

‘Dear Mom and Dad’

University of Rochester
Class of 2014



Dear Mom and Dad,

I made it! Thanks for
being so supportive
these four years.

Meliora, in all
things!

Love,
Danny



You were
always there
for me. Thank
you.

-Patrick G.
Schupp



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for all of your support, and
thank you for putting up with every
stupid idea I've come up with during the
past 4 years!

-Andy Hevey



Firstly, thank you for putting up with us rascals. Secondly, thank you for supporting, inspiring, motivating, and encouraging us. Moreover, thank you for challenging me (e.g., “take more AP classes” and “join these ten other clubs, too”) while I was growing up – you shaped who I am today. Finally, thank you for being the wonderful parents whom I love unconditionally.



-Chantel Gaudet



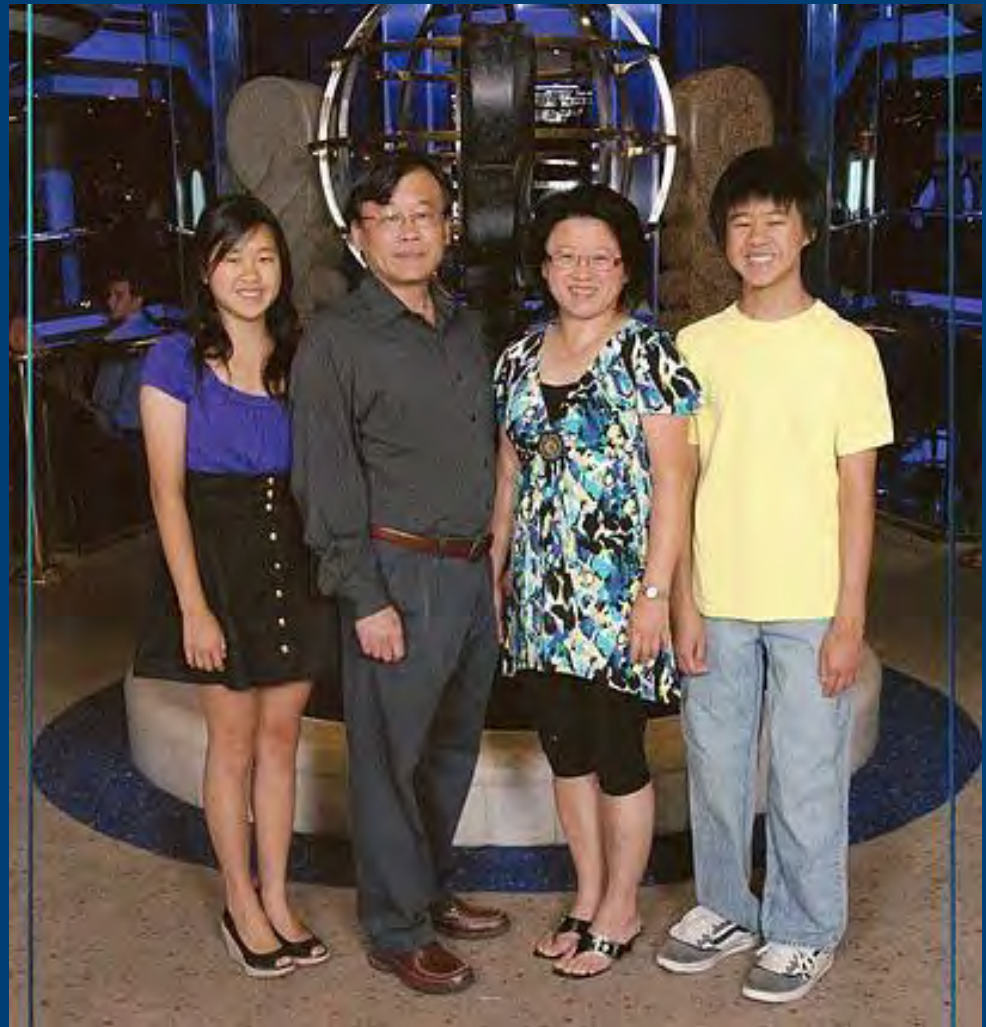


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Dear Mom and Dad,

Thanks for always supporting me (and my weird engineering-ness) and for allowing me to grow up into the person I am today. I could not think of better role models to have as parents. I promise to get you that retirement beach house in Hawaii someday!

Love,
Amanda



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for providing your love,
support, free shipping, and at-school
doggie time.

Love,
Julian



Mom and Dad,

I would not be standing here today if it weren't for your unconditional emotional and financial support, leftover meals, laundry lessons, car rides, care packages, move-in help, Mel weekend visits, and the infinite wisdom you have bestowed upon me throughout the last four years. Thank you for always encouraging me to follow my dreams! Love you!

XO,
Lianna



You have been my ultimate support system that I learned to value even more while in college. I loved my four years at U of R and your visits to me both in Rochester and in Argentina while I was abroad meant the world to me. Thank you so much for everything!

-Vicki Zhou



Dear Mom and Dad,

Haikus for you:

Left on curb crying
Freshman year about to start
Wanted you to stay

Basketball four years
Games and games and a few planes
You were always there

College was the best
Thank you for my tuition
Quarter mil worth it
(Though still unsure of job)

Thank you is inadequate...

Love you,
Boo





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Dear Mom and Dad,

Without your support, I wouldn't have been able to actualize my dreams and I will forever be grateful to both of you for pushing me to be the best that I can be. I want you to know that your love and encouragement have been the foundation for my success. Thank you for everything!

Love,
Marissa



Thank you for always supporting me
and being there when I need you the
most! I love you both and cannot
wait to make you proud!

Love,
Erin Fry



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for sticking with me through all of my adventures! You've molded me into the ambitious, motivated, and inspired individual that I am today and there are no words I can say to appreciate that. Thanks for your never-ending support. I'm so happy I'll be close to you post-graduation.

