

VIRGINIA TECH



CLASS OF 2009



*FORTITUDINE
VINCIMUS*



*BY ENDURANCE
WE CONQUER*

CLASS OF 2009



CLASS MOTTO

FORTITUDINE
VINCIMUS

BY ENDURANCE WE CONQUER



CLASS SPONSOR

DR. KAREN
DePAUW



CLASS COLORS

BLUE
&
WHITE





HISTORY OF THE VIRGINIA TECH RING



The Virginia Tech ring collection has become one of the University's most revered and prestigious traditions since its beginning. The Ring program is unique from other colleges in that the

collection is completely redesigned each year, making it a highly anticipated tradition within the University.

Fred Prosser, 1911 Class President, first began the Virginia Tech Ring tradition when he brought his ideas to his fellow classmates during a senior class meeting where a consensus on a class ring could not be met. Upset at the lack of a class ring, Prosser, now a graduate student at the University, decided that the Class of 1911 needed a class ring to symbolize their time at Virginia Tech. After appealing to his former peers, the class of 1911 decided to go forward with creating the first class ring at Virginia Tech. Prosser then went to a jeweler with his own drafted drawing of the design which included a screaming eagle, a cannon barrel, a Victorian shield, a crossed

sabre and rifle, and oak leaves. The first class ring had a flat flush stone (many being amethyst) with a bezel top. Prosser himself arranged for the sale and shipment of the rings.

It is from Fred Prosser's beginning idea that the very first Virginia Tech class ring was born and with it a tradition that has lived on for 98 years!

The Class of 1914 was the first to choose a committee to design a ring that would be unique and significant to each graduating class. Since that time a Class Ring Design Committee has been selected from members of the sophomore class who are challenged with the task of creating a collection symbolizing the spirit of the class, combined with the pride of the University. Along with designing the collection, a namesake is bestowed: a tradition that was founded by Julian A. Burruss in 1991. The Class of 2009 is presenting the namesake to Mr. William C. Latham.

The ring collection is unveiled to the class in the fall of their junior year at Ring Premiere. Since 1934, the rings are officially presented to the class the following spring at Ring Dance. Recognizing time-honored traditions, the Class of 2009 has designed a collection that pays tribute to the University and the rich history that accompanies it, while hoping to leave its imprint on the University.

THE VIRGINIA TECH RING TIMELINE



1912



1927



1934



1944



1955



1969



1975



1984



1992



2000



2004



2008



2009 CLASS PRESIDENT, ADEEL KHAN



ADEEL KHAN

Dear Class of 2009,

As our class has journeyed through both our freshman and sophomore years we have not only challenged our intellect, but we have learned valuable life lessons and created memories that will last us the rest of our lives. In our time here we have formed lasting friendships, gained a sense of community, and learned what it truly is to be a Hokie.

We have shown our Hokie spirit by embracing and pushing all of our athletic teams to the forefront of the ACC. The Hokie spirit we have for our athletics is only surpassed by the spirit that we have for the Virginia Tech community. Through many different outlets we have served our community and learned about ourselves and in what we believe. With our combined efforts, we have grown closer to fellow students, faculty, and Virginia Tech.

In one way or another, by being a part of the Class of 2009, we have all created a legacy and become intertwined with the tradition of Virginia Tech. The longest standing tradition at Virginia Tech, the class ring, is what binds us to our class and to the more than 200,000 living alumni nationwide. The 2009 class ring is your constant reminder of your accomplishment, memories, and pride for your time at Virginia Tech. I encourage you to embrace this Hokie tradition by receiving your class ring at the Ring Dance this coming March.

Sincerely,

Adeel Khan

Class of 2009 President



THE WILLIAM C. LATHAM RING COLLECTION



WILLIAM C. LATHAM

William C. Latham graduated from Virginia Tech in 1955 with a Bachelor of Science in General Agriculture. Upon his graduation, he returned home to Haymarket to operate Waterloo Farm, a 700-acre dairy and general farm. He later founded Budget Motels, Inc., which currently owns and operates one Comfort Inn and nine Days Inns.

