

# Commencement 2024

What you need to know

Erin Johnson, Director, Commencement and Convocation

# Agenda

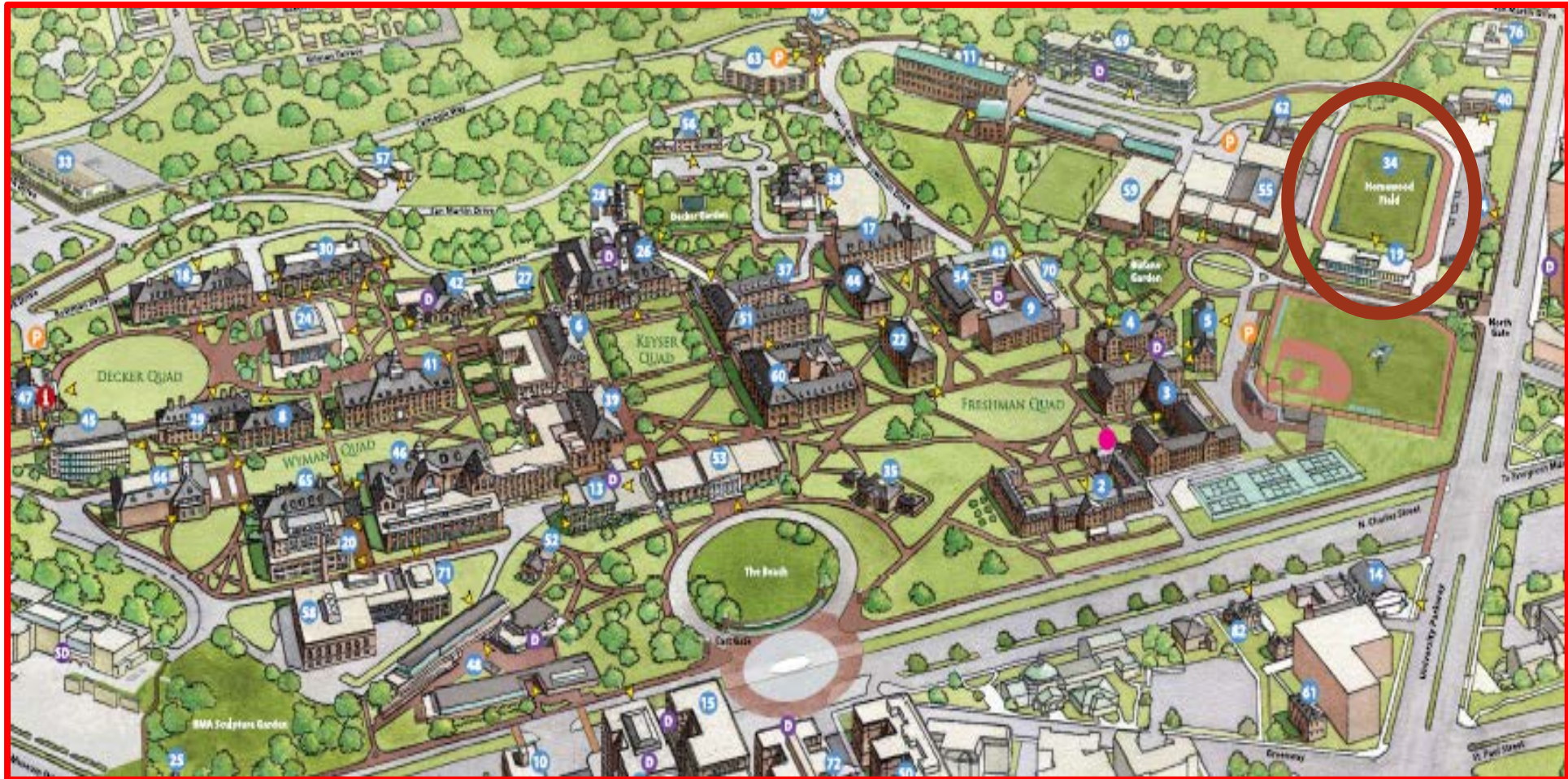
- Where and when is the ceremony
- Which graduates should attend the universitywide ceremony
- Where do graduates check-in for the ceremony
- Are tickets required for guests, is there a limit to the number of guests allowed
- How long will the ceremony last
- Important Dates, Times, and Deadlines
- What items are not allowed into the stadium
- Visas for guests traveling internationally
- ADA Seating
- Parking and Transportation
- Photography
- Diplomas
- Senior Toast Celebration

