

Issue  
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# Graduate Gazette

BROOKS DEBARTOLO COLLEGIATE H.S. CLASS OF 2018

*Friday, May 18, 2018*

*2PM*

*Straz Center*

*1010 Macinnes Place Tampa, Florida 33602*

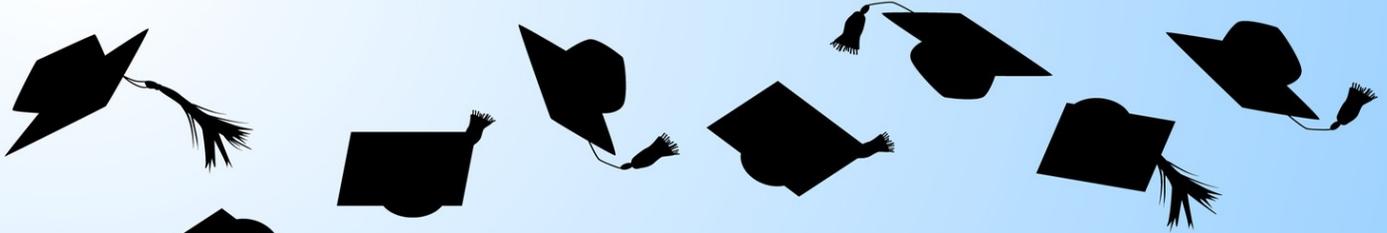
Seniors must arrive at 10:30AM with caps and gowns for rehearsal. Lunch will be provided.

Graduates will each receive 15 tickets for the ceremony for family members and friends.

Tickets must be presented at the door on the day of the event. No ticket—no admission.

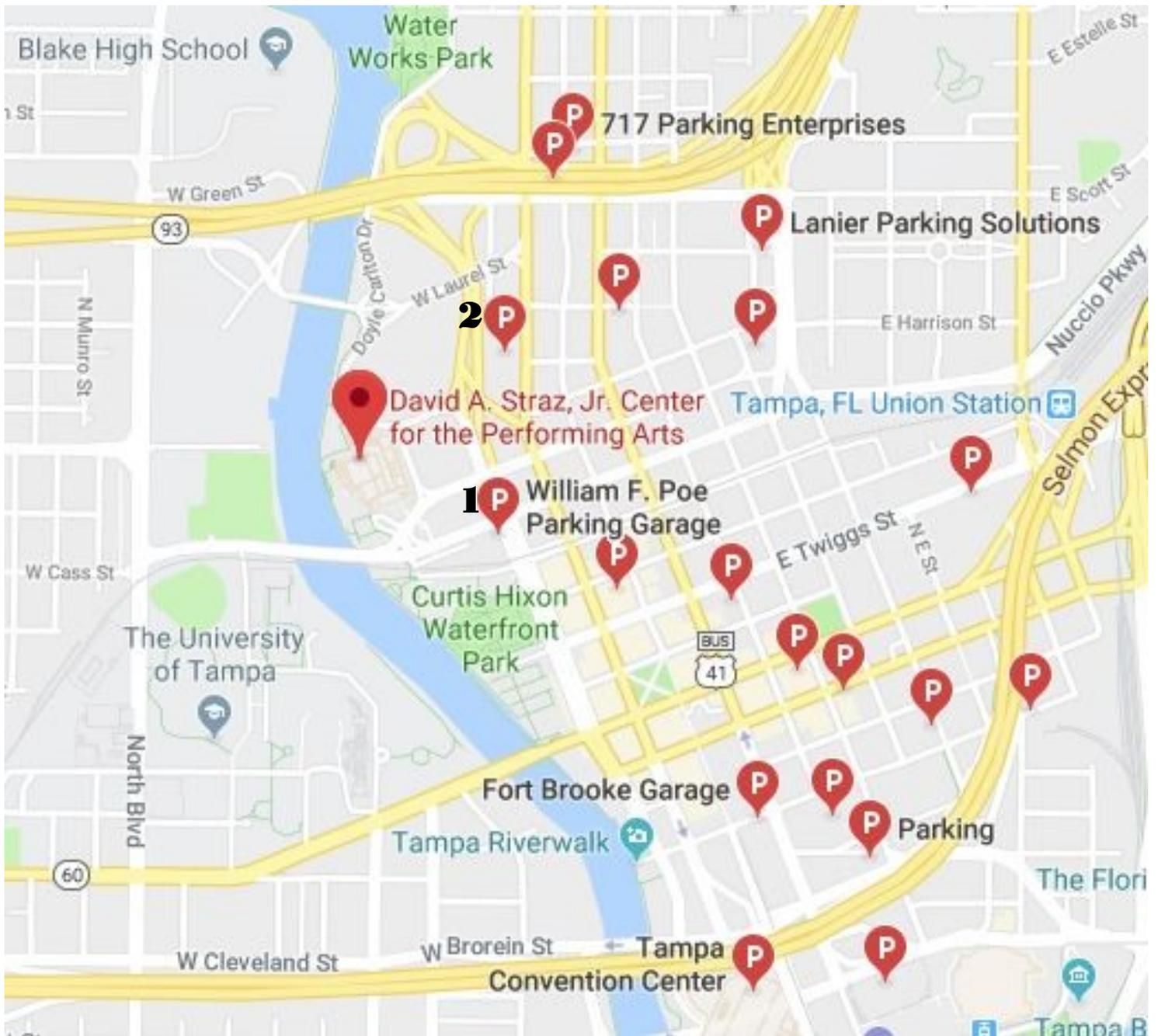
Parking will be available in several locations around the Straz for around \$10. Most require cash payments.

