

senior portrait guide



hey there!

You've made it. Your moment is here. You're a senior and this is your year! I am honored that you are considering Spellman Photography to capture one of the most important moments of your life: your senior portraits.

I love senior sessions! Not only do I want to capture beautiful portraits for you, but I want you to have an amazing experience. Together, we will customize a session that is uniquely yours. We will go over every detail – from location to outfits – to give you the best experience possible!

I can't wait to get to know YOU. The real you. And then capture that on camera. Let's get started!

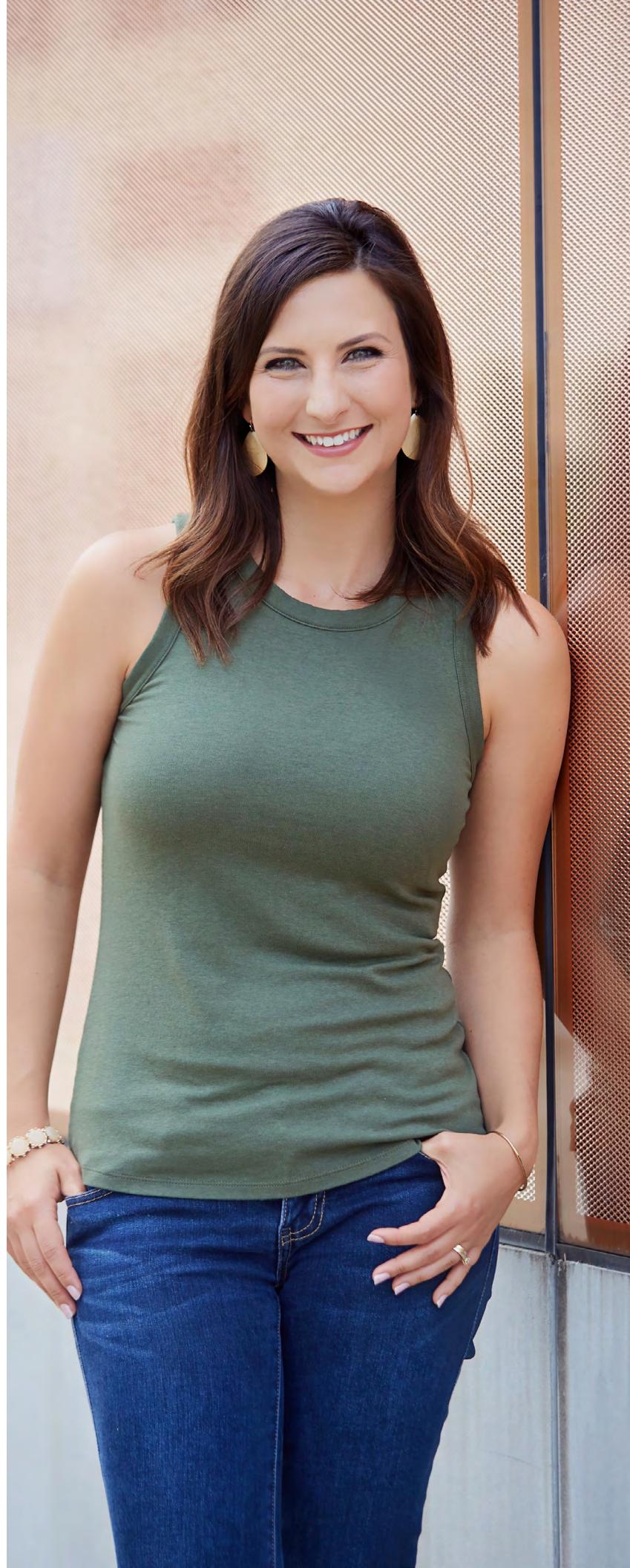
let's be social

Facebook - @spellmanphotography

Instagram - @spellmanphotography

about me

I'm a chatterbox who drinks entirely too much caffeine. I love lazy Saturday mornings watching the Food Network and HGTV. I try to eat "clean and healthy" but somehow always end up binging on Picket Fence Creamery ice cream. I am too adventurous on photo shoots... I often end up climbing on rickety things and balancing precariously on ledges to get just the right angle! And yes, at some point during our photo shoot I will show you a picture of my cute baby and my crazy dog! I can't help it – I'm obsessed with them!

