TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2017,

Commencement represents a deeply meaningful celebration of Vanderbilt’s mission. Steeped in history and traditions that pay tribute to the earliest universities, the occasion of Commencement is also richly symbolic of the bright promise that lies ahead. It is a day when we stop to reflect on your well-deserved accomplishments as well as a time to contemplate the exciting possibilities the future holds.

Commencement is, in short, a day in balance, a special time set apart from all others. On this day, we set aside the busyness, cast aside hurried agendas, and for a few sweet hours pause to pay a focused, undivided mindfulness to our purpose as a university and to celebrate the attainment of your scholarly goals.

On this special day, as families and friends gather to show support for your achievement, we acknowledge the investment that you have made, not only in yourself, but in bettering the world around you. Whatever your different regional or cultural origins, each of you came to this great university with dreams and aspirations to make a difference. This is the lodestar for each of us and for our university and serves as a powerful reminder of how very fortunate we are to be a part of a community where hope flourishes in so many ways.

As you stand poised to embark upon the vast opportunities that lie before you, I urge you to savor these remaining days of your Vanderbilt experience and to soak in the glory of your Commencement. Celebrate your Vanderbilt friendships with a pledge to remain in touch. Most of all, know of my deep sense of pride for the enormous positive impact that you have had on this university and will continue to have in life’s many journeys.

I wish you the very best!

Sincerely,

Nicholas S. Zeppos
Chancellor
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KEY DEADLINES

March 21–22 Grad Fair for all graduates
21–22 (Sarratt Promenade)
April 7 Last day to purchase custom Ph.D. or master’s regalia
April 7 (cap and gown) to arrive for Commencement 2017
April 7 Last day for students to order regalia
April 14 (cap and gown)
April 14 Final day to order announcements in time for them
to arrive before Commencement 2017
April 25 Deadline to reserve Commodore Ballroom buffet
April 25 lunch
May 9 Last day to purchase The Party tickets online
May 9
May 9 Deadline to reserve rooms for accommodations at
May 9 The Ingram Commons
May 13 Residence halls close for all students at 1:00 p.m.
June 15 Deadline to order Commencement video download
June 30 of main ceremony
June 30 Final day to make your Senior Gift

Look for these QR codes throughout
the handbook. These link to webpages
providing more information or maps.
Scan them as you read so you have
details handy come Commencement
day! Don’t have a QR reader for your
smartphone? Visit reader.kaywa.com
from your mobile device to download
the app.
### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Thursday, May 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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| 11:00 a.m.    | **SENIOR CLASS DAY**  
Ken Burns  
*Memorial Gymnasium*  
vanderbilt.edu/commencement/week/senior-day-speaker | Memorial Gymnasium                |
| 2:00–3:00 p.m.| **Law and Business Program Reception**  
Law School | Law School                          |
| 2:00–4:15 p.m.| **FACULTY SEMINARS**  
Senior Class Day learning sessions for our guests, conducted by Vanderbilt faculty members (see pg 6)  
Wilson Hall, Rooms 103 & 126  
vanderbilt.edu/commencement/week/faculty-seminars | Wilson Hall, Rooms 103 & 126      |
| 2:00 p.m.     | Historic Black Nashville  
Daniel Sharfstein and Jane Landers | Law School                          |
| 3:00–4:30 p.m.| **Blair School of Music Senior Recognition Ceremony** for degree candidates and their guests  
Turner Recital Hall | Turner Recital Hall                |
| 3:15 p.m.     | Justice, Mercy, and Mass Incarceration  
Ed Rubin and Graham Reside | Law School                          |
| 2:30–4:00 p.m.| **Owen Awards Reception** for MBA, MSF, MAcc, and MMark graduates and guests  
Management Hall | Management Hall                    |
| 3:00–4:30 p.m.| **Law School Open House for degree candidates and their guests**  
Law School | Law School                          |
| 4:00 p.m.     | **School of Engineering Awards Ceremony** for undergraduate engineering award recipients and their guests  
University Club | University Club                    |
| 4:00–5:30 p.m.| **Peabody College Awards Ceremony for award recipients and their guests**  
Wyatt Center Rotunda and Lobby | Wyatt Center Rotunda and Lobby    |
| 4:00–6:00 p.m.| **School of Medicine MD Program Class Day and Reception**  
Langford Auditorium & North Lobby of Light Hall | Langford Auditorium & North Lobby |
| 4:30–6:00 p.m.| **Phi Beta Kappa Initiation Ceremony**  
Student Life Center, Commodore Ballroom | Student Life Center, Commodore Ballroom |
| 5:00 p.m.     | **Blair School of Music Senior Showcase**  
Turner Recital Hall | Turner Recital Hall                |
|               | **Divinity School Celebration Service**  
Benton Chapel | Benton Chapel                      |
|               | **School of Nursing Reception for Graduates and their guests**  
Godchaux Hall Living Room | Godchaux Hall Living Room          |
| 5:30–7:00 p.m.| **Owen Awards Reception for EMBA graduates and guests**  
Management Hall | Management Hall                    |

