GCCHS

Class of 2022

Graduation Packet

Saturday, May 14, 2022

10:00am

UBC – University Baptist Church

16106 Middlebrook Drive

Houston, TX 77059

GRADUATION INFORMATIONAL MEETING AND REGISTRATION

The initial graduation planning meeting is scheduled for:

There will be a Power Point Presentation online.

Zoom question/answer meeting on
October 11, 2021

Please sign up on calendar for link

If you have any question's, please join us for this brief meeting. The specific purpose of this meeting is to allow parents and graduating seniors to become informed, to begin preparing for a day of celebration and to answer any questions you may have.

At this meeting we will give an overview of the graduation and expenses included, as well as the process of ordering the cap and gown. We will be available for any quick questions you want to ask.

The location for the 2022 GCCHS Graduation Ceremony is at UBC – University Baptist Church.

Please do not contact the church with any questions or concerns. All questions should be directed to GCCHS by email *gcchswebsite@yahoo.com* .

$280 Graduation Fee

The graduation fee per student includes the following items and services…

- Commencement Speaker Honorarium
- Master of Ceremonies
- Vocalist or Special Music Honorarium
- Graduation Day Photographer & CD of photos
- Cap & Gown (girls attached collar)
- Diploma with Basic Seal and the Black Cover
- Graduation Programs, Development, Printing & Folding
- Senior T-Shirt
- Church Facility usage including the Church Sanctuary & Reception Hall after the event
- Church Sound and Lighting Technicians
- Cleanup of Church Sanctuary, Reception Hall & Kitchen after event
- Church Decorations & Signage
- Reception Hall Decorations
- Reception Server Staff
- Graduation Cakes and Drinks for Reception
- Eating Utensils, Cups, Plates, & Napkins
- Guests (number per graduate to be determined)

The total value of these services if contracted separately:

Over $900!!

GCCHS 2022 Graduation Application

Graduate's Full Name:_____

Parent's Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____State:_____Zip:_____

Parent's Phone # (home):_____(cell) _____

Email:_____

Year applicant family started homeschooling: _____

Is student/family currently a GCCHS member for the 2021/22 school year?

Yes No

By signing below, I agree that both I and my student will abide by all aspects of the guidelines and requirements for participation in the 2022 GCCHS Graduation. I understand that failure to comply with the guidelines and requirements will result in termination from the GCCHS Graduation Ceremony without refund.

Parent's Signature:_____

Early GCCHS Member Graduation Fee: $280 registered and paid in full by November 30, 2022

Member Graduation Fee: $325 paid in full January 31, 2022.

After January 31, 2022 Member Graduation Fee: $350

Non-GCCHS Member Graduation Fee: $350

Please make check payable to GCCHS

All fees regardless of method must be paid in full by **January 31, 2022.**

Mail all graduation application forms, terms of participation, T-shirt, and CD order form with payment to:

GCCHS
P.O. Box 58345
Webster, TX 77598-8345

Or you may scan/email your forms to *gcchswebsite@yahoo.com* . You can make your payment online at the GCCHS website site please note that it is for graduation.

Terms of Participation in GCCHS Graduation

This letter is to formalize the terms of participation in GCCHS's Graduation and related activities for the Graduating Class. Based upon statements clarified in the GCCHS Graduation Information, approval to participate is contingent upon acceptance and adherence to the following conditions:

1. Fully paid graduation fees.
2. Full cooperation and participation in all mandatory parent/graduate related responsibilities of the graduation ceremony.

GCCHS sponsors the graduation ceremony as a celebration for its students and families for the culmination of hard work through the elementary and high school years. We strive to make sure the experience is a positive one for all of the participating families and students. Graduates or family members with any complaints should address them privately with a GCCHS graduation volunteer. GCCHS reserves the right to deny participation immediately or during a GCCHS graduation and/or related activity, including forfeiture of all fees without a refund for failing to adhere to the conditions enumerated above.

We look forward to having your senior participate in the graduation ceremony and related activities.

Sincerely,

GCCHS Graduation Committee

By my signature below, I agree to and accept the terms of participation outlined above.