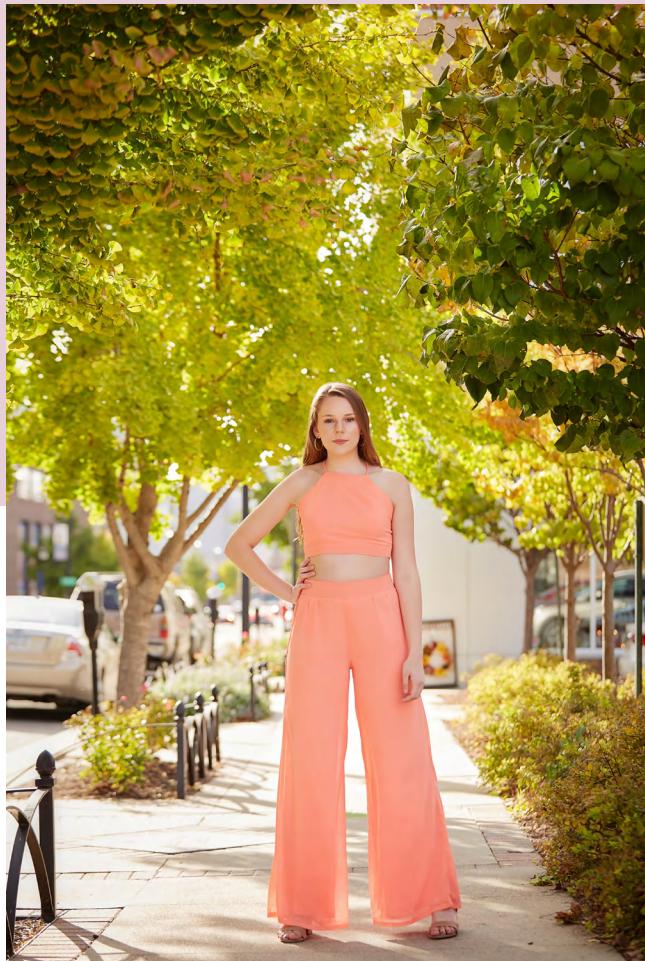


THE PROCESS

Your personality should decide your senior portrait style, not outdated props and mismatched locations. Senior portraits are a great time to showcase the things you love. There is no right or wrong! Books, sports, art... all of these passions can be displayed through creative photography.

I pride myself on creating beautiful images that are meaningful to each senior and senior parent. I believe in flexibility, creativity and good old-fashioned fun on each photo shoot. I create images that are timeless with a modern twist. I shoot natural light “on-location” photography, which means I work with each senior to figure out their personality and passions and choose locations that will work with that style. I am not a high-volume senior photographer. I work with a small number of seniors each year, which allows me to be hands-on in the planning and ordering process for each family.

Senior year is such a fun, memorable time for both the student and the parents. I feel honored when families choose to work with me for their senior portraits, as it is one of the most important senior milestones.



I had such an awesome experience working with Katie from start to finish. She made the planning process super easy and was very flexible working around my own personal schedule. The photo shoot was an absolute blast, and it was evident how much Katie loves each and every shoot she does. She made me feel beautiful throughout the whole shoot, and was very helpful when it came to outfit ideas and locations to shoot at. Katie treated me with respect and kindness, and definitely made me more comfortable during the shoot. All of the pictures turned out absolutely beautiful. I am so glad I chose Katie to take my senior pictures. She's not only incredibly talented, but very personable. She made the whole process fun and relaxed, creating the best experience possible for me.”

Maggie Odegaard

booking

I only accept a limited number of sessions each month. For this reason, it is important to book your session 6-8 weeks in advance to secure your spot!

planning

Once you book your session date, the fun really begins. You will receive a welcome email that has a senior style questionnaire filled with questions all about YOU.

