



## **MEDIA ADVISORY – May 16, 2013**

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### **College of Western Idaho Celebrates Record Number of Graduates**

Nampa – On Saturday, May 18, the College of Western Idaho will honor its 2013 graduating class in a comprehensive commencement ceremony hosted at Taco Bell Arena in Boise. The ceremony, which is scheduled for 7 p.m., will recognize a record number of degree and certificate graduates, as well as GED completers. CWI is anticipating nearly 600 students will participate in this year’s commencement, which will also be a record.

Some of the highlights of this year’s commencement include:

- 861 Degree and Certificate Graduates
- 231 Graduates with Honors
- 1,500 GED Candidates
- 36 Veteran Graduates
- 24 Students Graduate with Multiple Degrees
- Average Graduate GPA 3.32
- Youngest Graduate 20 Years Old
- Oldest Graduate 66 Years Old

“We have 30 percent more graduates this year, which is a phenomenal story in itself,” says CWI President Bert Glandon. “However, the numbers are only part of the story. This class of graduates represents a diverse group of people who have come together in the most challenging of times and have accomplished amazing achievements while at CWI – often overcoming great odds. You can bet we will continue to see success from them for many years to come.”

For a complete list of graduate candidates and details on program activities visit: <http://cwidaho.cc/current-students/graduation>. For family and friends of graduates that cannot attend in person, CWI will be streaming the live event on the CWI website at [www.cwidaho.cc](http://www.cwidaho.cc). Community members are also encouraged to share

messages with graduates using #cwigraduation on Twitter. Messages will be streamed for graduates to view on screens in Taco Bell Arena prior to the ceremony.

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**About the College of Western Idaho:**

The College of Western Idaho is a public, open-access, and comprehensive community college committed to providing affordable access to quality teaching and learning opportunities to the residents of its service area in western Idaho. CWI has seven campus locations throughout Southwest Idaho providing higher education and 21st Century technical skills acquisition. The college is dedicated to improving the community's economic well-being by responding with highly-educated and productive graduates. The foundation for the area's only community college was created by a supermajority of voters in Ada and Canyon counties on May 22, 2007. For more information about the college, visit [www.cwidaho.cc](http://www.cwidaho.cc) or call (208) 562-3000.

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