Love,
Paula



Dear Mom, Dad, and Grandma,

I want to thank you for raising me for who I am today. You have supported me every step of the way. Knowing that I am the product of 3 wonderfully supportive people brings me joy every day and I can't fathom what my life would be without you.

Lots of love,

Anisha Lashkari



Dear Mom and Dad,

Even when it was hardest to believe in myself, you never stopped believing in me. I persevered and have accomplished so much due to the driving force of your love. I can't thank you enough for all that you've taught and given to me over the years.

Who loves you?

Jonathan Cyganik





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Dear Mom and Dad,

I LOVE YOU! Thank you for your guidance, understanding, support, encouragement and love. Thank you for giving me the freedom to make my own life choices. You are the best parents I could ever ask for. 爸爸妈妈，太多感谢汇成一句话：今后的旅途，有我陪伴！我爱我们幸福温馨的家！我爱你们！

A big and loving hug,
Luqin Tao



We are lucky to have such wonderful role models! Thank you for your support, encouragement, and guidance these past 22 years. From long hikes in the Glen Alps to our trips to the chocolate factory, there's never a dull moment when we're with you. We love you and appreciate all you have done and continue to do for us!

-Prishanya Pillai and
Priyanka Pillai



Dear Mom, Dad, and Kyle,

You have been an incredible support system throughout my life. Thank you for dealing with my perfectionist tendencies and years of throwing tantrums about not getting homework done on time. I'm so proud to have such genuine parents and a big brother who is truly the kindest person I know. I owe my success and happiness to you three.

All my love,
Em



I have no idea where I would be without you two. Your unconditional support, especially through this past year, kept me strong. You had faith in me even when I doubted myself. Our lives are different than they were four years ago at my last graduation but I honestly believe our relationships are stronger than they've ever been. Love you!

-Hillary Figler



Dear Mom and Dad,

Do you remember when I was little and wanted to be just like daddy and go to U of R? Who knew that I would have the most wonderful four years making friends, learning, and growing as an individual. Thank you for all your love, support, and endless encouragement. I love you!



-Ryann Price





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Dear Mom,

Everyday I think about how lucky I am to have such a supportive, smart, interesting, and intelligent role model in my life. You have taught me the value of generosity, hard work, and perseverance and that, as well as your endless love and support, have allowed me to achieve and excel in my life. My successes are your successes because without your values and encouragement I never would have grown into the person I am today. I have achieved and accomplished so much under your tutelage and am eternally grateful for everything you have given me.

Congrats to you.

I love you.

Jordan



Thank you for helping me find U of R. The combination of opportunities here and your constant and complete support has truly been wonderful and greatly appreciated. I must warn you that despite being a college graduate, I will still be calling you frequently for life advice.

All my love,
Sara Ribakove



Dear Mom and Dad,

To the two most important people in my life, you have become more than role models to me, but rather, best friends. I am so grateful for your love and support over these past crazy years. Now it's time for me to go make them doughnuts!

Love,

Your full time student



Thank you, Mom and Dad,
for all of the support you
have given me throughout
my entire life. It has been
hard living away from you
these past 4 years. I hope
you're ready for me to be
back in town though!! Dad,
you will have an audience
for your corny jokes again!
Thank you to Grandma and
Grandpa, too!

-Anne Levy



Dear Mom and Dad,

It is hard to fathom the sacrifices you made to provide me with the gift of a private university education. I am truly lucky to have you as my parents. Thank you for pushing me to do my best and for being my rocks, my number one fans, and the voice of reason and wisdom.

Love,

Emily Trapani





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Mom, Dad, and John,

Thank you for endlessly supporting me through my spontaneous adventures, last minute crises, and accomplishments. I owe everything to you! I love you all so very much! I promise the adventure doesn't stop here.

Love,
Clare



It's amazing what unconditional love can do. Thank you for leaving your home of 34 years, working 10 hours a day for people who never appreciated you, persevering in the face of corruption and discrimination, all for me. The best feeling in the world is that I've made you both proud. It's only uphill from here Ma and Da.

-Annie



My success reflects all the sacrifices you've made for me. It was hard getting to this point. There were lots of tears, sleepless nights, and moments when I doubted myself, but you've never doubted me. You are truly the reason I am such a strong, independent individual. Mom, thank you for making me realize that I'm worth everything in this world

-Taneisha Sinclair



Some say that the people who truly know your story are the people who help you write it. Thank you for believing in me and supporting me, whether we are next to each other or thousand miles apart. I'm so lucky and proud to be your daughter, Mom and Dad! Can't wait to continue adventures in life with you!

-Christina (Chenyi) Hsu

真正了解我生活故事的人，
正是激發這個故事種種發展的人
—我親愛的爸爸媽媽。
我人生跨出的每一個腳步中，
不論是在世界上的哪一個角落，
都因為有你們的支持和愛而完美。
爸媽，能做您們的女兒是一件很驕
傲且幸福的事！我愛你們！
—晨怡 敬上



Dear Mom,

Thank you for never giving up on my brother and I, despite the hardship that it would take for a single parent to raise two children. Thank you for being a motivator and a support system for me. I cannot wait to be a strong, passionate, and dedicated mom like you are to me. I love you.

-Kathy





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Mom and Dad,

Thanks for everything. For always being there for support and helping me out when I needed it. I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for 22 years of your never ending support and guidance. I look up to you more than you know.

Always grateful,
John



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for all your love and support during my college journey. You always believed in me, and pushed me to aspire to greatness rather than simply being content. Because of you, I have the confidence and the ability to continue to take the road less traveled, and that has made all the difference.

Love,
Alana



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for being my support through college and all the encouragement and love that you shower me with. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to learn so much away from home! I love you and couldn't have done it without you.

