

00:00 (low chattering)  
00:04 Good evening and welcome everyone.  
00:05 Please welcome to the podium,  
00:06 to get tonight's program started  
00:09 2017 "10 Under 10" honoree, Dat Le.  
00:14 (audience applauds)  
00:20 Good evening everyone, and welcome to the 10th annual  
00:23 10 Under 10 recognition night.  
00:27 I was expecting people to clap, but... (laughs)  
00:30 (audience clapping)  
00:34 My name is Dat Le and I'm honored to serve as tonight's MC.  
00:38 I'm a proud double Ram.  
00:39 I graduated with my bachelor's of science  
00:42 in accounting in 2012, my masters,  
00:45 or my masters of accounting in 2013  
00:48 and 2017 10 Under 10 honoree.  
00:54 As a former honoree, being back here certainly brings back  
00:57 so many great memories and I'm extremely humbled  
00:59 that Jonathan and the team here at Suffolk  
01:01 asked me to host this great event.  
01:03 I'll admit that before agreeing to host this event  
01:07 I had to check to make sure Will and Jada  
01:08 weren't on the guest list.  
01:10 (audience laughing)  
01:13 It's great to be back in here though,  
01:14 to usher in the newest class of 10 Under 10 honorees,  
01:18 but I would be remiss if I didn't give a shout out  
01:20 to my Irish twin brother, Healy,  
01:22 who is also a graduate and past 10 Under 10 honoree.  
01:27 My brother's currently based out of Washington D.C.,  
01:29 works as an attorney for the US Department of Justice,  
01:33 and most importantly,  
01:34 the father to my adorable nine month old niece, Casey.  
01:40 We both graduated in 2012 and he was not too pleased when I,  
01:44 the younger brother,  
01:45 received this recognition before he did,  
01:48 but he quickly got over it real fast  
01:49 when he was honored in 2021.  
01:52 Thank you to Suffolk University  
01:54 for sibling bragging rights for life.  
02:00 Anyways, happy 10th anniversary to this fantastic program  
02:04 and it's now my pleasure to introduce Suffolk's  
02:06 11th president to you, Dr. Marissa Kelly.  
02:11 President Kelly is deeply committed to Suffolk  
02:12 and she brings to the presidency strong leadership  
02:15 and a clear vision for the university's future.  
02:18 Thanks to President Kelly's leadership,  
02:20 the university's shattering fundraising records,  
02:24 building its national and international reputation,  
02:27 engaging more alumni,  
02:29 recruiting more students from diverse backgrounds  
02:31 and developing educational programs.  
02:34 We're so fortunate to have her as our president.

02:37 Please join me in welcoming to the podium  
02:39 President Marissa Kelly.  
02:41 (applause)  
02:48 <v ->Thank you Dat and on behalf of my spouse,</v  
02:51 Margie Arnold and I, a good evening to you all.  
02:55 It is really great to be with you tonight.  
02:58 You know, I always look forward to this event.  
03:01 As you can imagine, I spend a lot of time talking to people,  
03:06 talking to people about Suffolk University  
03:08 and I talk with prospective students and their families.  
03:12 I talk with elected officials  
03:14 and with other university presidents,  
03:16 alumni like yourselves,  
03:19 CEOs that represent just about every sector of the economy.  
03:24 I talk with people working on the nonprofit side  
03:27 outside of higher education of course,  
03:29 and small organizations, large organizations.  
03:33 In all of those forums, central to my conversation  
03:37 is the value of higher education and more specifically,  
03:42 Suffolk's core mission and impact, the impact we strive  
03:47 to have on our students and the impact as graduates,  
03:52 that in turn they have on their professions and communities,  
03:57 the communities in which they live and work  
03:59 over the course of their lives,  
04:01 over the course of your lives,  
04:02 for so many of you who are with us tonight.  
04:06 Impact, in other words, is the product at each stage  
04:11 and it is not at all unusual for me to have in mind  
04:15 one or more of our 10 Under 10 honorees each year.  
04:19 I mean, we have been doing this for 10 years, right?  
04:23 It is not at all unusual for me to have in mind one of our  
04:26 10 Under 10 honorees when I'm having these conversations  
04:30 because our honorees all illustrate beautifully,  
04:35 that impact begets impact.  
04:39 So I always look forward to this event,  
04:41 hearing the stories of our honorees,  
04:43 what they've been doing.  
04:46 It's always so inspiring and I am sure  
04:49 that in just a few minutes,  
04:50 as we move to the main part of our program,  
04:52 you will all feel inspired by the stories  
04:55 of tonight's honorees because tonight we are celebrating  
05:00 an incredible accomplished group of Suffolk alumni  
05:04 and we celebrate the impact they are having,  
05:07 the impact in their professions, in their volunteer work  
05:11 here in Boston, around the world, in fact.  
05:14 They work in healthcare and finance, marketing, journalism.  
05:18 They run small businesses  
05:19 and are part of large organizations.  
05:21 They work with veterans and young adults.  
05:24 They're bilingual, they are mentors and yes,  
05:28 both individually and collectively, they inspire.  
05:34 I wanna take a moment in advance of them being honored  
05:38 to just say to each of them,

05:40 to each of you who are here, congratulations.  
05:44 We are so very proud that you are part  
05:47 of the Suffolk community and I wanna thank you on behalf  
05:51 of that entire community, for the impact that you are making  
05:55 each and every day.  
05:58 Again, we are so, so proud of you.  
06:01 Thanks to everyone who is here, family and friends,  
06:04 to join us tonight in celebrating our honorees  
06:07 and without further ado,  
06:10 I think we will let the program continue.  
06:14 (applause)  
06:22 <v ->Thank you so much President Kelly.</v  
06:24 We're thrilled that you and your spouse, Margie Arnold,  
06:26 are here with us tonight  
06:28 and thank you for your leadership for this great university.  
06:31 It is now my pleasure to introduce another president,  
06:34 sort of, to kick off tonight's award ceremony.  
06:38 I didn't write it, ma'am.  
06:41 Collin serves as the president of Suffolk University's  
06:44 graduates of the Last Decade Council,  
06:46 Gold Council for short.  
06:48 Collin's also a double Ram, and served as the president  
06:51 of the Student Government Association during his senior year  
06:54 at Suffolk back in 2015, 2016.  
06:57 He is now leading the Gold Council,  
06:59 where he and a group of 20 alumni,  
07:01 help advance Suffolk by planning events  
07:02 like tonight's program, helping the admissions  
07:05 and career development efforts,  
07:06 and providing financial support to Suffolk.  
07:09 Please help me welcome Collin make some noise Loiselle.  
07:12 (applause)  
07:19 <v ->Good evening.</v  
07:19 Thank you Dat and thank you President Kelly,  
07:21 for being with us on this special evening.  
07:23 It is my honor to kick off tonight's award ceremony.  
07:26 Each of tonight's honorees have been nominated  
07:29 for this recognition by members of the Suffolk community  
07:32 and have been thoughtfully selected  
07:34 by the Gold Council's 10 Under 10 committee.  
07:37 The Gold Council is very proud  
07:38 of our recent graduates' success and are excited  
07:41 to honor this year's recipients.  
07:43 Our 10 honorees tonight truly represent  
07:45 the best of the Suffolk alumni community.  
07:48 We'll start tonight with the Sawyer Business School honorees  
07:51 and at this time, I'd invite dean  
07:53 of the Sawyer Business School, Amy Zung,  
07:55 to join me at the podium.  
07:56 (applause)  
08:03 Our first award of the night is being presented  
08:05 to David Campisano.  
08:07 David is a financial advisor for Ivy Capital  
08:09 and Northwestern Mutual.

