**Smith Student Commencement Speaker Auditions**

**What is the process?**

If you are graduating in December and want to audition or would like to nominate a classmate who is graduating, email Ashley Pickett at apickett@rhsmith.umd.edu. The nomination deadline is October 26th.

All prospective students must write a commencement address and will audition in-person with a Commencement Speaker Selection Committee.

**When do auditions take place?**

Auditions take place on November 2nd in College Park. Students who are auditioning will receive an email confirmation that includes an audition time with the Commencement Speaker Selection Committee. Please be sure to arrive on time.

**What does the audition involve?**

The audition begins with a brief interview with the Commencement Speaker Selection Committee. Then students who are auditioning present their speech to the committee. Students should bring six photocopies of the text of the speech.

**What are the expectations for the speech?**

* Speech should be between 3-4 minutes in length, inspire graduates, recount times at Smith, and encourage graduates to remain part of the Smith community moving forward
* Speech should be relatable and appropriate for the entire audience which includes graduates, parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, faculty, and staff
* Speakers must feel comfortable speaking at a podium and in front of a crowd

**If I have additional questions, who should I contact?**

Ashley Pickett at apickett@rhsmith.umd.edu