-Janice Lee



Dear Mom, Dad, and Nikki,

Thank you Mom for teaching me to be open-minded and showing me how to see the best in others. Thank you Dad for teaching me to be clever, strong, and resourceful.

Thank you Nikki for keeping me young at heart. I love you guys and hope to keep making you all proud.

Love,
Tim



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you very
much for sending me
to the University of
Rochester to study. I
will do my best in
my future endeavors!

-Yanhan Ren



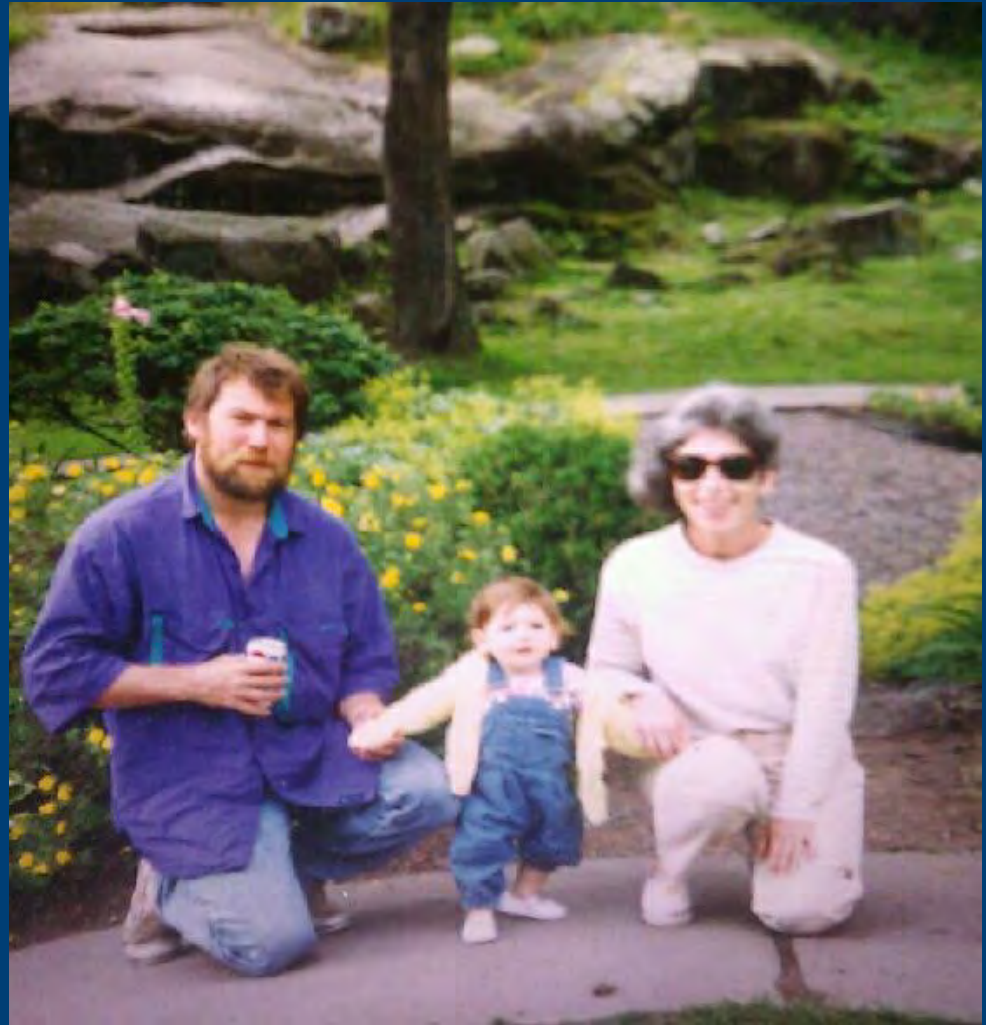


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Dear Mom and Dad,

I'm so happy that you could both be here with me this weekend. Having the opportunity to show you my life in Rochester and celebrate the end of this chapter and beginning of the next means so much to me. Thanks for coming. I love you.

-Mariah Alexie Azuz Meyer



2011



2019



for mom & dad,
Ling



Thanks to my
parents for
supporting me and
being the happiness
of my life. I love
them and we will
continually be
happy!

-Yunjie (Kelly)
Liang



Dear Mom and Dad (and Rosa too of course!),

Gracias por toda la ayuda que me han dado estos últimos 4 años. They have been full of new experiences and I couldn't have done any of it if I didn't have your support. I am happy to have come to Rochester and can't imagine having gone anywhere else.

