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2020

### "A Day in the Life" by Maddie Hikida (Class of 2022)

Maddie Hikida

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Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

9am: I wake up for my 9:30am class, a discussion-based religion class. Today, we're talking about religion in secular spaces. More specifically, we're talking about Oprah. Breakfast is yogurt with Maine blueberry jam and granola, plus some green tea (I've been weaning myself off caffeine since coming home). I'm running a little later than I'd like, but I'll still log onto my Zoom classroom in time.

9:30am: if my virtual classmates were paying close attention to my tiny screen, they'd note two things: that I'm knitting in order to prevent distraction and that there's something offscreen (my cat) distracting me. Like many people, I'm finding it significantly harder to focus in online learning spaces. In part, this is because my computer rarely makes an appearance in my in-person Bowdoin classes, but I'm also more distractible lately. With the window right next to my bed, a wandering bumblebee or a wayward raindrop can pull my attention.

10:30am: my class ends and my cat has finally settled down. I have about an hour before my next class, so I'm going to hang out for a bit and maybe make some calls for NextGen Maine, where I'm a fellow. Since we can't knock on doors or talk to people in person, we're calling them to make sure that they're registered to vote and will request or have already requested their absentee ballots for the July election.

12pm: my friend and I work on our project for Educational Psychology over the phone. We're applying what we've learned in our class to the Bowdoin Outing Club and making suggestions based on both our personal experiences and observations as well as the concepts we've been studying. We decide to make a slideshow on Google Slides for our final presentation and we'll put audio recordings of ourselves saying the bulk of the text on the slides later.

3pm: after lunch, my mom and I bake a cake for my dad's birthday, which is tomorrow! We're going to make him a s'mores cake, fingers crossed! Once the cake is out of the oven, we go on a quick walk with my grandpa. It's raining, but that means that no one else is around, which makes social distancing a LOT easier!

5pm: time to make more calls! Continuing to work for NextGen has been a really great way to stay connected to the Midcoast Maine community even when I'm not physically there.

7:30pm: spotted a beautiful double rainbow during dinner!! My dad was the first one to see it, my mom and I ran to see it in all its glory.

9pm: my mom and I frost and decorate my dad's cake. Even though we won't be enjoying it for until tomorrow, we're all helping my mom out on the (now digital) diversity, equity, and inclusion conference that she helps organize at my high school. One of the nice things about being home in the middle of the semester is being with my family for birthdays and events like this one, which I've been helping her out with for a decade! I really missed doing it last year, so it was nice to get another year helping her out.

11pm: it's time to get ready for bed! We've got a long day tomorrow. In the time of the COVID-19 quarantine, I'm sure you all do too.