#### Wednesday, May 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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| 8:00–9:30 p.m.| **THE INGRAM COMMONS OPEN HOUSE RECEPTIONS**  
The Dean’s Residence and all ten houses on The Ingram Commons will hold receptions for graduates and their guests prior to The Party. See page 7 for more information. | The Dean’s Residence                |
| 9:00 p.m.     | The **Party** celebrates all graduates, bringing together degree candidates, their families, and friends. See page 4 for more information.  
Commons Center Lawn  
All tickets are available online at vupartytickets.com (see page 4).  
vanderbilt.edu/commencement/the-party | Commons Center Lawn                |

### Schedule Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts and Science</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Blair</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Divinity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
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<td>Graduate</td>
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<td>Law</td>
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<td>Medicine</td>
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<td>Nursing</td>
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<td>Owen</td>
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<td>Peabody</td>
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### Friday, May 12

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Blair School of Music Continental Breakfast for degree candidates and their guests</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ingram Hall Lobby, Blair School of Music</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:25 a.m.</td>
<td>Graduating students line up with their name cards, included with regalia</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Alumni Lawn (Memorial Gymnasium in case of severe weather)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>COMMENCEMENT</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Alumni Lawn (Memorial Gymnasium in case of severe weather)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Academic procession begins at 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ceremony on stage begins at 9:20 a.m. and ends about noon for undergraduates</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Graduate and professional degree recipients and their faculties will recess at approximately 10:20 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20 a.m.</td>
<td>Graduate and Professional School Diploma-Awarding Ceremonies and Receptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon–1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Strawberries and Champagne Celebration for the Undergraduate Class of 2017 and their guests, hosted by Chancellor Zeppos</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Library Lawn (Arts and Science)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Bishops Common (Blair, Engineering, Peabody)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Military Graduation and Commissioning Ceremony</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Sarratt Cinema</em></td>
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### Strawberries and Champagne

Chancellor Zeppos invites graduates along with families and friends to join him in celebrating the undergraduate Class of 2017 at a strawberries and champagne reception. In true Vanderbilt tradition, toast the Class of 2017, partake from the abundance of fresh strawberries, and share the company of fellow graduates. The reception takes place from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Library Lawn and Bishops Common, rain or shine.
As part of our Commencement tradition, Vanderbilt hosts a big outdoor dance whose simple name says it all: The Party. With live entertainment and a huge dance floor, it is the quintessential evening of fun and celebration under the stars…for everyone!

Headliner Tim Akers & The Smoking Section includes some of Nashville’s best musicians. Sixteen session players will cover the sounds of Justin Timberlake, Stevie Wonder, Earth, Wind, and Fire, Taylor Swift, and favorites from every generation. This unforgettable band will keep guests on the dance floor all night!

Wear your dancing shoes and be prepared for an unforgettable evening.

The Party will be Wednesday, May 10, from 9:00 p.m. to midnight on The Commons Center Lawn, rain or shine.

All tickets for admission must be obtained online at vupartytickets.com. Graduate tickets are complimentary. Guest tickets cost $20 each before May 9 or $25 at the door. Children 12 years of age and under do not require a ticket.

Attendees must have valid drivers license ID to purchase drink tickets.

