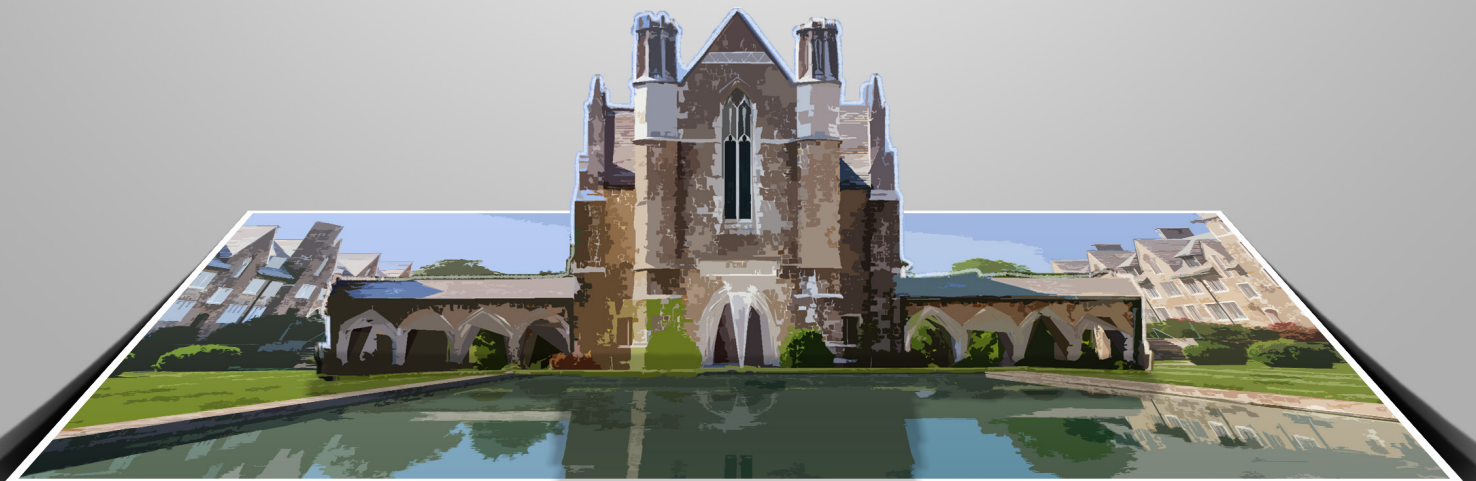


COMMUNICATION

YOUNG ALUMNI

SPRING 2017





from the CLASSROOM to the OFFICE



Comparing and contrasting
classroom life and relationships
to work life and relationships.

The Berry Bubble. For many students, it is their home, their safety net and their way of life, which is why leaving the sacred campus can be nerve-wracking at best. After spending four years within the comforting confines of Berry College, every student reaches the moment when he or she must exit the Gate of Opportunity for the last time.

At Berry, everyday looks about the same. For some alumni, finding a fixed routine in the “real world” was much harder than they anticipated.

“In the real world, most people go nine to five without stopping,” alumna Alex Brizzi said. “Typically, I work a bit longer than that, plus I’m in grad school, so it’s been an adjustment with how I manage my time.”

Graduate of last year’s class, Annakate Shepherd, said she did not account for taking extra time to take care of herself.

“Berry prepared me more than other schools with on campus jobs,” Shepherd said. “But nothing prepares you for work every day and trying to make time for mental and personal health.”

However, Childers said he advises taking advantage of time with professors and work supervisors because they can provide personal experience and advice.

Alumni believe that relationships with classmates and professors translate into professional careers in three ways: respect, acceptance, and hard work.

While in college, your classmates tend to include the same 10 to 15 people.

“Ninety-nine percent of the time, your classmates are your peers,” Brizzi said. “Your co-workers, however,

will range in age, seniority at your office, time in the industry. In my mind, you should be treating people with the same amount of respect and kindness.”

Brizzi said respect was a comforting similarity between her time at Berry and in her new job at Edelman. She said Berry taught her to treat her peers with the highest level of respect. In time, they also became her friends.

