



JADE LEAH BURNS

Journalist, Writer,
Photographer, Reporter

"Capturing silvers.
Freezing moments
that will never
happen again."

(814)806-4234
JB8FLY@aol.com
jadeleahburns.com
Erie, PA 16509

Bio

Cute but psycho. She's your sassy best friend who knows how to get the job done in a speedy manner with intense specificity and dignity. Jade is an Honors College, Dean's List Senior at Long Island University Post, who will be graduating this upcoming May. With figuring out what she wanted to do at a young age, Jade launched the first freshman class participation approval of communications for her high school. Climbing the ladder, Jade became the production manager of the station where she produced and edited stories, anchored, and made and edited videos. Jade took the opportunity to pursue her dream in college. After years of writing for her University newspaper and online website, and creating content for their station, it's time for Jade to spread her wings and find her one true passion in the real world.

Resume

Long Island University Post / Campus Concierge; Front Desk Receptionist; Student Affairs

September 2018 - PRESENT, Greenvale, NY

As a student worker for the Campus Concierge, I served as an information hub for all questions regarding the campus. My responsibilities included providing excellent customer service to guests both on and off campus, greeting guests at the front desk, answering phones, ensuring quality support is provided to LIU Post students and guests, opening and closing buildings, and assisting walking students to buildings.

Gannon University / Creative Writer and Photographer; Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics (Intern)

May 2019 - September 2019, Erie, PA

Responsible for conducting research before, during, and after submitting weekly writing stories and reports around the town and campus. Was also required to get my own photographs for all stories and reports for the newspaper and online site each week.

Erie Playhouse / Sound and Light Board Technician/Operator

January 2015 - September 2018, Erie, PA

Responsibilities included knowing how to turn on, boot up, and program the computer(s)/system and boards to control the sound and lighting. Was required to attend every show and technical rehearsal and ensure programs would work smoothly for the production before each started.

Erie Playhouse / Youtheatre Ambassador and Choreographer

January 2013 - September 2018, Erie, PA

Responsibilities included being a Showstopper, who are the talented Erie Playhouse Youtheatre ambassadors! This song and dance crew performs hit songs and medleys from your favorite Broadway shows. Must be heavily involved with the city's youth in knowing all of the latest shows and eye grabs, or as the kids would call it, what's "slaying" or "straight fire" right now. Youtheatre Choreographer responsibilities included bringing my creative ideas to movement and teaching students from ages 3-18 these movements step by step. This required being able to advise 50+ children at once while bringing a friendly, welcoming environment to each unique little personality that was involved.

Red Lobster / Host, Bartender, Server, Service Aid, Food Runner

September 2016 - PRESENT, Erie, PA

Responsible for serving patrons with excellent knowledge of food and beverages with a positive, friendly, and enthusiastic manner! Responsible for sanitation, safety, and alcoholic beverage control policies while also multitasking and working in a fast paced environment.

Education

Long Island University Post / Bachelor's of Fine Art focus: Musical Theatre; Broadcast Communications/Journalism Minor; Dean's List, Honor's College, Class of 2022

September 2018 - PRESENT, Greenvale, NY

McDowell High School / High School Diploma

August 2014 - June 2018, Erie, PA

Writing Samples

Newspaper:

Graduates to Receive Personalized Graduation Slide at Commencement

All graduating seniors received an email on Friday, April 10, signed by Matthew Blonar, director of student affairs, explaining how commencement will play out.

"The culmination of years of hard work has arrived. The Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2020 at Long Island University will take place on Wednesday, May 20 at 10 a.m.," the email stated.

The email further explained how seniors can order a cap and gown. It also revealed how each student will be recognized by a "personalized graduation slide" at commencement.

Jules Rivera, senior acting major, is disappointed about the decision to make graduation a virtual ceremony, explaining that it denies her the reward to walk at commencement, and that the end will not justify the means.

"The idea of having a virtual ceremony is truthfully a slap in the face," she said. "I'm now thousands of dollars in debt and don't have a ceremony to look forward to."

Rivera went on about all of her hardships while living on campus, including two mice in her room and "subpar" facilities. She said the only reason she deals with it is because of the theatre program.

Each student can purchase regalia online. Prices range from \$80 to \$190, excluding shipping and handling, and depending on what degree a student is graduating with. Cap and gowns will be shipped directly to a student's home. If a student reserved a set before the switch, they will need to complete a new form to finalize orders.

Victoria Rousseau, senior musical theatre major, said she refuses to purchase an \$80 cap and gown for a ceremony, which to some, is nonexistent. Instead, she bought a cap and gown on Amazon in a color that she actually likes.

The ceremony, now scheduled for May 20, is planned to be on a virtual interactive platform. During the commencement, there will be remarks, distinguished speakers and slides of graduating students. Each senior will have a customized slide including their name, major and degree. Before graduation, students are asked to add a photo, custom text and the proper pronunciation of their name. During or after the ceremony, students will be able to download and share their personal slides on social media.

Rousseau said the virtual ceremony is ridiculous, and that a slideshow is a complete disrespect to the entire graduating class.

"They could have just postponed it to the fall. Nobody is okay with this. A customized slide? Seriously, that is not recognition at all," she said. "I'm a first generation grad and all I have to show for it is a piece of paper that they will mail to me and two seconds of a powerpoint. It's a joke."