If you're wondering why I want to know your favorite article of clothing or your hobbies, it's because it helps me create a session that is perfectly styled for you! During your planning consultation, we will work together to prepare for your big day. We will meet at your house and you should have 4-6 potential outfits, complete with accessories and shoes, to choose from. I will help you pick the best outfits and then we will dish about EVERYTHING – hair, make-up, tips, poses, etc... This is the perfect opportunity for you to bring your ideas to the table about props or posing.

session

Woo Hoo! It's picture day! You get to enjoy having your hair and make-up professionally styled by [ALL DOLLED UP MAKEUP DESIGNS](#). Enjoy your pampering and most importantly, plan to have fun at your session!



I'm really happy with how my pictures turned out! The planning was super easy, stress free especially with Katie having ideas and how having someone who could do my hair and makeup. I also liked how fun the shoot was! I know my mom will definitely be going back for both of my brothers senior pictures and family pictures! We loved how Katie cared about our opinions and how she helped with her own input of how to make the pictures turn out even better! Over all I was so happy we chose Spellman Photography to do my pictures and wouldn't change a thing!"

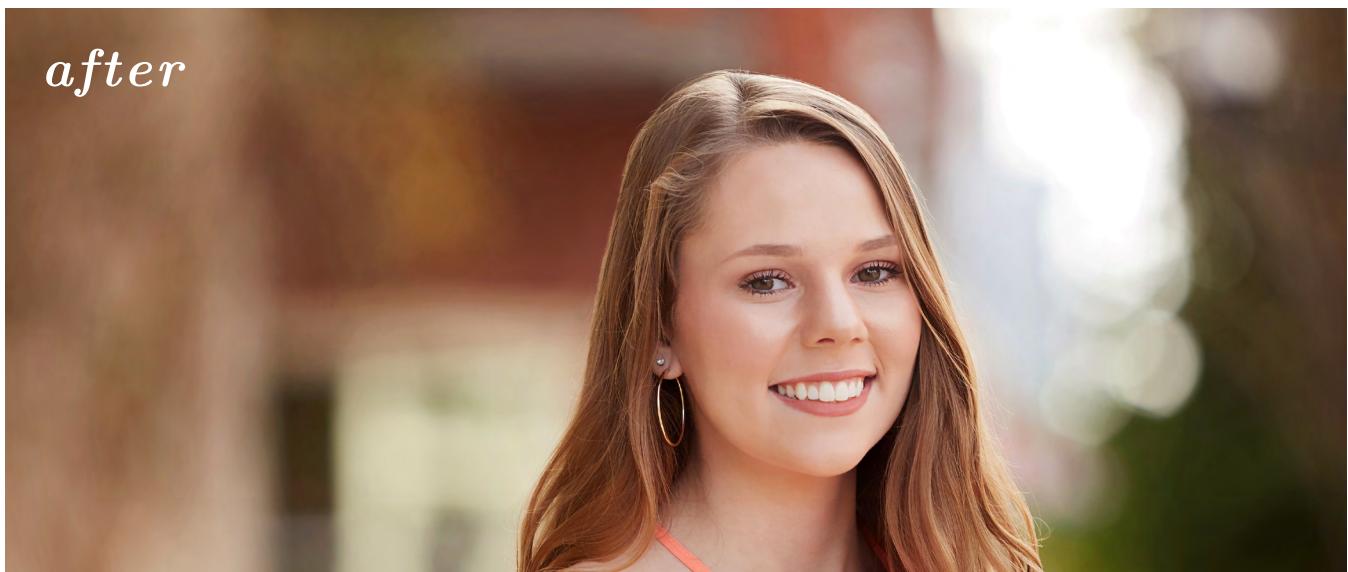
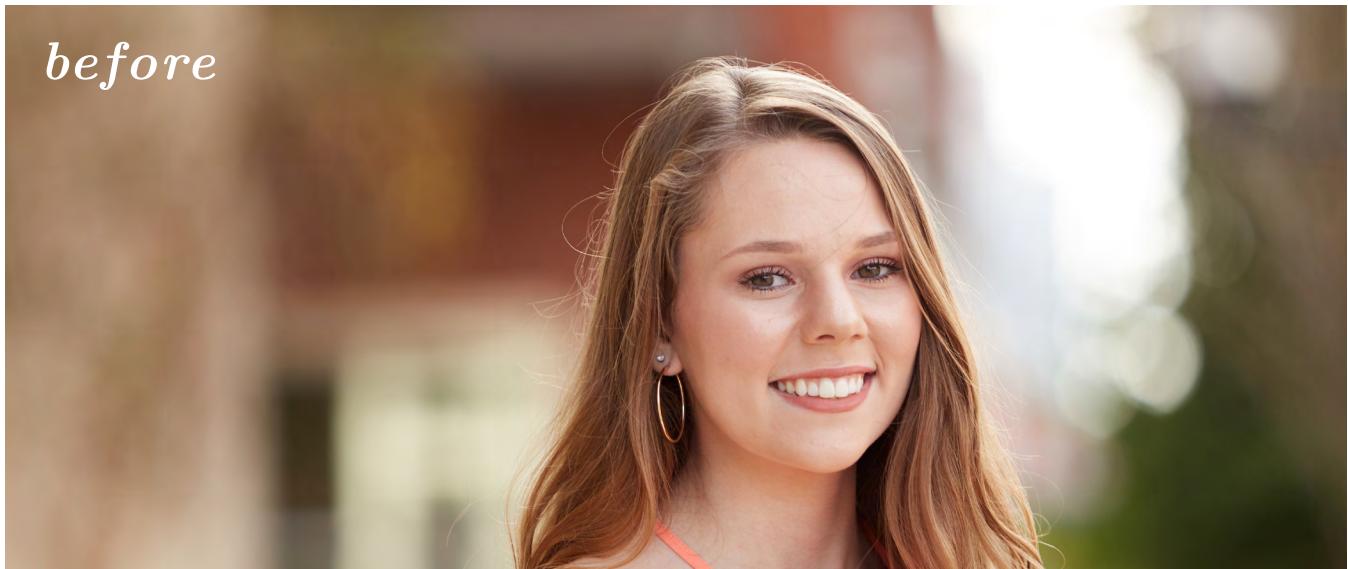
WHAT'S NEXT?