-Maritza S. Gomez

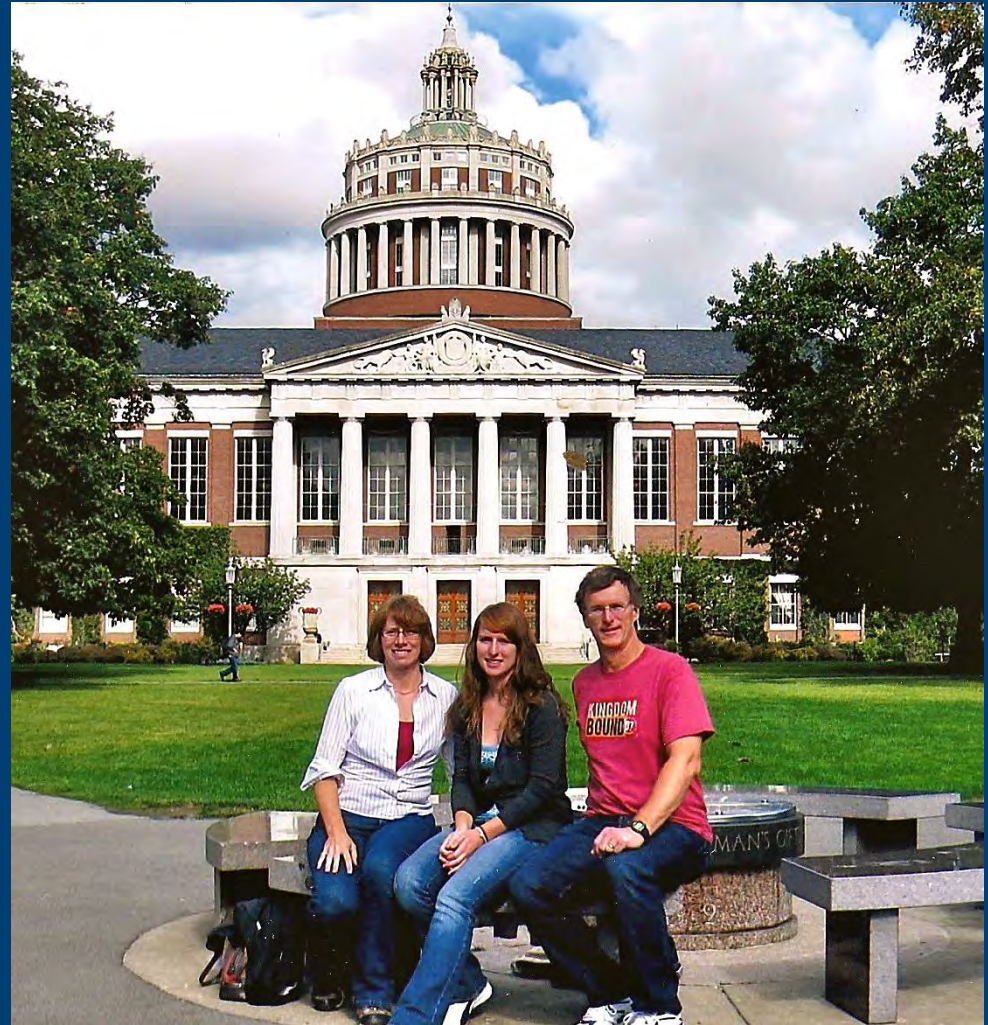


Dear Mom and Dad,

I'm so thankful to have you as my parents and for all the ways you've supported my passions including swimming, Australia, and career plans. Thanks to you I have so many wonderful memories from the U of R, and I'm so excited for the next chapter in my life. You're the best!

Love,

Deb





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From the roof-crawling, lack of nap-taking, police-calling, fire-alarm-pulling, Church-screaming, trouble-causing toddler years to the sports-packed and accident-prone teenage years, thanks for enduring 21 years of my craziness and supporting me throughout it all. From Royal Oak to Rochester to Copenhagen, no matter how far apart, you'll always be in my heart. I wouldn't be who I am today without you and I wouldn't trade you for the world!

-Sarah Obudzinski



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for 22 years of unconditional, unwavering love and support. Knowing that both of you will always be behind me to cheer me on or pick me up makes life so much better. Thank you for always supporting my dreams and telling me to reach for the stars! I love you both!

Love,
Elisa



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for your guidance throughout the years! Your endless support has been a true inspiration to me and I would not be where I am today without you. I am looking forward to the future and cannot wait to make you guys even more proud. I love you very much and I am excited to celebrate graduation with you!!

Love,
Courtney



Dear Mom, Dad,
Grandma, and Grandpa,

I love you guys! Thank you so much for everything you have ever done and continue to do for me. These past four years have been some of the best of my life and I would not have been here without your support. Thank you and love you forever!

Jenna



Dear Mom, Dad, and Danielle,

Thank you for being there to bandage my scraped knees, wipe away my tears, and always put pep back in my step. While I may have a few bigger concerns than scraped knees these days, your love and support have never failed me. I couldn't have done it without you!

Love,

Kate Heffernan





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Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for being there when I called just to complain, when I took my bad moods out on you, and when I simply forgot to call at all. You have always supported me in everything I have done and would not be graduating without that love. Thank you and I love you!

