March 2020

Greetings from Montezuma,

I hope this message finds you healthy and happy and able to concentrate not only on the



extraordinary moment at hand, but on the things that are important in your life. A lot has been said about the unprecedented nature of the Covid-19 crisis. And yet, this is a crisis like any other. It awakens us to a new way of seeing. It reminds us of what is important. It calls us to step up. Our alumni are surely being asked to step up. We in Montezuma wish you courage and strength in doing so.

Here in Montezuma we are stepping up as well, shifting like so many other schools to online learning, supporting our students through this unexpected shift, and

finding ways to be deliberately optimistic about the future. If you haven't already, please <u>check out</u> <u>the page</u> we've set up on the UWC-USA website that outlines how we have responded to Covid-19 thus far.

Besides allowing us to see things in new ways, reminding us of what is important, and calling us to step up, crises also hold out the opportunity for a deep encounter with gratitude. I am certainly grateful. In two short weeks I have watched faculty working tirelessly to prepare for a new kind of educational interaction, current parents and alumni opening their homes to students who could not travel home, our staff coming together to make sure our students had as smooth a transition as possible off campus, and our students acting with maturity and grace and clever ingenuity. We are all trying to absorb the information that is changing daily, but we are rising to the occasion and adjusting.

In the spirit of gratitude and adjustment to change, we're trying something new at UWC-USA next week. I encourage you to join me in one of two conversations I will be hosting for alumni next week. I'll take questions for sure, but I also want to hear from you. We know that we are stronger and more effective together. Please see below for more information on how we will come together next week and to RSVP.

During the last several days I have been constantly reminded of a quote from our founder, Kurt Hahn, and so I share it with you here."There is more in you than you think." Let's each of us remember this about ourselves in the days ahead, and let's expect it of one another, too.

My very best,

Victoria