sneak peeks

You can expect to see a few sneak peeks on social media within 5 days from our session together.

editing

I believe in what I call “soft-touch” editing. Each image is hand-edited to enhance colors, exposure and composition. Your image shouldn’t look “edited”, it should look naturally radiant.



ordering

I know you'll be waiting for that call... the call that means your photos are ready! When it is time to view your images for ordering, we will meet at my house where we will view your images together. You'll have the chance to view samples of all of my printed products, so you'll know exactly how you want to display your images! I am there to answer questions and help you decide which images and products will go best with your personal décor.



product delivery

After your ordering session, I will process your payment and then your order will be on its way! Once I receive your order, I will package it up and get it right into your hands!



I thought the photo shoot was a lot of fun! And I loved not having to worry about getting my hair & makeup done before driving to Des Moines. It was one less thing for me to worry about. I enjoyed having my hair and makeup done with Allissa! The printed images I received at the end were great quality. I really loved how the back of the images were a hard cover & not like normal images. I also really liked how unique my senior album turned out and the images looked really good.”

Alexsia Martinez

GET READY FOR YOUR CLOSE-UP

Part of what makes my senior portrait experience so fun and memorable is the professional hair and makeup service included in my sessions. First, it is such a fun, pampering experience and really sets the tone for the photo shoot. Additionally, cameras capture EVERYTHING. Regular everyday makeup is hard to see through the high-def camera lens. Plus... sweat happens. Professional make-up will be set so your face will be flawless from beginning to end of your session. The Iowa heat and humidity will not win! Allissa, of All Dolled Up Makeup Designs, will create a look that fits the vision of our shoot and will highlight your natural radiance.

