ULTIMATE
SENIORS
BY MERCY STREET STUDIO
Class of 2023
5 SESSION MISTAKES TO AVOID
6 FUN LOCATION IDEAS FOR YOUR SESSION

WELCOME

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR ULTIMATE SENIOR PHOTO SESSION

BEFORE *we meet up for your senior photoshoot, you'll be busy getting your look together! Take time to prepare your outfits (iron, ensure fit, use proper undergarments (nude undergarments are best), hang clothes on hanger), and prepare yourself (hydrate, do your nails, etc).*

Your first stop will be professional hair and makeup. You'll arrive for your appointment with clean dry hair and a clean face. Be sure to discuss your desired look and any concerns you have with our beauty partner.

Once you are happy with your look, we will meet on location to start capturing your images. We can typically squeeze in 5-6 outfits during an ultimate session; you can bring more, it's good to have a variety of images to choose from!

We take advantage of the golden hour, shooting before sunset, which gives us soft, pretty light. Shooting outdoors offers so many gorgeous natural backdrops.

If you wish to be photographed in your prom gown, please bring it with you. (Let me know in advance). We have enjoyed making beautiful portraits with these gowns for our seniors.

Finally, please express any concerns you have. Our goal is for you not only to have the very best senior portraits, but to have a fun and memorable experience to kick of a great senior year!

LOCATION:

SIX FUN SENIOR PHOTO SHOOT LOCATION IDEAS

LOOKING *for unique location ideas? We've got you! Aside from our normal coastal areas, below are a few lesser known options for your consideration. We see locations differently; even if you can't picture it, we can usually make magic happen! You can also see some locations on our FB page under our "location" photo album.*

HEAD DOWNTOWN.

Cityscapes offer the best of everything and no two shoots are the same! Take advantage of the colorful buildings, graffiti, colorful doorways in the city. Portsmouth & Dover have a ton of options!

A GARDEN PARK.

If you would prefer a beautiful backdrop of trees, flowers, and wide open spaces, use one of the local parks as a location for your shoot. Prescott Park has a gorgeous flower garden that blooms all summer and fall.

ENJOY AN AMUSEMENT PARK.

Using an amusement park is as fun and as it gets! Incorporate the bright colors and bold patterns into your shots. York Animal Kingdom is a fun colorful option!

INDUSTRIAL PARKS

Yes! They have gorgeous landscapes and beautiful flowers! These are pretty vacant on the weekends as well, providing a great opportunity for photoshoots!

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK.

Want a location that's totally unique? We can share some lesser known spots! And if you're really adventurous, we can stop at a few roadside locations. Sometimes the best spots are the least likely!

FEELING BOOKISH?

How about a favorite library, bookstore, or reading nook? Most book store owners are happy to give permission for a shoot and these make for some really unique images. We've shot at Sheafe Street Books, Book & Bar, and others!

MISTAKES:

THE 5 SENIOR SESSION MISTAKES TO AVOID

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1 **WEARING THE WRONG OUTFIT.**

If you want your photos to look great, make sure your clothing fits properly and is suited to your body type. Try your outfits on beforehand and sit, lean forward, squat, make sure you like the way the outfit looks in a variety of positions (ie: make sure you're okay with the way your tummy looks when you sit in a crop top). Iron & use a hanger to avoid wrinkles. Most importantly: wear a nude bra and underwear. This is important!

2 **DRAMATIC HAIR CHANGE BEFORE YOUR SESSION.**

Your hair plays an important role in your overall look and if you decide to try a new hairstyle too close to your senior session, you could end up with photos that don't feel like "you". And pleeease don't try any DIY hair processes before your shoot.

3 **WAITING TOO LONG.**

Book your senior portraits as early as possible. Summer shoots are amazing and typically the season you have the most available time. Once school starts, your schedule may get filled with sports and other committments. The sun also sets earlier in the fall so our late fall shoots may take place right after school. If you have always dreamed of a fall session, with sweaters and foilage, book early so you'll be able to get in with us on a day your schdule is open.

