

**Subject:** A note to the West House Class of 2020 - and West House NEWS  
**Date:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 11:23:55 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Ryan C. Hickox  
**To:** Ryan C. Hickox  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, image002.jpg, image003.png, image004.jpg, image005.jpg, image006.jpg, image007.jpg, image008.jpg, image009.jpg, image010.jpg, image011.jpg, image012.png, image013.jpg, image014.jpg

Hi Westians,

I'd like to start with a quick note to this year's West House seniors:



In the fall of 2016, I went to the Dartmouth Co-op and bought a long-sleeve green “DARTMOUTH 20” T-shirt. I had a feeling that the ‘20s would be a special class – after all, you were the first group that would be members of West House from the beginning of your time at Dartmouth, and we would be building our House Community together. Seeing our first incoming House class all together during your Orientation was a singular experience, and even back then, I was very much looking forward to this year’s Commencement as we celebrated your achievements after four years at Dartmouth and in West House.

Alas, world events have overtaken us, and we won’t be able to share your senior spring together on campus this year. I know today’s announcement about postponing Commencement, even if not particularly surprising, is still intensely disappointing for you and your loved ones. I wanted to let you know that I and the rest of the Dartmouth faculty and staff share and understand your feelings. We’re disappointed too, and we really miss you all. But in the end, we have no choice – as we face together this world-historical challenge, we’ve collectively needed to sacrifice a lot (some much more than others) to keep ourselves, our families, and our fellow citizens healthy and safe. In our spirit of community, I can think of no loftier goal.

So please take care of yourselves and your loved ones this spring. Although we can’t spend the term together, we can treasure the wonderful experiences we’ve had over almost four years together at Dartmouth and as Westians, and when we finally do get to hold Commencement I’m looking forward to one heck of a celebration. This spring, if you feel like it, please take part in some of the fun activities organized by your Exec Board and UGAs. But mostly, focus on your studies, stay healthy and safe, and be proud of all you’ve accomplished. Once this is all over, we look forward to seeing you back in Hanover for many years to come.



And now, for this week's Westletter:

- Westians in the News
- Opportunities to Connect in the Spring – YOUR INPUT NEEDED!
- The View from Your Window
- West House Mural Contest – Win an Amazon Echo
- West House STUDY GROUPS for 20S
- West House CHESS TOURNAMENT
- “West House @ Home” Spotify Playlist
- West House Exec Board
- Recommendations for Entertainment at Home

Enjoy!

Best,  
RCH

## THE WESTLETTER for the week of 4/6/20

as always, for more see [sites.dartmouth.edu/west-house/](https://sites.dartmouth.edu/west-house/)



To **add the West House calendar** to your own calendar applications, you can use [this iCal link](#).

### - Westians in the News

- Westian and top basketball player **Brendan Barry '20** has [decided to stay at Dartmouth in 2020-21 as a fifth-year senior to complete his college career](#).



- West House faculty affiliate **Patricia Anderson** (Economics) has [co-authored an article about unemployment benefits in the new CARE Act and its impact on low-wage workers](#).



If you know of a Westian whose accomplishments should be highlighted in the Westletter, please suggest them at [dartgo.org/westian\\_news](http://dartgo.org/westian_news).

### - Staying Connected for Spring Term – YOUR INPUT NEEDED!



Your Exec Board has been considering a lot of ideas for **staying connected over the spring term**, from virtual game tournaments to online cooking classes. Please go to [THIS FORM](#) and send us your ideas!

### - The View from Your Window

As we're all stuck at home, it would be fun to share your (literal) perspectives. You're encouraged to take a photo from your window and send it to [west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com](mailto:west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com). Let us know if we can use your name and location! (We can also share some anonymously.)



Here's one from West House staff affiliate **Julie Bonnette** (Thayer School) from the recent snow here in the Upper Valley!

**- West House Mural Contest – Win an Amazon Echo!**

# West House Mural Contest

Designs due Monday, May 5

Use provided template and submit designs to  
[west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com](mailto:west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com)

Winner will receive  
**an Amazon Echo**  
and see their design in Fahey McLane!

Thinking forward to our eventual return to our beloved West House buildings, your Exec Board is keen to get a personal touch onto the walls. They are organizing a **Mural Contest** to design a mural that will be put up in West House buildings (our first location is in the Fahey Downstairs Lounge). The winning design will be painted on a 9 foot by 5 foot 4 inch canvas and mounted (and the winner will win an Amazon Echo Dot!) To



enter please send your design to [west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com](mailto:west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com) (the deadline has been extended to **Monday May 4**)



### - West House STUDY GROUPS for 20S



Several Westians have expressed interest in forming **study groups** to help with remote learning for the spring term. If you're interested in forming a group with your fellow House members (or others!) please fill out the short form at:

[dartgo.org/west\\_study\\_group](http://dartgo.org/west_study_group)

### - West House chess tournament!



The West House Exec Board is exploring lots of ways to engage with some friendly competition over the term.

Several of you have expressed an interest in a chess tournament, so if there's enough interest we'll be putting together a bracket! If interested, please just send an email with "West House Chess" in the subject line to [west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com](mailto:west.house.dartmouth@gmail.com).

### - "West House @ Home" Spotify Playlist



Like many of you, I'm at home now listening to a lot of music on **Spotify**, which is a great way to explore new tunes, but sometimes their algorithms get a little stale. So let's share some favorite songs!

We've made a [collaborative playlist at this link](#). Thanks to those who have added some great tunes! Please go to the link and add more songs – I'm curious to see what you're listening to! (It hopefully goes without saying to make sure that you should avoid posting obviously offensive material – we'll keep a look out 😊)

### - West House Exec Board



Your **West House Executive Board** will be holding regular meetings over Zoom, on **SUNDAYS at 5pm**. As always, all Westians are welcome and encouraged to join the conversation! If you'd like to join, please shoot me an email and I'll send you the Zoom login info.

### - Recommendations for Keeping Entertained At Home

Your Exec Board has shared some recommendations for keeping entertained at home, so we'll be sharing some each week! If you have recommendations, please feel free to share by email!

# RECOMMENDATIONS FROM YOUR FELLOW WESTIANS

## TV SHOW

The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel



## BOOK

The Secret History  
by Donna Tartt



## PODCAST

Pod Save America



## MOVIE

Ferris Bueller's Day Off



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Ryan C. Hickox  
Associate Professor  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
House Professor, West House  
Dartmouth College  
Wilder Laboratory 241  
+1 (603) 646-2962  
<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~hickox/>  
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