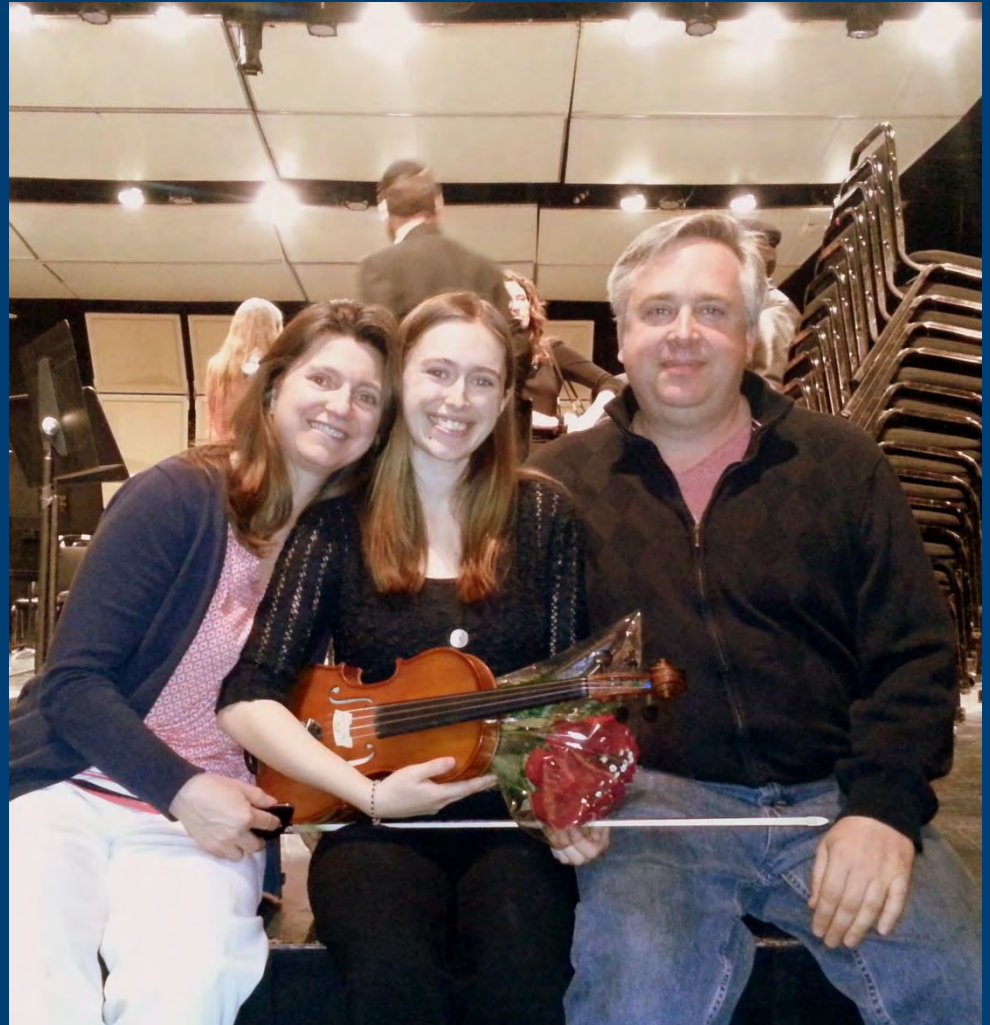
-Shira Marks



Dear Mom and Dad,

You are the best! Thank you for always being there and supporting me. I truly appreciate everything you have done throughout my life thus far. I am thrilled that I can call you my parents. Thanks for being the parents every kid wishes they had. I am truly lucky.

Love,
Josey



Dear Mom and Dad,

Throughout the past 22 years, you both have been amazing. In order of seriousness to funniness: thank you for encouraging me to pursue my dream of engineering, for helping me find a way to watch Jets games up here and for teaching me your ways of organization (and disorganization.) I am forever grateful. :)

Love,
Rachel



Mom and Pop,

You have always given me the freedom to decide my own life, while patiently supporting me in my choices. I could not ask for more love and encouragement.

Dwain,

We've come a long way from our days as kids. You're the one I turn to in times of need, and you're always there for me.

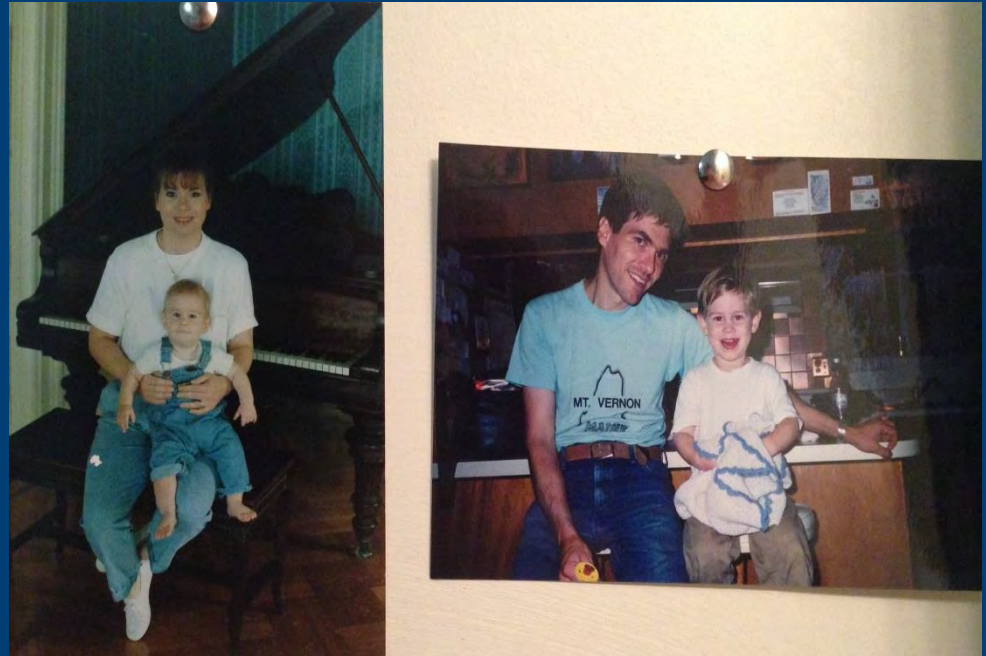
Thank you all so much!

-Shalane McCall



“You may give them your
love but not your thoughts,
For they have their own.
You may house their bodies
but not their souls,
For their souls dwell in the
house of tomorrow,
which you cannot visit, even
in your dreams.
You may strive to be like
them,
but seek not to make them
like you.”

(Adapted from Khalil Gibran)





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I just want to thank you for
everything you've done,

If there were an award for best
mom, you would have won.

Cuz you are super supportive and
loads of fun,

Especially when we go hiking
under the sun.

I love seeing my phone and
getting your calls,

I love you so much you're the
best mom of them all.

-Jennifer Olson



Dear Mom,

Remember when I had to put together that poster out of PowerPoint print outs? Or in Middle School, when I wanted to make a cell that had candle gel cytoplasm (it almost went everywhere in the car)? Thank you for all of your support. Our crazy really helped me get to where I am today.

