This week is a continuing celebration of the Orange Spirit and what it truly means to be a forever-member of the Orange family.

I would like to thank all those students who have participated in this week, and the Forever Orange Student Alumni Council led by Megan DiDomenico.

In addition, I would like to thank the Offices of Alumni Engagement and Donor Relations, the Class Act Ambassadors, the Pathfinders Donors and Emeriti faculty, and the Phanstiel Scholars. Your energy and commitment is inspiring.

This May, the fourth class of Phanstiel Scholars will graduate from Syracuse University. The Phanstiel Scholarship Program has provided opportunities for our students to thrive, thanks to the generosity of University Trustee Howard (Howie) Phanstiel ('70, G’71) and his wife, Louise.

The Phanstiels dedicate their resources to helping students who have demonstrated their potential for both academic success and community leadership. With their generosity and investment, Howie and Louise pay it forward every year as the Phanstiel Scholarship holders go into the world to accomplish great things.
During their time at Syracuse University, all our students are offered countless opportunities to serve the campus and the broader community. Their service – whatever form it takes – impacts the lives of others in ways that are often unknown and might not be acknowledged.

The Orange Circle Awards offer us a chance to acknowledge those who are making this world a better place.

This year, our award recipients reflect a broad array of activities from athletics to the arts. These recipients have channeled their own passions and talents in the service of others.

They have raised funds and dedicated their philanthropy to support education of women and children around the world, to battle hunger in our own community, and to help those with rare diseases.

Your wonderful work is a source of pride to all of us at Syracuse University.

When you graduate, you take that altruistic spirit into the world and continue to make a difference.

I am grateful you will be part of a community of Syracuse University alumni, now numbering 241,000 men and women in cities, states and countries around the world.

You are joining a global community of people who graduated from Syracuse University inspired to engage with others, identify needs, and make a difference in this world.

Thank you for being Orange.

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