

# UMBC

A N H O N O R S  
U N I V E R S I T Y  
I N M A R Y L A N D

## Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony

Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 1 p.m.

(Procession Begins at 12:30 p.m.)

1st Mariner Arena

201 W. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Directions and parking information to 1st Mariner Arena can be found at [www.baltimorearena.com](http://www.baltimorearena.com).

### The Day of the Ceremony

Out of courtesy to your fellow graduates, you are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire program, which lasts approximately two hours. **Doors will open at 11:30 a.m., and all graduating students must be assembled in their designated area no later than 12 p.m.**

There is no Commencement rehearsal. Therefore, the instructions listed below and the directions that will be given to you the day of the ceremony for line-up, marching and the awarding of degrees should be followed carefully.

To enter 1st Mariner Arena, use the main entrance at the corner of Baltimore Street and Hopkins Place or the Howard Street entrance. **You should proceed down the ramp to the assembly area located on the ground floor of the Arena and report to the area posted for your department by 12 p.m.**

Graduates march in alphabetical order within their departments, beginning with the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, followed by the College of Natural and Mathematical Sciences, the College of Engineering and Information Technology, the Erickson School and the School of Social Work.

**The procession will begin promptly at 12:30 p.m.**, at which time the candidates will lead the faculty and staff and Platform Party processions into the arena. Commencement staff volunteers will direct students to their seats.

When it is time to receive acknowledgement of the degrees, a Commencement staff volunteer will escort each row of candidates to the stairs that will be used to walk onto the stage. **You must bring your gold floor pass with you to the ceremony and keep it with you at all times. Floor passes will be provided to you when you pick up your regalia. No one will be allowed to participate in Commencement without a floor pass.** Do not bring flags, signs or other visible distractions on the stage as these items will be confiscated.

When you reach the top of the stairs, hand your floor pass to the Commencement staff volunteer who will then hand the card to the reader. When your name is called, proceed toward center stage where President Hrabowski and Provost Rous will be standing with other guests to congratulate you with a handshake. You will then exit the stage via the center stairs and return to your seat on the arena floor.

Graduates requiring special seating arrangements due to wheelchair use or mobility limitations should contact Erin Johnson at 410-455-5897 or [ejohnson@umbc.edu](mailto:ejohnson@umbc.edu).

Guests attending the ceremony who require special accommodations should read the "Special Accommodations Seating for Guests" section on the back of this newsletter.

**Important Note: Leave all valuables at home or with a friend or family member. There will be no secured room for personal belongings, such as jackets, cameras, purses or book bags, and there is a good chance that after crossing the stage, you will sit in a different seat than the one you sat in before. Smoking is not permitted inside the Arena.**

### Security Measures at 1st Mariner Arena

1st Mariner Arena has security procedures that will affect graduates and their guests. Please review the information below:

- All bags and purses will be searched upon entering the Arena.
- Large parcels will not be allowed into the Arena. This is defined as anything larger than one cubic foot. Please do not bring wrapped gifts into the Arena. They will be opened and examined.
- No balloons are allowed in the Arena.
- Re-entry to the Arena will not be permitted.
- Food and drinks may not be brought into the Arena.

### Tickets for Your Guests

Tickets for spring Commencement are not required for general seating.

### Academic Regalia

Each undergraduate participating the Commencement ceremony MUST purchase the academic regalia that can only be ordered from the Bookstore Graduation Center. **Candidates are prohibited from wearing a borrowed cap or gown from an alumnus/a or another student – no exceptions.** The dates for ordering regalia at the Bookstore Graduation Center are Monday, March 4, and Tuesday, March 5, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., and Wednesday, March 6, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Regalia can also be ordered online at [www.herffjones.com/college](http://www.herffjones.com/college) through Monday, March 18. (The Web site will not operate after this date.) The cost of undergraduate regalia is \$47.99. Beginning March 7, candidates who order regalia will be assessed a \$25 late fee. All forms of payment usually accepted in the Bookstore are allowed.

**Students who ordered their regalia before or on March 6 can pick up their regalia in the Bookstore Graduation Center on Monday, April 29, and Tuesday, April 30, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Wednesday, May 1, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Students who ordered their regalia after March 6 can pick up their regalia on Tuesday, April 30, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Wednesday, May 1, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.** The Bookstore will not be responsible for regalia unclaimed by Tuesday, May 14, the last day of classes. The Center also carries graduation announcements, diploma frames and other accessories. Please visit the UMBC Bookstore Web site at [bookstore.umbc.edu](http://bookstore.umbc.edu).

Candidates for summa, magna and cum laude honors will be given a keepsake gold stole to be worn at Commencement. Stoles will be distributed with regalia by the Bookstore. If you have earned University Honors (at least 45 UMBC credits with a GPA of 3.5 or higher) by the end of Fall 2012 semester, you will receive a stole. Please contact the Office of the Registrar at 410-455-3158 or [graduation@umbc.edu](mailto:graduation@umbc.edu) for more information.

The cap should be worn so that the mortarboard is level. It should not be tilted to the back or side of the head. The crown should be approximately one inch above the eyebrows. The front of the cap is indicated on the inside of the crown. Men remove their caps during the playing of the National Anthem. Tassels are worn on the right side, and then switched to the left after the degrees are conferred.

[www.umbc.edu/commencement](http://www.umbc.edu/commencement)

## Honorary Degree Recipients

**Dr. Nancy Cantor**, Chancellor and President of Syracuse University, will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

## Guests

**Doors to the Arena will open at 11:30 a.m.** Family members and guests will be admitted through the main entrances at the corner of Baltimore Street and Hopkins Place and at Howard Street, or through the second floor entrance from the Arena parking garage.