08:10 He's also a United States Army veteran  
08:13 and founder and president of 22 Mohawks,  
08:15 a nonprofit that assists veterans in need.  
08:18 David earned his bachelor's degree in finance  
08:20 from the Sawyer Business School in 2019,  
08:22 after returning from 16 years  
08:24 of dedicated service in the Army.  
08:27 During active duty, David was deployed to Iraq,  
08:30 he earned his ranger tab, completed the Army Green Beret  
08:33 Special Forces Qualification course, became a paratrooper  
08:37 and participated in the All Army triathlon team.  
08:41 Realizing and seeing firsthand,  
08:43 the difficult plight of many veterans,  
08:44 after graduating from Suffolk, David changed his focus  
08:47 to helping others by founding 22 Mohawks,  
08:50 which focuses on preventing veteran suicide  
08:52 and helping veterans find purpose  
08:54 and navigate the struggles of everyday life.  
08:57 A major focus of his organization  
08:59 is to match trained therapy dogs with troubled veterans  
09:02 and host events, that include dynamic physical activities,  
09:06 like parachuting and opportunities for socialization  
09:09 and emotional support.  
09:11 David's personal commitment to making a positive difference  
09:13 in these veterans lives is commendable,  
09:16 and in addition to the important work of his organization,  
09:18 he is an active member of Suffolk's Veterans Group  
09:21 and a loyal Suffolk alum,  
09:23 who regularly speaks to campus groups  
09:25 and is always willing to give back.  
09:27 Remarkably, David is also a successful financial advisor,  
09:31 with Northwestern Mutual  
09:32 and his wealth management team at Ivy Capital  
09:35 has been recognized by Forbes Magazine.  
09:38 David is now enrolled in Suffolk's MBA program  
09:41 and it is clear that there are no limitations  
09:43 on what David can achieve in the future.  
09:46 In recognition of his professional accomplishments,  
09:48 his leadership and involvement at Suffolk,  
09:51 and his compassionate commitment to serving others  
09:54 in so many ways, we are honored to present  
09:56 the 10 Under 10 award to David Campisano.  
10:00 (applause)  
10:19 <v ->That was humbling, thank you,</v  
10:22 and thanks Dat, appreciate it.  
10:25 I also wanna thank Sarah Baldoff  
10:28 for putting this night together.  
10:29 She did a phenomenal job, wherever you are out there.  
10:31 (applause)  
10:35 President Kelly and Dean Zung,  
10:38 you know, anytime I'm in the same room with you,  
10:39 I feel like I've been doing something right,  
10:42 so I appreciate your leadership.  
10:45 Chairman Lamb's not here, Margie just told me

10:47 that he's probably in Japan somewhere running a marathon,  
10:49 but I wanted to tell him that rangers lead the way.  
10:52 He actually gave me this pin that I'm wearing.  
10:56 Alex Patterson, you've been my go-to  
10:58 for all things Suffolk University since 2016.  
11:00 From undergrad, now to grad school,  
11:02 your support and guidance has been instrumental  
11:04 in my success.  
11:05 Thank you for being awesome.  
11:08 The next names I will thank are former service members  
11:10 that have guided me to where I am at this exact moment.  
11:13 They survived many years of military service  
11:15 in combat overseas, but lost the war in the internal battle,  
11:19 here at home.  
11:20 So I honor and remember Staff Sergeant Travis Partica  
11:23 for teaching me that even the toughest men  
11:25 are allowed to show emotion.  
11:27 To Captain Curtis Ballard for teaching me  
11:29 that a combat deployment doesn't make the man  
11:32 but rangers do indeed, lead the way.  
11:34 Sergeant Tim Lisk for teaching me that friendly competition  
11:37 is necessary in a professional relationship.  
11:40 To Coach Mike Mahoney for teaching me  
11:42 that pain is weakness leaving the body  
11:44 and that the sound of laughter can cure any frown,  
11:46 especially yours Mike.  
11:49 To Amon Stalianasfasella,  
11:51 for bringing Lana and Chris into my life.  
11:54 To Specialist John Hatfield for teaching me  
11:55 that service to others is the best medicine  
11:57 for combating sadness and depression.  
11:59 Losing you inspired me to the creation of 22 Mohawks,  
12:03 which has saved hundreds of veterans lives.  
12:06 To Seaman Michael Coin for raising my right hand person  
12:09 and future spouse, Stacy Coin.  
12:12 And lastly to my girls, Stacy, Emily and Bella,  
12:16 thank you for always protecting me and standing beside me,  
12:19 even when you probably shouldn't have.  
12:21 You've taught me that real love can withstand  
12:23 even the darkest moments.  
12:25 I love you.  
12:26 Go Rams.  
12:27 (applause)  
12:38 <v ->Congratulations David.</v  
12:40 Our next honoree is Alfredo Serrano Figueroa.  
12:44 Alfredo is a data sciences consultant  
12:47 at Management Solutions,  
12:48 and international business consulting firm.  
12:50 Alfredo graduated summa cum laude from Suffolk  
12:53 with a bachelor of science degree in big data  
12:55 and business analytics just last year in 2022.  
12:59 Originally from Spain, Alfredo excelled at Suffolk,  
13:01 serving as president of the university's big data club  
13:04 and playing a key role in the club's growth.

13:07 As a student athlete, he was a member of Suffolk's 4.0 Club,  
13:10 the athletic director's honor roll,  
13:12 and the Commonwealth Coast Conference All Academic Team.  
13:16 Alfredo balanced his academic pursuits with his passion  
13:19 for sports as a key member of the men's soccer team.  
13:22 He also merged his love of soccer with his love of data,  
13:25 serving as the data analyst for his team.  
13:28 To top off his Suffolk career,  
13:29 he was selected as the Class Marshall  
13:31 for the 2022 Sawyer Business School commencement ceremony.  
13:34 Since graduating, Alfredo continues to share  
13:37 his professional expertise as a data science  
13:39 and business intelligence professional  
13:41 with the Suffolk community.  
13:44 As a data science consultant for a major international firm,  
13:47 he's working with diverse clients,  
13:49 developing solutions for complex problems.  
13:51 Alfredo maintains his own website focused on data sciences,  
13:55 [www.alfredoserrano-datascience.com](http://www.alfredoserrano-datascience.com).  
13:59 There's a dash between Serrano and data science.  
14:01 My apologies.  
14:02 He publishes a monthly newsletter called,  
14:04 "Data for Everyone", that's accessible on LinkedIn  
14:07 and he also hosts a bilingual podcast entitled,  
14:10 "The Analytics Experience."  
14:12 His willingness to share his growing expertise  
14:14 with Suffolk students and the greater community  
14:16 is commendable.  
14:17 In recognition of his professional accomplishments  
14:19 in the field of data science and business analytics  
14:22 so early in his career,  
14:24 and his strong commitment to giving back  
14:26 to the Suffolk University community,  
14:27 we are honored to present a 10 Under 10 award  
14:30 to Alfredo Serrano Figueroa.  
14:32 (applause)  
14:34 (lively music)  
14:53 <v ->Thank you so much for the introduction.</v  
14:55 David, I want to say that was a beautiful speech.  
14:57 First of all, it was really compelling  
15:00 and I wanna code you actually,  
15:02 when I'm in this room with this people,  
15:05 I feel extremely grateful.  
15:06 I feel that I'm doing things right  
15:08 and that was an amazing bio.  
15:09 I don't know who prepared that.  
15:11 (audience laughs)  
15:13 But from the bottom of my heart,  
15:15 what I try to do day-to-day with this community  
15:17 is give back.  
15:19 I'm gonna be talking about journeys and what they entail,  
15:22 especially when you're far away from home.  
15:25 So without further ado, my journey at Suffolk University  
15:28 began when I was 18 and I was coming from Spain,

