

LAUNCHPAD

the official alumni newsletter for WFU College LAUNCH for Leadership

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE LAUNCH
INSPIRING STUDENTS TO PURSUE GREATNESS

We Carry The Torch

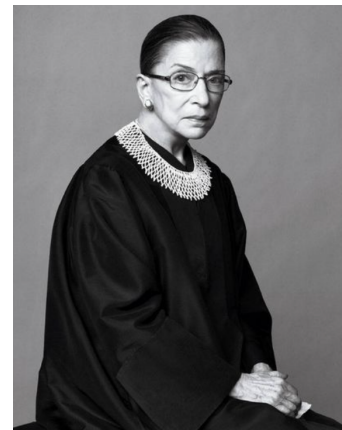
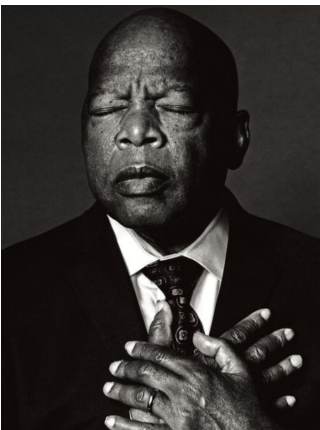
Our country has recently faced the losses of two Civil Rights pioneers: John Lewis and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Both of these remarkable individuals committed their talent and work to making this world a better place for all people by crusading for the rights of marginalized groups. As we know, the work they did is not over. They have passed the torch on to us to continue to fight for the equal treatment of all people. In addition to legacies of strength, service and perseverance, both Representative Lewis and Justice Ginsburg left us with powerful words to reflect on. Below is a portion of an essay that Representative Lewis wrote just prior to his passing:

"Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble. Voting and participating in the democratic process are key. The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society. You must use it because it is not guaranteed. You can lose it.

"You must also study and learn the lessons of history because humanity has been involved in this soul-wrenching, existential struggle for a very long time. People on every continent have stood in your shoes, through decades and centuries before you. The truth does not change, and that is why the answers worked out long ago can help you find solutions to the challenges of our time. Continue to build union between movements stretching across the globe because we must put away our willingness to profit from the exploitation of others.

"Though I may not be here with you, I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe. In my life I have done all I can to demonstrate that the way of peace, the way of love and nonviolence is the more excellent way. Now it is your turn to let freedom ring.

"When historians pick up their pens to write the story of the 21st century, let them say that it was your generation who laid down the heavy burdens of hate at last and that peace finally triumphed over violence, aggression and war. So I say to you, walk with the wind, brothers and sisters, and let the spirit of peace and the power of everlasting love be your guide."



Alumni Newsletter

The purpose of the Alumni Newsletter is to provide helpful tips, great resources, informative reminders, and opportunities to stay connected to your LAUNCH family. Come across a resource that you think would be helpful for everyone to see? Send it in an email to collegelaunch@wfu.edu.

Resources of the Month

With the upcoming election, we want to highlight information and resources on voting rights and voter suppression. For many of you, this will be the first election that you are eligible to vote in. We encourage you to research all of the offices on the ballot and exercise your right to vote!

The first resource is a [message from LeBron James](#) about the importance of exercising the right to vote and being informed about the candidates on the ballots.

Additionally, [this video](#) provides an example of how neighborhoods with higher populations of minorities face increased challenges at the polls.

Interested in learning more? [Check out this article](#), which explores voting obstacles and provides some suggestions of how this injustice can be addressed.

Want to know who you can expect to be on your upcoming ballot? Use [this website](#) to enter your information to look up your sample ballot and the names of candidates. From here, research each candidate thoroughly to make sure that you are informed when you submit your ballot. As the rapper YelloPain so amazingly states in [this song](#), there are offices on the ballot that are just as important as the United States President.

Finally, check out these [FAQs](#) for first time voters!



The [2020-2021 FAFSA](#) will be available beginning October 1st. We encourage you to complete this as soon as possible. We also recommend that you create a spreadsheet to track scholarship and grant offers to help you keep track of your available resources. Check out some of the virtual [FAFSA Info Sessions and Workshops](#) hosted by two of our fellow community organizations in Durham.

Also, some high schools are serving as ACT/SAT testing sites. Check with your high school (and surrounding high schools) to see what is being offered in your area.



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