**Then and Now - Reflections of Returning After Quarantine**

**EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT DUE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28.**

**Process of Receiving Credit:**

For this extra credit reflection assignment, you will submit your reflection to the Journal of the Plague Year public history digital archive I work with. You must actually submit your piece the the JOTPY archive. You won’t turn in the reflection to Google classroom, instead, you will take a screenshot of the email confirming they received your submission and turn that in to Google Classroom. <https://covid-19archive.org/s/archive/page/Share>

Click the link about to submit when you are ready!

When you submit, don’t forget to attach the file you create! (Whether it is a photograph, picture, PDF, etc.)

**Assignment Instructions:**

The JOTPY Archive has been collecting stories since March 2020. The world looked much different in Match 2020 than it does today. With that in mind, I’d like you to reflect on spending your first quarter (plus three weeks :) ) of junior year back in person after the year of school over Zoom.

There are many ways you can approach this, but the theme is “then and now.” What are your feelings now that we are back in person? How has lived changed, both for the better and for the worse? What are moments that have made you really happy? What are moments that have caused emotions of stress, fear, etc.? Are there things that are less or more important now that we are on (hopefully) the other side of COVID? Have your values or philsophies on life changed? Are you used to the COVID protocols, like mask wearing so that it’s not a big deal anymore? Are you happy with the COVID protocols or unhappy and why? When you look back on last year and compare it to this one, what are the noticeable differences in how you are living day to day?

For the submission, you will be choosing an item that best illustrates your feelings and writing a reflection to accompany it. Maybe it’s a photograph of the space where you used to do distance learning (in my house, for example, there are tiny holes in the wall from where I hung up decorations each season during quarantine as the backdrop to my Zoom. When I catch sight of one, I tend to think “Can you believe I taught all those months on Zoom”?) Maybe it’s a picture of your new sports uniform because after a year of shut down, you can practice again. (Or, if you’re like my daughter, it’s an expensive competition leotard that was worn only four times because all meets and competitions were cancelled for over a year, and she’s now outgrown it and needs a new one). Maybe it’s a picture of the box of masks that you pull your new mask from each morning. Maybe it’s a picture of getting food from a restaurant rather than having it delivered. Maybe it’s ta group shot of the first day of school when your friends were reunited for the first time. Maybe it’s a piece of music or art or poetry that expresses your reflection. Maybe it’s a screenshot of the video game you became obsessed with over quarantine and now can’t quit. Maybe it has nothing to do with school, but is all about your response to national or world events. The possibilities are endless!

Once you’ve selected your item, make up a unique title (**DON’T** call this “Then and Now, Reflections of Returning After Quarantine” - make up a title that relates to your post). Then, write a short explanation of why you selected your item and explain how it connects to the pandemic and why it best represents your current experience as a junior in high school during this strange time of coming out (again, hopefully) of a pandemic, but also during a period of unrest in this country. Your reflection is up to you, you can express your hopes, fears, anxieties, accomplishments, successes, failures… it is YOUR experience.

Other possible things to consider to help brainstorm your reflection

-3 -5 words to describe your 2021, and why.

-How has first quarter of your junior year differed from sophomore?

-What three pieces of advice would you give to the freshman version of yourself who was totally unaware they were about the experience a global pandemic?

-Memes/texts that represent your experience, photos, original songs, Tiktoks, social media posts, art work, poetry, school assignments, new hobbies, etc.

**EXTREMELY IMPORTANT:**

If you do submit, **you will also need to submit the attached parent permission form to Google Classroom**. Technically anyone over the age of 13 can submit to the archive without parental permission, but because you are doing this as an assignment, I need to make sure your parents are okay with you submitting. Please remember that you are able to submit anonymously, which means your story will be part of the archive by your name will not be. :)

Also, be sure to **NOT** include personal information! When uploading, be sure to only select “Garden Grove” or “Orange County” for the location. DO NOT MAP YOUR HOME ADDRESS. Also, if including a screenshot from your social media, be sure to mark out your name and the name of any followers that appear.

Finally, you will be asked to give “hashtags.” Fill in whichever ones you’d like BUT be sure to tag your entry “APUSH” and “Garden Grove High School.”