15:31 7,000 miles away from here.  
15:34 But before I get started on my journey,  
15:36 none of this could have been done without my parents,  
15:39 which are here and today they traveled 7,000 miles  
15:42 to support their kids.  
15:43 (applause)  
15:49 Thank you so much for that.  
15:50 As I was saying, none of this could have been possible  
15:53 with mom and dad, your unwavering support for me.  
15:57 You believed in my dreams and instilled in me  
15:59 the importance of education, hard work and discipline.  
16:03 Your love and encouragement,  
16:05 have been the foundation of my success,  
16:07 and you guys are the reason why I'm here today,  
16:09 standing on this crowd.  
16:11 I love you.  
16:13 Going back to journeys,  
16:14 as a student athlete for Suffolk University,  
16:16 as mentioned before, I experienced the challenge of managing  
16:20 how do you balance academic pursuits  
16:22 with athletic commitments, right?  
16:24 This experience not only has shaped me  
16:26 as a current data science consultant now,  
16:28 trying to make myself a name of the data science world,  
16:31 but it made me acutely aware of the difficulties  
16:35 that many people face, especially us international students.  
16:39 We come here under the American dream  
16:43 and the promised land, which is true.  
16:45 You guys are filled with many opportunities  
16:47 that we are not granted in other places.  
16:51 And so with great humility,  
16:52 I've been able to share my knowledge and experiences  
16:54 by conducting numerous programming languages,  
16:58 workshops, many conferences on data science,  
17:01 and I've been able to help a bunch of people,  
17:03 especially international students,  
17:05 on developing their job skills,  
17:07 developing job search strategies,  
17:09 creating effective investments, optimize their LinkedIn,  
17:12 but that's not the main point.  
17:14 The main point is that I feel incredibly fortunate  
17:17 to be in a position to give back to others  
17:19 and help them navigate their own path to success,  
17:21 which is what Suffolk taught me.  
17:23 Success everyone can get.  
17:26 How to say it?  
17:27 A slice of a pie.  
17:29 That is what success is and Suffolk is the chance  
17:31 for us to get it.  
17:33 And so by that, I was driven by the desire  
17:35 to make data science education more accessible,  
17:37 which is why I co-founded the "Analytics Experience,"  
17:40 a bilingual podcast that is striving  
17:41 to actually make both English and Spanish speakers

17:45 talk about technology, data science and data analytics.  
17:48 This product holds a very significance for me,  
17:51 as it strives to breakdown barriers on language  
17:54 and offer opportunities for students,  
17:56 who might otherwise lack the resources  
18:00 to explore these subjects.  
18:02 So to the entire Suffolk community,  
18:04 I extend my heartfelt appreciation for you guys,  
18:07 for your constant support and encouragement  
18:09 throughout my journey.  
18:11 It is through the involve mentorship  
18:13 and all the meaningful connections I've done here  
18:15 throughout the years that again,  
18:16 I can stand before you today.  
18:18 So in closing, I would like to acknowledge all of you guys,  
18:21 the audience, for joining us in this celebration,  
18:23 for supporting us, and encourage my fellow alumni,  
18:26 and current students, to pursue your passions,  
18:29 share your knowledge,  
18:30 and make a positive impact in the world.  
18:32 The journey may not always be easy,  
18:34 but with courage, determination and perseverance,  
18:38 we can achieve great things.  
18:39 Thanks so much and go Rams.  
18:40 (applause)  
18:53 <v ->Congratulations Alfredo.</v  
18:55 I'm now pleased to present the next award to Noah Trofimow.  
19:00 Noah also graduated from Suffolk just last year in 2022,  
19:03 with a bachelor's degree from the Sawyer Business School  
19:05 in marketing.  
19:07 During his junior year at Suffolk,  
19:08 he started a non-profit organization  
19:10 that addresses mental health and serves as its president.  
19:13 He also is the marketing director  
19:15 at Inner City Weightlifting.  
19:17 Noah created his non-profit, The Paper Bag Mask Foundation,  
19:20 to help people struggling with mental health issue,  
19:23 including those who may be contemplating suicide.  
19:26 The mission of the Paper Bag Mask Foundation  
19:28 is to empower individuals affected by mental illness,  
19:31 with tools to supplement their treatment,  
19:33 to create opportunities to help young adults  
19:36 build confidence and to eliminate discrimination  
19:39 and stigmas surrounding mental health issues.  
19:42 Drawing on his own experiences,  
19:44 his program is based on three pillars,  
19:46 movement, creativity, and meditation,  
19:49 and offers a variety of educational classes,  
19:51 workshops, and social opportunities.  
19:54 The foundation coordinates and funds community outreach  
19:57 and research and participates in mental health education.  
20:01 Noah is an outspoken and powerful advocate for mental health  
20:05 and he has received recognition from several media outlets  
20:07 and was named one of the most influential 25 under 25



20:11 business leaders by Bostino,  
20:13 a well-respected online news source.  
20:16 In addition, as marketing director  
20:18 at Inner City Weightlifting and marketing manager  
20:21 for Mitcom, Noah is utilizing his experience  
20:22 as an entrepreneur and digital marketer  
20:26 to develop marketing strategies and improve results.  
20:29 In recognition of his extraordinary determination  
20:32 to improve the lives of those with mental illness  
20:34 while at Suffolk as an undergraduate,  
20:36 and his significant positive impact since then  
20:39 on countless individuals,  
20:40 thanks to the work of his Paper Bag Mask Foundation,  
20:44 as well as for his vision as an entrepreneur  
20:46 and digital marketer,  
20:48 we are honored to present a 10 Under 10 award  
20:50 to Noah Trofimow.  
20:52 (applause)  
21:14 <v ->Which mic am I talking into, both?</v  
21:16 (audience laughs)  
21:19 I'm extremely honored to be here tonight  
21:20 and accept this award and to stand alongside  
21:23 such a great group of alumni.  
21:25 Congratulations to all the fellow honorees.  
21:28 First and foremost,  
21:29 I wanna thank the audience for being here.  
21:31 It means a lot to see so many faces in the crowd.  
21:34 I also wanna thank the professors that have supported me in  
21:36 and outside the classroom.  
21:38 Specifically Sonya Lane, Kim Ring, Heim Letwin,  
21:42 and the countless other professors that have agreed  
21:44 to set up phone calls with me and offer advice  
21:46 in their field of expertise.  
21:49 My speech would feel incomplete if I didn't also take  
21:51 a moment to give a shout out to the Suffolk community  
21:53 beyond the professors, people like Dean Zang,  
21:56 who showed her support  
21:57 since The Paper Bag Mask Foundation's inception,  
22:00 Ben Hall for featuring me in PR opportunities  
22:03 and the students that took me on as a client  
22:05 for their grant writing, graphic design  
22:06 and social change courses.  
22:08 I can contrarily say that my decision  
22:10 to come to Suffolk University has not only set me up  
22:13 for success, but also enabled me to discover myself  
22:16 and my true potential.  
22:18 I'm extremely appreciative the resources that I utilized  
22:20 while I was at Suffolk, having access to a law clinic,  
22:24 being able to pitch my business ideas to judges,  
22:27 and meeting with distinguished alumni who inspire me,  
22:30 are just some of the many offerings at Suffolk.  
22:33 I also, of course, have to thank my parents,  
22:35 who encouraged me to get back on my feet  
22:36 and register for classes when I become depressed

