene Brown, Diploma	1916
Box 8A	-	Lynn Eugene Brown, Diploma	October 1933

Box 8A	-	Harry DeWitt DeGroat, Diploma	June 17, 1918
Box 8A	-	Louis Earl Edgcomb, Diploma	June 20, 1891
Box 8A	-	Louis Earl Edgcomb, Diploma	June 21, 1892
Box 8A	-	Harriet Irene Empson, Diploma	February 3, 1903
Box 8A	-	Charles Henry Huntley, Diploma	June 27, 1902
Box 8A	-	Ella M. Maritt, Diploma	July 2, 1872
Box 8A	-	Clara Caroline Tracy, Diploma	June 28, 1901
Box 8A	-	Jane Elizabeth Wanning, Diploma	June 27, 1912
Box 8A	-	Grace Katherine Walrad, Diploma	July 3, 1900
Box 8A	-	Grace Katherine Walrad, Diploma	June 28, 1901
Box 8A	-	Grace Katherine Walrad, Diploma	June 27, 1902
Box 8A	-	Grace Katherine Walrad, Diploma	January 2, 1907
Box 8A	-	Elizabeth Walsh, Diploma	January 29, 1897
Box 8A	-	Elizabeth Walsh, Diploma	May 1, 1908
Box 8A	-	Elizabeth Walsh, Diploma	February 7, 1916
Box 8A	-	Elizabeth Walsh, Diploma	June 6, 1917

## **Sub-Group 2: History of Convocation**

### **Series 1: Publicity**

<b>Container 1</b>	<b>Container 2</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Box 182	Folder 2	Programs	1956-1996
Box 182	Folder 3	Programs	1997-2005
Box 182	Folder 4	Programs	2006-2012

### **Series 2: Multi-Media Materials**

<b>Container 1</b>	<b>Container 2</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Box 183	-	Audio Cassette Tape, Honors Convocation	1991

### **Series 3: Photographs**

<b>Container 1</b>	<b>Container 2</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Box 7A	Folder 11	Convocation	1960's-1980's