

Colgate University

February 9, 2018

Dear Families of the Colgate Class of 2018,

Earlier today, I wrote to graduating seniors with information about Colgate's 197th Commencement to be held on Sunday, May 20, 2018. With anticipation for what will be one of their most memorable weekends at Colgate, I wanted to be sure that you also had details about this spring weekend in Hamilton.

Please know that the information contained in this letter, as well as additional information about the weekend's events, is available on the commencement website at www.colgate.edu/commencement.

The three major events of the weekend are as follows, though there are many other events for specific groups listed on the web site.

- **First, the Baccalaureate service will take place on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in the Memorial Chapel.** This traditional event begins the formal festivities of the weekend and will feature addresses by the member of the graduating class chosen as the 1819 Award recipient and President Casey. This event fills the chapel, so please arrive early. Graduating seniors will line up outside the chapel at 3 p.m.
- **The senior procession will be held on Saturday night at 8:30 p.m.** Graduating seniors line up on the Academic Quad at 8 p.m. and will process toward Willow Path and the reception site. At this time, as you know, the campus is still engaged in conversations about the exact form of this procession. As a result, we will communicate details about the procession later this spring. Following this event is the **President's Reception** at which graduating seniors and their guests will enjoy champagne and desserts.
- **Commencement Exercises will begin at 10:30 a.m.** on Sunday, May 20, 2018. I am pleased to announce commencement will be held outdoors in its traditional location, adjacent to Taylor Lake, weather permitting. Students will line-up ahead of time at 9:30 a.m. under the tent on Whitnall Field. (In the event that commencement is held indoors, students should report to the 1965 Class Arena at 9:30 a.m. for seating instructions and details about the ceremony.)

In the event that we must move commencement to the indoor location of Sanford Field House, rain tickets will be needed. Your student may request up to six (6) tickets for the ceremony and have been instructed on how to do so. Please help them meet the deadline to request these rain tickets, which is March 16, 2018.

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Additional Information:

- We will host a dinner for all graduates and their guests on Friday night this year, held on Whitnall Field at 6:30 p.m. This event will feature music, including Colgate's *a cappella* groups.
- For guests who require accessible accommodations, we will have a seating area reserved to accommodate these needs. (Please note that there will be a sign-language interpreter at the commencement and baccalaureate ceremonies.) When seniors reserve tickets, it is important for them to indicate whether a guest with special needs will be attending the ceremony so that we may be able to accommodate guests' needs on the day of commencement.

A live web-cast of the commencement ceremony will be available at The Class of 1965 Arena, whether the ceremony is indoors or outside. The 1965 Arena is wheelchair accessible. The live webcast can be viewed on smartphones, tablets, or computers and will be hosted on Colgate's home page (Colgate.edu) during the ceremony, and later then archived at www.colgate.edu/commencement.

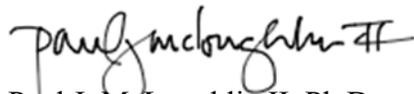
Colgate will offer on-campus housing for guests of graduating seniors between **Friday, May 18 and Monday, May 21, 2018**. Families of each graduating senior may reserve up to six (6) beds in our campus residence halls. Single, double, triple, and suite-style rooms are available at a rate of \$45.00 per person, per night. Requests for room assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis. We encourage you to be timely in your response.

To make a reservation, please visit: colgate.edu/commencementhousing. Reservations and payment in full must be received no later than **Friday, April 27, 2018**.

Finally, arrangements have been made for professionals to photograph members of the graduating class as students receive their diplomas and information is enclosed about ordering copies of these photos.

I look forward to celebrating with you and our graduates this May. I will also be in touch later this spring with more information and a complete schedule of the weekend's events.

Sincerely,



Paul J. McLoughlin II, Ph.D.
Vice President and Dean of the College