PS - My favorite part of professional makeup is the awesome false eyelashes! I'm obsessed!



WHAT TO WEAR

- Saturated, jewel-toned colors
- Complimentary layers (Jackets, vests, scarves)
- Functional clothing (If you want to get the greatest variety of poses, you will need to be able to sit, stand, squat, etc in your outfits.)
- Jewelry
- Nude undergarments (And I'll just say that Spanx are every girl's best friend)
- Dark wash jeans are always a good choice
- Tailored clothing that accentuates your best assets (I often find that loose, flowy clothing can make you look larger than you really are.)
- Interesting textures (leather jackets, fur vests, sequins, etc)



senior highlight

Kendra is the perfect example of a “what to wear”. She used deep, saturated colors. Jeans that show off her great shape. High heels to elongate her legs and a killer leather jacket to add visual interest through texture and layering. She nailed it!

WHAT NOT TO WEAR

- Wrinkled, dull clothes
- Busy patterns – camo, plaid, etc (If choosing a patterned garment, choose large-scale pattern like bold strips or buffalo check over small-scale pattern like gingham or polka-dots.)
- Cleavage bearing tops and/or mini-skirts
- Clothes with excessive rips, staining, etc
- Clothes with large logos or lettering (American Eagle t-shirt, etc)
- Dirty shoes

Your clothing choices can set the tone for the session. You can certainly remain casual, dress it up or do a little bit of both! Layering and accessories always make a big difference in adding visual interest to your clothing. Choose clothes that show your style and personality, not just what everyone else is wearing.

looks i love

boho



casual



glam



sporty



WHAT ABOUT THE GUYS?

The same rules that apply to the guys! Casual or dressy, try to have well-fitting clothes that are wrinkle-free and steer away of small patterns and logos. Layers work great for guys too!



FAQ

When will my photos be ready?

Once you have placed your order and paid in full, you can expect your order within 30 days.

Where do you hold your senior portrait sessions?

To ensure you love your images, all locations are selected after discussing personal style preferences. Generally, we will remain in the greater DSM metro area but can venture out to Ankeny, Ames, Perry, etc.)

Do you remove braces?

In short, no. There are other photographers that provide this service but I have found that it is very difficult (near impossible) to create a natural-looking edit of this type. I always suggest waiting until the braces come off (if possible).

I've never had professional photos taken, do I need to know how to pose?

Nope! It is my job to make you feel comfortable in front of the camera and to get a variety of natural smiling and serious expressions for you to choose from at your ordering session.

What props can I bring?

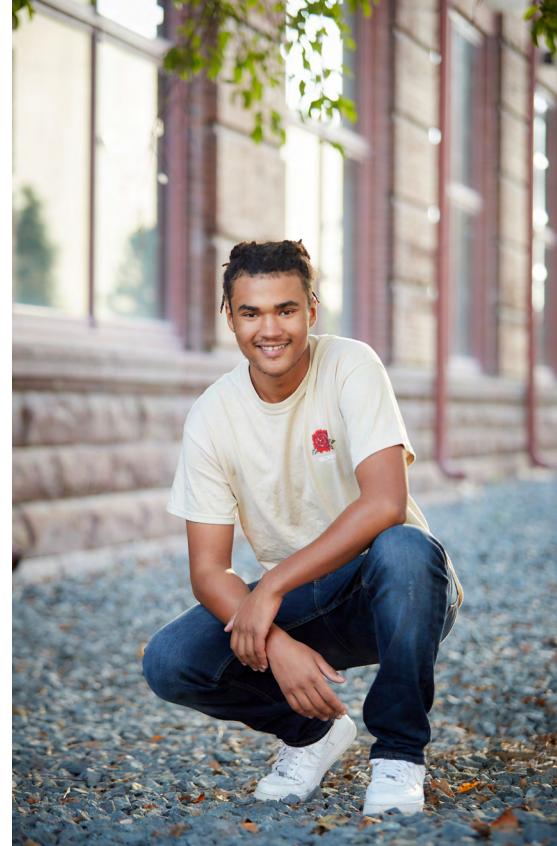
You can bring anything that reflects who YOU are! During your planning appointment we can brainstorm this together!

