

MECHANICS INSTITUTE
2018 GRADUATION CEREMONY

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 24, 2018

AT 7:00 O'CLOCK



IN THE LIBRARY OF
THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS & TRADESMEN
OF THE NEW YORK CITY
TWENTY WEST FORTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10036

THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF
MECHANICS & TRADESMEN OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

2018

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GERARD DROHAN, JR.
PRESIDENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

*I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
And to the Republic for which it stands
One Nation, under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

FANNELLE COLLETTE CATO

STAR SPANGLED BANNER

*O, say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming,
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave*

INTRODUCTION OF MECHANICS

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PRESIDENT, THE GENERAL SOCIETY
OF MECHANICS & TRADESMEN

**GRADUATE ADDRESS &
ALUMNI PINNING
CEREMONY**

ALRID REID

SONG

AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL

*O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!*

*O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern impassion'd stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!*

RECESSATIONAL

**DINNER
BUFFET**

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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL 30

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**AND IS GRATEFUL TO ALL OF OUR GENEROUS
SUPPORTERS**

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OUR PROGRAMS ARE SUPPORTED IN PART, BY PUBLIC FUNDS FROM THE NEW YORK CITY
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY COUNCIL.

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR GREAT APPRECIATION TO MANHATTAN
BOROUGH PRESIDENT GALE E. BREWER AND FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER DANIEL R.
GARODNICK FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

THE FACULTY OF THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

CONGRATULATES THE GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2018
ON THIS MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT.
WE WISH YOU MUCH SUCCESS IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

GEGRAY BEYAN
ANTHONY COCA
RALPH CARMOSINO
JOHN CATANEO
WARREN DONDERO
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ENI ZEJNATI

THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS & TRADESMEN OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CONGRATULATE THE GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2018
FOR THEIR AMBITION, HARD WORK, AND PERSEVERANCE.
WE WISH YOU MUCH SUCCESS IN THE YEARS AHEAD AND
LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION
AS MECHANICS INSTITUTE ALUMNI.

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THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS & TRADESMEN
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OFFICERS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS
EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
FOR SUCCESS TO OUR 2018 MECHANICS INSTITUTE
GRADUATES.

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MECHANICS INSTITUTE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen and Mechanics Institute remembers with deepest admiration our beloved Past President, 1988 and Mechanics Institute alumnus Gerard Drohan, Sr. Brother Drohan, Sr. was a graduate of Mechanics Institute, Class of 1961, and a recipient of the George E. Hoe Prize for Plumbing. He was a member of the NYC Plumbers Local No. 1 for over 50 years and served on the faculty of Mechanics Institute for 20 years teaching Plumbing Design. Brother Drohan became a member of The General Society in 1972. He was an active member of the Society for 34 years. In November 2005, he was presented with the Founders Day Medal to recognize his four decades of service to the Society.

Throughout his life, Gerard Drohan, Sr. was thankful for the opportunity that the Society gave him by means of his education at the Mechanics Institute. His primary concern was to ensure that the support and generosity of the Society would continue to be available for others who wanted to make a better life for themselves and their families. He spent four decades doing his part in making that happen. His commitment of time and allegiance to the Society helped it continue to provide young men and women with the same opportunities for education that were made available to him, and which contributed to both his working career and personal life. His son, Gerard Drohan, Jr., followed in his father's footsteps and became a member of The General Society in 1992. Brother Drohan, Jr. currently serves as President of the Society.

Brother Gerard Drohan, Sr. had a favorite poem that speaks of each generation's responsibilities to its successors. The poem along with its call to action is now adopted by the Alumni Association of Mechanics Institute.

THE BRIDGE BUILDER

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE

An old man going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
Through which was flowing a sullen tide
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way;
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followed after me to-day
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!"

Source: Father: An Anthology of Verse (EP Dutton & Company, 1931)

THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS & TRADESMEN
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Founded 1785



Celebrating Over Two Centuries of Service to the People of the City of New York

ABOUT THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS & TRADESMEN

The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of the City of New York was founded in 1785 by the skilled craftsmen of the City. Today, this 233-year-old organization continues to serve and improve the quality of life of the people of the City of New York through its educational and cultural programs, including its tuition-free Mechanics Institute, The General Society Library, and its nearly two century-old Lecture Series.

In 1820, The General Society opened one of the City's first free schools, as well as the Apprentices Library. The school, which became the **Mechanics Institute** in 1858, continues to provide tuition-free evening instruction in trades-related education and provides a critical service to improve job opportunities for New Yorkers in the building and construction industry. **Without a tuition-free education, many of our students would be unable to get the technical education needed to advance in today's environment.** Each fall, over 300 students enroll in the Mechanics Institute's programs, including Electrical Technology, HVAC/R Systems, Plumbing Systems, Construction Project Management, AutoCAD and BIM.

Founded in 1820, **The General Society Library** is the second-oldest library in New York City and one of three remaining membership circulating libraries. It serves the educational programs of The General Society. It also makes its extensive collections available to other institutions and the public. The book and periodical collections of the Library span two centuries and are suited to both scholarly research and recreational reading. Its archives date back to 1785. Library members also enjoy access to current fiction, biography and non-fiction.

The **Labor, Literature and Landmarks Series** continues a tradition of public lectures that started at the Society in 1837. The Series brings people of diverse interests from the entire New York area into our Library space. Now in its eighth season, the **Artisan Lecture Series** pays tribute to the art of craftsmanship by featuring master artisans who lecture about the intricacies of their specialized crafts. The **Artisan Lecture Series** promotes the work and art of skilled craftsmen to assist in ensuring their unique knowledge is understood and carried forth for future generations.

The building at 20 West 44th Street is the fifth home of The General Society. The Society also houses the unique **John M. Mossman Lock Collection**, which has more than 370 locks, keys and tools, dating from 4000 B.C. to the early 20th-century. The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the façade of the building is a New York City landmark.

The General Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of the City of New York

20 West 44th Street • New York, NY 10036

212.840.1840 • www.gensociety.org