

Hello Fellow Leos,

The Office of Alumni Engagement asked me to write a few words to you all. My name is Wade, and I am president of the [Alumni Advisory Board](#), a diverse group of passionate University of La Verne alums who exist to support our enormous Leo network.

These are remarkable times we are in. I am proud to be a graduate of the University of La Verne, which unequivocally supports the current worldwide movement against racism and injustice. President Devorah Lieberman and Interim Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer Alexandra Burrel have [issued a joint statement](#) addressing the issue. This email also provides links to more information about the university's anti-racism initiatives, as well as tips on how you can get involved.

Since you are Leos, you already know the importance of diversity and inclusion, because it is one of the core values that our university was founded on. These are the values that continue to guide our work as we join in the ongoing struggle against systemic racism and injustice. President Lieberman has affirmed her [support of Black Lives Matter](#), and re-committed to the university's longstanding effort to build a more equitable, safe, and just learning environment for all. I am proud to stand with her.

Stay safe and stay strong, Leos. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to drop a line at [alumni@laverne.edu](mailto:alumni@laverne.edu). We are always here for you.



Walter "Wade" Worthy II '08  
President, University of La Verne Alumni Advisory Board

## Recent News

### ***The University of La Verne Launches Anti-Racism Initiative***

The initiative, led by the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, includes events and resources to help educate the community on issues of power, privilege, oppression, and racism.

It began on June 4 with a virtual Vigil for Racial Justice and Healing, which included words and reflection from Black faculty and staff as well as featured students and other community allies, and has continued with other events, including an Anti-Racism Teach-In, and the amplification of voices that advocate for equity and justice.

READ MORE

## Learn More and Get Involved

Did you know that [Black Lives Matter](#) was founded in 2013 by three female activists in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin's killer? Learn about the movement's history and what they stand for [on their website](#). Our own Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) has also created an [extensive resource list](#) for those who wish to educate themselves further. If you are looking to get more involved, our own professor and [Black Alumni Affinity Group](#) (BAAG) president Thomas Allison has launched [Operation Ally](#), a Facebook group dedicated to strategizing solutions for racial injustice. Request membership by saying you're a Leo! Finally, check out this [inspiring demonstration](#) that was recently organized by a high school junior in our own home city of La Verne. It drew hundreds of people, including Mayor Tim Hepburn.



### Distanced But Still Social

Don't let that quarantine keep you from connecting. We've got University of La Verne alumni-focused groups on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#). Join or follow us and get to know your fellow alumni all over the world. To make it even more fun, **our office will be giving away a University of La Verne diploma frame (valued at \$165–\$190) to one of our Instagram followers.** So be sure to follow [@ulvalumni](#) on Instagram and look out for contest rules to be posted soon.

VISIT INSTAGRAM



### ULV Student Emergency Fund

Thank you so much to the more than 600 alumni, parents, and friends who have supported the ULV Student Emergency Fund. These are challenging times, but we are doing everything we can to help our students in need. So far we've awarded over 650 emergency grants totaling almost \$180,000. These grants support everything from food and housing to hospital bills and child care. More applications come in each day, so if you or people you know can afford to give, please do!

GIVE TODAY

## Celebrating our #LeoHeroes



Today we celebrate Class of 2020 ROC graduate Seth Springer, who balanced his studies in organizational management with a 19-year career as a Los Angeles firefighter. Seth's loving wife Joy wanted us to know how tirelessly Seth has worked for the past seven weeks, through extended staffing and pandemic protocols, caring for and transporting COVID-19 patients. She writes: "He has worked so hard to fulfill his dream of finishing his bachelor's degree, managing his coursework during the last two terrible fire seasons, and now this unexpected crisis. We can't wait to celebrate his accomplishments." Way to go, Seth!

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**Office of Alumni Engagement**

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