

Convocation

August 18, 2008



Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

igniting and nurturing creative, ethical scientific minds that advance the human condition

IMSA Convocation

Prelude Music

18th Century Italian Folk Songs

Megan Hodge

2002 IMSA Graduate

Pledge of Allegiance & Welcome Mamatha Challa

Student Council President

Dr. Max McGee

President

Dr. Eric McLaren

Principal

Musical Selection

Una Voce Poco Fa
(The Barber of Seville)

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Megan Hodge

Keynote Speaker

Jay Budzik

1995 IMSA Graduate

Biography

Dr. Jay Budzik, '95

Jay is the co-founder and CTO of the online marketing services company MediaRiver, where he leads the company's research and development efforts. Prior to founding MediaRiver, he was a computer scientist at Northwestern University's Intelligent Information Laboratory, where he co-invented the contextual matching algorithms at the core of MediaRiver's product offerings. During his time at Northwestern, he led a number of other research projects including an intelligent question and answering system used by delegates at the 1996 Democratic National Convention, held in Chicago.

Jay is widely published on topics ranging from groupware to intelligent agents, and his papers are cited by top researchers and industry leaders. He has presented to audiences ranging from international research groups to Fortune 500 companies, including the International World-Wide Web Conference, Ford Motor Company, the MIT Media Lab, the International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces, the American Society for Information Science, Reed-Elsevier, Boeing, Motorola, and Ford Motor Company. Jay's work has been covered by PC Magazine, The Los Angeles Times, USA Today, the Chicago Sun-Times, WGN-TV and L'Ordinateur Individuel.

Jay graduated from IMSA in 1995 and attended the University of Chicago, where he earned a B.S. with general honors and honors in computer science in 3 years. He holds a Ph.D. in computer science from Northwestern University, where he was awarded a prestigious Presidential Fellowship.

IMSA Beliefs

We Believe That...

- Everyone is a mystery with unknown and unknowable limits.
- All people have equal intrinsic worth.
- Personal success is internally defined.
- A person's potential is most fully actualized through physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual harmony.
- No one's path in life is predetermined.
- All people have choices and are responsible for their actions.
- Human progress depends on personal growth.
- Everyone can lead.
- Meaning is constructed by the learner.
- Learning never ends.
- The ability to discern and create connections is the essence of knowing.
- Belonging to a community requires commitment to the common good.
- Indifference diminishes individuals and communities.
- Trust and respect are vital for any relationship to thrive.
- Diversity in community inspires discovery and creativity.
- Diverse perspectives enrich understanding.
- We are all stewards of our planet.
- Great leaps forward require bold ideas and actions.
- Change is natural and necessary for greatness.

