

# Guide for Parents of Seniors

2017-2018

Welcome to senior year! Being the parent of a Phillips Academy senior can be both an exhilarating and daunting experience. We hope some of the tips below will help guide and prepare you for the twists and turns of the year ahead. Parents, especially those who live far away may not be able to experience some of the senior year milestones in person, but do not fear! PSPA will create a special DVD that captures all the important events.

## Fall Term:

Fall term opened with a bang as seniors returned to campus excited about the year ahead, their friends, new courses, leadership positions, etc. However, once classes begin, seniors quickly realize that senior fall is actually more like a “fourth term” of upper year. In addition to actively engaging with their academic work and outside activities, seniors will continue to work closely with the CCO as they finalize their college plans.

### Key Dates for Fall Term:

September 7, Thursday	Classes began/senior Vista Walk with head of school
September 9, Saturday	ACT
October 7, Saturday	SAT
October 11, Wednesday	PSAT for Lowers/Uppers. No Classes. Required programming for juniors;
Oct. 30-Nov. 2, (Mon–Thurs)	Mark Lawrence Photographer will be on campus to take Senior Portraits. (E-mail Chris Capano at <a href="mailto:ccapano@andover.edu">ccapano@andover.edu</a> with questions.)
October 20-22, (Friday-Sun)	Family Weekend (Note: a representative from Herff Jones will be on campus with samples and ordering information on class rings)
October 23, Monday	No classes (College Visiting for seniors)
October 28, Saturday	ACT
October 30, Monday	Deadline to purchase an ad (note of congratulations to your child) for the <i>Pot Pourri</i> yearbook. (E-mail Chris Capano ( <a href="mailto:ccapano@andover.edu">ccapano@andover.edu</a> ) with questions)
November 4, Saturday	SAT
November 11, Saturday	Andover-Exeter athletic contests
November 13-17, (Mon–Fri)	Extended Period Week (exams)
November 17, Friday	Thanksgiving vacation begins after last class meeting.

## Winter Term:

Winter term can be a nice time for seniors to complete some things on their bucket list and make sure they are making the most of their final months at PA. Is there a course they really want to sign up for in the spring? Is there an activity or club they want to join? Students are encouraged to take (calculated) risks and do something different that might be outside of their comfort zone.

During winter term, the Office of Alumni Engagement begins connecting the senior class to alumni through various programs and events. A group of seniors—called the Student Alumni Representatives (STARs)—partner with the alumni office to introduce some online tools (i.e., the alumni directory) and other alumni resources to the Class of '18.

### **Key Dates for Winter Term:**

The Senior Gift will kickoff early in winter term. The Senior Class Gift is a tradition at Phillips Academy that celebrates the spirit of Non Sibi. This is an opportunity for the seniors to demonstrate class pride and to improve upon the legacy of Andover by making a donation to the Andover Fund, which supports financial aid, athletics, the arts, faculty, outreach programs, and many more of the pieces that make Andover special. This is a participation focused effort with the hopes that every senior will contribute. (The Senior Gift is separate from the Senior Parent Fund effort, which takes place throughout the year and is led by parent volunteers.)

November 29, Wednesday	Students must return between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
November 30, Thursday	Winter term classes begin
December 2, Saturday	SAT
December 5, Tuesday	Senior pages (personalized “memory pages” created by the student) are due for the <i>Pot Pourri</i> Yearbook
December 15, Friday	Winter Break begins at 2:45 p.m.
January 3, Wednesday	Winter Break ends
January 4, Thursday	Classes begin (winter term continues)
January 5, Friday	Senior portraits are due for the <i>Pot Pourri</i> Yearbook – if students sit for a portrait on campus with Mark Lawrence, the studio will submit the photo directly to the yearbook. You are also welcome to submit your own photo, whether taken at a professional studio or not. Most senior portraits are a formal head and shoulders shot against a simple background but you can customize this as you wish.
February 23, Friday	100 Days celebration (cosponsored by the alumni office and PSPA)
February 24, Saturday	Andover-Exeter athletic contests
Feb 26-March 2 (Mon-Fri)	Extended Period Week (exams)
March 2, Friday	Spring Break begins after last class meeting.

## Spring Term:

Spring term is an exciting and memorable one for seniors. Most students still have a heavy course load, but the “pressure is off” and seniors are able to enjoy their time more—both in and out of class. Seniors are encouraged to make the most of this final term. Wise decision-making is emphasized by the deans so that seniors do not do anything in the final days to jeopardize their place at PA, their participation in Commencement, or their diploma.

The alumni office spends time throughout the term guiding seniors and parents through the process of preparing for Commencement weekend. After spring break, students will find four printed Commencement invitations in their student mailbox. These invitations are for students to send to family members and friends as “announcements” of their graduation; extras are available upon request. These invitations are not needed to attend the Commencement ceremony. Students receive 3 guest tickets a few days before Commencement. These tickets are required for guests to attend the Baccalaureate ceremony and for Commencement ***ONLY IF*** it is held in The Cage due to inclement weather. All of this will be explained in further detail in an e-mail to parents and students sent out in late March.

Another fun spring event for seniors is “senior desserts,” funded by PSPA and organized by Andover faculty. Faculty members host desserts and invite seniors to their home for a special gathering. These desserts have been a huge hit the past few years.