Mr. Latham was appointed by governors Charles Robb and James Gilmore to serve two terms on the Virginia Tech Board of

Visitors, where he chaired the Building and Grounds Committee and was also appointed Vice Rector.

Mr. Latham continues an extensive volunteer career with the university including service on the Hospitality and Tourism Management Council, the Class of '55 Reunion Gift Committee, the Pamplin Advisory Council, the Alumni Association Board of Directors (past-president), Hokies for Higher Education, the Virginia Tech Foundation Board and Executive Committee. He served on the National Leadership Campaign Committee for the university's Alumni and Conference Center Campaign and filled leadership roles as a campaign steering committee member for the current comprehensive campaign as well as two earlier capital campaigns.

In recognition of his service to the university, he was awarded the Alumni Distinguished Service Award in 1996.

Bill and his wife Betty recently gave a \$5 million gift to be used to establish an endowed fund to support academic research in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. In recognition of this gift and their life-long commitment to service and philanthropy, the new agriculture and natural resources research building was named the William C. and Elizabeth Latham Agriculture and Natural Resources Building, dedicated on September 22, 2006.

Currently serving as the co-chairs of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Campaign Steering Committee, the Lathams have made several other significant contributions to Virginia Tech including those to enhance the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the livestock-teaching arena, and to the Northern Virginia 4-H educational center. They have provided funds for a lab in the Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and established an endowment for the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies. The university has also benefited from their support to the alumni and conference center, WVTF-FM public radio, and to athletic programs and scholarships for student athletes.

THE VIRGINIA TECH CLASS OF 2009



CONQUER



TRIUMPH



HONOR



ACHIEVE

MEN'S COLLECTION

WILLIAM C. LATHAM RING COLLECTION



ENDURANCE



PERSEVERANCE



LOYALTY



SACRIFICE



VITALITY



STRENGTH



VICTORY



FORTITUDE

WOMEN'S COLLECTION

VIRGINIA TECH CLASS OF 2009 CLASS SIDE



- **2009 Interlocking Chain** — A traditional part of the ring since 1940, representing class pride and unity. The links in the chain are the numerals 2009.
- **2009** — The year of our commencement features the Gobbler and the HokieBird. They symbolize our mascot's transformation through time, as well as students time here at Tech.
- **The Clasped Hands** — The shaking of the hands represents diversity amongst the class and is featured on the Brotherhood Pylon on the War Memorial.
- **VT Basketball** — The men's 2007 basketball team re-emerged on the national spotlight after being ranked throughout the season. Some of this year's highlights consisted of sweeping two perennial power houses in the ACC, Duke and North Carolina.
- **"Fortitudine Vincimus"** — The Latin translation of the Class of 2009 motto: "By Endurance We Conquer."
- **Downtown Blacksburg** — Founded in 1798 on a thirty- eight acre tract deeded by William Black, for whom the town was named. Downtown Blacksburg serves as a place for the Virginia Tech community to enjoy local restaurants and night-life.
- **The HokieBird** — First appearing in 1987, the HokieBird is the official mascot of Virginia Tech.
- **Merryman Athletic Center** — Representing all Division I athletics at Virginia Tech.
- **Lane Stadium** — Consistently rated as one of the top five toughest places to play in the country, Lane Stadium has a special place in every Hokies' heart.
- **Class Logo** — The official logo of the Class of 2009.
- **Mountains** — Virginia Tech is situated in scenic southwestern Virginia between the Blue Ridge and Alleghany mountain ranges.
- **The Drillfield** — One of Virginia Tech's most identifiable landmarks and also considered the center of campus. The Drillfield has served as the pathway to class, a stage for the Corps Pass and Review, as well as a field for many students' play or study.
- **VT Ribbon** — A symbol created in remembrance of the lives affected by the tragic events that occurred on our campus. It is displayed in the Drillfield to depict an occurrence forever embedded in the heart of the Hokie Nation.
- **MMIX** — Roman numerals which stand for 2009.