# JHU Universitywide Commencement Ceremony Date and Time

- Thursday, May 23 at 9:00 AM
  - Gates to the stadium will open at 8:00 AM
    - There will be concessions open in the circle in front of the stadium starting at 7:30 AM
    - Plan to arrive early, seating is open and first come, first served and traffic is expected to be heavy
  - Graduate check-in will open at 7:30 AM
    - Graduates should plan on arriving early
  - Faculty and Principals procession will start promptly at 9:00 AM
  - There is no student procession, graduates will be assigned seats on the field and will go straight to their seats after checking in
- Friday, May 24 at 9:00 AM is the rain date
  - If there is inclement, dangerous weather expected on Thursday, May 23 we will make an announcement by 6:00 AM
  - Graduates will receive a text along with any contacts graduates have added to their Marching Order account, the commencement web page ([www.commencement.jhu.edu](http://www.commencement.jhu.edu)) will be updated



# JHU Universitywide Commencement Ceremony Location –Homewood Field



# Which Graduates Should Attend the Universitywide Commencement Ceremony

- All bachelor's, master's, and doctoral candidates from the nine JHU Schools are invited to attend
- Undergraduates and Doctoral candidates will be individually recognized and cross the stage
- Master's graduates will be recognized en masse from their seats on the field and will not cross the stage

# Where Do Graduates Go To Check-In For Graduation

- Bachelor and Doctoral candidates will go to the Bob Scott Gym in the Ralph S. O'Connor Recreation Center.
- In the Bob Scott Gym, graduates will check-in by last name and receive their GradPass
- After checking-in in the Bob Scott Gym and receiving their GradPass, graduates will exit the building and find their assigned seats on the field
- Graduates who have not RSVP'd in MarchingOrder by the April 19 deadline will receive a GradPass, but will not have an assigned seat and will be seated in the back of their section. These graduates will still cross the stage, but they may not be with their major or in alphabetical order
- Master's candidates do not need to check-in, they will use the Bob Scott entrance to the stadium and find a seat in the Master's seating section
- All graduates should arrive wearing their regalia, graduates can NOT participate without regalia
- Graduates should not bring personal items to check-in with them, they can not bring them across the stage and they will most likely return to a different seat after crossing the stage

# Are Tickets Required For Guests/How Many Guests Can Attend

- There are no tickets required for guests, and graduates can invite as many guests as they wish
- We expect approximately 10,000 guests at the universitywide ceremony
- Seating is open, unassigned seats and are first come, first served
- We ask that guests do not try to hold seats for those in their group that have not yet arrived out of fairness to all other guests and graduates
- Due to the large number of people attending the ceremony, we ask that groups/families try to drive together or take public transportation to limit the traffic on and around campus
- For those that cannot attend the ceremony in person, we will be live streaming the ceremony, the link for the stream will be available on the commencement website the morning of the ceremony



# How Long Is the Ceremony

- The procession of faculty and principals will begin promptly at 9:00 AM
- The ceremony is expected to last approximately 3 hours, ending between 12:00 and 12:30 PM depending on the length of speeches and the number of graduates in attendance
- We ask that, out of respect to all graduates, graduates and their guests remain for the entirety of the ceremony, and do not leave after they cross the stage
- Before the ceremony, families and friends should arrange to meet their graduate(s) at a specific location outside of the stadium, as the field and stadium will be crowded at the end of the ceremony



# Important Dates, Times, and Deadlines

- Friday, April 19 – Last day for graduates to RSVP in MarchingOrder.
  - If they do not register in MarchingOrder, they can still participate but they will not have an assigned seat and may not walk across the stage with their major
  - In MarchingOrder graduates can add phonetic spelling and the correct pronunciation of their name
  - In MarchingOrder graduates can add another contact for any weather-related communications
- Friday, April 19 – Last day for friends/family and for graduates to submit photos and videos to be used in commencement videos
- Friday, April 19 – Last day to request braille or large print program books.
- Online ordering of regalia has closed, graduates can now purchase regalia in-person at the JHU Barnes and Noble Bookstore

