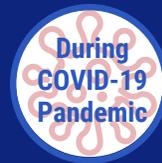




# Monday Messages to Students from Alumni



**From a 1970s Graduate:** *These are some of the best days of your life. Enjoy them. Make friends and treasure them always. Berea College provides a protective environment that encourages and promotes your success. Appreciate what it offers you. Yes, these are tough times and troubling days but there are faculty, staff and helpers there for you. Don't be shy about reaching out to them. They are there for you. I wish for all of you to obtain a solid education and always a healthy mind, body and soul. Make good memories to treasure in the future.*

**From Jim Ramsay Class of 1982:** *Hello, Even folks like me who are nearly 4 decades past college remember those days with great fondness. It is a unique time for unique experiences that form us into the person we become. So I can only imagine what it must be like to be having that experience in the midst of a pandemic! That's a story you're going to be able to tell all of your life that is unique to this small group. Perhaps that's an honor you'd prefer not have. But I want to encourage you to press into whatever this experience offers. I suspect even as some opportunities seem to have been lost, there are other possibilities for learning and growth that are unique to this situation. So, press in, stay connected to others, find ways to help and encourage others, and see what this time has to teach you that will then become part of you for the rest of your life.*

**From a 2010s Graduate:** *Life is going to happen to all of us regardless of if we are ready or not. For every complaint that you may have, say two things that you are grateful for. Do not allow the stress of your current circumstances to keep you from the joy and love that surrounds you. Be grateful for where you are in your journey because in time you will see that you are exactly where you need to be to achieve your goals and dreams. It will all make sense one day. Remember, the journey is just as important as the destination. Do not give up until you've done all that you can do!*