VIRGINIA TECH CLASS OF 2009 UNIVERSITY SIDE



- **"Ut Prosim"** — The Virginia Tech motto "That I May Serve," adopted in 1896.
- **The Skipper** — The cannon heard during VT football games and around campus since 1964.
- **Burruss Hall** — Built in 1936, it serves as the current administrative building whose namesake was former University President Julian Ashby Burruss, who served a 26 year tenure, the longest of any VT President.
- **Lane Hall** — The oldest academic building still in use on the Virginia Tech Campus. It opened in 1888 as 'No. 1 Barracks' and housed 150 cadets.
- **1872** — Founded in 1872, Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College. Virginia Tech is now a comprehensive, innovative research university with the largest full-time student population in Virginia.
- **Torgersen Bridge** — This landmark serves as a gateway to the University and also serves as a bridge between Torgersen Hall and Newman Library.
- **American Flag** — A symbol of our nation's liberty and strength, "Old Glory" flies proudly on the Virginia Tech campus. The seven raised stars on the flag commemorate and honor those alumni who have received the Medal of Honor.
- **Virginia Commonwealth Flag** — Virginia Tech proudly stands as the Commonwealth's land-grant university.
- **Screaming Eagle** — A symbol that originated from the first class ring which featured twin eagles, representing the virtues of strength and freedom.
- **Flaming VT** — A Homecoming pep rally tradition and a symbol of Hotel Company and VTCC.
- **University Seal** — The seal symbolizes the agricultural and mechanical beginnings of Virginia Tech. The seal was created in 1896 and officially adopted in 1963.
- **Corp of Cadets Seal** — The Corps was the first unit outside of the Army to receive a formal grant for a Coat of Arms from the Army Institute of Heraldry. The seal was designed in 1965 by Colonel Harry D. Temple '34.
- **"We Will Prevail"** — A line quoted from University Distinguished Professor Nikki Giovanni in the poem "We Are Virginia Tech" read at the Convocation on April 17, 2007.
- **Crossed Sabres** — A traditional element of the ring's design which represents the command presence of a military officer.



CONQUER — SQUARE FOOT

- **The Pylons** — Originally conceived as a World War II memorial. Inscribed on its eight pylons are the names of the alumni and students who died in combat during military service. The pylons themselves represent the character traits of Brotherhood, Honor, Leadership, Sacrifice, Service, Loyalty, Duty, and Ut Prosim.
- **The Cenotaph** — A large granite memorial, bearing the names of the university's Medal of Honor recipients. VPI is second only to West Point and the Navel Academy in its number of Medal of Honor recipients.
- **CXXXV** — The Class of 2009 is the 135th class to graduate from Virginia Tech.





HERITAGE OF THE RING DESIGN TRADITION

The first Class Ring at Virginia Tech belonged to the Class of 1911 but it was the Class of 1914 that selected the first Ring Design Committee, a special group of students charged with the task of designing a Class Ring that would be unique and meaningful to their class. Ninety-five years later, the Ring Design Committee of the class still has the unique responsibility of designing a ring collection that represents Virginia Tech and serves as a reflection of the memories and traditions that each class will take with them when they leave Tech.

The Committee today is comprised of eight members and has been advised by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association since 1993. Chosen by the Class Officers in the fall of their sophomore year, the Committee includes a Design Chair, Dance Chair, two at-large committee members, the Class President, and the Male, Female, and Cadet Member-at-Large Class Officers. It is the responsibility of each member to represent the diverse interests and aspects of campus life at Virginia Tech. Each year the Committee strives to create and name a set of rings that their classmates will wear with pride.