_____

(Parents/Guardian Signatures) (Date)

_____

Graduation Day

PARENTS: You will be walking on stage to meet your senior to present his/her diploma. Therefore, seats are reserved for parents of graduating seniors **ONLY.** If you have other children, grandparents, friends and relatives coming to the graduation you will need to have them sit **behind** the reserved parent seating. They may want to come early to get a good seat.

Parents will be ushered in right before the graduates.

Graduation will start promptly at 10:00AM

- **Rehearsal**
  - **Every graduate must attend rehearsal.**
  - This will be the **only** chance you will have to walk through the ceremony with the other graduates, so it is very important that you attend. The graduates will proceed in and out of the auditorium, so it is important for each graduate to know who they follow, where to sit, when to cross the stage etc.
- **Display Tables**
  - A display table for your graduate to showcase his/her accomplishments will be available, but it will be OPTIONAL. GCCHS will need to know by **March 1, 2022** if your graduate will be having a display table. Please send email notification to ***gcchswebsite@gmail.com***
  - The graduate will have a table set up for their display, will send measurements upon confirmation from church.
  - No adhesives are allowed on any surface of the room we are using.
  - Each family will provide their own table covering. You are free to use any colors or designs that you choose.
  - No glitter is allowed on your tables.
  - Please do not bring electronics that require a plug.
  - We recommend that nothing be displayed that is heavy or cumbersome as the distance from the parking lot to the church is a bit of a walk. Keep it simple.

- GCCHS highly suggests that you NOT bring anything of value. The church and GCCHS will not be responsible for anything that goes missing
- We suggest that you not have a basket or bag to receive cards at the display table. Have your guests give you the gift or card personally.
- All displayed items must conform to GCCHS standards. The Steering Committee reserves the right to ask any offensive items to be removed.
- You are responsible for taking down the display before leaving the reception.

- **The Ceremony**
  - The graduation ceremony will begin at **10:00am** with a processional of the graduates.
  - The length of the ceremony will depend upon the number of graduates, but the goal is **no more than 1 1/2 hours.**
- **Invocation and Benediction:**
  - Will be given by the Master of Ceremonies and commencement speaker.
- **Awarding of Diplomas:**
  - As each graduate crosses the stage to receive his/her diploma, the GCCHS Master of Ceremonies will either read the biographical information provided about the graduate.
  - Attached to this packet is a **Biographical Information Sheet** that needs to be **completed and returned by March 1, 2022**.
- **Power Point Presentation/Photos of Graduates:**
  - In addition to the biographical information, a PowerPoint presentation with photos of the graduate that are shown during the ceremony on a screen located behind the graduate and on the opposite wake for the graduate and parents to see.
  - The photos that are in PowerPoint Presentation should be:
    - Photos of the graduate during elementary years, pre-teen or early teen years, and some recent, such as a graduate portrait
    - The photos can be color or black and white
    - Please send 10 pictures
    - Please submit the clip of the song you would like to play on video and if you prefer a particular starting point make sure to send the start time.
    - Please submit pictures, clip of music which you would like played must be sent by **March 1, 2022** to ***gcchswebsite@gmail.com***

        - Because GCCHS is out sourcing the compilation of the photos used during the ceremony, any photo submitted after that date will not be guaranteed inclusion.
        - **It is important to make arrangements for your child's senior portraits to be made in time to submit them to GCCHS before the deadline of March 1, 2022.**
- **Honor Graduate Recognitions:**
    - We would like to recognize those home school graduates who have excelled academically and are named honor graduates.
    - To qualify as an honor graduate, you must fulfill at least one of the following criteria:
        - Member of Eta Sigma Alpha or another official honor society
        - Earned at least a 3.5 GPA
        - Completed a minimum of 3 honors level high school classes
    - Please send a transcript to GCCHS.
    - If you qualify as an honor graduate, you will be allowed to wear gold cords with your cap and gown. They can be purchased for an extra fee.
- **Special Awards for GCCHS Members ONLY:**
    - GCCHS will present special awards to deserving graduates. We want to recognize those outstanding seniors who have excelled academically or who have given of their time and talent in serving others.
    - **Community Service Award:** Attached to this packet is a Community Service Award application. If your graduate wants to be considered for this award, he/she should complete the application and submit it to GCCHS no later than **April 1, 2022**.
    - **GCCHS Service & Leadership Award:** Attached to this packet is a Christian Leadership Award application. If your graduate wants to be considered for this award, he/she should complete the application and submit it to GCCHS no later than **April 1, 2022**.
    - **Valedictorian/Salutatorian:** Attached to this packet is a Valedictorian/Salutatorian application. If your graduate wants to be considered for this award, he/she should complete the application and submit it to GCCHS no later than **April 1, 2022**.

