

Hello Class of 2024!! WELCOME TO UVA!!

I'm sure 2024 seems so far away (and we're dying to get out of 2020 already) but these years will fly by faster than you know. We are all having our college experiences rocked, and I frequently tell my friends "I miss college" but the people at UVA really know how to make you feel close when everyone must be so far away. You are now a hoo, so that makes you one of us, and the people here will always look out for you. I'm sure this is not how you imagined your college experience to begin but you will find your people and your place with time.

I cannot believe where these years have gone. I still remember walking across the lawn every morning to get to class just looking in awe of the Rotunda. This place holds so many memories to me, everywhere I look. There are safe ways for you to have this too. Get outside, engage, meet new people, at a distance of course. Join a club, join five. Find something you're passionate about, or just get to know the people involved. The friends I have made come from everywhere. And remember: you wouldn't be at UVA if you didn't earn it. You may feel doubt at times, but that is normal. UVA is challenging. But with challenge, comes growth. It's not what you hope for, it's what you do for it.

I am excited for you to have an amazing experience here. Be present, take every moment and hold on to it. This is just the beginning.

I look forward to seeing you around grounds!

Julia

Class of 2021