### **Key Dates for Spring Term:**

March 19, Monday	Spring Break ends. Students must return between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
March 20, Tuesday	Spring term classes begin
April 16, Monday	No classes (College Visiting for seniors)
April 20-21, (Fri–Sat)	Non Sibi Weekend (Special mandatory program for students)
May 3, Thursday	Senior Dinner with PA Trustees and Alumni Council
May 14, Saturday	Grandparents’ Day
May 27, Friday	Classes end at 5:35 p.m.
May 28, Monday	No Classes. Memorial Day
May 29-31 (Tues-Thurs)	Extended Period Week (exams)
May 31, Thursday	Senior Prom
June 1, Friday	Senior Day and Senior-Faculty Dinner
June 2, Saturday	Baccalaureate
June 3, Sunday	Commencement!

## Commencement Weekend: May 31 – June 3, 2017

### Thursday, May 31

PROM night! Parents are invited to a pre-prom reception hosted by PSPA. Family members are welcome to gather in front of Paresky Commons at 5 p.m. for a special reception, prom photos, and the famous promenade to the buses. The prom is for students only (no parents please☺).

### Friday, June 1

The Senior-Faculty Dinner takes place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This special evening is for *seniors and faculty only*.

### Saturday, June 2

This is a good day to get packed up and organized. There are various activities throughout the day (a mandatory rehearsal for seniors at 12:30 p.m., open house at the Addison Gallery, an afternoon concert, and dinner in Paresky Commons). The main event is the 8:30 p.m. **Baccalaureate Service** in Cochran Chapel.

### Sunday, June 3

10 a.m. Commencement Procession kicks off  
11:15 a.m. Diploma circle forms on the Great Lawn in front of the Addison Gallery  
Noon Reception in Flagstaff Court in front of Paresky Commons

Questions? Visit [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or contact Commencement coordinator Jen Hout at [jhout@andover.edu](mailto:jhout@andover.edu).

## Other Helpful Resources and Links:

### Parent Development Team

Becca Brewster  
*Director, Parent Development*  
[rbrewster@andover.edu](mailto:rbrewster@andover.edu)  
978-749-4286

Stacy Gillis, P'15, '17 '19  
*Associate Director, Parent Development*  
[sgillis@andover.edu](mailto:sgillis@andover.edu)  
978-749-4275

Robbie Heath  
*Parent Development Coordinator*  
[rheath@andover.edu](mailto:rheath@andover.edu)  
978-749-4303

Parent Fund website: [www.andover.edu/parentfund](http://www.andover.edu/parentfund)

### Grandparent Fund

Toomas '59 and Judy Kukk P'86, '88, GP'19 (*cochairs*)  
Grandparent Fund website: [www.andover.edu/grandparents](http://www.andover.edu/grandparents)

### Student Activities

Chris Capano, Director  
[ccapano@andover.edu](mailto:ccapano@andover.edu)  
978-749-4183

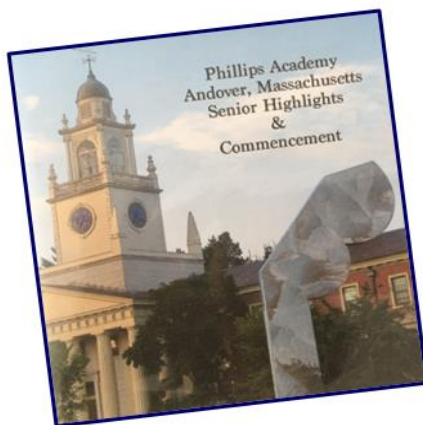
Stephanie Cormier, Student Program Coordinator  
[scormier@andover.edu](mailto:scormier@andover.edu)  
978-749-4174

# Class of 2018

## Senior Memories

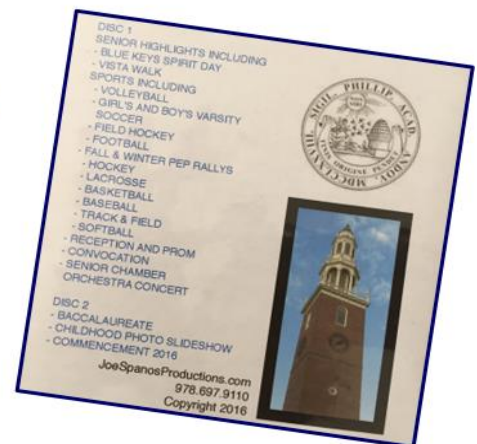
### ORDER

Every year, PSPA sells a professionally produced Senior Video package which includes all the important events during the Seniors' last year at Andover.



Presented by  
The Parents of Students  
of Phillips Academy

Blue Keys Spirit Day  
Vista Walk  
Pep Rallies  
Sporting Events  
Pre Prom ReceptionProm  
And Featured in their Entirety:  
Senior Chamber Orchestra Concert  
Baccalaureate Service  
Convocation & Commencement Exercises  
with Diploma Circle



Treasure the Memories of your Senior Year!



[Click Here for a preview](#)

QUESTIONS: [paseniordvd@gmail.com](mailto:paseniordvd@gmail.com)