

## Monday Messages to Students from Alumni

From a 2015 Graduate: Hello Bereans, I am sorry that your experience at Berea for most of this year has been affected by the pandemic. I encourage you to consider yourselves lucky and privileged to be going through this time as students at Berea College. It is a privilege that you can count on Berea Collège community for support during this time. Take a moment to reflect on this privilege, and commit yourselves to add to the community by supporting each other, and being grateful for moments of kindness that you experience. Also, this pandemic presents an opportunity to reflect on what we are learning in class and its application in the world around us. It is an opportunity to observe the interdisciplinary nature of our world. Whether you are studying economics, biology, psychology, history or computer science there is an area of your discipline that connects to how humanity is experiencing and responding to the pandemic. Take this time as an opportunity to observe, ask questions, and connect knowledge to application.

From a 1960s Graduate: Berea College helped shape my understanding of the world as a chaotic place and provided a frame of reference for living with chaos whether it be from visible or invisible sources. It was the liberal arts courses that I recall providing the most beneficial tools. Freshman English class provided an unexpected learning experience. Our textbook, London in Plague and Fire 1665-1666, with excerpts from Samuel Pepys' Diary, opened a door so vast I walked through it in my dreams. Expect and be prepared to deal with disasters and chaos led me to study Public Health Nutrition at the Master' level and Nutrition Science with minors in Medical Biology and Physical Anthropology at the doctoral level. This year, I dutifully wear a mask, social distance, and wash my hands.

**Pandemic**