

CENTRE COLLEGE 2017 COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND FAMILY

COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 21, at 3 p.m. in The Norton Center for the Arts, Newlin Hall

Congratulations! In a very short time, graduating Centre students will be taking the final ceremonial walk across campus from the steps of Old Centre to the stage of Newlin Hall as a member of Centre's largest graduating class ever. This information is being provided to assist you in making plans for this important event and weekend activities.

Senior Week, the days between the last final and Commencement, is an annual tradition that includes special meals, gatherings, and planned entertainment for graduating seniors. All seniors must register for Senior Week. Information regarding specific activities will be released in the coming weeks to the seniors. Please remember that all College rules are still in place during Senior Week and there will be no guests allowed on campus during this time.

Students should meet with the Herff Jones representatives on March 8 and 9 in the Campus Center, Ewen Room to place orders for:

- Formal Printed Announcements – Also available to order online: collegegrad.herffjones.com
- Class Rings
- Diploma Frames - processed by the Centre Bookstore
- Caps and Gowns are keepsakes, so they will not need to be returned. All outstanding fees must be paid before a student picks up their cap and gown. EARLY GRADUATES OR STUDENTS WHO ARE ABROAD can email their height and weight to bookstore@centre.edu.

Contact Linda Minter at The Centre Bookstore (859) 238-1516 with questions or for more information.

Centre gifts are available through the Centre College Alumni Association and online at www.centre.edu/store.

Commencement rehearsal will be **Monday, May 15, at 4:45 p.m. in Newlin Hall**. It is very important that graduating seniors attend. Students who cannot attend because of work, or who are abroad or are early graduates can contact Mona Wyatt at mona.wyatt@centre.edu for more information.

COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 21, at 3 p.m. in Newlin Hall of the Norton Center for the Arts

The lineup for Commencement is at 2 p.m. in front of Old Centre. You may want to take photos there, which is fine, but we encourage you to do that quickly and early. After the Faculty Marshals begin placing the seniors in line, we need them to be ready to stay there.

TICKETS

Seniors have received a letter and a **ticket request form** asking them to indicate the number of tickets they need for family and friends for the Commencement ceremony. The **ticket request form** needs to be turned in at the **Senior Fair, March 8-9, in the Campus Center, Ewen Room**. We suggest that parents communicate with their senior concerning ticket needs and encourage them to return the form promptly. **Ticket requests not turned in at the Senior Fair can be brought to Old Centre, 2nd floor, by March 19.** Ticket forms received after the deadline will be processed last. Commencement tickets will be sent TO SENIORS in campus mail in early May (unless they are studying abroad or are away from campus - in that case, the tickets will be mailed to their home address). Seniors can request that their tickets in Newlin Hall be SPLIT (2 and 2 or 1 and 3) if they have a family situation (such as a divorce) that requires this.

Based on the number of expected graduates, we can guarantee each senior **FOUR** tickets to the ceremony in Newlin Hall.

The remaining tickets will be for the **live simulcast in Sutcliffe Hall, Alumni Gym**. For now we are promising each senior UP TO FIVE additional tickets to the simulcast in Alumni Gym (for a total of 9 tickets between the two locations). The simulcast will be a very professional production with excellent sound and video quality, and is a nice option for guests who do not have a ticket in Newlin Hall. This is also an excellent location for small children, who might not want to sit still through an entire ceremony. Sandella's will also be open serving coffee and food options to guests.

Seniors should request as many tickets as they actually need. While we do not anticipate many, if any, *extra* tickets in Newlin Hall, there are usually enough simulcast tickets available in the Alumni Gym to meet the total demand for our families and guests. IF any tickets are available in Newlin Hall, we will draw those in a lottery fashion, so a few students might get one more ticket there. Remember, the entire family can participate in ALL the weekend's activities; the only restriction will be the ticketing during the actual ceremony in Newlin Hall.

Special needs seating is available for people confined to wheelchairs and for anyone physically unable to climb stairs. Seniors also have been asked to indicate the number of guests requiring special needs seating on the reservation form. Those same seats can be reserved for Baccalaureate and handicapped parking is also available for both events in special reserved parking behind the Norton Center. Parking passes for this lot will be issued to families with handicapped guests or special needs guests.

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

Sunday, May 21 at 11 a.m. in Newlin Hall

This is a worship service broadly reflective of the College's Judeo-Christian heritage. The graduating class will line up at 10:30 a.m. in front of Sutcliffe and process to Newlin Hall, wearing their caps and gowns, and will sit together as a class.

Guest seating for the Baccalaureate Service is open, on a first-come, first-served basis (except for handicapped seating, which will be reserved). Any overflow crowd may view the service from the simulcast area in Alumni Gym. The Baccalaureate Service will also be offered via a webcast (keep an eye on Centre's webpage for further information as we get closer to the date).

MEAL RESERVATIONS

Reservations are required for the Saturday Family Picnic and the Sunday Luncheon. Parents should have received a meal reservation form that needs to be completed and returned with payment by **May 15**. Meal tickets will be mailed directly to parents. Should you forget to bring the tickets, we'll have your name on a list and can replace them! Please note that there is no charge for your senior to any of the events, but please include them on the form so that we have an accurate count.

We encourage the family to take advantage of the meals on campus, especially the Sunday luncheon, since eating lunch out in Danville on a Sunday can take a long time on any weekend, and guests will barely have two hours before the student has to be back for the lineup. Our catering crew does an excellent job of getting everyone fed in plenty of time! Based on our past experience, we are pretty sure the seniors also prefer to be at the picnic Saturday evening to visit with friends and family and see the fireworks.

LIVE WEBCAST FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND

Both the Commencement ceremony and the Baccalaureate will be offered via a live webcast. This will be a professionally-produced webcast filmed by a company that we have used for many years, the same company that will be producing our DVDs. The webcast will offer a nice option to your friends and family who are unable to travel to attend the event. Stay tuned to Centre's website as we get closer to the Commencement date for more information.

2017 COMMENCEMENT DVDs

The College has contracted with a professional company to produce DVDs of the Commencement and Baccalaureate services, as well as the Honor Walk ceremony. Parents should have received an order form. The DVDs will not be mailed until around late July.

2017 COMMENCEMENT and HONOR WALK PHOTOS

Kirk Schlea Photography will photograph the graduates as they participate in Honor Walk and as they receive their diploma. He is an outstanding freelance photographer who has worked with Centre for many years. The photos will be **READY TO VIEW 72 HOURS AFTER THE CEREMONY** and may be ordered directly from the website at www.schleavisualarts.com under "Events." This information and the link also will be posted on the Centre Commencement Headquarters web page.

If you have any questions about Commencement activities, do not hesitate to call Mona at (859) 238-5345 or Carol at (859) 238-5208 and we will be happy to help.