Shepherd said that it is important to be open and accepting of diverse perspectives because it makes the work environment more pleasant.

“With co-workers, you are thrown into groups of people with different views and opinions, she said. “I’m learning to be accepting of views and knowing that all people work differently.”

Briona Arradondo, a Berry alumna and reporter for WSMV-TV in Nashville, said giving your best is what leads to success in your field, and your boss will expect you to always deliver.

“With a boss, you don’t have a letter grade or percentage to tell you how you are doing, said Arradondo. “Sometimes, you have to take initiative to ask for feedback and always strive to be better. Doing the bare minimum to pass a class can cost you your job in the professional world.”

*“Doing the bare
minimum to pass a class
can cost you your job in
the professional world.”*

Oh, The Places You've Gone....

Annakate Shepherd C/O16



Project Coordinator,
Rise and Set Experiential
Marketing
New York City, NY

Elizabeth Walker C/O16



Recruiting Specialist,
Tennessee Rural
Partnership
Nashville, TN

Briona Arradondo C/O10



General
Assignment
Reporter,
WSMV-TV
Nashville, TN

Alex Brizzi C/O15

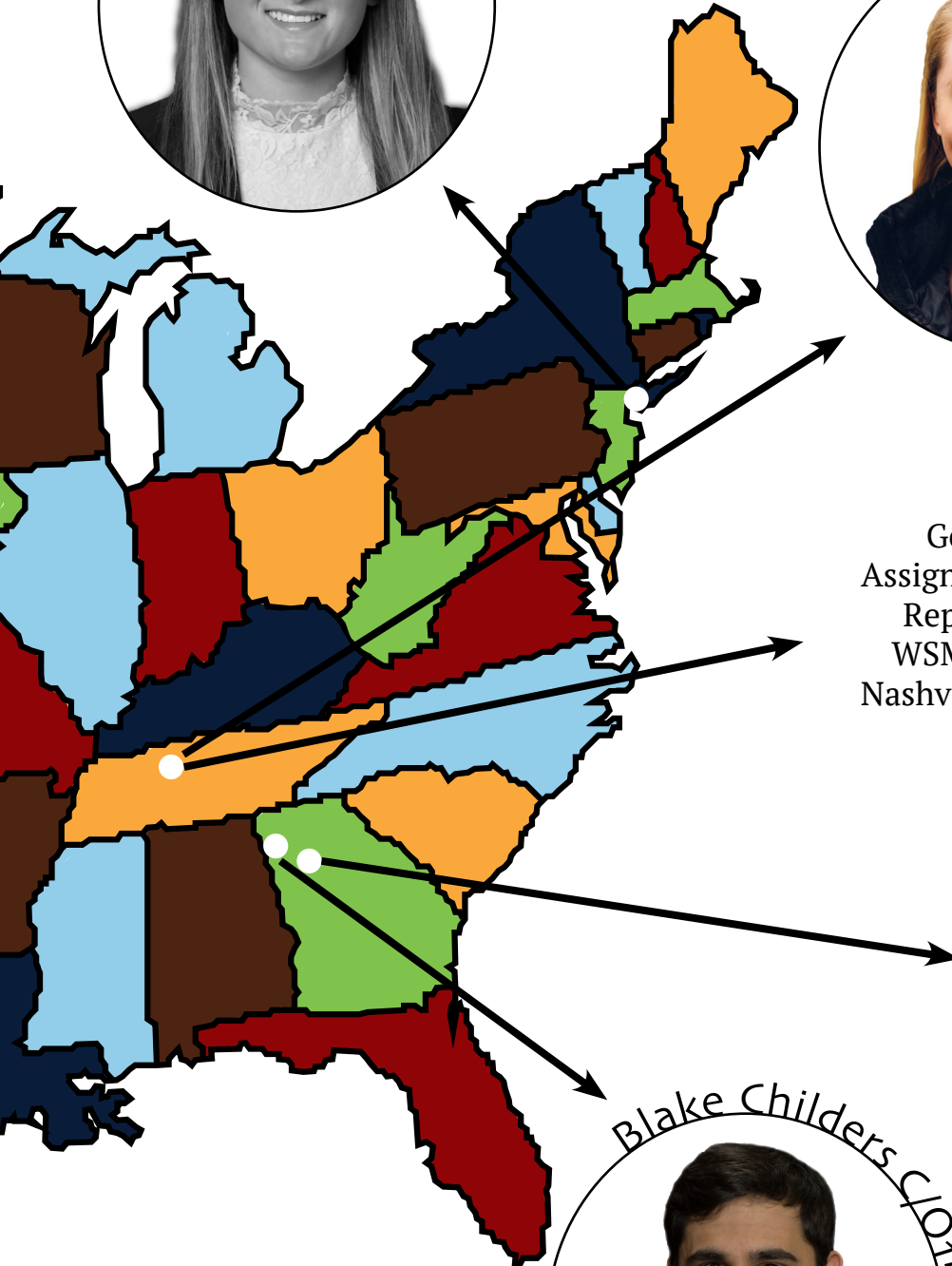


Assistant Account Executive,
Edelman
Atlanta, GA

Blake Childers C/O15



Director of Sports
Information and Promotion,
Berry College
Rome, GA



GET CONNECTED

Social media has become a crucial part of the modern workforce. According to LinkedIn, over 40 million college students and recent grads are building their networks through LinkedIn accounts, a social media platform for professional networking and growth. LinkedIn is a resource for those entering the job market and for those who have already launched their careers. Users can share information beyond a simple resume. They can list achievements traditionally cut from the perfect one-page resume. Additional information on LinkedIn includes:

- volunteer experience
- major accomplishments
- references and recommendations
- publications
- speaking engagements
- links to other accounts to display design, creative, or additional work experience.

More than 40 million students and recent graduates are on LinkedIn

13% of millennials use LinkedIn

More than 97% of recruiters used LinkedIn for recruiting in 2012

More than 2.9 million companies are represented on LinkedIn



The site can even be used to look for and apply to jobs. Recent graduate, Annakate Shepherd, told current communication student, Ca-

