

# The Star-Ledger

March 31, 2014

## **Author James Patterson to speak at Montclair State commencement**

Best-selling suspense novelist James Patterson will pick up an honorary doctorate and serve as the speaker at Montclair State University's commencement, the school announced.

Patterson, the author of more than 100 books, will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree at the May 23 ceremony at the IZOD Center in East Rutherford.

The author's Patterson Family Foundation funds teacher education scholarships at Montclair State. The family donated more than \$1 million to universities last year for various programs.

Patterson is best known for his novels, including the Alex Cross, Michael Bennett and Women's Murder Club series. The prolific writer has also authored children's books, young adult novels and non-fiction books. His books have sold more than 270 million copies.

He is a graduate of Manhattan College and received a master's degree at Vanderbilt University.

Patterson joins several well-known speakers headlining New Jersey graduations this spring. Former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will speak at Rutgers University's commencement. Former Vice President Al Gore will speak at Princeton University's Class Day, held the day before commencement. Former Gov. Tom Kean will deliver the address at Centenary College.

[\*\*Read Original Article\*\*](#)