

# Grads Reflect Back on Senior Year

## It's a time...

when people should be able to put trust into the systems that are supposed to take care of them, but no one, at least no one I'm around or often exposed to, really trusts the government right now. People are out of work, the ones that aren't are often over-worked. All of the numbers about cases reported and percentages of those infected mean almost nothing, with the lack of testing and the high number of false negatives.

At the same time, it almost feels like nothing is happening at all. It's surprisingly easy to stay at home and kind of feels like summer break. The biggest difference is not being able to go and see my friends all of the time, but things like FaceTime make even that easier. The other day I had a "date" of sorts with my best friend where we both ordered food and ate together on FaceTime so that it could feel like we were eating at the restaurant we like together. I know that I'm experiencing this differently from a lot of other people, though.

At the end of the day, the virus will run its course. It will last as long as it lasts, and I can't do anything more than my best to not contribute to it. It's easier to immerse myself in projects and the day by day than by trying to guess when or how things will get back to normal, if they do. And so I'll keep doing my projects, and learning what interests me. I'll text and call my friends to keep from feeling too lonely. There isn't much else to do.

--Ashton Sawyer



Kayla Gulley (left) and Jayliah Joiner examine archived documents with classmates during a visit to PSU.

## The Good and the Bad

Let's start with the bad parts about quarantine.

You can't go anywhere. This means the mall, movie theater, almost any fast food place, and the worst for me, the barbers. Two, you can't see your friends and family. If you don't already live with them, you can't hang out with your friends. Or at least you're not supposed to. But even when you do, there aren't many places to go. Three, it's a bad time to look for employment. If you're like me and looking for work, it's a lot more difficult than it already was. Four, graduation. I was really looking forward to a graduation party because I worked so hard to pass my classes.

Now, here is the good stuff about quarantine. One, it forces you to keep in touch with your friends. Even though I said you can't see your friends and family in person, you can still text them and keep in touch with them. Also, I talk to my parents more. Two, I have more time to work on my fitness. Three, I get to talk with my grandparents more and mow their lawns to get paid.

Now that I don't have to worry about graduating, I can focus on my plans to attend PCC. I can work on things that I'm interested in. For example, I have been trying to write song lyrics for myself to sing. I just try and keep positive during this time. Now I just hope this thing ends soon.

--Brett Hinsley

## Alberta Park in Quarantine

While taking pictures it was interesting to notice how many people were in the park and sitting far apart from each other, and it was such a shock to me because Alberta Park is never that full and it was nice to see people go outside and enjoy the sun.

During this whole Covid era I myself have been going outside and spending more time in nature areas. Last week I went to the Deschutes state park which is a little past The Dalles and on the way back we went through Hood River and up to Timberline lodge which was pretty empty and they required masks to go inside. I've also been on a lot of hikes.

I really like exploring the nature and I think without this pandemic I wouldn't have done all those things.

--AJ Brazile

## The Good Times at Jeff

Who would've known? Unfortunately our important and exciting senior year had to be cut short by COVID-19. It's been a change in our lives and turned out to be a strange year. I miss a lot of my family and friends. I miss all of the funny moments and good times at Jeff.

I really appreciated how much some of the teachers and also my SEI coordinator cared and really put in effort to make sure I was up to date on schoolwork. This school year was fun and I'm glad I got to strengthen friendships.

A day in the life of Covid-19 isn't too exciting. I try to do different things each day, stay close to the family and continue adapting to the next things that come my way.

--D'Androse Robinson

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# ALLIES FOR CHANGE



## We stand with the Black community.

Our community, our nation, is hurting. As a company that cares deeply about the health and resiliency of our region, we stand in solidarity with those seeking justice and advocating for an inclusive society.

We want and can do more. To nurture future leaders, employees and suppliers of color. To welcome all eaters and neighbors. To show the business community that building community resilience must include nurturing and welcoming diversity.

We are committed to doing better. We are looking at blind spots. And we are taking action. Our first steps are to:

- Commit to companywide leadership and employee training that helps us understand and eliminate prejudices, biases, disparities, and inequities.
- Redesign the recruitment process to better attract and serve historically underrepresented people, beginning with the Black community.
- Partner with community organizations that prepare Black youth for employment and nurture Black farmers and food entrepreneurs.

We won't always get it right, but we embrace the responsibility of contributing to systemic change. It's what "serve with love" looks like.

Read more at: [Burgerville.com/allies-for-change](https://Burgerville.com/allies-for-change)