The Ring Design Committee oversees one of the largest class ring accounts in the nation and takes on the challenge of designing a distinctive and unique ring collection that best represents their class. Although the traditional class rings differ in design between class years, certain traditional elements included each year make the Virginia Tech Ring one of the most prominent and distinguished in the nation. The screaming eagle, American

Flag, crossed sabres, university seal and interlocking chain around the bezel all contribute to its recognition. The design of the traditional ring combines elements of importance from both the University and the Class. The University side is more formal and time-honored and usually includes symbols of Tech's military heritage, campus buildings such as Burruss Hall and the Pylons, the screaming eagle, and the University seal among others. On the other hand, the class side is more creative and includes elements of significance for that particular class. Since 1991 the design process has included the recognition of a distinguished alumnus, alumna or university president. The design, collection, and the namesake are revealed to the Class during the fall of their junior year at Ring Premiere. This year, the Class of 2009 has chosen to honor William C. Latham.

The Ring Design Committee for the Class of 2009 has strived to embody the heritage of Tech traditions in the design of the ring and also include elements meaningful to '09. With pride, they present the 2009 William C. Latham Collection to their Class.



VIRGINIA TECH 2009 RING DESIGN COMMITTEE



Class of 2009,

As members of the Class of 2009, we are beginning to realize the value of time. The past two years have been full of remarkable moments from classes, to sporting events, and the many activities on campus. As I reflect on my time at Virginia Tech and Blacksburg, I can only hope that the upcoming two years are just as amazing.

It is with honor that I, and the entire Class of 2009 Ring Design Committee, present to you a ring that embodies the time-honored ideals of Virginia Tech combined with our class's unique experiences.

We invite you to join us in taking part in the Virginia Tech Ring Tradition established in 1911. We begin with the Kick-Off Concert in August, followed by the Ring Premiere in October, and conclude with the Ring Dance in late March. I hope that you are excited to take part in these traditions, which distinguish our University among so many others and celebrate our individual and collective class achievements.

Sincerely,

Ryan Gleeson
Ring Design Chair, Class of 2009



(left to right)

- Stephen Huff – *Class of 2009 Male Member-at-Large*
Casey Windmuller – *Class of 2009 Ring Dance Committee Chair*
Matthew Zackon – *Ring Design Committee Member*
Justin Longest – *Ring Design Committee Member*
Jennifer MacDonald – *Advisor*
Adeel Khan – *Class of 2009 President*
Christina Todd – *Class of 2009 Female Member-at-Large*
Ryan Gleeson – *Class of 2009 Ring Design Chair*
Meredith Simon – *Class of 2009 Cadet Member-at-Large*



THE TRADITION OF THE VIRGINIA TECH RING DANCE



Over the past seventy-three years, Virginia Tech students and faculty have gathered to celebrate the beloved and lasting tradition of Ring Dance. Established by the Class of 1935, the Ring Dance weekend takes place in the spring of a student's junior year.

The two-day celebration opens with a banquet that features elegant dining and entertainment. The ceremonial ring presentation takes place on the second evening and begins with a couple's first steps into Squires Commonwealth Ballroom as they receive ribbons in their class colors,

used to tie each other's rings on their wrists for their ring presentation. Traditionally, the women wear the darker ribbon while the men wear the lighter ribbon.

A time-honored ritual performed by the Corps of Cadets marks the ring presentation. Marching into the ballroom, Junior Cadets form the Ring Figure of their graduating class year, followed by the formation of the Sabre Arch. Under this arch, Freshman Cadets escort each Cadet's date. The president of the University ceremoniously announces the formal presentation of the rings.

With "Moonlight and V.P.I!", a song written specifically for the Ring Dance in 1942 by Fred Waring with lyrics by Charles Gaynor performed in the background, rings are presented to class members. For most Junior Cadets, this is their first view of their class ring, since they have been picked up and hidden by their Freshmen escorts until the dance. At the conclusion of the song, hundreds of balloons are released on the couples below. A tradition that began as a Corps prank many years ago is the release of a small live pig into the ballroom for a brief period after the ring presentation. The great finale of the evening takes place at midnight with a spectacular show of fireworks over the Drillfield. Finally, "Silver Taps" is played and a report from the Skipper Cannon concludes the event.