Wednesday, May 10, 2017
9:00 p.m.–Midnight
(Doors open at 8:30 p.m.)
The Commons Center Lawn
HEADLINER

— TIM AKERS & —
THE SMOKING SECTION

with Special Guest DJ
Chase Akers
The Nichols-Chancellor’s Medal is one of the university’s highest honors and is given to individuals who define the 21st century and exemplify the best qualities of the human spirit. It was created and endowed by Vanderbilt Law School graduate Edward C. Nichols Jr. and his wife, Janice, in honor of his parents, Edward Carmack Nichols and Lucile Hamby Nichols. The medal is presented annually at Vanderbilt’s Senior Class Day and carries a cash award. The 2017 Nichols-Chancellor’s Medal award recipient and Senior Class Day speaker is Ken Burns.

Ken Burns has been making documentary films for almost forty years. Since the Academy Award-nominated Brooklyn Bridge in 1981, Ken has gone on to direct and produce some of the most acclaimed historical documentaries ever made, including The Civil War, Baseball, Jazz, The Statue of Liberty, Huey Long. Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery, Frank Lloyd Wright, Mark Twain, Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson, The War, The National Parks: America’s Best Idea, The Roosevelts: An Intimate History, Jackie Robinson, and, most recently, Defying the Nazis: The Sharps’ War.

A December 2002 poll conducted by Realscreen magazine listed The Civil War as second only to Robert Flaherty’s Nanook of the North as the “most influential documentary of all time,” and named Ken Burns and Robert Flaherty as the “most influential documentary makers” of all time. In March 2009, David Zurawik of the Baltimore Sun said, “… Burns is not only the greatest documentarian of the day, but also the most influential filmmaker period. That includes feature filmmakers like George Lucas and Steven Spielberg. I say that because Burns not only turned millions of persons onto history with his films, he showed us a new way of looking at our collective past and ourselves.” The late historian Stephen Ambrose said of his films, “More Americans get their history from Ken Burns than any other source.”

Ken’s future projects include films on the Vietnam War, the history of country music, Ernest Hemingway, and the history of stand-up comedy.

Ken’s films have been honored with dozens of major awards, including fifteen Emmy Awards, two Grammy Awards, and two Oscar nominations, and in September 2008, at the News & Documentary Emmy Awards, Ken was honored by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Additional points to keep in mind:
Memorial Gym, where Senior Class Day will be held, is not air conditioned—wear comfortable clothes in the event of unusually warm weather.

Attendees with special needs and requiring the use of a wheelchair will have priority seating on the south side of the gym. Wheelchair pick-up will be located on the corner of Jess Neely Drive and 25th Avenue South (same corner as the baseball field and across from 25th Avenue Garage).
ED RUBIN AND GRAHAM RESIDE:
Justice, Mercy, and Mass Incarceration
3:15–4:15 p.m., 103 Wilson Hall

In this faculty seminar, Ed Rubin and Graham Reside explore mass incarceration through law and religion together. They touch on the legal structures and justifications that create mass incarceration.

**Ed Rubin**, University Professor of Law and Political Science. Ed Rubin specializes in administrative law, constitutional law, and legal theory. Professor Rubin joined Vanderbilt Law School as the dean and the first John Wade–Kent Syverud Professor of Law in July 2005, serving a four-year term that ended in June 2009.

**Graham Reside**, Assistant Professor of Ethics and Society and Executive Director for the Cal Turner Program in Moral Leadership for the Professions. Reside works in the areas of sociology of religion, social ethics, and the sociology of morality. He also serves as the director of global education at the Divinity School.

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DOUGLAS SCHMIDT AND JULES WHITE:
Tackling Big Questions with Mobile Cloud Computing
2:00–3:00 p.m., 126 Wilson Hall

Douglas Schmidt and Jules White created Tackling Big Questions with Mobile Cloud Computing, a cross-college, multidisciplinary environment where students teamed with computer science students to address big questions. In doing so, students gained hands-on experiences and a deepened understanding of the key mobile cloud computing techniques, tools, and principles.

**Douglas Schmidt**, Professor of Computer Science and Computer Engineering. Schmidt’s research focuses on mobile cloud computing, distributed real-time and embedded middleware, cyber-physical systems, software patterns and frameworks, and digital learning.

**Jules White**, Assistant Professor of Computer Science. White’s research focuses on big data science and engineering, as well as cyber physical systems.

GILBERT GONZALES AND TARA MCKAY:
The Nation’s Health: From Policy to Practice
3:15–4:15 p.m., 126 Wilson Hall

Gilbert Gonzales and Tara McKay organized this faculty seminar around big questions in the study of health disparities and domestic health policy. These big questions not only reflect major concerns in the academic literature, but also the lives and concerns of Vanderbilt’s racially and economically diverse student body.

