

Dear graduating seniors,

Your assembling point for the department commencement ceremony is the Don Evans Black Box Theater in Kendall Hall (entering through the rear door of Kendall Hall) 45 minutes before the ceremony begins. That's 10:45 for our 11:30 ceremony, or 12:15 if the main ceremony is delayed due to rain and our ceremony is rescheduled for 1:00. (Please read the Severe Weather plans carefully, at <http://commencement.tcnj.edu/more-info/severe-weather/>.) You should arrive in your cap and gown rather than spending time dressing in Kendall. Make sure to wear shoes that are appropriate for walking up stairs, across the stage, and down stairs.

Please be on time, since the organizers will need time to arrange you all in two lines (MA candidates leading the way) with your names written on index cards (we will provide the index card and writing utensil)--preferably with pronunciation tips for me. (Even if I know your name I might mess up the pronunciation under pressure.) Latecomers may not only have to whisper their names to me but will also miss a chance to join the grand entrance to which your guests will be looking forward. And when you begin walking, you will find out what song you have chosen for your processional, so you won't want to miss that!

Before you go to the Black Box, escort your guests to the front door, where they will show their tickets (doors will open at 11 am), find seats in the auditorium, and enjoy the slide show of photos you have provided. Ushers will be ready to assist them, and handicapped spaces will be reserved for those guests about whom you have already notified us.

During the ceremony, your guests will be able to watch you walk across the stage without anyone blocking their view by standing up and/or raising an iPad to take a photo, since the department is hiring a photographer and uploading the photos to Snapfish and Shutterfly. This will allow everyone the opportunity to enjoy and live in the moment rather than trying to get another shot. Feel free to take photos prior to the ceremony on the lawn in front of Kendall and enjoy snapping away with your friends after the ceremony throughout campus.

A hired photographer is a first for our department, by the way, just as last year's graduating class was the first to choose their processional. So see you Friday, as we make history together!

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