

Crossroads Area Home School Association

2012 Commencement Ceremony

Completing high school is an achievement worth recognition. As homeschoolers you have had a unique education, and your graduation should be equally as personal to you. Aside from your parents, other family and friends have been able to share in your education and would enjoy the opportunity to share in this celebration.

Any homeschool high school graduate from the Crossroads Area is invited to be part of the 2012 Commencement Ceremony to be held Saturday, June 2 at the Evangelical Free Church facility on Lincoln Street in Bloomington. Our goal is to recognize not only what you've accomplished thus far but also what you aspire to do. The event features various opportunities allowing you to customize the occasion to make it more memorable for you and your family.

Carefully read through the following description of the day's activities. Emphasized text indicates items or information the committee needs from you. If you have any questions, please contact the Commencement Committee before completing the registration form.

- **1:45 pm** – Graduates may begin to arrive to set up their display tables in the fellowship hall. Students may elect to display pictures, awards, memorabilia or anything else to let others know more about themselves, their educational experiences, or their plans for the future. If you plan to have a laptop for a PowerPoint or a video, be sure to bring an extension cord just in case you need a power supply. *Please check the appropriate box on the registration form if you want a table reserved for you.*
- **2:00 pm** – A DVD player will also be available in the fellowship hall for graduates to project a short movie (3-5 minutes) depicting their personal life. Technicians will play discs randomly and repeatedly until the ceremony begins. *Please check the appropriate box on the registration form if you plan to have a DVD.* All discs should be brought to rehearsal on **Thursday, May 31** for testing. You may want your announcements to reflect this time if you think your guests would enjoy learning about your fellow graduates.
- **2:45 pm** – BACHS, the home school choir, will begin a prelude in the sanctuary for guests who have already been seated. The display area in the Fellowship Area will remain open until 3:00.
- **2:50 pm** – Graduates gather to prepare for the processional. Caps and gowns are optional; however, if you need regalia, *complete the necessary information on the registration form.* A group order is placed by **March 9** in order to receive a discounted rate and reduced shipping costs. Orders usually arrive in 4 weeks (mid- April) if you are planning to use regalia for senior portraits.
- **3:00 pm** – Following the processional and welcome, *a video presentation including six photographs submitted by each graduate will be viewed.* The Commencement Ceremony will allow time for each graduate to be individually recognized. Submitted biographies will be read by the Master of Ceremonies as the student and his/her parents approach the platform. *Biographies should be approximately 100 words.* They may highlight significant awards, honors or activities during high school, as well as a personal message from the student. Graduates are encouraged to include a statement of their future plans. Parents will have a brief opportunity (about 5 minutes) to speak words of recognition, praise, or challenge before presenting the diploma. *If you would like to have a personalized 8 1/2 x 11 diploma created, please complete the necessary information on the registration form.*
- **4:00 pm** – Following the recessional, graduates are asked to return to the stage for group photos.

If you need further information, contact the Commencement Committee at cahsa.grad@gmail.com.

Crossroads Area Home School Association

2012 Commencement Ceremony Checklist

Thank you for allowing us to share this special day with you. In order to provide you with the best possible experience, please use the checklist below and meet all deadlines.

1. Carefully read all information and email any questions to cahsa.grad@gmail.com.
2. Complete registration form:
 - Graduate's Name - as it should be pronounced during processional.
 - Parents' Names - as they should be pronounced during diploma presentation.
 - Contact Information - address, home and cell phone numbers and one or more email addresses.
 - Years homeschooled - this ceremony is for graduates who have been homeschooled at least 51% for at least their last two years of high school.
 - Expected guests - helps give the committee an estimate for printing programs, doesn't have to be exact.
 - Mark your choices for each item - this assures we have your response to every option.
 - Diploma - If you are providing your own diploma, indicate as such. If you want a diploma created, see the online sample and neatly print the information requested. Cost of the personalized diploma is \$5; a padded diploma cover in one of the color choices is an additional \$15. A sample pdf will be emailed before printing. Diplomas will be available at the rehearsal for parents to sign.
 - Regalia - If you do not need regalia, please indicate as such to insure we didn't miss anyone. Complete the necessary size and color information if ordering. Cost is \$26 which includes gown, cap, and tassel. We can also make arrangements if you want to order a tassel only.
 - Donations - If you would like to contribute to cover program costs, we appreciate it, but it is **not** required in order to participate.
3. Select six photographs of the graduate which depict the following:

1) infant/toddler	2) early school years	3) memorable moment
4) favorite activity	5) high school years	6) senior portrait.