**Gilbert Gonzales**, Assistant Professor of Health Policy. Gonzales’s research examines how state-level social policies and health reforms affect health and access to medical care in vulnerable families and children. His dissertation examined the impact of same-sex marriage laws on health insurance coverage among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) couples and their children.

**Tara McKay**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Health, and Society. McKay’s research and teaching interests include medical sociology, gender and sexualities, global health, and health policy. Her research examines the social, political, and economic contexts that shape health and health policy with a focus on vulnerable populations in the U.S. and Africa.
The Ingram Commons Open House Receptions
Reunite with your old housemates and Faculty Head of House before dancing the night away at The Party on Wednesday, May 10, 8:00–9:30 p.m.

The Dean’s Residence and all ten houses will hold receptions with light refreshments and dessert, hosted by the Office of the Dean of The Ingram Commons and the Faculty Heads of House.

Grad Fair
Booths from the Commencement Office, Alumni Association, Center for Student Professional Development, and more will answer questions and provide crucial information. Vendors for regalia, class rings, photography, the yearbook, and others will also be on hand to ensure a successful graduation experience.

Snacks and gifts from the Alumni Association will be provided to all attendees. The event is March 21 and 22 in the Sarratt Promenade.

Attendance
Prevailing policy is that the university expects attendance by those who will graduate at the end of the spring semester; a spring semester graduate who does not plan to participate has the responsibility of communicating that to his or her dean.

All graduates should plan to attend the main ceremony, and if receiving a master’s or doctoral degree, the graduate or professional school’s ceremony as well. Guests and graduates are expected to remain at the respective ceremonies until their conclusion. Much depends on the courtesy and cooperation of all who attend.

May graduates who do not participate in the ceremonies will receive their diplomas via mail at their permanent addresses, six to eight weeks after Commencement.

August/December Graduates
Graduates of August or December 2016 are urged to attend but will not be expected unless they notify the university that they will be present at the ceremonies. August and December graduates can notify the university electronically by emailing lynn.cutright@vanderbilt.edu or calling the Office of the University Registrar at (615) 322-7707.

Address Information
Students are encouraged to check their mailing addresses and their home address with the Office of the University Registrar and to keep this information current before Commencement.

Requirements
All requirements for graduation must have been met before a student may participate or “walk” in the ceremony. There are no exceptions. Students who are unsure whether they have fulfilled all requirements should contact their school administrator. A student completing degree requirements in the summer or fall semester 2017 will be invited to participate in Commencement 2018, tentatively scheduled for May 9–11, 2018.

Regalia Rental/Pick-up
All graduates must order and wear regalia. Visit oakhalli.com/colleges/vanderbiltregalia to reserve your cap and gown.

Pick-up location: Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt (2525 West End Ave. across from Centennial Park)

Hours: Wednesday, May 10, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and Thursday, May 11, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

The deadline to order your regalia is Friday, April 7, 2017, at midnight.
Assembly Locations for Graduates
There is no rehearsal for the Commencement ceremony. Instructions for each school are available for download at vanderbilt.edu/commencement/graduates. Each school lines up in a different location (see map on page 14).

Students are asked to line up at 8:25 a.m. on Commencement morning. Commencement begins promptly at 9:00 a.m., so being on time for line-up is crucial. Undergraduates will line up alphabetically based on their procession cards that MUST be picked up with regalia. Late arrivals risk not participating in the procession.

Participant/Guest Attire
All ceremony participants must wear regalia. Personalized adornment on caps or gowns is strictly prohibited. We suggest that you wear nice clothing under your gown, as there are receptions after each school ceremony.

In general, dress with an eye to comfort and the weather. Low heels or flats are appropriate for navigating the lawns. Opt for slacks and button-down shirts for men, and slacks/skirts/sundresses for women. Sunglasses and hats could also prove useful. Umbrellas are NOT allowed in seating areas.

Remember that Memorial Gym, the severe weather location for Alumni Lawn ceremonies, is not air-conditioned. However, fans and water will be available in all locations.

Tickets
No tickets are required for any ceremony during the Commencement celebration. This includes the Senior Day speaker and Faculty Seminars. Seating for guests at Commencement ceremonies is on a first-come, first-served basis. As the ceremonies are heavily attended, we recommend that family members arrive early and be seated on the lawn no later than 8:15 a.m. Friday morning.

