

Arizona Families *for* Home Education

October 2005

Dear Senior High Graduate and Family,

Thank you for your interest in the upcoming Graduate Recognition Night. We are planning a special evening to honor senior high home schooled graduates from across the state. The fourteenth annual recognition night will be held Friday, May 19, 2006, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. at Word of Grace Church in Mesa. Certificates of recognition will be given to the graduates. This event is free to attend and open to the public. A cake and beverage reception will follow the ceremony.

- **Cost:** A non-refundable registration fee of \$35 per graduate for AFHE members only. This fee covers the cost of the facility, the photo presentation, two 5x7 individual photographs of the graduate receiving their certificate, and the reception. Checks will be deposited after registration closes. **If you are not an AFHE member, you may go to the Membership link and download the Membership Application.**
- **Dress Code:** Graduates will wear royal blue caps and gowns over dress clothes with dress shoes (i.e. no denim, no shorts, no gym shoes, no flip flops). This is mandatory for participation. The caps and gowns will belong to the graduates. However, our committee does the ordering, picking up, pressing, and delivering of them to the ceremony for the entire graduating class. Please contact us if further clarification is needed.
- **Photo Presentation:** Please help us personalize this year's graduation ceremony by sending two pictures of your senior graduate - 1) as a baby or young child and 2) a current photograph of the graduate. Pictures may be professional portraits or quality snapshots of the individual graduate (alone, not part of a group). Avoid very dark photographs or those that are over-exposed (light and washed-out). **Please do not send photographs larger than 5x7 in size.** Pictures must be sent with the registration form; they will be returned to the graduates the afternoon of rehearsal.
- **Announcements:** Graduates have the option of ordering graduation announcements, which include envelopes and name card enclosures. Announcements that are ordered will be mailed to the graduates four to six weeks before the ceremony.
- **Videotapes and DVD+Rs:** The ceremony will be professionally videotaped. Videotapes and DVD+Rs need to be pre-ordered on the registration form. They will be mailed to the graduates (along with the graduation photographs) after the ceremony.
- **Speech Contest:** Submissions for the Senior Class Address will be accepted from participating graduates who have home schooled for all four years of high school. The speech should be 3 to 5 minutes long, must be the student's original work, and should reflect how being home schooled through high school has impacted their life or helped shape who they are. Speeches will be judged on content, structure, presentation, and overall effectiveness. Interested students should read

"Suggestions for an Effective Speech" under the graduation section of the AFHE website. Send a cover letter with your name, address, and phone number, a written version of your speech, and a VHS video of your presentation by **January 25, 2006**. The decision of the judges is final. Videotapes will not be returned. We are planning for the winners to have the opportunity to give their speeches at the state convention and to receive a monetary gift.

Mail entries to: Kathy Lumpkin, Graduate Speech Contest, 2524 N. Kristen, Mesa, AZ 85213.

- **Posters:** Please **cut a poster board to a 16" x 20" size** with the 16" side at the top/bottom. Include favorite pictures and mementos on the poster that highlight your interests and accomplishments. Use your creativity so that your poster will reflect who you are! Your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address should be written on the back of the poster. Make sure your name and hometown are also listed prominently on the front. Please label all photographs and mementos. Uncluttered posters have proven more appealing and effective. Keep the poster lightweight so that it can be easily hung. (Do not use mat board or foam board. Do not frame.) **Please bring your poster to the Friday afternoon rehearsal.** They will be on display during the evening. **Posters should be taken home when leaving after the ceremony.** We cannot be responsible for posters left at the church.

Completed registration forms along with photos, money, and speech contest submissions must be **received by January 25, 2006**. We must have your registration by this date so the volunteers can do the necessary ordering and preparation. If you would like confirmation that we have received your registration, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard, which we will return. Letters with rehearsal information and details will be sent out by early April. You may contact Kathy via e-mail at kitten@cableaz.com if you have further questions.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kathy Lumpkin
Senior High Graduate Recognition Secretary

Mitzi Wisely
Senior High Graduate Recognition Chairman

Graduation Announcements (optional)

Graduation announcements will include envelopes and name card enclosures. Printed name will be the same as on this form. Announcements will be mailed to the graduates about mid-April. Cost for announcements is:

- o 25 announcements: \$40.00
- o 50 announcements: \$60.00
- o 75 announcements: \$80.00
- o 100 announcements: \$105.00

Quantity desired: _____

Amount included: _____

Cap and Gown

Traditional caps and gowns are mandatory for all senior high graduates. They will be royal blue and will be purchased for \$30.00 (includes gown, cap, and 1 tassel). Please indicate the graduate's height and weight for sizing.

Height _____

Weight _____

Amount for cap and gown: _____

Moms are needed to help with the ironing of gowns - time/place still to be determined. Please indicate if you are able to help with this job.

Yes, please call me. I am willing to help with ironing the graduates' gowns.

Total amount included for graduation expenses: \$ _____

Please enclose one check, payable to Arizona Families for Home Education (AFHE). **If you would like confirmation that we have received your registration, also include a self-addressed, stamped postcard, which we will return.**

Completed registration form, 2 photographs, and all money must be **received by January 25, 2005.** Checks will be deposited after registration closes.

Send to: Kathy Lumpkin
2524 N. Kristen
Mesa, AZ 85213

We understand and agree to abide by the established dress code as outlined in the accompanying letter (i.e. royal blue cap and gown, dress clothes, dress shoes, no denim, no shorts, no gym shoes, and no flip flops). **BOTH SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED.**

(Student Signature)

(Parent Signature)