

# BROWN UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

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March 15, 2008

Dear Parents of Graduating Brown University Seniors,

We are delighted to write to you with news of Brown University's 240th Commencement, an important and joyous event for your student, your family, and the entire University community. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some general information regarding Commencement Weekend, Friday, May 23, through Sunday, May 25, 2008. We strongly encourage you to visit our Commencement Web site for more detailed and updated information: [www.brown.edu/commencement](http://www.brown.edu/commencement).

A **SCHEDULE OF MAJOR COMMENCEMENT EVENTS** to help you plan your entire weekend is enclosed. You will also find details here about Campus Dance and other information of interest.

You and your graduate are invited to enjoy a number of events throughout the weekend, beginning with the traditional Brown Bear Buffet and the festive Campus Dance on Friday evening. Saturday begins with a variety of topical Commencement forums led by Brown faculty, alumni, and distinguished guests. Forums continue through the early afternoon. The University's multi-faith Baccalaureate ceremony for graduating seniors takes place at 3 P.M. on Saturday in the First Baptist Church in America. Seating in the church is limited to seniors only, but the ceremony can be viewed in its entirety by you and your guests on two large video screens on the College Green and in Salomon Center and Sayles Hall. The Commencement procession and ceremonies are held on Sunday, with the procession stepping off through Faunce Arch on the College Green promptly at 9:45 A.M.

Please note that you **DO NOT NEED TICKETS** for the open seating available on the College Green for either the Baccalaureate or the Commencement ceremonies. The portions of these ceremonies that take place on the grounds of First Baptist Church are simulcast live on two large video screens on the College Green.

Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations for any event during the weekend should contact the Office of University Events as far in advance as possible. Call 401 863-2108 during normal business hours. Please note that Brown provides real-time captioning of the Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies on the video simulcast on the College Green and in Salomon Center and Sayles Hall. A form for requesting a special parking permit for persons with accessibility needs is available on the Commencement Web site under Disability Support Services in Commencement A-Z.

Descriptions of the Commencement procession and ceremonies and a map of the procession route will be available in early April at [www.brown.edu/commencement](http://www.brown.edu/commencement). In addition, the dining options during Commencement Day (Sunday), include a breakfast buffet in the Sharpe Refectory from 7:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. Quick "Grab and Go" breakfast and lunch options will be available around the College Green from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

We hope these materials and our Web site are helpful as you and your graduating senior plan for Commencement Weekend at Brown. Please do not hesitate to contact the Commencement Office at 401 863-2474 with your questions or concerns. We look forward to welcoming you to campus and celebrating Brown's 240th Commencement on May 23-25.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia R. Schwartz".

CYNTHIA R. SCHWARTZ  
*Director of University Events*