22:39 and dropped out of college.  
22:40 I love both of you.  
22:42 In closing, I wanna say that receiving this award  
22:45 is not just a personal accomplishment,  
22:47 but also a testament to the support and encouragement  
22:49 of the Suffolk community.  
22:50 It's proof that when we surround ourselves with good people,  
22:53 change can happen.  
22:55 So let this be a reminder all of us here tonight,  
22:57 that we have the power to uplift and inspire each other  
22:59 to become our true selves.  
23:01 Congratulations again, to all the alumni here tonight  
23:04 and thank you for this incredible honor.  
23:06 (applause)  
23:14 <v ->Congratulations Noah.</v  
23:16 It is my honor to present the last SBS award  
23:19 to Captain Brooke VanRosendael.  
23:22 Brooke serves as banking advisory senior associate at PWC.  
23:26 She's also a captain in the United States Army Reserve.  
23:29 Brooke joined the Army Reserve right after earning  
23:31 her bachelor of science in finance from Suffolk,  
23:34 magna cum laude, in 2017.  
23:36 She arrived at Ford Benning in Georgia,  
23:38 worked hard to complete the intensive training,  
23:41 and then returned to Suffolk  
23:42 to pursue a graduate degree in accounting.  
23:45 She was called to active duty by the US Army Reserve  
23:47 and ended up completing her graduate studies  
23:49 while on assignment in the Middle East,  
23:51 graduating from the Master of Science  
23:53 and Accounting program, summa cum laude.  
23:55 In Brooks civilian career, she spent over five years  
23:58 working in the audit world,  
23:59 gaining experience in governmental audit at RH Smith  
24:02 and Company CPAs and in trade audit at BNY Mellon.  
24:07 Brooke now works for PWC as a senior management consultant  
24:11 in their banking transformation practice  
24:13 and she has a promising career in accounting ahead of her.  
24:16 In Captain VanRosendael's military career,  
24:20 she was a logistics officer for four years  
24:22 in Westover, Massachusetts,  
24:24 and for nine months she deployed with her brigade to Jordan,  
24:26 where she worked as a contracting officer representative.  
24:30 Brooke later transitioned  
24:31 to the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion Airborne  
24:35 at Fort Dix, New Jersey, where she completed courses  
24:38 to become a civil affairs officer and paratrooper.  
24:41 She has even worked with the Royal Moroccan Army in Morocco  
24:44 to train their soldiers in civil engagement  
24:46 and reconnaissance.  
24:48 As a proud double Ram, an accomplished finance professional  
24:51 and a distinguished member of the military,  
24:53 Brooke is forging new ground and contributing significantly  
24:56 to her profession and to her country, and for those reasons,

24:59 we are honored to present a 10 Under 10 award  
25:02 to Captain Brook VanRosendael  
25:04 (applause)  
25:13 Brooke was called to active duty  
25:15 and cannot be with us tonight.  
25:16 However, she sent in a thank you video,  
25:18 so please turn your attention to the screens.  
25:21 <v ->Good evening.</v  
25:22 I would be remiss if I didn't start by saying  
25:23 how grateful I am for technology and its ability  
25:26 to put me in the same room as you all tonight.  
25:28 I'm currently at riggers school in Fort Lee, Virginia  
25:30 until May 11th, which is why I'm unable  
25:32 to attend the event in person.  
25:34 It's a four week course.  
25:35 where we learn how to pack, rig, inspect,  
25:37 and recover parachutes for both personnel and equipment.  
25:40 For color, one of the graduation requirements  
25:43 is packing our own parachute  
25:44 and jumping it out of the aircraft.  
25:46 A little crazy I know, but I'm excited.  
25:49 With that, I know I only have two minutes to accept my award  
25:52 and I'm sure I'm already close to halfway there,  
25:53 so I'll just dive right in.  
25:56 Suffolk undoubtedly changed my life.  
25:58 I didn't grow up with money  
25:59 and I always feared paying for college.  
26:01 Access to higher education is a luxury and a privilege,  
26:04 especially at a private school in Boston.  
26:07 Somehow I made Suffolk work and I'm so grateful that I did.  
26:11 Suffolk opened the door to my full-time job  
26:13 as a management consultant with PWC.  
26:15 It also blessed me with mentors and friends  
26:17 that I still hold close to my heart today.  
26:20 Most importantly, Suffolk gave the little girl  
26:23 from a small town in Maine, who always dreamed  
26:24 of being everything she could be a chance.  
26:28 I can say with full certainty that I wouldn't be here today  
26:31 as a management consultant with PWC,  
26:33 the captain of the United States Army Reserve  
26:35 and a 10 Under 10 awardee,  
26:37 if it wasn't for the Suffolk community.  
26:40 In closing, I would like to thank Dr. Ann Schneider,  
26:43 an amazing professor, mentor and friend,  
26:46 for nominating me for this award.  
26:48 Dr. Schneider was my professor in grad school  
26:51 and she worked closely with me to complete my final course  
26:53 to earn my degree while I was deployed.  
26:55 Her dedication and selflessness to her students  
26:57 in the Suffolk community is unmatched.  
27:01 I'm so proud to be a double Ram and honored  
27:03 to be one of the awardees recognized tonight.  
27:06 Congratulations to the other awardees.  
27:08 Your journeys inspire me.

27:10 Thank you.  
27:11 (applause)  
27:19 <v ->Congratulations to all the Sawyer Business School honorees</v  
27:22 and thank you to Dean Zung for joining me.  
27:24 It is now my pleasure to introduce a fellow double RAM  
27:27 and MPA alum, also the Secretary of the Gold Council,  
27:30 Jackie Bresnahan, to present the first three  
27:32 of the College of Arts and Sciences Awards.  
27:35 (applause)  
27:43 <v ->Thank you Colin,</v  
27:44 and congratulations to all of our SBS honorees tonight.  
27:47 At this time, I'd also like to invite associate dean  
27:50 of the College of Art and Sciences, Laura Noflo Clements,  
27:52 to join me at the podium.  
27:55 The first CAS award is being presented to Dina Akel.  
27:59 Dina is the CEO of Dina Maria LLC.  
28:02 She graduated from the College of Art and Sciences  
28:05 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in biology 10 years ago.  
28:09 Since her graduation,  
28:10 she has become a successful entrepreneur  
28:12 and has founded and led several businesses.  
28:15 In response to the pandemic, she and her husband,  
28:18 also a Suffolk alum, founded Covid Shield Boston.  
28:22 This company enlisted almost two dozen people  
28:24 to sew and distribute masks  
28:26 to exceptionally needy individuals and groups.  
28:29 In fact, over 1,500 masks were distributed to people  
28:33 in homeless shelters and elder care facilities.  
28:36 Her entrepreneurial spirit and positive results  
28:39 during the crisis of the pandemic was recognized  
28:41 and appreciated in the media and elsewhere.  
28:44 Dina's focus now is on bringing affordability  
28:47 to the luxury fashion industry and making wedding gowns  
28:50 and dresses accessible to all.  
28:52 She is CEO of Dina Maria and Vieira Luxe  
28:55 in Nashua, New Hampshire,  
28:57 and she previously was CEO of Preowned Gowns.  
29:00 She sells couture clothes at reduced prices with the goal  
29:03 of transforming every customer into a fashion success story.  
29:07 The well-known wedding planning website, The Knot,  
29:09 named Vieira Luxe in its best of weddings list for 2023,  
29:13 and Goldman Sachs named her company as a finalist  
29:15 in their small business recognition program.  
29:18 Dina's generosity prompts her to give back  
29:21 and here at Suffolk, she is a loyal supporter,  
29:23 who currently serves as a Ramp,  
29:25 a Ram alumni program mentor.  
29:27 And as a member of the Suffolk University  
29:29 Young Professional Management Advisory Board.  
29:32 She mentors students at Suffolk and in New Hampshire.  
29:36 In recognition of her accomplishments  
29:37 as a resourceful entrepreneur and successful business owner,  
29:41 as well as her commitment to the university community  
29:44 and those in need, we are honored to present

