



**SSW SPRING 2022 COMMENCEMENT
IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRADUATES**

(Please Review before Commencement)

Saturday, April 30, 2022 @ Power Center – 2pm

Keynote Speaker: Senator Stephanie Chang

MSW Student Speaker: Alyssa Cozad

MSW Student Performer: Christina Parker

Ceremony Marshals: Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, Daicia Price & Sue Ann Savas

MSW Hooders: Zaynab Boussi & Dan Fischer

MSW Name Readers: Justin Hodge & Shanna Kattari

12:30pm – Graduates arrive, robe, and prepare for ceremony (Rehearsal Hall)

1:00pm – Power Center doors open for all

1:25pm – Group photo of graduates and lineup for procession into auditorium


2-3:30pm – SSW Commencement Ceremony


3:30pm – Reception at School of Social Work

MASKING POLICY: Commencement will operate in conjunction with the current [University masking policy](#) allowing masks to be optional. All students, faculty, and staff must complete the [ResponsiBLUE](#) screening prior to entering campus buildings. Guests must complete the [ResponsiBlue guest](#) screening.

 **STUDENT GUEST RSVP: *EACH GUEST MUST SHOW AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION or A PRINTOUT OF THE REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION TO ENTER THE POWER CENTER AUDITORIUM.***

Each MSW graduate may have up to seven (7) guests for SSW Spring Commencement. Please register your guests, family, or friends planning to attend the SSW ceremony by listing their full name below. Registration is required. *The registration confirmation will serve as an event ticket to enter Power Center auditorium, so be sure to forward a copy of the registration confirmation to each of your guests or print a copy to give to them.*

 **GRADUATES SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE POWER CENTER BY 12:30 P.M.**
Upon your arrival at the Power Center, **GO TO REHEARSAL HALL** (accessible from the upper level of the parking ramp door) for robing and assembly for the procession. Staff will be available to assist and direct. **NOTE:** The entrance doors to The Power Center will not be open until 1:00 p.m. Should your guest require assistance with seating, please have them approach one of the ushers for accessible seating assistance.

 **GO TO THE APPROPRIATE TABLE BASED ON YOUR LAST NAME TO RECEIVE YOUR PRE-PRINTED NAME/PHOTOGRAPHY CARD.** The card is used to announce your name by THE READER. (Available in the robing room.)
Names on cards are listed with the information and phonetic spellings provided by graduates.

If you would like your name read differently than what is printed on your card, please take a blank card and enter in the correct information.

Please complete both sides of this card!

This card will be also used by the photographer to help identify your photo and send you the proofs for possible purchase. There is no obligation to purchase the pictures.

Hold on to this card until you go up on the stage. You will hand it to one of Readers at the lectern so they can announce your name.

 **TASSELS SHOULD BE ON THE RIGHT.**

 **HOODS SHOULD NOT BE WORN. YOU WILL CARRY IT OVER YOUR LEFT ARM.**

As part of the ceremony, you will hand your hood to one of the faculty hooders on stage who will ceremonially place the hood over your head. Staff will provide hooding instructions prior to the ceremony.

 ***DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES (CAMERAS/PURSES) IN THE ROBING ROOM, AS IT WILL BE UNATTENDED DURING THE CEREMONY.***


 **A GROUP PHOTO OF GRADUATES IS PLANNED FOR 1:25 P.M. (Weather & time permitting)**

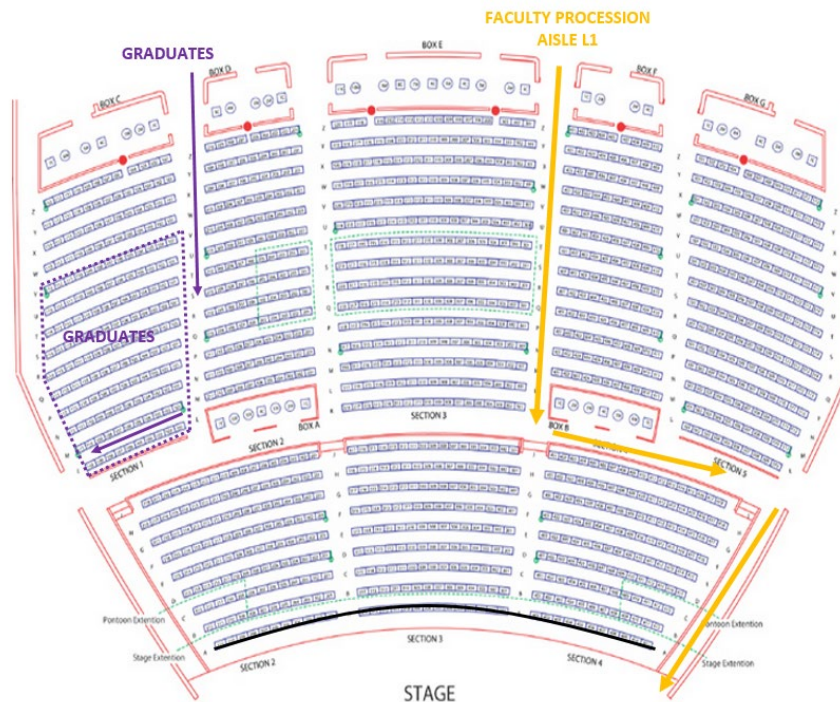
The Marshals and photographer will give specific instructions to all graduates in Rehearsal Hall. Please be sure that all of your cards have been filled out, your attire is on, and you are ready for the ceremony **prior** to the photograph.