Order of Graduation Ceremony

Subject to change

8:30AM Arrival of graduates, families, and volunteers
8:40AM Last minute instructions for volunteers
Pictures for graduates and families
9:30AM Graduates and Parents meeting in Foyer for prayer
Music begins in Sanctuary
10:00AM Processional to class song
Welcome & Opening Prayer by Master of Ceremony
Pledges or National Anthem
10:20AM Introduction of Commencement Speaker
Commencement Address
10:55AM Conferring of Diplomas
Graduate Announcement and Slide Show
Master of Ceremony Reads Graduate bio or voiceover
Each graduate will ascend the right stairs
Parents walk up left stairs to meet in center
Graduate hands mom the Rose
Dad confers the Diploma
Parents return to seats via left stairs
11:05AM Master of Ceremonies Announces the Class of 2022 Caps thrown
Recessional

GCCHS Graduation Bio

(please complete for inclusion in program)

*****Due March 1, 2022*****

Email to: *gcchswebsite@yahoo.com*
Subject line: Senior Bio with Graduate's Name

Graduate's Full Name:_____

Write a brief paragraph answering the following questions:

- # of years homeschooled
- Nickname
- Plans after graduation
- Any scholarships received for college
- Member of any significant organizations
- Volunteer work
- Awards received in high school (i.e. Eagle Scout, Essay Awards, etc.)

The following are sample essays:

Example #1: Jane Angela Doe, the daughter of John and Mary Doe, will be attending the University of Texas on a full scholarship in the fall of 2018. Jane plans to major in Biology with a specialty in Marine Biology. She was listed on the Presidential Honor list at HBU where she attended dual enrollment. Jane has volunteered extensively in her church, participated in many extracurricular sports, and served as the editor of the Yearbook.

Example #2: Bob Steven Jones plans to work with FedEx after graduation with future plans to have a career in Aeronautical Engineering. Bob has participated with the CHSA Basketball Team and has obtained his pilot's license recently. He won first place in the GCCHS Geography Bee in 2006 and participated in the Rising Seniors Program at Creighton College. Bob received the Eagle Scout Award and received special recognition for his participation with the Literacy Program connected with Harris County Public Libraries.

Please be selective with information: essays will be edited to conserve space if over the 85-word limit. It is much better for the student to decide what will be included.

GCCHS Community Service Award

*****Due April 1, 2022*****
Email to: *gcchswebsite@yahoo.com*
Subject line: Community Service Award with Graduate's Name

Award: $100.00

Who Qualifies? This award seeks to reward students who have made community service a priority. The applicant must have been home educated for at least three years, with the senior year counting as one year. The applicant's family must have been a member of GCCHS for a minimum of three years total. The applicant must also be a participant in the GCCHS graduation ceremony.

Who will be awarded?

Because this honor focuses more on life goals than on academic accomplishments, the primary assignment is to write an essay as described below. Decisions will be made based on the number of hours and depth of work the volunteer has done. The recipient selected for the year's award will be announced and awarded at the GCCHS graduation ceremony.

To apply for the award, include the following information in your email/essay:

- Graduate's Full Name
- Number of years home schooled
- An essay answering the question: Why do you volunteer?
- List all of the volunteer service activities (including service in your church) with the specific # of hours and a description of the services.
- A letter of verification from the supervisor who managed your volunteer hours.
- Include the dates of service and the average number of hours spent per week
- If it was a one-time project/activity, include the total number of hours spent and designate as a one-time project.