29:46 the 10 Under 10 award to Dina Akel.  
29:49 (applause) (cheering)  
29:51 (lively music)  
30:09 <v ->Whoa, it's been 10 years already.</v  
30:14 Hi everyone.  
30:16 It is truly an honor to be standing here today.  
30:20 Congratulations to all my fellow honorees.  
30:23 As a proud graduate of Suffolk, I can say without a doubt  
30:28 that this is a momentous occasion for me.  
30:32 Let me take you back to my college years  
30:34 when I graduated in 2013  
30:36 with a Bachelor's of Science and Biology.  
30:39 You were one of my professors.  
30:41 (audience laughs)  
30:44 At the time, I was determined to pursue my passion  
30:46 for parasitology, the study of parasites.  
30:49 Exciting, but life had other plans in store for me.  
30:55 After working in the industry for some time,  
30:57 I realized that my heart wasn't in it  
30:59 and I needed to find something that resonated with me  
31:02 on a more creative level.  
31:05 That's when I rediscovered my childhood passion for fashion  
31:08 and it led me to work for Boston Bridal Boutique.  
31:11 It's funny how life works out, isn't it?  
31:15 Now, I have my own bridal business called Vieira Luxe  
31:18 in Nashua, New Hampshire and I couldn't be happier.  
31:22 Speaking of weddings, I met my husband, Jonathan Hong,  
31:26 who was also a Suffolk alum before I graduated,  
31:30 and we owe it all to this great institution.  
31:34 Suffice to say I'm ecstatic about where I am today  
31:39 and it is vastly due to my education here at Suffolk  
31:43 and the people I met here at Suffolk.  
31:46 So I wanna take this opportunity to thank all of you  
31:48 who believed in me, supported me,  
31:52 and most likely some of you had nominated me  
31:55 for this recognition.  
31:56 I thank you so much.  
31:58 It means the world to me and I hope that my story  
32:00 inspires others to follow their passions and dreams.  
32:08 Once again, thank you for this recognition  
32:09 and thank you for allowing me to share my story  
32:11 with all of you today.  
32:13 And thank you.  
32:16 (applause) (cheering)  
32:27 <v ->The most important thing to take away the accessory.</v  
32:31 Congratulations Dina.  
32:33 I'm pleased to present the next award to Tiffany Chan.  
32:36 Tiffany is a general assignment television news reporter  
32:39 for WBZT CBS Boston, and I hope my introduction  
32:44 lives up to her anchor desk.  
32:46 She earned her bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism  
32:49 from the College of Art and Sciences in 2013.  
32:51 While at Suffolk, Tiffany was an on-air student reporter  
32:54 for "Suffolk in the City", a weekly morning show segment

32:57 on New England Cable News.  
32:59 She was also a reporter and anchor  
33:01 for Suffolk University News.  
33:03 After graduation, she began her TV news career  
33:06 a few steps away on Beacon Hill,  
33:08 serving as a State House correspondent for WWLP TV,  
33:12 the NBC affiliate in Chicopee, Massachusetts.  
33:15 She covered political scandals, landmark legislation,  
33:18 and the administration of two governors.  
33:21 Then in July, 2017, Tiffany was offered her dream job  
33:25 at one of Boston's preeminent news stations, WBZ Channel 4,  
33:29 where she currently serves as a reporter  
33:31 and fills in as an anchor.  
33:33 Tiffany has made history by becoming  
33:35 the first Chinese American woman  
33:36 to earn an anchor seat at WBZ and she is a proud member  
33:40 of the Asian American Journalist Association.  
33:43 In addition to her professional achievements,  
33:45 Tiffany is also an active member of her community.  
33:48 She willingly shares her insights and experience  
33:51 in the field of broadcast journalism  
33:53 with Suffolk University students and high school students.  
33:57 This spring she returned to Suffolk as a panelist  
33:59 to talk about women in the media professions.  
34:02 She is called on to be a guest speaker and program moderator  
34:04 at events and galas throughout New England.  
34:07 In recognition of her significant professional  
34:10 accomplishments in the field of broadcast journalism,  
34:12 as a Chinese American trailblazer and role model,  
34:15 we are honored to present  
34:17 the 10 Under 10 award to Tiffany Chan.  
34:20 (applause) (lively music)  
34:38 <v ->I was wondering what song they were gonna pick</v  
34:40 for me to come out to.  
34:42 I just wanna thank Sarah, the Gold Council,  
34:45 President Kelly and the Suffolk community  
34:47 for really putting this all together.  
34:49 It's always such a treat for me to come back on campus  
34:51 because it just reminds me where I came from.  
34:54 Being back on campus today though is so significant for me,  
34:58 not because you know, I'm accepting an award, but you know,  
35:01 when I look out that window and I see that golden dome,  
35:04 that's where I first got my on-air TV job  
35:07 and when you're a student here,  
35:09 it's so hard to kind of picture what type of impact  
35:13 you're gonna make in the community as a student.  
35:16 So being in this room, receiving this award,  
35:18 looking out at that golden dome and realizing that now  
35:21 I'm an anchor in Boston is just,  
35:23 I know that I couldn't have done it without being here  
35:26 at Suffolk, without being, you know,  
35:29 in the classes with some of my professors.  
35:31 I know Professor Dana Rosenguard,  
35:34 I know that name probably resonates

35:37 with some of the other honorees here tonight,  
35:39 really gave me such a realistic taste  
35:42 of what journalism is like and I truly don't think  
35:45 that I could have gotten that experience  
35:47 without being a student here.  
35:49 And I always tell students when I come back  
35:52 and I talk to journalism students, you know,  
35:54 there's no other experience than being a student  
35:57 in the heart of the city and a city where so much happens,  
36:00 championship wins, you know,  
36:03 protests on the State House steps.  
36:04 So this campus means so much to me and to be back.  
36:09 Thank you so much.  
36:11 Thank you.  
36:11 (applause)  
36:18 <v ->Congratulations Tiffany.</v  
36:20 The next award being presented is to Daveson Perez.  
36:24 Daveson serves as the manager of baseball communications  
36:27 and media relations at the Boston Red Sox.  
36:30 He graduated from Suffolk in 2015 with a Bachelor of Science  
36:33 in broadcast journalism.  
36:35 He was the co-producer and on-air personality  
36:38 for "Clash of the Rams", the official sports talk show  
36:41 of Suffolk University.  
36:42 He also served as a production intern at Studio 73.  
36:46 He returned to Suffolk earlier this spring  
36:48 to serve on a panel of distinguished alumni  
36:51 during the Black Excellence Celebration  
36:53 sponsored by the Suffolk University Black Alumni Network.  
36:57 Daveson began his career in communications  
36:59 as a freelance photographer for Univision Boston.  
37:02 As a lifelong lover of sports, he made his way  
37:05 to the Boston Red Sox and Fenway Park in 2016,  
37:08 working as a media relations assistant  
37:10 and Spanish language translator.  
37:12 His diverse responsibilities included translating  
37:15 for several well-known Red Sox players  
37:17 and he witnessed firsthand on the field,  
37:20 the final game of the historic 2018 World Series.  
37:24 Daveson landed two different positions  
37:26 in broadcast journalism the following years,  
37:28 working in Presca Isle, Maine,  
37:30 and serving as sports director in Peoria, Illinois.  
37:33 He also worked as a public relations associate  
37:36 in the mayor's office of the city of Brockton.  
37:39 Now serving as the manager of baseball communications  
37:42 and media relations, Daveson Perez is doing what he loves,  
37:45 working for the Red Sox organization  
37:47 and contributing to the greater community  
37:49 in Boston and far beyond.  
37:51 In recognition of his significant  
37:54 professional accomplishments in the field  
37:56 of sports journalism and his strong commitment  
37:58 to giving back to the community, we are honored to present