## Parking

Parking is available in the 1st Mariner Arena parking garage (enter on Howard Street) or at any of the surrounding parking lots and garages. Parking prices for the day will vary according to each individual lot and garage. **Keep in mind that traffic and parking will be very congested and may require you to park several blocks away from the Arena. Please allow time to locate parking and to walk to the Arena. Participants are strongly encouraged to use the Metro subway, the Light Rail system or to carpool.**

## Food and Beverages

Food and beverages will not be available at 1st Mariner Arena. Graduates and guests should eat before they come to Commencement as they will not be able to bring food or drinks into the Arena.

## Special Accommodations Seating for Guests

Seating for guests who need special accommodations due to hearing impairment, wheelchair use or mobility limitations is available for the ceremony. Guests with special accommodations needs should follow the signs for the special accommodations seating check-in area located directly at the main entrances.

An usher will escort those who need special accommodations seating to the appropriate seating area. Because special seating is limited, only one family member may accompany the guest with a disability into the special seating area. Additional guests will be directed to sit in the general seating area. Handicapped parking spaces are available in the Arena's garage. (The Hopkins Place entrance is the best drop-off point for the mobility impaired.)

**Please Note:** The Arena is a large facility and a considerable distance must be traveled to get to all of the seats. Guests for whom walking distances is difficult are strongly encouraged to rent a wheelchair for the day. Wheelchairs will not be available at the Arena. Please consult the "medical equipment and supplies" listings in the Yellow Pages.

## Office of the Registrar

The Office of the Registrar coordinates the graduation application and review process. The application deadline has passed. The following timeline outlines the review process:

May 2013 Graduation Application Deadline	February 15
General Education and Major Department Review	March 1 – 31
Notification of Graduation Status	April 2 – 15

For questions regarding the graduation review process, contact the Office of the Registrar at 410-455-2500 or by email using the **Request Help function in myUMBC**.

## Diplomas

Undergraduate diplomas are not distributed at the ceremony. Instead, they will be mailed between July 1–15 to the permanent address available in your student record. If you have questions regarding your diploma, contact the Office of the Registrar at 410-455-2500 or by email using the **Request Help function in myUMBC**.

## Change of Address

Please note that all graduation-related correspondence and diplomas will be mailed to the permanent address available in your student record. You may log into your myUMBC account and under "Profile" verify/update your address. For questions regarding updating your address, send an e-mail through the "Request Help" function of your myUMBC account or call 410-455-2500.

## Photos

Your friends and guests are welcome to bring cameras to the ceremony. However, guests are not allowed to stand in the aisle or near the railings to take photographs. A professional photographer from Graduation Images will also photograph each graduate during the ceremony. You will receive color proofs by mail approximately two weeks after Commencement. If you wish to purchase prints, you may do so; however, there is no obligation. Graduation Images' contact information is 800-424-3686 or [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com).

On Monday, April 29 through Wednesday, May 1, a professional photographer from Graduation Images will be available at the Bookstore to take formal portraits of graduation candidates in their regalia. There is no obligation to purchase photos.

If you anticipate a change of address, please verify/update your permanent address in your student record (see "Change of Address" section).

## Commemorative DVD

This is the day you've dreamed of, worked toward and eagerly anticipated. Now, you can revisit the memories of your 2013 Commencement anytime you'd like – and share the memories with those closest to you. To purchase a DVD copy of the graduation ceremony, please visit <https://www.immediatweb.com/vpcsecure/umbc/umbcspring2013/default.aspx> to order online from VPC, Inc. The deadline to order a copy will be July 31, 2013. If you have questions, contact VPC, Inc. at 410-526-9100 x307. Order forms are available at the Bookstore and will be available at Commencement.

## Alumni Association

As a graduate of UMBC, you are automatically a member of the Alumni Association. There are no dues or fees. We hope you will stay connected with your alumni friends, classmates and University associates through the many events, programs and services offered, especially through C-YA, our Chapter of Young Alumni. Stay informed of alumni activities and news by reading *UMBC Magazine* and our monthly e-mail newsletter or by visiting Retriever Net, our alumni online community, at [www.umbc.edu/alumni](http://www.umbc.edu/alumni). Once online, you may update your mailing address and check all the special alumni advantages you're eligible for – from great rates on consumer services to short-term health care coverage. Congratulations on graduating, and welcome to the Alumni Association!

## Career Services Center

The Career Services Center collects information on what UMBC students do with their degrees via the annual Graduating Student Report. Graduating students are asked to complete the short survey via e-mail or at cap and gown pick-up. Information collected allows the campus to compile relevant and recent data about employment offers, graduate/professional school acceptances, and salary averages to share with faculty, employers and perhaps most importantly, current and future UMBC students. Check out [www.careers.umbc.edu](http://www.careers.umbc.edu) for a comprehensive view of programs, events and opportunities to find employment or to assist with the graduate school application process. For more information, e-mail [careers@umbc.edu](mailto:careers@umbc.edu) or call 410-455-2216.

## For More Information

Please visit the Commencement Web site at [www.umbc.edu/commencement](http://www.umbc.edu/commencement) for more information.

Specific questions can be addressed:

**Office of the Registrar:** 410-455-3158 or [graduation@umbc.edu](mailto:graduation@umbc.edu)

**Bookstore:** 410-455-3807 or [dupree@umbc.edu](mailto:dupree@umbc.edu)

**Commencement Ceremony:** 410-455-5897 or [ejohnso@umbc.edu](mailto:ejohnso@umbc.edu)

**Alumni House:** 410-455-ALUM