 **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE GROUP PICTURE, THE MARSHALS WILL DIRECT YOU TO GET INTO THE PROPER ORDER FOR THE PROCESSION**.** The procession into the auditorium will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. The Marshals will give you instructions/directions.

****ORDER OF GRADUATES FOR PROCESSION (in the following order):**

- Student Speaker: Alyssa Cozad
- Student Performer: Christina Parker
- MSW degree candidates in alphabetical order

 **MARSHALS WILL LEAD THE GRADUATES INTO THE AUDITORIUM** and direct graduates to their seats. Graduate seating will be in section 1. Please remain standing until all graduates have entered the auditorium and directed by the Dean to be seated.



DURING THE CEREMONY: “Presentation of Graduates”

When the Dean announces that the Hooders, Readers, and Marshals should take their places for the Presentation of Graduates – one Marshal will stand at the end of the row. The Marshal will motion for the first row to stand and will lead the row of graduates down to stage ramp (floor right). One Marshal will remain at the stage ramp to direct students to the hooders **two at a time** and wait until both have been hooded before sending the next two. The Marshals at the end of each row will continue moving down the rows of graduates, emptying one row at a time.

Two Hooders will be on the stage positioned to the right of the lectern. Staying in order, each graduate will position themselves in front of one of the Hooders. The 1st student in front of the 1st hooder, 2nd student in front of 2nd hooder. Each graduate should hand their hood to their hooder and then turn around to face the audience. Each Hooder will then place the hood over the graduate’s head. The two graduates, after being hooded, should then turn and move to the right toward the lectern – staying in order - then proceed forward one at a time to hand their name card to one of Readers, and continue across the stage to greet the Dean. **In the interest of health/safety, the Dean will not shake hands with graduates, but feel free to bump elbows, wave, etc.** The photographer will take a picture of the graduate with the Dean at this time. The graduate then continues toward the stage exit ramp and will be greeted by the SSW Alumni Board of Governors Representative who will give a handout. The photographer will take a 2nd photograph of the graduate at the bottom of the stage exit ramp. Proceed back to original seat and sit down. ***Congratulations, Graduate!!!***

LIVESTREAM: The School of Social Work Commencement will be livestreamed on the [SSW website](#) for individuals who do not plan to attend the ceremony in person. Graduates were surveyed to see who was not planning to attend the ceremony in-person. Graduates who informed us they will not be attending in-person will have their name read and a slide with their photo shown during commencement and via the livestream. **We cannot guarantee a slide will be included for students who did not inform us of their plan to NOT attend in-person.**

RECEPTION

Join us for a light reception that will be held immediately following the ceremony at the School of Social Work.

PARKING FOR THE CEREMONY: The Fletcher street parking structure located at 201 Fletcher Street will be open to the public for parking at no charge. The Thayer street parking structure located at 216 S. Thayer Street will be open to the public for parking at no charge. Handicap parking is available in both structures. For driving directions & campus maps: <https://campusinfo.umich.edu/campusmap>

PARKING FOR THE RECEPTION: All campus lots will be open on April 30th for commencement. The following lots will be available free of charge:

[U-M Church Street Parking Structure](#) (525 Church St.)

[U-M Hill Street Parking Structure](#) (1001 Hill Street)

Reception attendees may also walk from The Power Center and leave their cars parked in the Thayer or Fletcher Parking Structures for the day.

RETURN OF BORROWED ATTIRE OR DONATION OF GRADUATION ATTIRE:

Graduation attire borrowed from the SSW ***must be returned to the Office of Student Services no later than May 27, 2022.*** For graduates’ convenience, a drop off box will be available in the graduate robing area at Hill Auditorium and outside the Office of Student Services on the day of commencement to drop off your attire immediately following the ceremony/reception. **Be sure to attach a note with your name, so we know you returned your attire.**

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING ALL OR PART OF YOUR GRADUATION ATTIRE for the use of future graduates if you purchase your attire. You can put it the drop off box with a note or bring it by the Office of Student Services during regular office hours.