# What Items Are Not Permitted Into Homewood Field Stadium

It is recommended that you leave personal items at home or at your accommodation. All bags and purses may be searched upon entering the stadium, and restrictions are as follows:

- Bags and purses larger than 13" x 15", including luggage, are not permitted. Diaper bags are permitted.
- Backpacks and luggage are not permitted. Please plan to have your large bags or luggage stored at your hotel/accommodation if you need to check out prior to the ceremony. Bags that do not meet the requirements will not be permitted into the stadium and bag check will not be provided.
- Wrapped gifts and balloons are not allowed.
- Signs, posters, banners, and flags will not be allowed inside the stadium for safety reasons.
- Umbrellas are not permitted inside the stadium. In case of rain, please bring a rain jacket. If needed during the ceremony, ponchos will be provided.
- Food and drinks are allowed in the stands but may not be brought onto the field. Only water will be permitted on the field.
- Alcohol, drugs, and tobacco are strictly prohibited, including e-cigarettes.
- Pets are not permitted in or around Homewood Field with the exception of Service Dogs.
- Knives, fireworks, laser pointers, lighters, or weapons of any kind are not permitted.
- Firearms are not permitted (including non-uniform law enforcement officer and concealed carry permit holders).
- Horns, cow bells, whistles or any artificial noisemakers or laser pointers are not permitted.
- Guests ARE permitted to bring an unopened water bottle, and a seat cushion or seat back.

# Visas For Guests Traveling Internationally

- Family and friends from abroad who wish to visit and/or attend JHU international students' graduation ceremony may apply for a B-2 visa from the United States consulate nearest to the place of their residence. Students needing assistance should create a SEAM ticket.