-Sarah



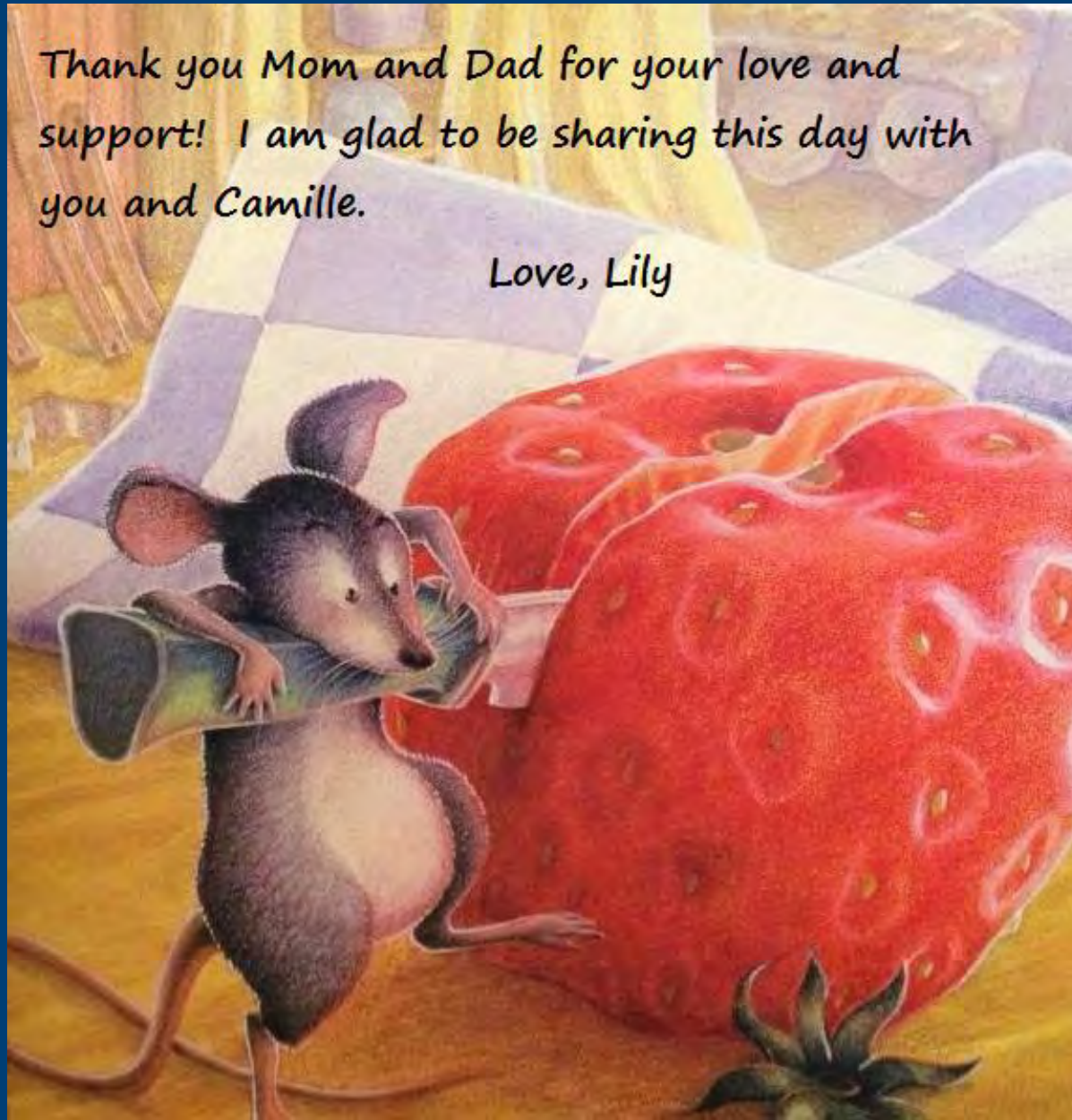
Thank you for all
your support
throughout my years
in college! You guys
mean the world to
me and I love you
both soooo much!

Yours Truly,
Alma Mattar



Thank you Mom and Dad for your love and support! I am glad to be sharing this day with you and Camille.

Love, Lily



To My Family,

Thank you for always reminding me that I can do anything I set my mind to. I would not be who I am today without your constant love, support, and encouragement throughout the years.

Love,

Hiro





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Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for all the support and love
you have given me throughout the years.
I couldn't have done it without you!

Love,

Emily Ansley



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for your support through the last four years. After a tough freshman year and adjustment to transferring sophomore year, I am very thankful to have had your love and support. As I begin to prepare to transition into my next stage in life, I am at ease knowing that I will be supported. Thank you for everything!

Love Always,
Elizabeth Sikora



Thank you for your continued support throughout the past four years! You guys have always encouraged me to work hard and strive to do the best I can. I really appreciate you “driving a new car off a cliff twice a year” to pay for my U of R education. I can’t say thank you enough. Love you!

Sincerely,

Brittany Hopkins



Thank you so much mom for being my rock during these four years in college. You have given me so much needed encouragement and advice that has helped me tremendously. I pray that God continues to bless you! Thank you so much!
Love you mom!

-Manda Brefo



With your unconditional love and your endless support, I persevered and never gave up. You taught me to go after what I want, and to do what makes me happy. I took the road less traveled. I took this road to achieve happiness. And I am ecstatic to have reached my dream job! Forever young, forever yours.



Love,
Arwa





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Dear Mom and Dad,

Thanks for much for four years of super support and love and care packages! Couldn't have done it without you or your bank accounts and I'll remember that forever. Can't wait to be roommates again!!!!

Lots of love,

Anupa Manjunatha



Mommy and Daddy,

I can't thank you enough for all of your support these past 4 years and the 18 odd years before that. You two are such unique, special, loving individuals and I am truly blessed to call you my parents. Love you to infinity and beyond!! Looking forward to NYC fun forever!

Love,
Sheribaby



To My Dear Parents,

I've finally made it to graduation! Though I can take some credit for this accomplishment, the immense influence you both had in helping me arrive at such a milestone does not go unnoticed. Your patience, tolerance, and understanding came at the right times in the right amounts, and especially your care packages! Today is the celebration of the 21 years of hard work you both have invested in me. Thank you so much for all you have done!

