

**The Honorands of
the 1998 Commencement**

Bowdoin College

**Harold L. Oshry
Doctor of Laws**

Harold L. Oshry is a businessman with a heart of gold. A 1940 *cum laude* graduate of Bowdoin College and father of three, Oshry has achieved success as a businessman and entrepreneur. He is a well-known supporter of humanitarian, educational, and Jewish causes, sparing no expense of time, energy, or substance.

At Bowdoin, Oshry excelled both in the classroom and in an array of campus activities. He was a member of Masque an Gown, the Debate Club, the Political Forum, and the Bowdoin Orchestra. He played football, hockey, basketball, and track.

After graduating from Bowdoin, Oshry served in World War II with the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945, and was awarded the Battle Star. He then returned to his native New York city to begin his career as an account executive at the William Morris Agency.

Oshry was the founder and chief executive officer of the Sandgate Corporation, a transportation services holding company with offices throughout the United States. He is the chairman of the Universal Auto Group of New York.

In addition to his business acumen, Oshry is a longtime leader in community affairs both in New York and Florida. He is a former president of the New York Ford Dealers Association, the Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Center, and the Jewish Federation of Great Fort Lauderdale and is a national vice chairman of the United Jewish Appeal. He is a past or current director of the American Auto Leasing Association, the Queens Chamber of Commerce, the Queens YMCA, the Council of Jewish Federations, the Friends of the Bezalel Academy of Art, and First Southern Bank. He has served as a trustee of Woodmere Academy and the Tamarac Jewish Center.

Oshry is a staunch supporter of higher education. In 1976 he endowed the Harold Louis Oshry Scholarship Fund at Bowdoin in honor of his father. In 1993, the Oshry family endowed the Claire and Harold Oshry Chair in Aquatic Microbiology at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in New York City. He has served on the Ben-Gurion board of directors, including four years as president from 1991-1994. During that time, he helped shape and plan a \$100 million capital campaign in honor of the school's 25th anniversary. Ben-Gurion awarded him an honorary degree in 1995.

Oshry has served Bowdoin as a class agent, president of the Bowdoin Club of Southern Florida, and as a volunteer during the past two capital campaigns. His son Michael is a member of the Class of 1978,