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5-9-2001

## UMaine Commencement Set for May 19

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### Repository Citation

Carr, Joe, "UMaine Commencement Set for May 19" (2001). *General University of Maine Publications*. 1189.

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## UMaine Commencement Set For May 19

Wyeth, Grumbach to Receive Honorary Degrees; 10,000 Spectators Expected

May 9, 2001

Contact: [Joe Carr](#) at (207) 581-3751

ORONO – Nearly 1,200 people will receive degrees at the University of Maine's 198th Commencement, scheduled for Saturday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m. The event, which is expected to draw more than 10,000 friends and family members of the graduates, is scheduled to be held outdoors at Harold Alfond Sports Stadium.

The Commencement Address will be given by Andrew M. Mead, chief justice of the Maine Superior Court. Mead, a New Jersey native who graduated from UMaine in 1973, was an attorney in private practice until he became a Maine District Court judge in 1990. He moved to the Maine Superior Court as a justice in 1992 and was named chief justice in 1999. Mead was president of his class at UMaine in both 1971 and 1973.

Honorary doctor of humane letters degrees will be awarded to two internationally prominent members of the Maine arts community – writer Doris Grumbach and artist Jamie Wyeth. Grumbach, one of America's most distinguished writers, has produced works in fiction, literary criticism, memoir and essay during her remarkable career. A former faculty member at American University and at the College of St. Rose, Grumbach has lived in Maine for the past ten years. Wyeth, a member of one of the world's most famous and successful families of artists, presented

his first one-artist show, at a New York City museum, when he was just 20 years old in 1966. His wide-ranging career has featured works in watercolors and oils, as well as sketches and illustrations for children's books. Wyeth's best-known works include a posthumous portrait of President John F. Kennedy. He is also known for his commitment to causes like the preservation of Maine lighthouses.

UMaine's May commencement ceremony, historically the largest graduation ceremony held in the state, will feature the awarding of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. UMaine holds a similar but smaller commencement ceremony each December, at which 350-500 degrees usually are awarded.

As has been the custom at UMaine for several years, the names of every student participating in commencement ceremonies will be announced as they take the stage to receive their diploma. UMaine President Peter S. Hoff will continue the presidential tradition of shaking the hand of every graduating student receiving a degree.

Hoff will preside over the ceremony, which will also feature recognition of the valedictorians and salutatorian from the UMaine Class of 2001. Ryan Anderson, a member of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, will bring greetings from the board; University of Maine

Alumni Association Board of Directors Chair Gregory Jamison will welcome the graduates to the ranks of UMaine alumni.

In the event of inclement weather, two ceremonies will be held inside Alford Sports Arena. Students from the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Division of Lifelong Learning would graduate at 10:30 a.m. A 2:30 p.m. ceremony would be held for graduates from the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Engineering; and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture.

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