



1000 Hempstead Ave., PO Box 5002, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-5002
www.molloy.edu

Office of Public Relations
516.678.5000 ext. 6300/6119

May 2, 2008

Molloy College Announces Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipient

Molloy College proudly announces that **Erik Lindbergh** will be the featured speaker at the 2008 Commencement Ceremony slated for Saturday, May 17, 2008, at 10 a.m.

In addition to being the grandson of Aviator Charles Lindbergh, he is an artist, writer, speaker, and self-proclaimed “change-maker.” He is the founder and Executive Director of The Creative Solutions Alliance, a non-profit foundation dedicated to promoting “ingenious solutions to the world’s problems.” He is also a principal in the marketing firm Gusto! LLC, and is a member of the board of directors of both the X PRIZE Foundation and the Aviation High School in Seattle WA.

Mr. Lindbergh holds a degree in Aeronautical Science and is an avid pilot. In May 2002 he retraced his grandfather’s historic solo flight from New York to Paris in a small single engine aircraft. The epic journey raised over one million dollars for charity.

Concerned about the environment, and a pioneer in conservation, Mr. Lindbergh built and lives in an eco-friendly straw bale house in the Pacific Northwest.

An honorary Doctorate of Laws will be bestowed on Mr. Lindbergh during the commencement exercises.

A second honorary Doctorate of Laws will be received by Veronica Barry Larini, a member of Molloy’s Class of 1965. Ms. Larini graduated with a B.S. in Elementary Education, and was an elementary school teacher for nine years.

In addition to her teaching experience, Ms. Larini has tirelessly volunteered her time and has supported charitable endeavors in her New Jersey community of Bernardsville. She has worked with the PTO, Newcomers Club, Girl Scouts, Bernardsville Garden Club, Friends of the Bernardsville Library, and Friends of the Shelter. She is also on the Board of Directors of Choose-a-Charity.net, which assists non-profit organizations with their fundraising efforts.

In 2003 Ms. Larini established a Molloy College Scholarship in her parents' names. The scholarship is awarded yearly to an incoming freshman who is entering the College's education program. Also, she and her husband, Ernie, recently made a significant gift to Molloy's Capital Campaign. Ms. Larini truly personifies Molloy's dedication to service.

For more information regarding this event please contact the Office of Public Relations, Molloy College, 516.678.5000 ext. 6300.

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