

## **2022 Graduation Events**

### *Information for Seniors and Senior Parents*

*Following is a list of the graduation activities that have been scheduled for the Class of 2022.*

#### **Campus Cruise and Tailgate**

Thursday, May 12, 6:00 p.m. along Alumni Drive on the SMA Campus; ending at Ingram Stadium (Seniors line-up cars at 5:30 p.m.)

For this event, each senior can decorate his/her own car and drive through the campus or ride with a family member or other adult driver in a decorated car. Boarding students who need a vehicle to ride in are encouraged to ask any of our teachers or staff to help out. The cars will be lined up at the entrance gate and will parade down Alumni Drive to Ingram Stadium. Friends and family can park along the road to cheer on the seniors as they pass by. After the parade, the seniors and any friends and family will gather at the stadium for a tailgate meal.

#### **End-of-Year Academy Awards Program**

Friday, May 13, 8:00 a.m. in the Robinson Christian Center (RCC)

A variety of awards, including academic, residential, athletic, fine arts, and alumni service awards, are presented to students in Middle and Upper School at the End-of-Year Academy Awards program. A highlight of the program is the presentation of the Senior Montage, a special video tribute to the senior class, featuring baby/elementary age photos and the senior yearbook photo for each senior. Families may attend this event.

#### **Ascension Ceremony**

Friday, May 13, following the Academy Awards Program (see above) in the (RCC)

The SMA Ascension Ceremony is the official “promotion” ceremony for our students in grades 6-11, who will “rise” from their current class grade to the class they will be part of next year. The seniors will line up at the front of the auditorium to witness the ascension of each class of students. All Middle and Upper School students are expected to attend this program, which will follow immediately after the Academy Awards program.

#### **Baccalaureate Service**

Friday, May 13, 7:00 p.m. in the Robinson Christian Center (RCC)

The Baccalaureate is a special Christian church/chapel service in honor of our seniors. A speaker will be invited to give a sermon during the service, which usually also includes a congregational song and special music. The seniors will process in at the beginning of the service. Seniors should gather for this event at 6 p.m. in the library for roll call, photos, and lineup. The event is open to family and friends of the Senior Class.

### **Rose and Sabre Ceremony**

Saturday, May 14, 9:00 a.m. in the RCC and afterward at the Senior Gate

During this very special ceremony, each senior boy and girl will be presented to the audience while their achievements and accomplishments at the Academy, as well as their plans for college or career, are read aloud. After each senior has been presented, the class will relocate to the Prayer Garden, adjacent to the RCC, where the Senior Gate will be unlocked for the only time during the year. Each couple will then pass through this historic gate to signify their passage from adolescence into adulthood. Many seniors view this ceremony as one of the highlights of their time at the SMA. Attendance is open to family and friends of the Senior Class. Seniors must be at the RCC no later than 8:15 a.m. for seating and preparation.

### **Commencement**

Saturday, May 14, 3:00 p.m. in the RCC

From the beginning of the school year, all seniors look forward to that moment when their name is called and they cross the stage to receive their high school diploma. The 114<sup>th</sup> annual Commencement for San Marcos Academy will create lasting memories for the Senior Class. All seniors are asked to report by 2:00 p.m. to the school library for a group photograph and to line up and prepare for the processional. The Commencement program includes speeches by the valedictorian and salutatorian of the class and the presentation of awards, including the President's Cup and the McNiel Cup. Attendance at Commencement is open to family and friends of the Senior Class

### **Class of 2022 Reception**

Saturday, May 14, following Commencement in the Dining Hall

Following Commencement, the Bear Network will host a reception in the Dining Hall to honor the Class of 2022. Everyone at Commencement is invited to drop by to celebrate with our graduates.