

It's an honor

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BY JOSEPH AX

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EAST RUTHERFORD — More than 3,200 students received undergraduate and graduate degrees at the school's 66th commencement at the Izod Center on Tuesday.

The ceremony also included the conferment of honorary doctorates to several luminaries, including Malaak Compton-Rock, the Alpine resident, philanthropist and wife of comedian Chris Rock, and Rep. Steve Rothman, D-Fair Lawn.



DAVID BERGELAND / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Malaak Compton-Rock receives an honorary degree.

"I feel very blessed and honored," Compton-Rock said before the ceremony. "I think it shows that this university values what I do, which is community service and volunteerism. I look at this as an opportunity to encourage students to consider a career in nonprofits and the importance of volunteerism in their lives."

Compton-Rock works on a number of different charitable programs, including her Angel Rock Project, a Web site that connects people with volunteer opportunities in their hometowns.

She offered the students a series of quotes, starting with her favorite, from the children's advocate Marian Wright Edelman: "Service is the rent we pay for living."