May 2019 Commencement Parent Letter

Dear Parent(s),

Congratulations on the upcoming graduation of your Wartburg student, «First_Name», on Commencement Weekend, May 25 and 26. We hope that you will stay in contact with the college, even though your relationship will be different when you no longer have a student here. You will always be a Wartburg parent and, therefore, you will continue to hear from us occasionally with campus updates and invitations to events in your area.

The Wartburg Store is THE place to order graduation announcements, an official Wartburg ring, diploma frames and more. Gift items are available by visiting www.wartburgstore.com, select the Store dropdown, then select Graduation. The Wartburg Store will be open on Saturday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. of Commencement weekend. The Wartburg Store will offer fresh flowers for purchase before Commencement on Sunday, May 26. Flowers may also be pre-ordered at www.thecommencementgroup.com/Wartburg and picked up the day of the event or purchased the day of near the welcome desk of The W. Another nice graduation gift would be a Wartburg license plate. Find information for Iowa residents here: www.wartburg.edu/license-plates/.

The 10 a.m. Sunday Baccalaureate worship service provides time in the context of worship for all students, families, and faculty to give thanks for the graduates, reflect on their lives, and offer prayer as the students move into the next stage of life. As a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we continue this long-time tradition in higher education as we ritually remember that it is God’s enduring, steadfast love and grace that has brought us to each day and will continue to accompany our students into the future. The service lasts an hour or less, and students and faculty wear their academic robes and process. Students and family members of every religious tradition are welcome to participate.

- **Facts about photography and videos during Commencement Weekend:** Photography and videotaping are not permitted during the Baccalaureate worship service. Lifetouch Photography will take pictures of each graduate receiving their diploma. Within a few weeks after Commencement, «First_Name» will receive an email from Lifetouch Photography with an opportunity to view and purchase pictures. Candid shots will also be available for viewing at www.wartburg.edu/commencement.

  In the event that family members cannot attend the ceremony, Commencement will be broadcast live on the local Wartburg TV Channel 8 and streamed on www.wartburg.edu/knightvision. The rebroadcasting schedule can also be found at www.wartburg.edu/knightvision.

- **Special Parking** will be reserved for handicapped and elderly guests in Lot B and Lot M and in the roundabout near the W shown on the enclosed map.

- **Length of the Commencement ceremony** is usually about two hours, so you can plan accordingly.

- **Graduates** need to be moved out of the residence halls by 7 p.m. on Sunday.
Commencement Weekend Events
See the Commencement Website for additional information: www.wartburg.edu/commencement

Thursday, May 23
6 p.m.  Senior Pig Roast (seniors only) – Walston-Hoover Stadium
        (Rain site: 4-H Building, Fifth Ave. and Eighth St. SW)

Saturday, May 25
10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Wartburg Store open – Saemann Student Center
2 p.m.    Senior Recital, featuring members of the Class of 2019 – Wartburg Chapel
6:30 p.m. May Term Band Concert – South Campus Mall (Rain site–McCaskey Lyceum)

Sunday, May 26  (See enclosed map for campus parking areas)
7:30 a.m.  Commencement Rehearsal – Levick Arena, Wartburg-Waverly Sports and Wellness Center
           (The W)
8:30 a.m.  Senior Breakfast – Mensa, Saemann Student Center
9 a.m.-1 p.m. Konditorei open – East side of Vogel Library
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Den Rittersaal open – Saemann Student Center
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Zesty Orange open – The W
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The Wartburg Store open – Saemann Student Center
10 a.m.   Baccalaureate – Neumann Auditorium
           The Rev. Brian Beckstrom, Dean of Spiritual Life, will preach.
11 a.m-1 p.m. Sunday Brunch available – Mensa (Adult-$11; Child 5-12-$5; under 5-Free; graduates eat free with their student ID. Reservations are not required.)
1 p.m.    Pre-Commencement Concert by the Wartburg Wind Ensemble – Hoover Field House and Track, The W (All other music will be performed by the Wartburg Commencement Band).
1:30 p.m.  Commencement – Hoover Field House and Track, The W, 400 12th St. NW
           · Doors open at 12:30 p.m. for seating.
           · No spike-heeled shoes are allowed in the Hoover Field House and Track.
           · All Regents and Presidential Scholarship recipients are encouraged to wear their medals with caps and gowns for Baccalaureate and Commencement. (If you have questions regarding the medals, please contact Admissions at 319-352-8264 or admissions@wartburg.edu.)
           · Seating on the floor (in chairs) is available on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no limit to the number of family members who may attend. No tickets will be issued.
           · The enclosed map suggests drop off/entry points for disabled or handicapped family members. The northwest entrance to The W is ideal for direct access to the Field House for these family members.

The Senior Art Exhibit is open each day from 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. in the Waldemar A. Schmidt Art Gallery of the Bachman Fine Arts Center.

Thank you for being a vital part of Wartburg these past years and for making a Wartburg education possible for your child. We trust you will always hold a warm spot in your heart for the college and look forward to seeing you at future Wartburg events. If you have any questions about Commencement or related activities, please contact Janeen Stewart, executive administrator for the President’s office, at 319-352-8331 or janeen.stewart@wartburg.edu.

Sincerely,

Renee Voves
Renee Voves ’04, Associate Director of Institutional Advancement
Alumni/Parent Relations and Annual Giving