38:01 the 10 Under 10 award to Daveson Perez.  
38:05 (applause) (lively music)  
38:21 <v ->Wow, this is incredible.</v  
38:24 I'm a little nervous, so just bear with me.  
38:27 First of all, thank you to Suffolk University  
38:30 for this amazing honor.  
38:34 Freshman year I didn't think I'd be here at all,  
38:37 so I'm very humbled, so thank you.  
38:41 Thank you to God because without him  
38:43 none of this would be possible.  
38:44 Thank you to my wife sitting there.  
38:48 She seen me through a lot of highs and lows.  
38:50 That's why I get emotional.  
38:52 But thank you to you, thank you to my family,  
38:55 especially my mom and dad, Juan and Esperanza Perez,  
38:59 two Dominican immigrants who came to this country  
39:03 wanting a better life for us.  
39:04 So this is a manifestation of all of that.  
39:10 Thank you to my best friends are here in the house.  
39:14 We're missing a few due to travel,  
39:17 but I'm so grateful for your friendship over the years.  
39:23 You guys always show up and I need you, so thank you.  
39:25 Might show up a little late, but you know, you show up.  
39:30 Lastly, thank you again to Suffolk.  
39:33 I wanna shout out a professor,  
39:35 one professor in particular, Jerry Glendi.  
39:39 For those of you who studied broadcast journalism  
39:42 like I did, we spent a lot of time in that studio  
39:45 down the street and Jerry provided a very welcoming  
39:49 and fun environment for us to explore  
39:51 and do our thing in there.  
39:52 So Jerry, I know you're not here,  
39:55 you're probably at the garden right now, but thank you.  
40:00 Quick speech.  
40:03 I'm not special at all.  
40:05 I know it's weird 'cause I'm receiving this award,  
40:07 but I'm really not special at all.  
40:10 I'm just a dreamer that fully commits  
40:12 to every dream that I have.  
40:15 You know, when I was here at Suffolk,  
40:16 the goal was to be on ESPN, be a sports anchor,  
40:19 and I remember, you know, on weekends being in front  
40:23 of the mirror practicing how to tie a tie,  
40:26 which clearly didn't work cause I'm not wearing one  
40:30 and yeah, just practicing standups  
40:32 and trying to make it.  
40:34 You know, when I was an orientation leader here at Suffolk,  
40:37 we went to Fenway with a bunch of students  
40:39 and I told myself like, one day I'm gonna work here  
40:42 and I'm fortunate enough now to call Fenway Park  
40:46 my office every day.  
40:48 So it's truly, truly humbling and I'm grateful.  
40:54 The reason I feel like I'm not special  
40:55 is because a lot of times we accomplish things,



40:58 like receiving a 10 Under 10 award,  
41:00 or being on the field for the 2018 World Series,  
41:04 like I was, and we think that we're,  
41:08 our ego tells us that we're better than the next person  
41:12 and that's truly, life has taught me  
41:14 that that's just not true.  
41:18 I've accomplished a little bit of things  
41:20 in my career so far.  
41:24 I'm still very young.  
41:25 So hopefully, there's more stuff down the road  
41:28 and I'm grateful for those things.  
41:29 But on a personal level, I just strive to be someone  
41:33 who's consistently putting in hard work every day  
41:36 and just treating everybody that I meet  
41:38 with kindness and respect.  
41:42 You know, to me, those two things,  
41:45 when added to an unwavering belief  
41:47 that you can truly make any dream that you have come true,  
41:52 you know, I think that's why I've been able to receive  
41:55 a lot of blessings, opportunities,  
41:58 a lot of them have come via relationships that I've had.  
42:01 So I think that's really important.  
42:05 So if I can leave you with anything,  
42:06 it's just that you know, believe, truly believe  
42:10 that you can make any dream that you have come true,  
42:13 consistently work at it,  
42:14 even when people aren't noticing you,  
42:17 when people aren't, you know, checking for you,  
42:20 your time will come if you consistently  
42:22 put in the hard work.  
42:23 But the most important thing in my mind  
42:25 is truly treat everybody with kindness and respect.  
42:29 Not just the people that you're friends with,  
42:31 not the people that you have the most in common with.  
42:34 Truly everybody, open that door,  
42:37 let that person cross the street when you're driving around.  
42:41 It makes a difference not just to that person but to you.  
42:45 The gratification comes to you when you do those things.  
42:49 So if you can do those things,  
42:51 I think that career accomplishments aside,  
42:54 you'll just be a genuinely good human being.  
42:56 So thank you once again for this honor.  
42:59 Sorry I choked up there in the beginning.  
43:01 I just get emotional when I talk about my family.  
43:04 But no, thank you and congratulations  
43:06 to all the other honorees.  
43:07 Have a great night. (applause)  
43:17 <v ->Congratulations Daveson.</v>  
43:19 Now to present the last three awards of the evening.  
43:21 It is my pleasure to welcome my fellow Gold Council member  
43:25 and fellow double Ram, Briana D'Amelio.  
43:29 (applause)  
43:34 <v ->Thank you Jackie and hello everyone.</v>  
43:37 I have the honor of presenting

43:39 the last three awards of the evening.  
43:41 Our next honoree in all the way from Peru,  
43:44 is Karim Rifai Burneo.  
43:48 Karim is the founder and CEO of Uayki,  
43:51 Innovations to Connect the World,  
43:53 a nonprofit organization based in Lima, Peru where he lives.  
43:58 He is a 2015 Suffolk graduate with the degree in economics  
44:02 from the College of Arts and Sciences.  
44:04 Before coming to the United States to attend Suffolk,  
44:07 Karim attended one of the top 10 high schools  
44:10 in Latin America and represented his country  
44:13 on the national soccer team.  
44:15 He then played professional soccer in Peru  
44:17 for a top ranked league team.  
44:20 At Suffolk, he excelled academically and focused on business  
44:24 and economics and he worked  
44:26 with two non-profit organizations,  
44:28 The Open Learning Exchange  
44:30 and The Help for the Andes Foundation.  
44:33 Karim returned to Peru in 2015 to found Uayki,  
44:38 a social benefit enterprise  
44:40 focused on providing internet connectivity for disconnected,  
44:43 underprivileged and disadvantaged communities  
44:46 that will improve access to quality education programs  
44:50 and provide them with vital multimedia resources.  
44:54 His Uayki system is proprietary technology that involves  
44:58 a patented low-cost hardware and software solution  
45:02 that deploys large clouds of wifi connectivity  
45:06 regardless of location.  
45:08 Uayki is committed to providing low cost  
45:10 and high speed network access  
45:12 to hundreds of devices simultaneously,  
45:15 even in the most remote locations.  
45:17 Working tirelessly for the past seven years,  
45:20 Karim and his team have helped numerous  
45:22 underprivileged communities and have already implemented  
45:26 more than 50 programs in 11 states in Peru.  
45:30 They also collaborate with organizations,  
45:32 including Open Learning Exchange,  
45:35 the United Nations, the US AID,  
45:38 and will launch their first international pilot in 2023.  
45:44 Karim sees access to the internet as a human right  
45:47 and a change agent that reduces inequality  
45:50 and delivers educational opportunity.  
45:53 In recognition of his extraordinary vision  
45:55 and commitment to improving people's lives  
45:58 through technological innovations,  
46:00 we are honored to present  
46:01 the 10 Under 10 award to Karim Rifai Burneo.  
46:06 (applause) (lively music)  
46:33 <v ->Hello everyone.</v  
46:34 I want to start by congratulating my fellow honorees  
46:38 and by thanking Suffolk University and the Gold Council  
46:41 for this amazing recognition.