The Class of 2009 cordially invites you to join us on March 28 and 29, 2008 as we take part in this time-honored Virginia Tech Ring Banquet and Dance.

VIRGINIA TECH 2009 RING DANCE COMMITTEE



CASEY WINDMULLER

Dear Class of 2009,

The time has come for one of our longest standing and most cherished traditions, Ring Dance. It is a time for eating, drinking and dancing. It is a time for celebrating not only the hard work we have put into our years as students, but also the memories that will always be cherished. It is the time that we have all been waiting for and is almost here.

The Ring Dance Committee for the Class of 2009 graciously invites you to celebrate the tradition of the Ring Dance with your classmates. We have been preparing for this weekend for three years, living by our class motto "by endurance we conquer," to bring you a weekend you will never forget. We would be honored if you would attend the Friday night banquet for delectable dining and delightful entertainment, and then join us as we dance the night away on Saturday. Fireworks will provide a grand finale to the weekend on Saturday night and signal the beginning of the race to graduation.

The Class of 2009 Ring Dance Committee hopes you will attend the Class of 2009 Ring Banquet and Dance. Best wishes to you in the upcoming year!

Virginia Tech for Life,

Casey Windmuller
Ring Dance Chair, Class of 2009

CUSTOM OPTIONS

Simulated Gemstones



Special Stone Options



MEN'S STYLES

	10K	14K	18K	CELESTRIUM
Conquer 40 DWT	\$747	\$987	\$1,340	\$139
Conquer 34 DWT	\$653	\$872	\$1,152	\$139
Conquer 28 DWT	\$601	\$758	\$975	\$139
Conquer 22 DWT	\$522	\$641	\$806	\$139
Triumph	\$367	\$465	\$543	\$139
Achieve	\$322	\$419	\$495	\$139
Honor	\$322	\$419	\$495	\$139

WOMEN'S STYLES

	10K	14K	18K	CELESTRIUM
Endurance 12 DWT	\$384	\$488	\$614	\$139
Endurance 5 DWT	\$301	\$348	\$424	\$139
Perserance	\$296	\$342	\$407	\$139
Loyalty (CZs)	\$312	\$338	\$413	\$175
Loyalty (Diamonds)	\$416	\$442	\$517	\$279
Sacrifice	\$291	\$318	\$397	—
Vitality (CZs)	\$371	\$393	\$466	—
Vitality (Diamonds)	\$597	\$620	\$692	—
Strength	\$291	\$318	\$397	—
Victory (CZs)	\$348	\$374	\$449	—
Victory (Diamonds)	\$556	\$582	\$657	—
Fortitude	\$296	\$342	\$407	—

Payment Options

PAY IN FULL: Receive a \$10 discount when you pay in full at time of order.

TIME PAYMENT: Your balance will be divided into 2, 4, or 6 equal payments on your MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or American Express and charged at 30-day intervals until the balance is paid in full. C.O.D.: Leave a \$75 deposit when you place your order and pay the balance due when the ring arrives.

