



**STEVENS**  
INSTITUTE *of* TECHNOLOGY  
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY

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**President Nariman Farvardin  
149th Commencement Address  
Undergraduate and Graduate Ceremonies  
May 26-27, 2021**

Class of 2021: Today, you become graduates of Stevens Institute of Technology! I offer you my warm, sincere, and enthusiastic congratulations. You have earned the right to celebrate this momentous and hard-won achievement. Your families are proud of you, your faculty are proud of you, and I am proud of you.

The past year has undoubtedly been a time of tremendous disruption and generation-defining change. You have proven yourself to be adaptable, tenacious, and resilient in the face of many unexpected challenges. And you have persevered.

Your time at Stevens has shaped the person you are today. But you now are equipped to shape your future. You have the education, the experience, the wisdom, and the determination to overcome whatever obstacles may get in your way. When you face those obstacles in the future, think back to those challenges you faced during the last few years ...those difficult problems, those demanding professors, those classes that challenged you. And now, look at where you are today. Think of the toolkit that helped you through those situations ... perseverance, hard work, support from family, friends, and faculty, whatever it took to make it to today. You will rely on those same tools over and over again throughout your life.

Like the 50,000 distinguished Stevens graduates before you, you are well-prepared to recognize and take advantage of all the world will offer you in your professional and personal lives, to identify and solve the thorny problems we face as a society, and to be the next generation of pioneers, technology innovators, and global citizens that our world needs. Whatever your future holds, I am sure of one thing. You will step up to any challenge and create a better future for all of us.

Thank you for all you have done to make Stevens a better place during your time with us. I look forward to seeing you on campus as a proud member of the Class of 21 soon and often! And, lastly and most importantly, congratulations on your tremendous achievement. Always remember that you are a lifelong member of the Stevens family.