Should parents come to the senior session?

I generally do not recommend that parents join us at the shoot as most seniors have trouble feeling fully relaxed and comfortable with parents present. However, you are welcome to bring a friend to help you feel more relaxed.

What do we do if the weather is bad?

Iowa can have some crazy weather. If the weather truly is not cooperative, we will reschedule for one of the “reserve” dates that I set aside each month.



INVESTMENT

The “Senior Experience” - \$250

Includes:

- Planning consultation session
- 2+ hours of shoot time
- 2-3 outfit changes
- 1-2 locations
- 1 digital yearbook photo
- Professional hair and make-up (ladies only)

Photography is all about lighting. Sessions take place about 2 hours before sunset. Depending on the time of year, this can be as early as 3pm or as late as 6pm start time. Senior sessions are scheduled on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday evenings only.

The “Senior Experience” session fee does not include any digital images or print products and is due at the time of booking. Prints, canvases, digital images and collections will be purchased at the ordering session. A minimum purchase of \$300 (not including session fee) is required. Collections start at \$300. Most clients order between \$600-\$800 of products.



Going into senior year, I was so stressed at even the thought of taking senior pictures. Katie made everything easy from the beginning. She talked me through all of her thoughts, took in my opinions, and was incredibly helpful to both my parents and me throughout the entire process. The photo shoot was the highlight of my experience with Spellman Photography. Katie made me feel so comfortable and absolutely beautiful in every photo! She didn't act like I was just another client, she treated me as a friend, which is something I cannot express my gratitude enough for. She gave me real feedback on my outfits, made great conversation with me the entire time I was out with her, and made sure the final product was exactly what I wanted. I can't thank her enough for everything she did to make this experience one to remember. I would definitely recommend her amazing skills to any senior out there who wants a positive, easy photo session with stunning final proofs."



Kayla Crouse

CLASS OF 2019 Senior Packages

The Basics - \$300

(\$350 VALUE)

- 24 wallets (1 pose)
- 5 gift prints (4x6 or 5x7)
- 11x14 mounted print
- 4x6 – acrylic block

The Premium - \$750

(\$1,345 VALUE)

- 48 wallets (2 poses)
- 8 gift prints (4x6, 5x7 or 8x10)
- 11x14 canvas gallery wrap or metal wall art
- 4x6 – acrylic block
- 5 digital images
- 100 custom graduation invitations
- 5x30 panel wall art

The Ultimate - \$950

(\$1,908 VALUE)

- 72 wallets (3 poses)
- 10 gift prints (4x6, 5x7 or 8x10)
- 16x20 canvas gallery wrap or metal wall art
- 4x6 – acrylic block
- 10 digital images
- 100 custom graduation invitations
- 8x8 album (20 images)

The Digital - \$1,250

(\$1,500 VALUE)

- 30 digital images, fully edited with printing rights included on a custom USB

À la Carte Pricing

GIFT PRINTS

- Wallets (24) - \$30
- 4x6 or 5x7 - \$40
- Digital Print - \$50

ARTISTRY PRINTS

- 8x10 (mounted) - \$60
- 11x14 (mounted) - \$80
- 16x24 (mounted) - \$150

CANVAS GALLERY WRAP OR METAL WALL ART

- 11x14 - \$175
- 16x20 - \$250
- 20x30 - \$400

ACRYLIC BLOCK

- 4x6 - \$40

FRAMED PANEL

- 5x30 - \$300

LINEN-COVERED ALBUM

- 8x8 size – 20 poses - \$500

GRADUATION INVITES

- 50 cards – \$150 (*add on additional 25 cards at \$25 each*)



I truly do look forward to each and every senior session. If you are ready to book your session or if you have any additional questions for me, please contact me today at KATIE@SPELLMANPHOTOGRAPHY.COM