All tickets for The Party are available online at vupartytickets.com (see page 4).

Seating on Commencement Day
Since seating is open, we kindly ask that seats not be saved by any means other than someone sitting in the seat. If you bring balloons, ribbons, bags, etc., to attach to chairs in an attempt to save multiple seats, a faculty marshal or other member of the Commencement staff will ask you to remove them. A large video screen is set up behind the main stage, along with numerous others, to make viewing the ceremony easy for everyone on the lawn.

Indoor seating: Rand Hall, Sarratt Cinema, Neely Auditorium, and the Old Gym will be open to view the ceremony live for those sensitive to the heat and sun (see map, page 16).

Guests with Special Needs
Wheelchair reservation, drop-off permits, and interpreter/transcription services are provided by the Vanderbilt Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department to ensure all guests enjoy a comfortable and accessible Commencement. All services are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Tammy King at (615) 322-4705 (V/TDD) or visit the Commencement website for further information and to make reservations.

*A photo ID is required for all wheelchair loans.
Photography

Guests can expect to take candid photos with their graduates after the ceremony. During the ceremony, official photographers will take three individual photos of each graduate, before the graduate crosses the stage and while the graduate shakes hands with the chancellor (or the dean for graduate and professional schools). Proofs of these photos will be sent to the parent’s or student’s permanent address along with information about ordering prints. You can preregister on the Commencement website and receive a five dollar discount.

Webcast

The Senior Class Day speaker on Thursday and the main Commencement ceremony and full undergraduate diploma ceremony on Friday will be viewable live online at vanderbilt.edu. Information and instructions will be available at the website on the day of the ceremony.

Parking & Transportation

Parking is available at the 25th Avenue Garage, Kensington Garage, Terrace Place Garage, and Wesley Place Garage for those attending The Party on Wednesday, Senior Class Day events on Thursday, and Commencement on Friday (see map on page 13).

Remember, if you need disability assistance, you can either visit the Commencement website and make your request or call Disability Services at (615) 322-4705 (V/TDD).

Shuttle buses will be available on all three days from the various garages listed above. Shuttles will begin service up to two hours before the event is scheduled to begin. Please refer to the map on page 13 for a complete schedule and locations, or go to www.vanderbilt.edu/commencement.

Dining on Campus

Many on-campus dining locations are open special hours during Commencement week. Please check the Commencement website under “Guest Info” for a listing of locations and hours. Vanderbilt Dining Services and Commodore Ballroom buffet lunch are also available (see page 10).

Severe Weather

In the event of intense rain or severe weather, the events taking place on Alumni Lawn will be moved to Memorial Gymnasium on 25th Avenue South. Please note that Memorial Gym is not air-conditioned. Layered clothing is a good strategy for guests and participants.

If the weather is uncertain and you are unsure of the location of the event, check vanderbilt.edu/commencement, call the Vanderbilt telephone operators at (615) 322-7311 after 6:00 a.m. on the morning of the event. Direct alerts will be sent through the Commencement app. Changes will also be posted on the Commencement Facebook page (VanderbiltCommencement), Twitter (VUgraduation), and Instagram (VanderbiltCommencement).

Download the NEW Commencement App

Vanderbilt offers a complimentary downloadable app to keep all attendees informed and updated on last minute changes. The app offers personalized schedules, maps, and parking information and will update users if ceremonies are moved or canceled due to weather. The app is available for iPhones and Androids: Search Vanderbilt Commencement 2017.
Regalia
All graduating students must order and wear regalia. The deadline to order your regalia is Friday, April 7, 2017.

Pictures
Proofs of the three photographs taken of a student receiving his/her degree will be mailed to the parent’s or student’s permanent address within a week of Commencement. Follow ordering instructions in the packet or visit the Commencement website for more information. Services provided by GradImages Photography (1-800-261-2576).

Announcements
Herff-Jones is the official provider of Vanderbilt’s graduation announcements. There is a sample board in the Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt bookstore, or you can go to the Commencement website for pricing information and to order online. The deadline to order your announcements in time to mail them before Commencement is April 14, 2017.