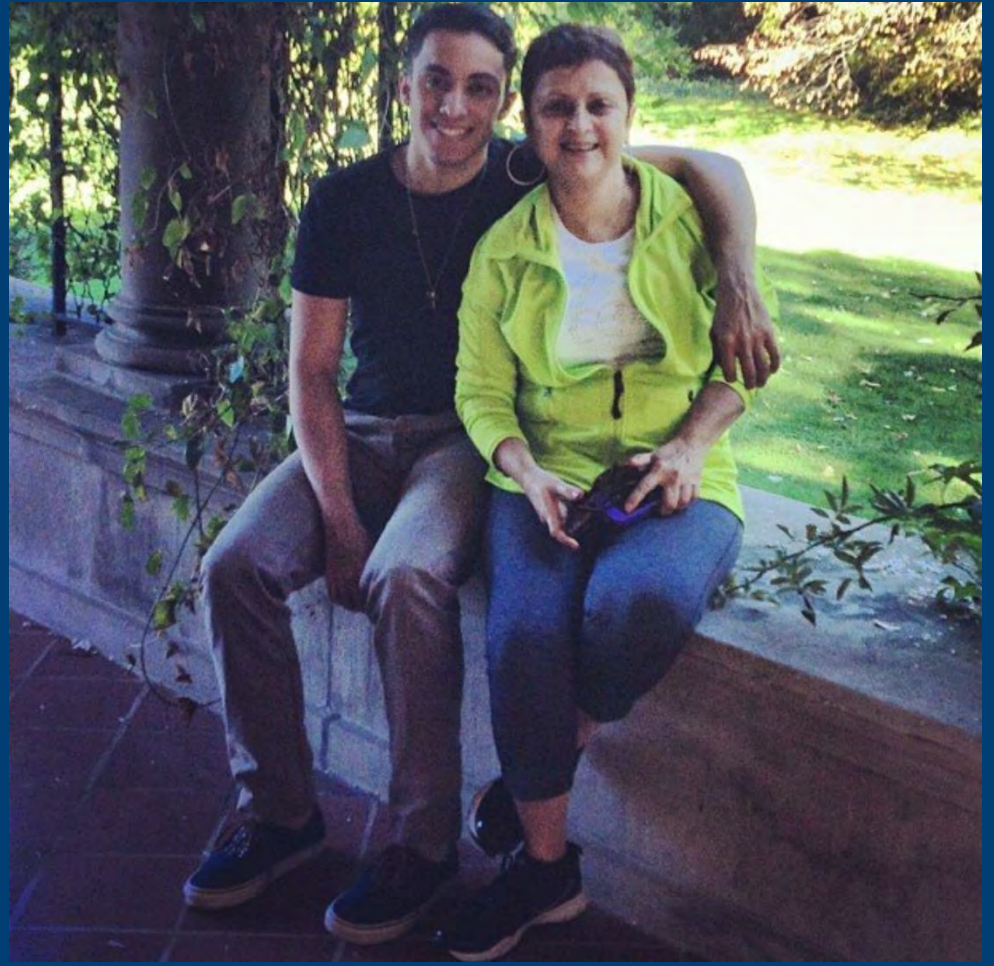
Sincerely Your Loving Daughter,
Leslie



Mom,

As I get ready to spread my wings and soar into the world you've prepared me for, please know that I'll always carry you with me every step of the way. Thank you so much for giving me wings to fly and, most importantly, thank you for loving me without a doubt. I love you to infinity and beyond!

-Jonathan James Gonzalez



From my first laugh to my first move around the world as a starry-eyed teenager, you've seen it all. Thank you for being you, Mom and Dad. Thank you to the Balchandanis for being my home away from home. With all your love, guidance and support, I'm ready to soar into the skies that lie ahead.

Love always,
Natasha





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Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for everything!
You have always supported
me in all my hopes and
dreams. I could never have
made it this far without you
and for that, I am forever
grateful. You have made me
who I am today and I love
you both so much!

Thank you for giving me the
world,
Sarah



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for the continuous support you have provided to me for the past 21 years. Also, thank you for the confidence and positive moral values you have instilled in me.

Love,

Bria



Thank you for
supporting
me in school
and tennis.

-Boris
Borovcanin



Dear Mom and Dad,

How much I love you both cannot be expressed in any words, especially a simple “thank you.” But thank you is all I can think to say for supporting me through an incredible 4 years of college. My diploma is as much yours as it is mine.

With all my love,
Rainya Heath



Dear Mom, Dad, and Family,

Thanks for being you, and everything that you do! I will never be able to thank you enough for the incredible opportunities I have gained during my time here at the UR. I have made the most amazing friends, met incredibly passionate Professors, and grew so much in Thailand, and it's all thanks to your support and love along the way.

Love you all so much!

Marissa





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Dear Mom and Dad,

You have been such an integral part of my life and thanks to the both of you, I was able to get to where I am today. Although the journey is not over and I know I will still rely a lot on the two of you, I want to thank you for all that you've done!

Love,
Emi



Dear Mom and Dad,

Isn't it funny how four years seems to fly by? Just think: In just four more years you'll be putting another daughter through college! So dad, what were you saying about an early retirement?

Love,
Sara



Words can't express my gratitude. From always pushing us to excel in school, sports, and even our faith/morals – it is because of you that I'm the person I am today. You're my rock, the thing that keeps me going when I want to quit. You're the best role models anyone could have and I hope to become even just half the person you both are. LOVE YOU!