STONE PRICING & LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY



DIAMONDS		CUBIC ZIRCONIA	
1 Pt.	\$ 35	1 Pt.	\$ 10
2 Pts.	\$ 45	2 Pts.	\$ 15
3 Pts.	\$ 70	3 Pts.	\$ 18
5 Pts.	\$100	5 Pts.	\$ 25
10 Pts.	\$110	10 Pts.	\$ 25
20 Pts.	\$175	20 Pts.	\$ 28
25 Pts.	\$375	25 Pts.	\$ 50

GENUINE STONES	13x11	12x10	8x6
Palmeira Citrine Topaz	\$150	\$110	\$ 30
Medium Aquamarine	\$460	\$380	\$ 80
Swiss Blue Topaz	\$200	\$155	\$ 40
London Blue Topaz	\$200	\$155	\$ 40
Lapis Lazuli	\$ 55	\$ 55	\$ 40
Rhodolite Garnet	\$495	\$325	\$130
Mozambique Garnet	\$195	\$155	\$ 90
Medium Amethyst	\$230	\$170	\$ 70
Carnelian	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 20
Hematite	\$ 35	\$ 30	\$ 25
Blood Stone	\$ 35	\$ 25	\$ 20
Aventurine Quartz	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 15
Green Agate	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 15
Hope Blue Star Sapphire	\$100	\$ 90	\$ 50
Honey Tiger Eye	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 30
Brown Tiger Eye	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 30
Wyoming Jade	\$ 40	\$ 30	\$ 30

LENGTHS AND CONDITIONS OF GUARANTEE REGARDING DEFECTS IN MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP:

The rings are warranted to be free of defect in workmanship and materials.

LENGTH AND SCOPE OF GUARANTEE REGARDING STONES AND STONE DECORATION:

Any damaged simulated stone will be replaced at no charge regardless of the cause of damage.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RING RESIZING AND RING ADJUSTMENTS:

The ring will be resized at any time at no charge.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED RINGS:

Any damaged encrusted stone will be replaced at no charge regardless of cause of damage.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR ORDERING ADDITIONAL RINGS:

Additional rings may be ordered at any time. After December 31, 2009, the rings may be ordered at the prevailing price at time of order. Prevailing price will be determined according to cost of gold and stones at the time of ordering.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR CHANGES IN ACADEMIC COLLEGE DESTINATION:

A classmate who changes colleges at Virginia Tech after a ring is purchased may return the ring to be remade with proper designation at no charge.

REFUND POLICY FOR RINGS RETURNED FOR STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO GRADUATE WITH THE CLASS DESIGNATED ON THE RING:

A classmate who fails to graduate with their Class may return the ring for a full refund less Class dues.

RESPONSIBILITY AND PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING DISPUTES REGARDING THE VALIDITY OF WARRANTY CLAUSES:

Disputes as to the validity of the warranty clauses will be resolved by the Ring Design Committee. With Balfour's philosophy that the customer is always right, such arbitration by the Committee should never be necessary.

CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RESTORING RING FINISH:

Should a classmate not be totally satisfied with his or her original choice of finish, refinishing would be completed at no charge.

CONDITIONS ON HOW REPAIRS ARE MADE, WHOM TO CONTACT, AND HOW SHIPPING RATES ARE HANDLED:

Prior to graduation, service dates will be established to handle any adjustments. All shipping, handling and insurance costs will be the responsibility of Balfour during these sessions.

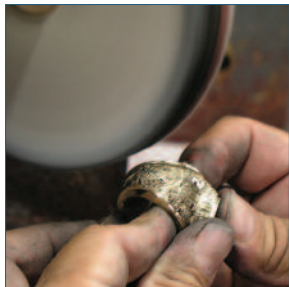
CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.classof2009.alumni.vt.edu

www.alumni.vt.edu/classrings



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YOUR RING IS CUSTOMIZED ESPECIALLY FOR YOU:

Your ring will be produced using the ancient lost wax process. Years of experience are needed for an artisan to gain the touch, insight, and intuition needed to master the techniques required of this process. Great care is taken at every stage of production to ensure an exceptionally clear and finely detailed casting. Each and every ring passes through the skilled hands of at least 30 craftsmen and is subjected to 7 detailed inspections to ensure it meets all our quality standards.

CLASS OF 2009 LEADERSHIP



FORTITUDINE VINCIMUS



BY ENDURANCE WE CONQUER

VIRGINIA TECH



CLASS OF 2009