The Party Tickets
Guests and graduates must obtain their tickets to The Party online at vupartytickets.com. Guest tickets are $20 before May 9 and available at the door for $25. Graduate tickets are complimentary but must be claimed online with a valid student ID number. Children 12 years of age and under do not require a ticket (see page 4).

Main Ceremony Video
Use social media to share the excitement of Commencement Day with family and friends via the official 2017 Vanderbilt University Commencement Digital Download. To order your digital download, visit Stone Productions’ Vandy Grads site at vandygrads.com.

Commodore Yearbook
Recognize your student! Order the 2017 Commodore yearbook and your Parent Congratulatory Ad. You can also find information on yearbook and resumé portrait dates and times for your student. We may be reached by email at thecommodoreyearbook@gmail.com or phone at (615) 343-3064.

Vanderbilt Dining Services
Enjoy a number of award-winning dining options available on campus. Rand Dining Center, including the Chef James Bistro, and the Last Drop Coffee Shop in Sarratt Student Center will be open for breakfast and lunch.

Commodore Ballroom Buffet Lunch
Avoid making lunch reservations off campus, and enjoy our upscale buffet lunch in the Commodore Ballroom at the Student Life Center. Your reservation will include buffet lunch, featuring an array of food stations and seating times to accommodate your busy schedule. Cocktail packages available. Commencement lunch reservations are $60 per person plus tax. Children 6–12 are $12. You can choose to be seated at noon, 12:30 p.m., 1:00 p.m., 1:30 p.m., or 2:00 p.m. For more information, email jordan.carnell@vanderbilt.edu. Reservation deadline is April 25, 2017.

Private Receptions
Receptions are available for groups up to 50. For more information, email jordan.hajacos@vanderbilt.edu. Reservation deadline is April 25, 2017.

Class Rings
Class rings are reserved exclusively for students who have completed at least 60 credit hours and are in good standing with the university, and students in the final year of their professional or graduate degrees. To order your class ring or find out more information on the reception, please visit the Commencement website.

These great offerings are available online at vanderbilt.edu/commencement/order.
Don’t Forget…
- Commencement Handbook
- VU ID Card
- Tickets for The Party
- Maps of campus and shuttles
- Parking passes if you have special needs
- Download Commencement app for weather/location updates
- Check the website and app for latest updates
- Check weather.com for forecast

Clothing
- Light colors are best as May can be hot and muggy
- Rain jacket
- Comfortable shoes (walking with heels on the lawn and in the gym can be difficult)
- Lightweight sport coat
- Sunglasses and hats

General Items
- Airline tickets
- Hotel confirmation
- Camera
- Poncho (umbrellas are NOT allowed on Alumni Lawn)
- Sunscreen
- Water

Getting to Vanderbilt from the Nashville International Airport
Take I-40 west to exit 209A. Turn left onto Broadway. Follow Broadway and veer right to West End Avenue. Allow approximately 30 minutes driving time from the airport to Vanderbilt University. If traffic is light, the drive will take less time.

Getting to Vanderbilt via the Interstates
From the north, take I-65 to I-40 west and then look for I-40 east to exit 209B. Turn right on Broadway. From the east or south, take I-40 west to exit 209A. Turn left on Broadway. From the west, take I-40 east to exit 209B. Turn right on Broadway (US 70S). Follow Broadway and veer right to West End Avenue. Vanderbilt is located a mile and a half southwest of downtown Nashville and is approximately four hours from Atlanta, three hours from Birmingham, three hours from Knoxville, three hours from Louisville, and three hours from Memphis.

Guests with Special Needs
See page 8 for more information on options available for reserving equipment and passes.

Accommodations at The Ingram Commons
For $99 a night, campus housing is available for parents and guests at Commencement. Hank Ingram House at The Ingram Commons can be your home base during Commencement activities. This is dorm-style housing (i.e., common bathrooms and showers down the hall, no maid service or TV). Rooms include broadband WiFi Internet access, linens, pillows, and towels. Accommodations are available for the nights of May 10, 11, and 12. For additional information, contact the Office of Conferences at (615) 343-8699 or go to vanderbilt.edu/commencement/order/#housing.
Class of 2017,

Congratulations on your forthcoming graduation! Commencement ceremonies honor your personal accomplishments and provide an opportunity to celebrate with your families and friends. It’s a well-deserved recognition of your academic achievement, and it marks the beginning of the next exciting phase of your life.