# ADA Seating

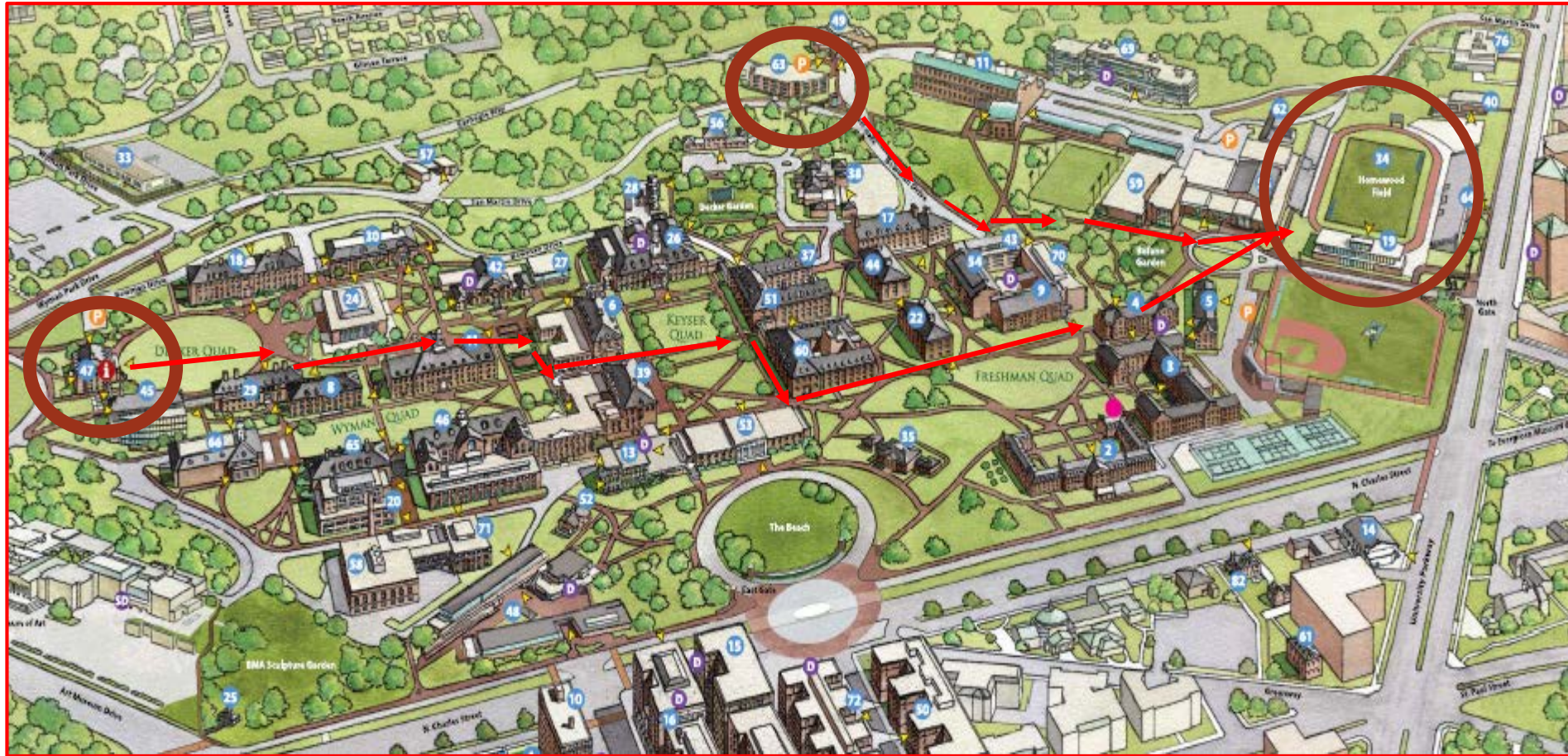
- There is an ADA seating section on the side of the field closest to the Schelle Pavillion entrance.
- ADA seating includes reserved seats in the front rows for guests needing ASL interpreters
- ADA seating is limited, therefore the seating is limited to only the guest needing ADA seating and one (1) guest companion
- A limited number of large print program books will be available in the ADA seating section, guests needing braille program books need to request those by Friday, April 19
- Assisted Listening Devices will be available in the Homewood Field Stadium, guests can borrow a device by leaving their ID with the volunteer manning the table, IDs will be returned to guests when the device is returned

# Parking and Transportation

- Parking on campus is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Guests who plan to drive are strongly advised to carpool. Those who are staying nearby or in the city are encouraged to walk, take a taxi, use a ride-share service, or take public transportation.
- Complimentary parking will be available from 7:00 a.m. on Monday, May 20 until 12:00 p.m. on Friday, May 24 in the South and San Martin garages on the Homewood campus. Shuttles will run on a loop between the garages and Homewood Field.
- In addition to garage parking, street parking is available in the neighborhoods surrounding the campus. Please pay attention to posted signs and be aware that fees and/or permit restrictions may apply when parking on the street.
- ADA parking will be available in the Homewood Field Lot and along University Parkway, a valid state issued ADA placard or hangtag is required to park in these spots



# Parking Garages/Walkway to Stadium





# Photography

- Photographers from GradImages will be at the ceremony
- Photographers will get photos of each graduate as they walk across the stage and after they cross the stage
- Proofs of the photos from GradImages will be emailed to the graduates' email address – this is the same email that is in their MarchingOrder account