46:43 My objectives in life is to help connect and empower  
46:47 and remote rural communities across the world.  
46:51 And it started and this dream started here, in Boston City  
46:54 before creating from this great university.  
46:58 Now Uayki, as they have just mentioned  
47:01 this amazing introduction,  
47:03 we are benefiting several communities.  
47:07 We have more than 50 programs in two countries  
47:09 in Peru and Guatemala.  
47:13 We are impacting, I'm proud to say,  
47:15 tens of thousands of users by getting them connected  
47:19 to the best of the digital age opportunities  
47:21 that we have had since we are really young.  
47:26 And that's not a reality of more than 50%  
47:29 of the population across the world.  
47:32 I was lucky enough to go to a top high school,  
47:34 a top university, and I believe in giving back,  
47:39 as  
47:41 other of the honorees have mentioned.  
47:44 You know, it's so rewarding and  
47:48 I want to continue doing so and for me this is  
47:52 a really inspiring opportunity to hear  
47:54 in front of such a accomplished group of people.  
47:58 It puts a lot of fuel in the gas tank  
48:01 to continue going forward.  
48:06 I want to help my team, my friends, my brother, my family,  
48:11 but particularly my mother and my father  
48:13 for their unconditional support  
48:16 throughout this past seven years.  
48:21 I want to talk directly to them.  
48:22 You will lift me when many will have not  
48:25 and without your help and guidance,  
48:27 I will not be here today.  
48:30 Both of you are my examples in life and I hope to make  
48:33 you proud of what we are building together,  
48:35 because I consider you part of this project  
48:40 that I want to take throughout my life.  
48:42 I don't consider it my professional life,  
48:44 it's something I want to do till I'm old  
48:48 and probably decades are gonna pass,  
48:51 but I'm not gonna achieve my mission that soon.  
48:55 Thanks again to Suffolk University.  
48:57 Congratulations to all the my fellow honorees.  
49:03 It's a honor to be here.  
49:06 Seven years ago I would've never imagined I would be here  
49:13 in this building, back in this city that I love,  
49:17 receiving this amazing recognition in front of  
49:22 such an amazing group of people,  
49:24 after hearing the from the stories of all of you.  
49:26 So thank you so much.  
49:28 (applause)  
49:38 <v ->Congratulations Karim and thanks for traveling</v  
49:40 to be here tonight.  
49:42 Our next honoree is Carla Christina Rojo.

49:46 Carla is a bilingual reporter  
49:48 for Telemundo Nueva Inglaterra, an NBC Boston.  
49:52 Carla is a first generation Columbian American  
49:55 college student, whose parents came from the US  
49:59 from Meadowland, Columbia.  
50:01 She has proudly graduated from Suffolk University  
50:04 with a bachelor of arts degree in communications  
50:07 and focused on broadcast journalism in 2014.  
50:12 While at Suffolk, she served as a student reporter  
50:14 for NECN's acclaimed "Suffolk in the City",  
50:17 and as a member of the Rampage Show Choir.  
50:21 Born and raised in Lowell  
50:23 and a graduate of Lowell High School,  
50:25 she first earned an associate's degree  
50:27 from Middlesex Community College in 2012  
50:31 and continues to be actively involved there.  
50:34 She received Middlesex Community College's  
50:36 Distinguished Alumni Award in 2016  
50:40 and served as their commencement speaker.  
50:43 Carla also volunteers as a mentor to students,  
50:46 especially from the Bipop community.  
50:49 Carla is already an Emmy award-winning bilingual reporter  
50:53 for NBC Boston Telemundo.  
50:55 (applause)  
51:00 She covers diverse topics, from breaking news to education,  
51:04 to immigration to New England sports.  
51:07 She chose her career to support  
51:09 and represent her Latino community.  
51:12 Her impressive credentials as a journalist  
51:14 these past 10 years represent only the beginning  
51:17 of what promises to be an outstanding career  
51:20 of reaching out to the community,  
51:23 making a positive difference in people's lives,  
51:25 and giving back and setting example for others to follow.  
51:29 In recognition of her significant professional  
51:32 accomplishments in the field of broadcast journalism,  
51:35 her passionate commitment to empowering her Comunidad Latina  
51:39 and the greater community through her career  
51:42 and volunteer work, we are honored to present  
51:44 the 10 Under 10 award to Carla Rojo.  
51:48 (applause) (lively music)  
52:07 <v ->Wow, thank you, (speaking in foreign language).</v  
52:11 Thank you Suffolk University, the Gold Council,  
52:14 and congratulations to the other honorees.  
52:16 You have truly inspired me  
52:19 and I don't even feel like I deserve to be here.  
52:22 So I wanna dedicate this award to Lowell, Massachusetts,  
52:28 to my Middlesex Community College,  
52:30 to Suffolk University and mostly my dad,  
52:33 who passed away a few years ago.  
52:35 (speaking in foreign language)  
53:09 (applause)  
53:13 My journey in college was not the typical one.  
53:16 I come from a city so diverse,

53:20 but it's hard to make it out and it's hard to be here.  
53:24 I went to Middlesex Community College as was mentioned,  
53:27 where I got my associate's degree.  
53:29 Then from there I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do.  
53:34 I knew I wanted to give a platform to my Latino community  
53:39 who doesn't necessarily, or they don't--  
53:41 It's not that they don't have a voice,  
53:43 they just never had that platform and at Middlesex,  
53:46 when I sat down one day with my counselor,  
53:48 I really was trying to figure out where I wanted to go  
53:51 and I knew I wanted to be a reporter  
53:53 but a bilingual reporter and that's when Suffolk  
53:56 was in the conversation.  
53:58 I applied, got accepted, and I commuted from Lowell  
54:03 every single day for my classes while I worked full-time.  
54:07 I'm so grateful to Dr. Dana Rosenguard,  
54:10 Jerry Glendi and Keith Erickson.  
54:12 My time here, they taught me so much and I still take that  
54:16 with me to this day in my career.  
54:19 Suffolk has just been an amazing, an amazing key,  
54:23 an amazing journey for where I am today  
54:26 and I still have so much more to accomplish.  
54:28 But once again, I couldn't have done this  
54:30 without their help, without my family, my friends,  
54:33 and the Suffolk community.  
54:35 So all I wanna say is congratulations.  
54:37 I am truly honored.  
54:39 I am so grateful to be here  
54:41 and (speaking in foreign language).  
54:43 Thank you so much.  
54:45 (speaking in foreign language)  
54:45 (applause)  
54:53 <v ->Congratulations Carla.</v  
54:56 And last but certainly not least,  
54:58 it is my honor to present the final 10 Under 10 award  
55:01 of the evening to Ajia Zimmermann.  
55:04 Ajia currently holds the position of developmental  
55:07 and behavioral pediatrics physician assistant  
55:10 at Tufts Medical Center.  
55:12 Ajia graduated from Suffolk with a bachelor's degree  
55:16 in biology in 2016.  
55:18 While a Suffolk undergraduate, she was an honor scholar  
55:21 and engaged student who served as the vice president  
55:24 of Best Buddies and treasurer and fundraising chair  
55:28 for Theta Phi Alpha.  
55:29 Actually, my sorority sister.  
55:32 In 2021, she completed a dual master's degree,  
55:36 earning a master's of medical science  
55:38 and a master's in public health  
55:40 from Tufts University School of Medicine.  
55:42 During her undergraduate, nope,  
55:44 graduate degree training,  
55:46 Ajia published policy recommendations  
55:48 through Children's Health Watch to help achieve