While you may not realize it, you’re already an automatic lifetime member of the Vanderbilt Alumni Association and the Chapter in your city—there are never any dues to pay. With 135,000+ of us around the world, the Alumni Association plays an active role in connecting alumni with one another and the university.

I hope you’ll take advantage of the many opportunities offered to extend and deepen your lifelong relationship with Vanderbilt, including:

- **Vanderbilt Chapters** in forty cities across the U.S. and around the world. Chapters are a great way to plug into the alumni network in your city. Update your address and email in VUconnect to receive invites for game-watching parties, happy hours, networking, community service, wine tastings, tailgates, and educational events with professors and alumni.

- Register on **VUconnect.com** to keep in touch and network with alumni worldwide as you move into working, volunteer service, or further education.

- **Sign up for the Alumni Discount Program** with significant savings on thousands of products and services.

- **Become an Alumni CORPS Interviewer** to help recruit new students, volunteer to plan Chapter events, become a VUConnect Career Adviser, or help with your class reunion committee.

- **Explore Alumni Career Resources through VUConnect** where you’ll find job postings, a resume/cover letter/interview preparation program, career coaching, podcast series, and more. Also check out the official Vanderbilt Alumni LinkedIn group.

However you choose, stay connected—you’re the living brand of Vanderbilt, and your fellow Commodores are proud of your achievement. You now join the global Vanderbilt alumni network in 141 countries around the world. Whether you’re studying, traveling, looking for work, or finding friends in a new city...think Vanderbilt, because we’re there. Think Vanderbilt for life!

Perry Brandt, BA’74, JD’77
President, Vanderbilt Alumni Association

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**Congratulations, Seniors!**

As soon-to-be alumni, we encourage you to make a gift to the Senior Class Fund as we work to reach our goal of 76 percent senior class participation! You can leave your mark on the area at Vanderbilt you value most, whether it’s your favorite student organization, your school or department, athletics, or another area. By giving back while we are seniors, we are making a difference for students who will follow in our footsteps.

We ask that you give proudly and be counted. Every gift makes a difference, no matter the amount. **Make your gift online today by visiting vanderbilt.edu/seniorclassfund.**

Your support will also help secure $100,000 in challenge gifts! If we reach our goal of 76 percent class participation by June 30, Alex Taylor, BS’97, will give $50,000 to Experience Vanderbilt—a new program that provides need-based grants to students so they can participate in organizations or extracurricular activities they may not otherwise be able to afford. If we reach 85 percent class participation by June 30, we will secure another $50,000 from Alex for Experience Vanderbilt and set a Senior Class Fund record.

Join us in making a gift of any amount to your favorite organization at Vanderbilt. Together, we can impact the place that has given us so much during our time as Commodores.

Thank you for giving back,
Your 2017 Senior Class Fund officers:
Julia Gabriel
Mary Marshall Anderson
Chloe Herzog
Michael Bower
Nina Prabhu
Jude Cohen
Allee Smith
Vanderbilt Commencement Shuttle Service

Event drop off / pick up
Garage pick up / drop off
Friday 10:15 a.m. shuttle run from Alumni Lawn (Location A) for special needs guests

Parking Garage
Event Location

Shuttle Schedule

Wednesday, May 10
7:30 p.m - 12:30 a.m.
Garage 2
Location: C

Thursday, May 11
9:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.
Garages 1 & 2
Location: B

Friday, May 12
7:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.
Garages 1, 2, 3 & 4
Location: A

Rain Plan

Friday, May 12
7:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.
Garages 1 & 2
Location: B

Friday Only: Garland Avenue will be closed to through traffic and Jess Neely Drive is east bound only