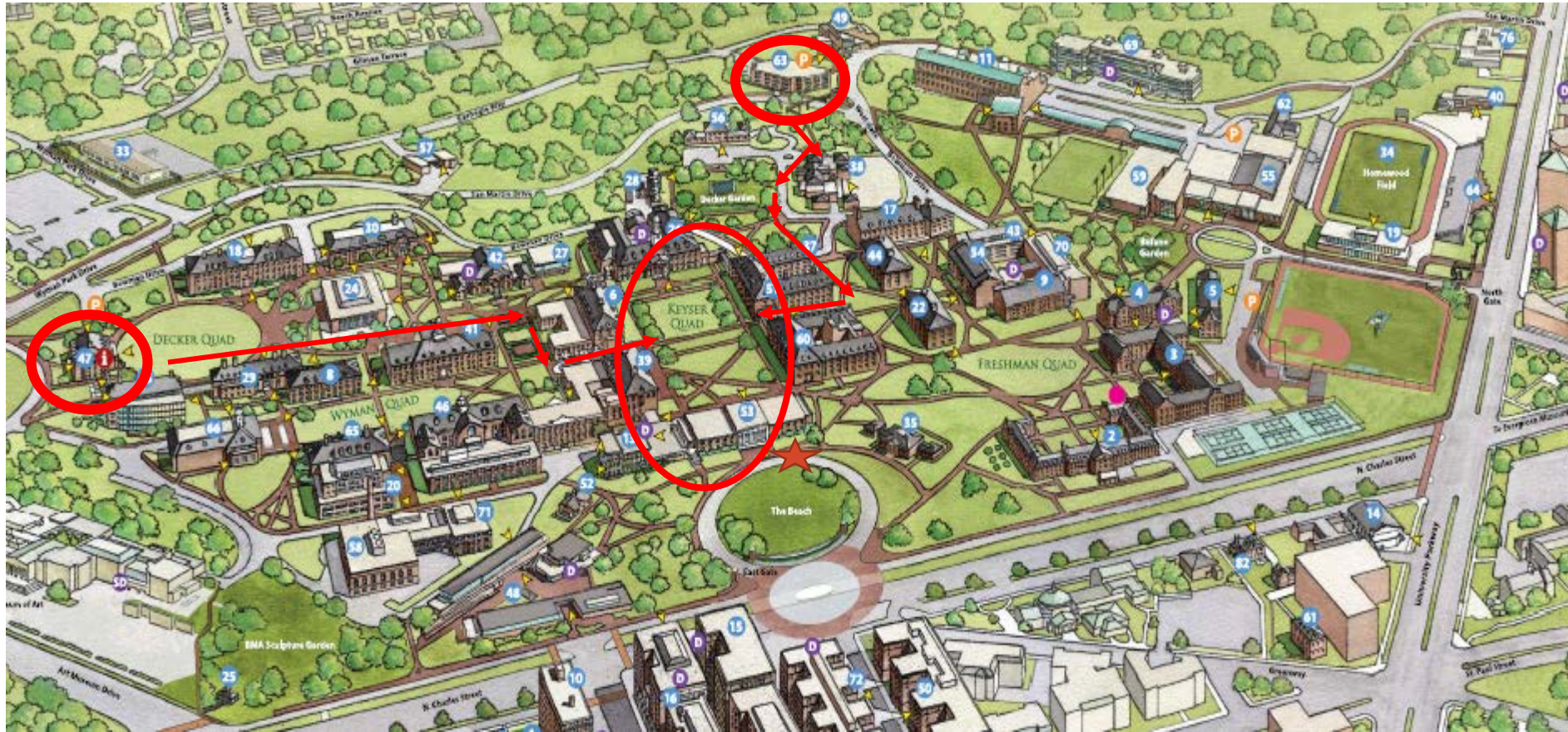
# Diplomas

- Diplomas will NOT be handed out to graduates at the commencement ceremony
- The Registrar's Office will mail diplomas to graduates in June as degrees are cleared
- If graduates want their diplomas mailed to an address other than the address listed as their permanent address in SIS, they should create a SEAM ticket to update their address
- Diplomas will be mailed to ALL graduates regardless of attendance at the commencement ceremony

# Senior Toast

- Wednesday, May 22 on Keyser Quad from 8:00 PM – 10:00 PM
- Dessert reception with a champagne toast
- Open to all Homewood Graduating Seniors and their family members
- Everyone will have their IDs checked, those over 21 will receive a wrist band with two (2) drink tickets
- There will be a DJ, Photobooths, a class banner for the graduates to sign, and brief remarks by the President, student representatives, and the Alumni Relations representative
- Parking will be available in the South and San Martin garages, which are both a short walk to Keyser Quad
- Shuttles will be available to and from both garages to the Milton S. Eisenhower Library
- In the event of severe weather, the Senior Toast will be canceled

# Keyser Quad





# Thank you, and congratulations!

For more information, please visit the commencement website  
[commencement.jhu.edu](https://commencement.jhu.edu)

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