GCCHS Service & Leadership Award

*****Due April 1, 2022*****
Email to: gcchswebsite@yahoo.com
Subject line: GCCHS Service & Leadership Award with Graduate's Name

Award: $100.00

Who Qualifies: This award seeks to reward students who have volunteered and shown leadership within GCCHS. The applicant must have been home educated for at least three years, with the senior year counting as one year. The applicant's family must have been a member of GCCHS for a minimum of three years total. The applicant must also be a participant in the GCCHS graduation ceremony.

Who will be awarded: Because this honor focuses more on life goals than on academic accomplishments, the primary assignment is to write an essay as described below. The committee will make a decision based upon the number of service/ leadership hours to GCCHS. The recipient selected for the year's award will be announced and awarded at the GCCHS graduation ceremony.

Please include the following information in your application email:

- Graduate's Full Name
- Address
- Number of years homeschooled
- List all school, church, service and extracurricular activities in which you have participated
- Complete a short essay of five hundred words or less including all of the following:
    - Your experiences in GCCHS
    - How and why you have volunteered/shown leadership within GCCHS
    - How being homeschooled has benefitted your education
    - Your future plans

GCCHS 2022 Scholarship

****Due April 1, 2022****
Email to: *gcchswebsite@yahoo.com*
Subject line: GCCHS 2022 Scholarship with Graduate's Name

Awards: 2 awards of $250 each

Who Qualifies: The applicant must have been home educated for at least three years with the senior year counting as one year. The applicant's family must have been a member of GCCHS for a minimum of three years. The applicant must be participating in graduation with GCCHS.

Who will be awarded: The scholarships will be awarded to the graduates with the top two highest SAT/ACT scores. The recipient selected for the year's award will be announced and awarded at the GCCHS graduation ceremony.

Please include the following information in your application:

- Graduate's Full Name
- Address and email address
- Number of years homeschooled
- Grade Point Average
- ACT/SAT Scores
- A character recommendation from a non-family member
- An acceptance letter from the students intended college
- List all school, church, service and extracurricular activities in which you have participated

GCCHS Graduate's Information and Order Form

(All costs of T-shirt and Photo CD are included in your graduation fee)
(Mail this form in with application)

Graduate's Full Name:_____

Mailing Address:_____

City/State:_____Zip:_____

T-shirt Information:

T. shirt size: (circle one) S M L XL XXL XXXL

PHOTOS:

After graduation, each family will receive an Online link or CD with copyrights to all the photos. Our photographer will be shooting the entire graduation ceremony including:

- Individual "grip and grin" photos of each graduate receiving their diploma
- A group shot of all graduates
- Candid shots of graduates getting ready, interacting with family, and reception.

Optional Items:

(The following items are NOT included in your graduation fee)

Class Rings:

- Two of the vendors offering class rings are:
  - *http://goldlance.com/*
  - *www.balfour.com/class-rings*
-
- GCCHS will not be placing any orders for class rings. Graduates will order those directly from your chosen vendor.

Invitations:

Invitations can also be ordered from *homeschooldiploma.com* if desired.

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GCCHS Graduation 2022– Key Dates, Deadlines & Fees

DUE DATE	INFORMATION	FEE
November 30, 2021	• Early GCCHS Member Registration and Graduation Fee	N/A $280
January 31, 2022 5:00PM	• GCCHS Members Graduation Registration and Fee Due • Non GCCHS Members Graduation Registration and Fee	$325 $350
March 25, 2022	• GCCHS Prom @ Hilton Nasa	N/A
March 1, 2022	• Notify of Awards, Senior Table • Send Pictures and Music clip for videos • Parent/Student Choices • Graduate's BIO	N/A
April 2022 TBA	• Graduation Meeting: TBA	N/A
May 13, 2022 1:00PM-4:00PM	• Graduation Rehearsal MANDATORY: UBC University Baptist Church 16106 Middlebrook Houston, TX 77059	N/A
May 14, 2022 10:00AM	• Graduation • **Graduates arrive at 8:30AM** University Baptist Church 16106 Middlebrook Houston, TX 77059	N/A

**Minimum Fees without additional options*