

Hello, Class of 2024!

Congratulations on beginning your life at UVA whether you are on Grounds or not, I know it is difficult with Covid-19 running amuck. I'm happy to see that you still chose to start your college life this year, I could never imagine starting my first year in the middle of a pandemic and I am terribly sorry that this is your first taste at college. I promise that it does and will get much more exciting. As soon as we crush this pandemic!

Hopefully things will go back to normal quickly, so that you can experience the wonderful things about the University including football games at Scott Stadium, Lighting on the Lawn, Trick-or-Treating on the Lawn, Rotunda Sing, and many more fun things to be held on Grounds. I know for sure that I am going to miss these things when I leave Grounds in the Spring, so I hope that you can enjoy your time at UVA just as much as I did. Even clubs and organizations have been affected by the pandemic, but some of my best memories and experiences come from different events held on Grounds by different clubs. By far, my favorite is Lighting on the Lawn. A bunch of acapella groups and dance groups come to perform while the University provides free hot cocoa, hot cider, and cookies. And to end an already perfect night, we light up the Rotunda and the entire Lawn with lights, but not simple lights, an entire lightshow with music and light up balls. I look forward to this every year and arrive to the event at least an hour before to get a good spot to see all the groups perform. But bring a blanket and a warm jacket! It gets cold being outside for 3-4 hours. It is unfortunate that my favorite event probably will not be happening this year, but hopefully you can enjoy it too in the future!

If you would like to talk more, I would love to hear about your experiences at UVA so far and your semester. My email is knn2ps@virginia.edu, I'd love to have a pen pal during this pandemic and hopefully share some wisdom! I hope you absolutely crush your midterms and finals, but just your first semester in general! But even if you don't (because I sure didn't haha), I'm still proud of your hard work and everything you did to get to UVA. It is not an easy task being at the most awesome University ever even despite Covid-19.

Sincerely,
Kristen Nason
Class of 2021