



Class of 2020, WITF wants to share your voice.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed everything for everyone. This is especially true for students who planned to graduate this spring; they have felt the impact in ways we never could have imagined, even six weeks ago.

WITF has created **The Class of 2020: Our Stories**, a unique platform for you, the Class of 2020, because we believe you deserve to have a special opportunity to share your thoughts, memories and dreams.

Together we'll create a unique record from this extraordinary period.

Safety measures like social distancing are isolating you from your friends and family members. WITF wants to connect you, the Class of 2020, with the community that supports you. We want to congratulate you on your achievements and wish you a bright future.

What are you missing? What blessings have you found? What have you learned about yourself, your family, your world?

Please share. Share the songs you were going to sing in a musical, display your artwork and poems, tell us about your prom attire, post the speech you would have delivered at commencement. Share your feelings and tell us how you are adjusting to online schooling, being at home, and changes to senior year milestone moments like graduations, proms, sports seasons, senior pictures, and transitions to college.

Whether you're a high school senior, a college senior, a parent, a teacher, or a loved one, you all have a story to tell, and we want to help you share it.

WITF invites you to share your photos, video, audio, and narrative as we gather local memories from the coronavirus pandemic on an interactive story wall found at <https://2020.witf.org/stories>.

The Class of 2020 Story Wall is meant to inspire central Pennsylvanians to remember and share stories, express their thoughts, and foster understanding around the lasting impact this pandemic will have on the people of Central Pa.

WHAT MAKES A COMPELLING STORY?

- **MAKE IT PERSONAL** - Consider the question: How is COVID-19 impacting your life? Describe how you feel - not just the facts. Share personal anecdotes and perceptions in a conversational tone. And weave in the specific details about an experience, person, place, or thing – that way, you allow others to better imagine your story.
- **KEEP IT SHORT** - We're looking for concise, personal stories that effectively highlight a meaningful experience that are making a lasting impact on you. If you're sharing video or audio, please try to keep it to around 3 to 5 minutes in length.
- **ADD MEDIA TO YOUR STORY** - Enhance your story by adding a variety of media, including video, photos, or audio. Get creative. Letters, sketches, journal pages, documents and photos of mementos from COVID-19 are also great storytelling tools.
- **QUALITY** - The best stories will include high-resolution images. Audio and video recordings should be created inside in a quiet environment, free of background noises and distractions.
- **tone of respect** - This is a safe space for everyone to share, honor, and reflect.
- **THE RULES** - Please familiarize yourself with our [Submission Terms and Conditions](#) which you must agree to before submitting your story to us. We reserve the right not to include stories that violate our policies and that don't fit the tone of our collection.

HOW CAN I SHARE A STORY?

There are several ways to share your story. Just decide what is best for you.

- **ONLINE** - Share your story anytime, anywhere on our website: <https://2020.witf.org/> . Use the simple story-submission form on the site to add a title, text, location, photos, video and/or audio to your story. When you click the "Submit Story" button, your story elements will be sent to our digital team that's in charge of adding your unique story into the Story Wall website.
- **STUDENT** - Under 18? Please work with your parent, guardian, or a teacher who can submit your story on your behalf.
- **What if I want to edit my story?** - Please contact our team at 2020@witf.org or by phone 717.910.2841 and we'd be happy to assist you in editing your story.
- **What if I want to have my story removed?** - Please contact our team at 2020@witf.org or by phone 717.910.2841

STORYTELLING WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE OR TABLET

Most of us have a high-quality production kit right in our pocket! A mobile device or tablet can be a great tool for creating a compelling story with photos, video, or sound.

- **PHOTOS** - You can snap high-resolution photos with your phone or tablet's camera. Make sure there is enough light and try to reduce glare. Remember that you can also take photos of archival photos, maps, documents, mementos, sketches, letters, medals, etc. These are powerful storytelling tools as well.
- **VIDEOS** - Use your device's camera to record a high-quality video for your story. For the best video quality, please shoot videos in landscape mode (horizontal), and in a quiet place with minimal visual and audio distractions.
- **AUDIO** - Please record audio in a quiet space with minimal background noise.

CONTACT US - We're here to help. Please contact our team at 2020@witf.org or by phone 717.910.2841 and we'd be happy to assist you in sharing your story. Whether you're sharing via website or email, we will send you a confirmation that we received your story.