mille DeBrun, that LinkedIn makes applying for multiple jobs and contacting people in the industry so much easier. LinkedIn allows users to let employers and recruiters seek them out, also. Young alumni, Blake Childers and Alex Brizzi, have both been contacted by potential employers and company recruiters through their LinkedIn accounts. Brizzi says that she uses LinkedIn every day at her current position at Edelman.

As an Assistant Account Executive, it is important to stay in touch with top-level executives within the firm. She added that LinkedIn allows her to create relationships with others whom she might not necessarily interact with on a daily basis.

For current students, LinkedIn can be used as an information bank for resume building, searching for jobs through the new LinkedIn Job App and portfolio exposure, aside from using the site as a resource to connect with other professionals for internship or career advice and opportunities. It is encouraging to know that this is an effective way to stay up-to-date on the ever-changing job market, but also a way to stay informed about what other alumni are accomplishing in the field outside of the Berry Bubble.

Golden Moments

"the Communication Department at Berry College challenged me to take a different perspective, especially when looking at the many modes of today's media."

-Blake Childers (15c)

One of Alex Brizzi's favorite memories was when Dr. Carroll wore his graduation robe into Media Law class to act as a judge. "He was passionate about the course," Brizzi said. "It meant a lot and motivated me to feel just as passionate about the course material."

-Alex Brizzi (15c)

Elizabeth Walker said she gained, not only skills and knowledge, but confidence from her time studying in the Communication Department at Berry College. This confidence has allowed her to teach others in her teams "communication skills" they did not receive in college.

-Elizabeth Walker

For Briana Arradondo, each professor taught her something special that she continues to use today. Dr. Hersey showed her how to think outside the box. Dr. Carroll pushed her to stay true to the core of journalism. Dr. R. Richardson encouraged her to not take herself too seriously. "Those are all lessons I still try to attain every day in my job and life," said Arradondo.

-Briana Arradondo (10c)

The memories,
moments,
and professors
that inspired.

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