Love,
Emily



Dear Mom, Dad, and
Hamza,

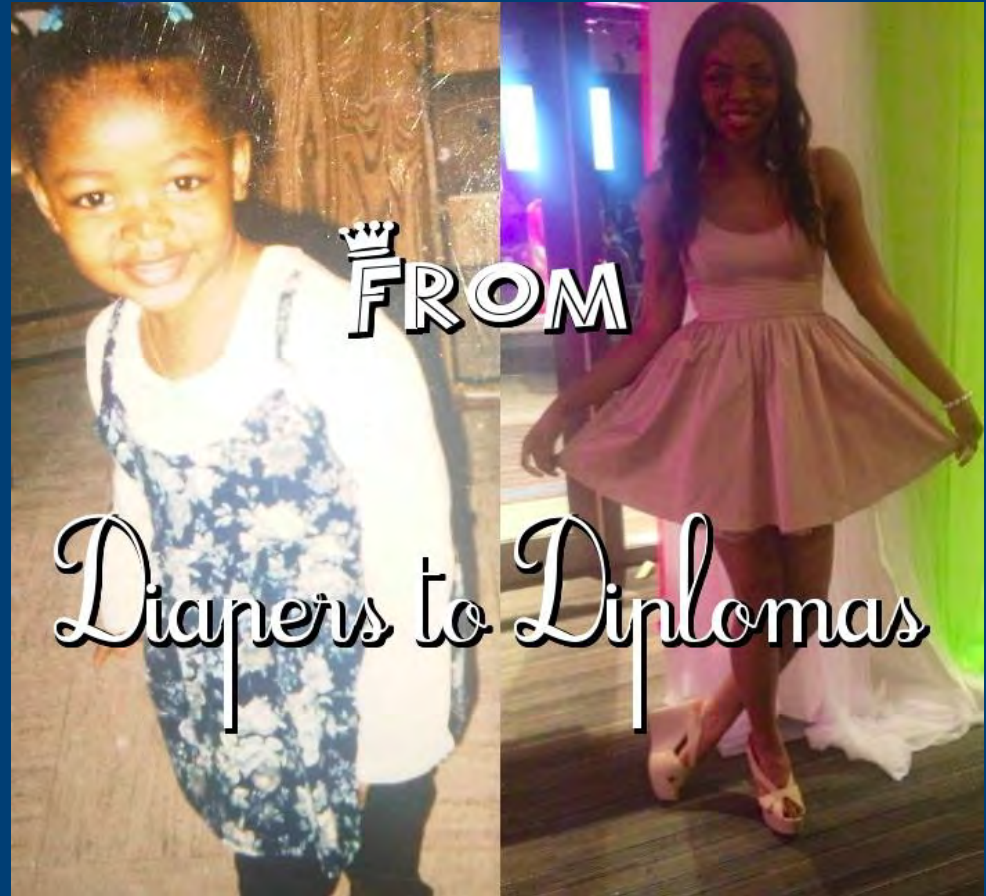
Thank you for all your love
and support throughout my
undergraduate years. I
would not have been able to
succeed without you all. I
love you all very much and I
promise I will continue to
make you all proud!

Love
Billal



Thank you for listening
to 4 years of complaints!
I love you SO much.
This degree is just as
much yours as it is mine.
Mommy, Maam Maam,
Bobbert, and Muffy: I
could never have done it
without you. Kisses!

Thank you,
Kiah Sophia Lawrence





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Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for 22 years of unwavering support. I know putting up with me has been an adventure, to be polite. I can't wait to see where life takes us in the next two decades.

Love, eternally,

Jonathan Jr.



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for all the love and support over the years. You allowed me to make all my own choices and were always there for help and guidance when I needed it. Now, four years after this picture of high-school graduation, I've reached the next big milestone thanks to the opportunities you've given me.

Love,
Greg



Dear Mom and Dad,

I am so grateful for everything you have given me. You have supported me in everything I do whether it be college application essays about fishing, talking about my research, playing basketball, or applying to graduate school. I can never say thank you enough. I love you both!

-Katie Weiner



Hi Mom and Dad! :)

No matter where I am I feel that I have the undying support and love of you both. Dad, I always know I can count on you for support when I'm stressed, and Mom, if it were not for the care packages and cute drawings you send I'm not sure if I would have made it past Freshman year!

Love,

Kevin (Pookie)



Dear Mommy and Daddy,

I may not have the words to thank you for everything that you have done for me: for all of the sacrifices you have made and the love and care that you have given me. But no matter what, you will always have my respect, my gratitude, my appreciation, and most importantly, my love.

Thank you, and I love you,
Zeleyka Fowler





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Dear Mom and Dad,

I didn't have to take the extra year, but you were happy to support me anyway (at least enough for a few well-timed checks - that didn't hurt!). I know it's not easy to encourage a path when the world is full of ambiguity and when a culture you know is so profoundly different than a culture which is increasingly becoming a part of me. You were happy to pick up the phone, though, even when my car ran out of gas at 4 am on Tuesday morning.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Mom and Dad - I Love You, I Love You, I Love You.

-Michael



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for the wonderful foundation and support you've given me that has made me who I am.

Though I have been far from home and with you only once a year, I always felt your presence and guidance. I am really grateful to God for giving me the best parents in the world. I love you.

-Mercy Nyamewaa Asiedu



Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for everything over these past 23 years. Raising twins and triplets is not an easy task, but you did it in a way that we could all achieve our hopes and dreams. Without you I would not be the person I am today and I would have never realized what true success is.

Love,
Conor



Queridos Mama y Papa,

No hay suficientes palabras para describir mi inmensa gratitud por todo su amor y apoyo estos pasados años. Que estos días de mi graduación sean una muestra del grandísimo esfuerzo y amor que han dedicado en formar mi futuro. Gracias, sin ustedes no lo hubiera poder haber hecho!

-Valeria Lopez





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Congratulations to the
Class of 2014
and all of your loved ones!

