

NORTH BENNET ST. SCHOOL

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North Bennet Street School Announces Klare Shaw as 2024 Commencement Speaker *Influential Educational Leader and Community Builder to Address Graduates at America's First Trade School*

Boston, MA – May 28, 2024 – North Bennet Street School (NBSS) proudly announces Klare Shaw as the commencement speaker for the Class of 2024. The ceremony will be held on Friday, May 31 at the historic Old North Church in Boston's North End neighborhood.

Shaw is a distinguished Boston leader whose tireless commitment to education, community empowerment, diversity, and social change has left an indelible mark on the city. Her exemplary career spans influential organizations such as the Liberty Mutual Foundation, Boston Public Schools, EdVestors, the Barr Foundation, and the Boston Globe Foundation.

"Klare is an exceptional Boston leader, with her work oriented to education, community strength, diversity, and social change. She has done this through some of the strongest and most influential organizations in the City," notes President Sarah Turner.

"Her alignment with NBSS values is exemplified by her role on the Board of the Urban Farming Institute, which underscores the importance of skilled work for the betterment of daily lives and community health," Turner continues. "I am truly excited for our students and School to have the benefit of her insights and experience."

The commencement ceremony marks a pivotal moment for NBSS graduates as they embark on their professional journeys, armed with the skills and values instilled by the institution. Shaw's address promises to inspire and motivate the graduating class as they prepare to make their mark on the world.

"I have long been an admirer of the teaching and learning that occurs at NBSS," Shaw notes. "With its varied skilled primary programs and hundreds of community education classes, it allows people to sharpen existing skills and to expand new talents that energize the soul and benefit the broader community. This is a wonderful opportunity to salute the storied history of the School and to address this newest group of graduates."

The School's 2024 Commencement will see a cohort of nearly 100 new crafts- and tradespeople join a community of over 3,500 NBSS alumni located around the world. The event is closed to the public, but a livestream will be available via [YouTube](#).

[About North Bennet Street School](#)

As America's first trade school, North Bennet Street School is internationally known for its programs that help students to achieve meaningful lives and livelihoods. For more than a century, the exceptional programs, expert faculty, and inspiring community have encouraged individual growth, curiosity, technical mastery, and commitment to excellence.

The School offers career training programs in Bookbinding, Carpentry, Cabinet & Furniture Making, Jewelry Making & Repair, Locksmithing & Security Technology, Piano Technology, Preservation Carpentry, and Violin Making & Repair. NBSS additionally provides over 120 short, craft- and trade-based classes to beginners and more advanced students every year. The School is committed to community engagement, with offerings that range from career discovery programs for youth, to preservation projects with civic partners, to virtual programming and exhibitions for the public at large.

From its founding as a settlement house for immigrants in 1881, the School has trained individuals of all backgrounds from its home within Boston's culturally rich North End neighborhood. In 2013, NBSS moved to an impressive, 64,000-square-foot facility—an award-winning adaptive reuse project that transformed a former police station and the City of Boston's printing plant. The School will celebrate a decade in their "new" building this fall.

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