Rivera agreed, emphasizing that a personalized slide is certainly not \$75,000 worth [of tuition costs.]

"Obviously my money isn't going towards the facilities, so where is it going?" she said.

The email also informed seniors about a virtual invitation to the commencement ceremony, which students are encouraged to share with their families and friends, with a link to livestream the event. In order for family and friends to receive a personal invite from the school, students must complete a form which can be found at <https://liu.edu/commencement/student-information#slides>.

Digital copies of the official commencement program will be sent to each student. If desired, a hard copy can also be sent to a student's home upon request. The program will include a schedule of events, names of all graduates and a list of honors and recognitions.

For the remainder of the year, senior events will take place on Zoom, to which students can expect invitations to via email. The events were created to celebrate senior's accomplishments with their class. Pre-registration is not required.

Rousseau received some emails thus far regarding the senior events, but deleted them rather than reading them.

"It's not in my interest to cater to them at all," she said. "They won't give me even an inch of respect, why should I participate in these pathetic senior events? We don't want them, we want a graduation."

Creative:

The Social Years

Imagine this: it's your senior year of high school. This is the last year to see your close friends everyday, to get your grades together, and most importantly, to be at home. With applications, scholarships, and school work being held over your head, where will you ever find time for your social life? Whether you are going to a college that is right down the street or across the county, this is what all the talk is about. How is my life going to look a year from now? Will my life be the same? How long am I going to keep my friends from high school? Keeping these next three things in mind will guide your social life during your high school and college years.

Time never stops. Senior year will be the quickest year of your entire life and will go by in a blink of an eye. I was a student at McDowell High School. The first thing that you probably thought was "Wow, that's a big high school!" Yeah, you are right, but I also found the perfect group of people to call my friends. This made McDowell seem smaller than it actually was. During my senior year, I thought it was essential to make room in my schedule for my friends and only my friends. Everyday I thought "This might be the last time I see them in my entire life!" I was so influenced by them that I forgot who would be hurting the most when I packed up my bags - my family. My beautiful mother and little sister would be losing a whole soul in our house. Looking back at my senior year, it was the most astonishing, shocking, eye-opening year of my life but it was not complete. The missing part of that year would be from a love that I cannot get from any of my friends. Senior year is the last year that you will be under the same roof as your parents everyday, and this is something that I did not realize. I kind of regret not seeing this. Be sure to spend time with your loved ones! If your mom asks you to go to the grocery store with her, go. If your sibling asks you to go on a bike ride around Presque Isle, go. These little everyday activities are what I missed the most during my first year of college.

Friends come and go. It is always a rush to see who can climb the social pyramid the fastest. With this competition, your "friends" can elbow you in the face and knock you down before you know it. You would have never thought that this person would do this to you, but the spotlight is warm and can only have one person in it. Only be willing to cross rivers for people who would cross it for you. I was so worried about all my friend groups forgetting about me that I would fly across rivers for them not knowing that they would rather me sink than come after them. After graduation day, the social chain of command does not matter. In fact, I feel silly just bringing it up and talking about it because this is what genuinely mattered to most people. It was not as extreme as they make it in television shows, but it was definitely of top priority. Nobody cares about who is "popular" or "shy" or "geeky" to be honest. Who gives these people this label anyway? Your real friends will not forget about you and will come back no matter how far you go to school or how long of a break you take from talking to each other. If it is real love and true friendship, they will always come back. I learned that this year when I got home from New York. Little did I know that I would be seeing some people for the last time this past August, and that is okay. They came into my life for a reason, and I am thankful for them being there, but all good things must come to an end.

Every choice you make can impact your future. With the "one last time" adrenaline pumping through everyone's blood, it can often be forgotten of the brainless activity that you are about to take part in. Peer pressure can get the best of you, but you have to remember your own morals and values. I had a big fall out with my ex best

friend due to my own circumstances, and now I cannot go back to the most blissful friendship I have ever had. My example is of the lesser extremes, but there are times when the scale is much more monumental. Every choice is a lesson, but make sure it is worth the lesson and that you blossom from it.

Buckle up for the days you are going to experience in high school and college, because they will go by so fast. It is the time of your life, so live in the moment! Just make sure that as you are collecting these memories, that you look back and say to yourself, "Those were the days, the *best* days." I made a lot of new, wonderful friends at college, but there is no feeling like being with those who make you feel at home.

Follow up with me next week to read how to socially survive your first year of college!

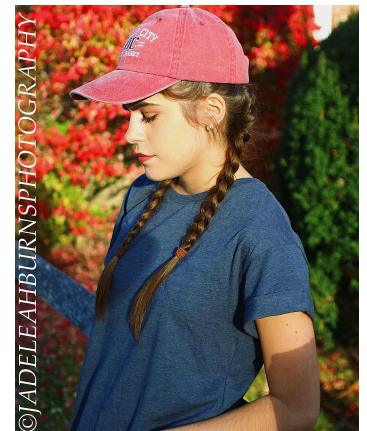
Photography Samples

Sports:



Best in category for Sports Photography and 1st place at Edinboro and Robert Morris University for Communications/Journalism competition (three years in a row).

Headshots:



*References
and more work
samples
upon request.*