

Action Required: 2021 Commencement Reminder

President <president@cia.edu>

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Memorandum

Cleveland Institute of Art | 11610 Euclid Avenue | Cleveland, Ohio 44106

To: Class of 2021
From: Grafton Nunes, President
Date: March 30, 2021
Subject: Action Required: 2021 Commencement Reminder

CIA Seniors:

This is a recap of the memo sent on March 19 and a renewed request regarding the 2021 Commencement [survey](#), which is **due tomorrow, Wednesday, March 31**. Please complete it as soon as possible. It should only take a few minutes to fill out.

In the interest of health and safety, Commencement will again be virtual this year. A pre-recorded ceremony will premiere at 8:30pm ET on Friday, May 14. More information on how to watch can be found in the March 19 memo and at [\[cia.edu/commencement\]cia.edu/commencement](#). We'd much prefer to gather in person for Commencement this year, but we feel the plan we have in place is the best, safest and most community-minded plan available to us amid ongoing pandemic considerations.

Our Commencement speakers will be world-renowned producers, directors and writers Anthony Russo, Joe Russo and Angela Russo-Otstot. CIA recently awarded honorary degrees to the Russos for their contributions to film, television and their native Cleveland. The Student Commencement speaker will be announced in April, and the President's Traveling Scholarship award recipients will be announced during the ceremony.

In the pre-recorded ceremony, students will receive individual name recognition from their respective major chairs and will participate in the conferral of degrees. The diploma name as written on the graduation application is the name that will be used in the ceremony.

Student obligations

When your name is read, an image of your choosing will be shown. Please submit your image **and complete this [survey](#) by 11:59pm ET Wednesday, March 31**. This [survey](#) contains required information for CIA to provide the Commencement package, which will contain personalized Commencement announcements, cap, gown, tassel and a few surprises.

- Commencement items will be able to be picked up in the Registrar's Office located in Student Affairs between Monday, April 12 and Wednesday, May 12 during office hours, or will be mailed if you indicated that option in the [survey](#).
- Degree candidates need to complete the following requirements and obligations for graduation before diplomas and final transcripts will be issued:
 - Return all items that have been borrowed from the Jessica R. Gund Memorial Library, Equipment Checkout and major departments. More information on this process will arrive in an email from the Office of Academic Affairs.
 - Resolve any financial obligations. Contact Student Accounts for details.
 - Complete the federally required Financial Aid Exit Counseling. More information on this process will be sent from the Office of Financial Aid.

Once these obligations have been met, graduates will receive a second package containing their diplomas and Commencement programs, which will be mailed in late May. Transcripts that show completion of BFA degrees will be available upon request after meeting the above criteria. If you need to confirm or update your mailing address provided after completing the survey, please reach out to the [Registrar's office](#).

If you have any questions, please fill out the question portion of the [survey](#).