4 GETTING TOO MUCH SUN.

Having a summer glow is great, but don't overdue it by getting too tan or sunburned right before your senior session. You want your skin tone to look healthy and natural.

5 FORCING A POSE OR A SMILE.

The more natural you are in front of the camera, the better your photos will look. Not every pose or expression is for every person. And that's okay! If you're feeling nervous that's totally normal and it's my job to help put you at ease. I will guide you into poses that flatter you. Even beyond posing, I'll "unpose" you with verbal prompts so that you don't look "forced". You can practice smiles you like in the mirror before your session, try to come up with a few expressions you like and we'll work through those during your session. You're going to be fine! I've helped thousands of people through this process. You're in good hands! I gotchu ;-)

"I just have to thank you for making my girl feel on top of the world yesterday for her senior photo shoot.

The minute we got back into the car, she couldn't stop gushing about how much fun she had with you, and how very kind you were.

To top it all off, your post of one of her photos on your Facebook page put her on top of the world, and then all of the kind comments were the icing on the cake.

My daughter feels beautiful thanks to your expertise."

-Laura (class of 2020 mom)

THE ULTIMATE

WHY OUR ULTIMATE SENIOR SESSIONS ARE AWESOME

THIS *is your senior year, which is a very special time in your life. The images we create together will last a lifetime.*

Our ultimate senior sessions are tailored to you. You'll have a consulting call with your photographer a few days before your session where you can discuss locations, fashion, weather, and any concerns you may have.

The session begins with professional hair and makeup by a beauty expert. She will create the look you want (most people say they want a natural look, don't worry about her making you look like a clown - it won't happen). Before you leave the salon make sure your hair & makeup are perfect.

Then we have lots of time for lots of locations and outfit changes. You may feel a little nervous at first, but that feeling will disappear once we begin shooting!

The best part about the ultimate sessions is the proofing gallery. YOU get to view the unedited pictures and choose the images you want us to edit and finalize.

You only get to be a senior once! Our goal is to not only capture some great photos of you, but to create a fun and memorable experience. Our track record is pretty good!

SELECTING YOUR PHOTOS

After your session (typically within 24 hours) we will load your unedited proofs onto an online gallery where you can begin to make choices. Keep in mind the images aren't finalized so make your choices based on how you look rather than on lighting or other factors that can be changed.

You'll have the option to choose 20 or 35 digital images for your final gallery.

THE EDITING PROCESS

Once you've decided on the images you want, the editing will begin. During the editing process, we will touch up each photo and remove any minor imperfections. Feel free to discuss preferences or make editing notes on your images if you have any concerns. Galleries are typically delivered within 10-14 days. Rush service is available for $50.

THE EDITING PROCESS

Once we've captured some great shots, the editing will begin. During the editing process, we will touch up each photo and remove any minor imperfections.

ORDERING YOUR PHOTOS

Once we have processed your photos, we will load your images onto an online gallery where you can order them as prints or digital images. Most of our clients choose a digital image package so they can print images whenever they want, and use them in the future for gifts, holiday cards or graduation announcements.

INVESTMENT:

YOU ARE PRICELESS, YOUR PICTURES AREN'T

ULTIMATE SESSION. $595+

Our ultimate senior portrait experience is all about you! This session includes many boutique bells & whistles including a pre-shoot consultation, professional hair & makeup, 2+ hours of photography, multiple shoot locations. We also offer a proofing gallery - so you get to choose the images that are edited and placed in your final gallery! Prints & digital images are sold seprately. This is a once in a lifetime experience, the perfect capstone for your high school years!

50% of your session fee is due upon booking. The balance is due on the day of your photoshoot

AFTER THE SHOOT, YOU'LL DECIDE:

35 High resolution digital images $545

20 High resolution digital images $495

Digital image purchases come with a print release

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