Photos can be submitted as jpg files on a CD or through email to cahsa.grad@gmail.com. Original photos may be submitted in person and will be returned at rehearsal. Submit photos, files, or CDs by **January 9**.
4. Write graduate's 100-word biography. May be typed and mailed with registration form or sent via email to cahsa.grad@gmail.com. Biographies must be received by **February 13** to be included in the program. A sample may be viewed online.
5. By **March 9**, all registration materials including biography and photos need to be submitted to cahsa.grad@gmail.com or mailed to CAHSA Commencement, 23 Prenzler Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704.
6. By **April 13**, graduates should receive a confirmation outlining any additional details. We suggest mailing out your graduation announcements by the end of April. Homeschooldiploma.com or HSLDA.org offer economical prices and good customer service for printed announcements.
7. Thursday, **May 31**, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Evangelical Free Church, we will hold a casual rehearsal. Any DVD's to be played in the display area should be tested on the equipment.
8. Saturday, **June 2** graduates setting up display tables begin to arrive at 1:45 pm; the Fellowship Area will be open to guests at 2:00 pm; prelude will begin at 2:45 pm, ceremony will begin at 3:00 pm, and hopefully we'll be finished by 4:00 pm.

Crossroads Area Home School Association

2012 Commencement Registration Form

Graduate's Name _____

Parents' Names _____

Name of your Home School _____

Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address(es) _____

Number of Years Homeschooled _____ Number of Family & Guests Estimated _____

• **Student Photos:** ___ CD included ___ Submitted via email ___ Original photos

• **Student Biography:** ___ Attachment enclosed ___ Submitted via email

• **Display Table Reserved:** ___ Yes ___ No

• **Personal DVD Presentation:** ___ Yes ___ No

• **Eta Sigma Alpha Member:** ___ Yes ___ No

Diploma	
\$	<input type="checkbox"/> We will provide our own diploma. (No cost) <input type="checkbox"/> Please create a custom diploma with the following information: (Add \$5)
	Graduate's name as it is to be printed (first, middle, last)
	Scripture Reference (Optional-Write text in preferred translation and provide reference.)
Diploma Cover	
\$	<input type="checkbox"/> We do not need a diploma cover. (No cost) <input type="checkbox"/> Please order a diploma cover in the following color: (Add \$15)
	<input type="checkbox"/> black <input type="checkbox"/> red <input type="checkbox"/> maroon <input type="checkbox"/> royal blue <input type="checkbox"/> navy <input type="checkbox"/> green
Cap & Gown	
\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate will not be wearing a cap & gown, or we will provide our own. (No cost) <input type="checkbox"/> Please order based on the following information: (Add \$26)
	Height: _____ inches Weight: _____ pounds
	Indicate color of cap and gown: <input type="checkbox"/> forest green <input type="checkbox"/> green <input type="checkbox"/> teal <input type="checkbox"/> light blue <input type="checkbox"/> royal blue <input type="checkbox"/> navy blue <input type="checkbox"/> purple <input type="checkbox"/> cardinal <input type="checkbox"/> red <input type="checkbox"/> maroon <input type="checkbox"/> antique gold <input type="checkbox"/> orange <input type="checkbox"/> gold <input type="checkbox"/> white <input type="checkbox"/> silver <input type="checkbox"/> black <input type="checkbox"/> brown <input type="checkbox"/> gray
	color(s) of tassel (choose one or two colors from above)
\$	collar (for women) <input type="checkbox"/> white <input type="checkbox"/> gold
Total Payment and/or Optional Donation	
\$	If you would like to contribute to cover program costs, we do appreciate your donations, but it is not required to participate in the ceremony.
\$	Total amount of enclosed check made payable to CAHSA.

Submit registration form, biography, photos, and check (if necessary) by **March 9, 2012**.

CAHSA Commencement ~ 23 Prenzler Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704