

## Monday Messages to Students from Alumni



**From April Shaeffer, Class of 1999:** Just a note to let you know you are not alone and we will get through these trying times together. Always remember stars can't shine without darkness. Let your smile change the world, but don't let the world change your smile.

From a 1990 Graduate: To Our Beloved Berea College Students- Yes, the 2020 is one of the most challenging years that many of us will experience/encounter in our lives!! In addition to a Global Pandemic with unprecedented death, our Country is also addressing much needed and long over due matters of Racial Tension!! This year is a time of uncertainty like never before!! I'm sure that previous generations had the same feelings as they were trying to figure out how to cope and how to improve to make things better!! Well, as Bereans, we are not strangers to hard times and turmoil. It's simply our time to work towards making a difference in life!! And I have no doubt that in typical Berea College character, each of you will do just that (Make A Difference)!! As an Alum and as a Staff, I see your hard work, dedication, and perseverance to get through these difficult times!! And I'm proud of your progress and I believe that this moment in time will help you develop new strengths in all realms (physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually)!! When running a hard race, the key to winning is to pace yourself and to cross the finish line!! This also applies in the "Race of Life!!" So, remember to take a deep breath, figure out what pace works best for you, and keep on running until you cross whatever finish line that's ahead of you!! You can do it!! After all, it has always been in you and it's why Berea College chose you in the first place!! Blessings upon each you!!

**From Dianne Gibson, Class of 1969**: These are strange and troubling times for everyone. We will get through them. Continue to have faith and strive to help and understand each other.