See the next page for ideas for parking.



# GRADUATION!





## PARKING RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The closest parking area is the **William F. Poe Garage** at 800 N. Ashley Drive. Rates vary depending on length of stay. The Poe Garage is only accessible from Ashley Drive.
2. There is also the Royal Street Regional Lot at 1200 N. Tampa St.

There are several other parking locations within walking distance (see map above). We strongly recommend that you have a parking plan before the day of the event and that you make every effort to carpool. Please consider dropping off your graduate so that you don't have extra cars at the event. You may get more information about parking options via Google Maps or other map services.

# Home Stretch!



**Friday, May 4**

**Class Olympics / Seniors' Last Day**

**This is a school day, and attendance will be taken!**

**May 7–10**

**SENIOR EXAM DAYS 7:30-10:45AM**

**\*Seniors must confirm with each teacher if an exam is required or if they are exempted.**

**\*Seniors must report to the cafeteria IN UNIFORM**

**\*Seniors will request each exam needed in the order they choose until they complete all exams.**

**Thurs., May 10th**

**Senior Celebration 7:00–8:30PM**

**We will celebrate our seniors and their invited guests with dessert, coffee, awards, and a special video presentation. No tickets required!**

**Thursday, May 17th**

**MANDATORY**

**Graduation Rehearsal at BDCHS at 1PM in gym**

**Friday, May 18th**

**Graduation—seniors report to Straz at 10:30AM**





# GRADUATING WITH CLASS

## For Graduates:

- Men should wear dark dress slacks with a shirt and tie. No jeans are permitted.
- Ladies should wear dress pants or a knee-length dress. The gown will fall to mid-calf, and you won't want your dress hanging out underneath. No jeans are permitted.
- All graduates should wear DRESS SHOES. No sneakers or flip-flops or other casual footwear will be permitted. Ladies should be especially careful about high-heeled shoes as you'll be walking up steps and on potentially slippery surfaces.
- Do not bring: phones, gum, cameras, confetti, noisemakers, or other items that will distract from the solemnity of this very special occasion.



## For Guests in the Audience:

- Please be courteous when finding seats if someone asks you to move down to fill up empty seats to make room for another party. We are going to be close to if not at capacity, so please help one another out!
- Please silence your phones when you enter the auditorium.
- Please remain seated throughout the ceremony. We have a professional photographer who will be taking pictures of each graduate, and there will be opportunities to pose for pictures with your graduate afterward both in the venue and outside by the fountains and on the Riverwalk.
- Please take crying babies and noisy children into the lobby so that everyone can enjoy the ceremony without disruption.
- Business casual to dressy attire is appropriate for this event.
- Please do not bring confetti or noisemakers—this includes air horns, cow bells or anything else that will distract from the ceremony.
- If you're planning post-ceremony celebrations, please know that we should be completed by 3:45.

# Honor Your Graduate with a brick in the Phoenix Walk!



Leave a lasting impression and pay tribute to your **SENIOR** by placing a brick in their honor in our Phoenix Walk.

Celebrate their Brooks DeBartolo accomplishments and graduation by purchasing a Phoenix Walk brick.

Bricks can be customized and they come in three different sizes – 4X8 (\$100 – \$499), 8X8 (\$500 – \$999), 12X12 (\$1,000 – \$2,499).

To help you in celebrating, we are offering you, as a senior parent/guardian/family member, the opportunity to purchase a brick at a discount.

Between now and June 1<sup>st</sup>, you will receive a **20% DISCOUNT** on your total brick purchase!

To purchase a brick online, copy & paste the following into your browser - <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/PhoenixWalkForm> using discount code **Seniors** or you can also purchase a brick by completing an order form, click and print - <http://bdchs.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/The-Phoenix-Walk-Order-Form-Bricks.pdf> and submitting it to Judy Anderson, Director of Development, with either cash or check made out to BDCHS.

Don't let this special moment pass you by!

## Sunday Afternoon Sestina

I hate to watch him as he drives away,  
knowing that his home is no longer my home,  
but I can't avoid the exquisite pain every time he leaves,  
and I keep the slippery mask in place to smile goodbye.  
It's a small victory that gives me hope  
that I'll never give in and beg him to stay.

I knew all along, for eighteen halcyon years, that he couldn't stay;  
his whole life with me was built on his going away.  
That he'd grow up strong enough to live without me was a double-edged hope.  
Even though his love is a favorite room in my heart's home,  
it's only right to open the door wide and bid him goodbye,  
a bittersweet farewell that wounds fresh each time he leaves.

A tree in a new season must drop its colorful leaves,  
and no castle built on sand can survive sunset to stay.  
No bright star can outlast its inevitable goodbye,  
although for a mortal life's blink, its light never fades away,  
so is his light – though casting shadows – still shining in my home  
with the sweet burden of my motherly heart full of hope.

Let his book of life be filled with many, many pages, I hope and hope,  
and let there be joy, love, and laughter penned in its leaves.  
I pray that his story will include his own home,  
built with his own children who also won't stay,  
and when it's time for them to go away,  
I will have taught him how to smile and say goodbye.

It's always seemed like there is an ending in every goodbye,  
but I now see that in that word is always the inexpressible hope  
that even with distance and a sense of being so far away  
there is a bond, a togetherness, that never leaves.  
There is a sense of connection that will always stay,  
and it is this echo that is a kind of new home.

We can live together, in that home away from home,  
built in a place where love never says goodbye  
and joy and laughter can always stay.  
That is my hope  
every time he leaves,  
and I watch him as he goes away.

My aching heart whispers hope  
that the home of our love will stay,  
that this is a goodbye that never leaves, no matter how far away.