Guests with special needs should contact (615) 322-4705
For more information contact the office of Parking Services at (615) 322-2554
Guests are invited to fill the gym floor followed by the North and South sides of the 1st level.
By Location
1. Alumni Lawn: Main Commencement Ceremony
1a. Sarratt Cinema/Rand Hall: Air-Conditioned Indoor Seating and Box Lunch Pick-up; ROTC Graduation and Commissioning Ceremony
1b. Neely Auditorium: Air-Conditioned Indoor Seating
1c. Old Gym: Air-Conditioned Indoor Seating
2. Commencement Day Shuttle Bus Drop-Off
3. Memorial Gymnasium: Senior Class Day Speaker and Severe Weather Location for Main Ceremony
3a. Practice Gym: Air-Conditioned Overflow Seating for Senior Day and Main Ceremony in Event of Severe Weather
4a. Bishops Common: Strawberries and Champagne Celebration for Undergraduate Class of 2017, Blair, Engineering, and Peabody
4b. Library Lawn: Strawberries and Champagne Celebration for Undergraduate Class of 2017, Arts and Science
5. The Ingram Commons Open Houses
6. Commons Lawn: The Party
7. Wilson Hall: Faculty Seminars
8. Curry Field: Law School Diploma Ceremony and Reception
9. Law School: Open House
10. Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center: Owen Graduate School of Management Diploma Ceremony
11. Management Hall: Receptions for MBA, EMBA, MSF, MAcc, MMark
12. Benton Chapel: Divinity School Diploma Ceremony and Reception
13. Tillett Lounge and Refectory: Divinity School Reception and Worship Service
14. Magnolia Lawn: Graduate School & M.Eng. Diploma Ceremony and Reception
15. University Club: School of Engineering Awards Ceremony
16. Branscomb Quadrangle: School of Nursing Hooding/Diploma Ceremony and Reception
17. Wightman Chapel, Scarritt Bennett Center: School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony
17a. Godchaux Hall: School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony Reception (Living Room)
18. Wyatt Center Lawn: Peabody Post-Baccalaureate Ceremony
18a. Peabody Mall: Peabody College Reception (Rain location for the Post-Baccalaureate Ceremony)
19. Wyatt Center Rotunda: Peabody College Awards Ceremony and Reception
20. Langford Auditorium: School of Medicine Class Day and School of Medicine Diploma Ceremony; Black Graduates Recognition Ceremony
20a. Light Hall Plaza: School of Medicine Reception
21. Student Life Center: Phi Beta Kappa Initiation; School of Medicine Favorite Faculty Luncheon
22. Blair School of Music: Blair School Senior Showcase and Senior Recognition Ceremony (Turner Recital Hall) and Continental Breakfast (Ingram Lobby)
23. Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center: Open House
24. Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt: Regalia Pick-up/Drop-off
25. Accommodations at The Ingram Commons
26. 25th Avenue Garage: Guest Parking and Shuttle Stop
27. Terrace Place Garage: Guest Parking and Shuttle Stop
28. Wesley Place Garage: Guest Parking and Shuttle Stop
29. Kensington Garage: Guest Parking and Shuttle Stop

By Event
Bishop Joseph Johnson Black
Cultural Center Open House (May 12) 23
Black Graduates
Recognition Ceremony (May 11) 20
Blair School:
Senior Showcase (May 11)
Senior Recognition Ceremony (May 11)
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Indoor Seating 1a, 1b, 1c
Severe Weather Location 3
Severe Weather Overflow Seating 3a
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M.Eng. Diploma Ceremony (May 12) 14
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Diploma Ceremony and Reception (May 12) 8
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Arts and Science 4b
The Party (May 10) 6
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Commencement Office
(615) 322-2870
commencement@vanderbilt.edu
vanderbilt.edu/commencement
VanderbiltCommencement
VUgraduation
VanderbiltCommencement
Office address:
Student Life Center
310 25th Ave S
Suite 110
Nashville, TN 37240

Equal Opportunity,
Affirmative Action,
and Disability Services
(615) 322-4705 (V/TDD)
vanderbilt.edu/ead
wheelchairs, disability parking
permits, or an interpreter

Oak Hall
oakhalli.com/colleges/vanderbilt
regalia

Webcast
(615) 322-2706
Vanderbilt University
Web Communications
vanderbilt.edu
webcast of Senior Class Day and
the Commencement ceremony

GradImages
(800) 261-2576
gradimages.com
graduation photographs

THE PARTY
(615) 322-2870
vanderbilt.edu/commencement/the-party
tickets to The Party

Stone Productions
contact@vandygrads.com
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P.O. Box 210889
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ordering digital downloads
of Commencement

On-Campus Private Dining
jordan.hajacos@vanderbilt.edu
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Telephone Operators
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changes to event locations
due to severe weather

University Registrar’s Office
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Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt
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fax (615) 341-3923
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vubookstore.com
diploma frames, rings, and other
VU merchandise

On-Campus Housing
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accommodations at The Ingram Commons

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