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Dr. Eric Huang '88 to be Simon's Rock 2023 Commencement Speaker



GREAT BARRINGTON, MA—Simon's Rock alum Dr. Eric Huang '88, General Manager and Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of Moderna Genomics, will address the graduates at the 54th Commencement ceremony of Bard College at Simon's Rock on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held in person and will be live-streamed for those unable to attend in person.

Dr. Eric Huang received his associate's degree from Simon's Rock before earning his bachelor's degree from Emory University. He went on to receive his PhD in Molecular and Medical Parasitology from New York School of Medicine and his MBA from Boston University.

Dr. Huang is a seasoned scientific executive dedicated to discovering novel treatments that transform patients' lives. He currently serves as General Manager and Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of Moderna Genomics. In this role, Dr. Huang spearheads strategies and directs a world-class science team with the goal of building a technology platform that can design curative mRNA medicines for genetic diseases.

Before leading Moderna Genomics, Dr. Huang founded and served as CSO of Moderna's New Venture Labs, an incubator of top scientists who explored novel applications of mRNA technology. Here, he led the creation of Moderna's infectious disease vaccine platform — the platform used for Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine.

"We're so honored to have Dr. Eric Huang as our Commencement Speaker this year," said provost John B. Weinstein. "Since graduating from Simon's Rock, Eric's work has been a prime example of what our students can achieve and the good they can bring to the world. With his innovative and necessary work during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, I know Eric inspires all of us here at Simon's Rock."

Simon's Rock looks forward to honoring this year's graduating students. Read more details about [Simon's Rock Commencement here](#).

About Simon's Rock

[Bard College at Simon's Rock](#) is the only college in the country specifically designed for highly motivated students ready to enter college after the 10th or 11th grade. Simon's Rock offers a challenging program in the liberal arts and sciences, taught exclusively in small seminars by supportive, highly trained faculty, who are leading scholars in their fields. The College grants degrees in more than 35 majors. The Princeton Review's *Best 380 Colleges* rates academics at Simon's Rock higher than Harvard and Princeton.

[Bard Academy at Simon's Rock](#) is the nation's first two-year boarding and day program designed to prepare 9th and 10th graders to start college early. A student entering Bard Academy as a high school freshman will earn an Associate of Arts degree from Bard College at Simon's Rock after only four years and a Bachelor of Arts degree after only six years. The Academy curriculum is designed and taught by students' future college professors who are leading scholars in their fields.

For more information, visit simons-rock.edu and bardacademy.simons-rock.edu.

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