55:51 health equity for young children  
55:53 and their families in the U.S.,  
55:55 and health equity remains a priority for Ajia.  
55:58 She began working at Tufts Medical Center  
56:00 as an anesthesia technician.  
56:02 Then in just two years she was promoted  
56:05 to lead technician and less than a year later,  
56:08 she was part of a group of authors who published research  
56:11 into preventing medical errors in the operating room.  
56:15 Now, as a well-established physician assistant  
56:17 in pediatrics, she diagnoses and treats children  
56:21 who are struggling with developmental and behavioral  
56:24 disabilities and works closely with them and their families.  
56:28 She has published several articles  
56:30 and in her spare time on the weekends,  
56:32 she treats patients with severe back and spinal pain  
56:35 at Brigham and Women's Spine Center.  
56:38 In recognition of her professional accomplishments  
56:40 in the field of medicine and her compassionate care  
56:43 that makes a positive difference in the lives  
56:45 of her patients every day, we are honored to present  
56:49 the 10 Under 10 award to Ajia Zimmermann.  
56:51 (applause) (lively music)  
57:13 <v ->Hi everybody.</v  
57:14 Thank you so much and I first wanna thank the audience.  
57:17 I know all of us 10 Under 10 honorees wouldn't have made it  
57:20 here without all the support from you guys  
57:23 and thank you to all my fellow honorees as well.  
57:28 Honestly, when I received this award,  
57:29 I couldn't believe it, so much so that I ignored  
57:32 Sarah's email and she had to reach out to me  
57:34 on LinkedIn because I could not believe it was for me.  
57:38 Like many of us, I kind of keep my head down  
57:40 and just kind of grind day by day.  
57:42 So this is a really gracious reminder that all the hard work  
57:45 that I've put in really has made a difference.  
57:49 There are so many I have to thank for this achievement.  
57:52 My amazing fiance, another Suffolk alum,  
57:56 and all my best friends here today who were able to be there  
58:01 for me for every hardship along the way  
58:03 and all my mental breakdowns  
58:05 in between my different master's degrees in healthcare work,  
58:10 my parents who have been there to encourage my growth  
58:12 and support me through everything, and most of all Suffolk,  
58:18 the amazing professors and educational staff  
58:21 that I got to work with along the way.  
58:24 When I first graduated high school,  
58:26 I really just wanted to live in a city,  
58:28 but it was so hard to choose 'cause there were so many  
58:30 different schools in Boston.  
58:32 I ended up touring Suffolk kind of on a whim.  
58:35 I didn't even think I'd want to go here,  
58:36 but I absolutely fell in love.  
58:39 I could tell how much the professors really cared

58:41 about their students success and at the time  
58:44 there was nothing cooler than living  
58:45 in a high-rise building and having the commons  
58:48 as our school green.  
58:50 During my time here, I met amazing professors.  
58:53 I was able to present research while I was here  
58:56 and one of the most formative things for me  
58:58 was joining Best Buddies.  
59:00 I actually ended up joining thinking it was a place  
59:02 to make friends as a freshman, and then quickly realized  
59:05 that it was a group that fostered friendships  
59:07 between college students and people in the community  
59:11 with intellectual and developmental disabilities  
59:13 and it honestly just changed my whole worldview.  
59:16 I knew I wanted to go into medicine,  
59:18 but I knew that disability activism  
59:20 was so important to me too.  
59:22 I didn't think I'd ever be able to find a niche  
59:24 that was able to fulfill both.  
59:26 But thankfully, during my career at Tufts,  
59:28 I was able to get connected  
59:29 to the Center for Children with Special Needs  
59:32 and that's really changed my entire life.  
59:35 I'm just so happy that I've been able to get here  
59:38 and I look back at my four years at Suffolk and honestly,  
59:41 I wouldn't have changed a thing.  
59:43 It was one of the best experiences of my life  
59:45 and it made me who I am today.  
59:46 So thank you everybody and thank you for coming.  
59:49 (applause)  
59:58 <v ->Congratulations Ajia and thank you</v  
01:00:00 Associate Dean Nofel Clements.  
01:00:03 To close out the program tonight,  
01:00:05 please welcome back to the podium Dat Lee.  
01:00:08 (applause)  
01:00:14 <v ->Wow, wow, wow, wow, wow.</v  
01:00:17 What a great night celebrating  
01:00:18 these amazing Suffolk graduates.  
01:00:20 Congratulations to all of tonight's honorees.  
01:00:23 (applause)  
01:00:30 Really makes me proud to be an alumni  
01:00:33 in hearing all those speeches  
01:00:34 and also makes me grateful for winning the award when I did,  
01:00:37 'cause I'm not sure I would've made the cut, (laughs)  
01:00:40 if I had waited any longer based on that, but.  
01:00:44 I want to thank you the Gold Council,  
01:00:45 along with Alumni Relations team,  
01:00:47 including Sarah and Jonathan for all of their hard work  
01:00:50 in putting this event together.  
01:00:51 (applause)  
01:00:58 Thank also to President Kelly,  
01:01:00 presidential spouse Margie Arnold, Dean Amy Zang,  
01:01:03 and associate Dean Lauren Noflo Clements  
01:01:05 for their attendance tonight.

01:01:06 Thank you guys.  
01:01:07 (applause)  
01:01:12 Before we continue the celebration,  
01:01:14 I want to take a moment to share that this week  
01:01:16 Suffolk hosted their annual days of giving,  
01:01:19 a fundraising event that encourages  
01:01:21 the entire Suffolk community to come together  
01:01:23 and support Suffolk with the gift of any amount.  
01:01:27 In preparation for this event, I wanted to put some thought  
01:01:29 into why I personally give to Suffolk.  
01:01:33 I feel like most people give to Suffolk because they feel  
01:01:36 as though their university gave them the tools  
01:01:38 to be successful in the real world.  
01:01:41 While that feeling definitely resonates with me,  
01:01:43 without Suffolk, I wouldn't know two plus two equals five  
01:01:45 or or how to operate the MBTA system,  
01:01:47 but that's not the main reason I give back.  
01:01:51 Aside from the numerous letters directly asking me  
01:01:54 to give back, I've had points in my career where I just felt  
01:01:58 completely lost and Suffolk was always there  
01:02:01 to give me the support and guidance I needed to,  
01:02:04 I guess, find my path and move forward.  
01:02:07 Not just tools to succeed, but the staff and the team here  
01:02:10 really had a commitment and investment in my success  
01:02:14 and I could truly say I would not be here today  
01:02:16 without their continuous support.  
01:02:19 I give back because I know that the next student  
01:02:21 who needs that same support  
01:02:22 will get what they need from Suffolk.  
01:02:24 So for me, I guess my donations are my way  
01:02:27 of paying it forward to the next student.  
01:02:30 It's not late to participate in Suffolk Days of Giving  
01:02:33 and all the gifts made this evening will count  
01:02:35 towards that important effort.  
01:02:37 By giving to Suffolk, you can help us provide scholarships  
01:02:40 and financial aid to students who may not otherwise  
01:02:42 be able to afford a Suffolk education,  
01:02:45 and you've seen firsthand tonight, a Suffolk education has  
01:02:48 the power to give our students an incredible future.  
01:02:52 You can make your gift by text,  
01:02:54 by texting the word SUGIVES to 71-777, remember the dash,  
01:03:00 or scanning the QR code in the screen,  
01:03:02 behind me or the posters you see around here tonight.  
01:03:06 This concludes our formal program for the evening  
01:03:09 and the Goal Council invites everyone to stay  
01:03:10 for the reception in further celebration of our honorees.  
01:03:14 Lastly, I asked all the honorees,  
01:03:16 please come up front for for photos.  
01:03:18 Thank you and all, and have a great rest of your evening.  
01:03:22 (applause)