

2016 SENIOR CLASS LITANY OF THANKS

#1= MAURICIO HUERTAS,

#2 = MARIA CATHERINO

MUSIC = VICTOR XIONG

Members of the graduating class would like to give thanks for the people and life experiences which brought us to this day. We've strung these statements together into one litany of thanks. It goes like this:

#1 Thanks to everyone in the Chemistry Department who taught me how to exit the building safely in case of fire [*pause for possible laughter*]. Also a special thanks to Professor Tepper who taught me to question the existing body of knowledge at the very first day, because knowledge is not static but rather dynamic.

Thank you to the Education department, who kept me going toward what I'd wanted since I was six years old. To the Thetas and the Gammas, you taught me lessons that school never could. And to my family, for supporting me with true love, or tough love, no matter what.

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#2 For the women who gave me a soft spot to land when I fell, courage to get back up again, and above all, the chance to pass it on to someone else who needed it. I've never been prouder to call myself an Arrow.

Thanks to my best friend for being my buddy through four years of conniptions and "doing the most"; thanks to Ink Pond for moonlit nights of calm and the local fox family for reminding me that "all good things are wild and free". Also thanks to the Boundary Waters English lit. class for not ruining Thoreau for me, despite it's best effort.

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#1. To Trevor and Kevin: It's been real; it's been fun; it's been real fun!

Thank you my mothers, my sisters, my daughters, and son for fun, for laughter, for wisdom, for love. And for putting up with my weird habit of attaching familial titles to my friends.

To the visiting professors of the short-lived Arabic program, thank you for blowing my mind and changing the trajectory of my life.

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#2. For the support of Professors Shannon Reed and Glen Freeman.

For the Art Department. Chris - you showed me the world of art. Susannah - you showed me that my art is valid enough to be a part of that world."

For Cornell teaching me to embrace the passion that makes me unique; my parents for helping me achieve my dream of coming here; and the squirrels for teaching me that no matter how cute they are, wild animals can still have sharp teeth."

#1. Thank you to all the professors who taught me about the sustaining power that is caffeine.

"To my brothers, without whom I'd have way too much order and structure in my life, and with whom I'll never be bored."

To family and the Education department for the endless love and support; and to my friends and Beta sisters for the lifetime of memories, laughter, and spontaneous games of hide-and-seek.

#2. For Justin Gohdes, the study fairy, supplying already over-caffeinated students with sugar and stickers in return for looking like we were studying, when we were really sitting at our desks in despair.

For my many experiences at Cornell. I wouldn't be as independent and strong-willed without you, though I sure would have a lot more money in my bank account.

For the Music Department's unwavering support and for just being awesome. For Mom my rock, and for my sisters for being there every step of the way: Wherever we fly this isn't goodbye, my heart will belong to Beta Psi.

#1. Thanks to all my classmates, teammates, professors, and friends for helping me through the ups and downs of college.

To the love and dedication of my family, friends, sisters, and the Theatre Department: you all have inspired my art and make my life more beautiful.

"To my coach who taught me the one solution that works in every situation, even during the "oh crap" moment when Santhi's intimidating eyes are piercing into your soul: Step out of the bags!" And thank you Santhi for pushing me.

#2. For my parents, Noel and Erica, for consistently supporting me financially and emotionally.

For my sisters who cared as much about my mental health as my grades. For roommates putting up with my ten p.m. ramblings about my passion for space, laughing with but never at me. For Mom and little bro for taking my troubles with them on the go.

To the friends I made year one that are still dear to me today, to the professors and faculty that helped me along the way and kept me grounded, and my parents, grandmother, and sister for all your love and support from the diapers until today.

#1. You've done your hard work, Mom. Now it's time that I do mine. May you rest in peace. I miss you, and love you.

#2. To all my friends who tried to keep me sane during the past four years, thank you. And another loving thanks the professors in the Art Department, especially Sue Coleman for always being a listening ear in times of need, you are truly a shining star.

Thanks to many cherished people who supplied boundless kindness, guidance, and perseverance; my graduation and successes are all because of you.

For the hugs when I needed them, for the nights of no bean dip, Disney, and board games, for the days of walking a dog who wasn't ours, for the ice cream runs, thank you. Fur sure.

#1. For all the Coloradans who felt the need to venture into the unknown cornfields of Iowa: You made it feel like I never actually left Colorado to go to school...

For the love and faith of family, the support of friends, the patience and guidance of professors, and for the sidewalk keeping me off the street.

For Mom, my number one person, whose incredibly great at calming me down when I freak out about life on a monthly basis. I wouldn't have been able to do this without you."

#2. Thanks to everyone who has unwittingly made their way into my poems and fiction projects, and to my friends and family who have had to read all of them.

For Michael, Reece and Nikki for love, support and having fun learning Biochemistry with me!

For parents who listened and guided through every problem, pretending to do so as I explained stress pathways and countless theories with ideas for improving their own lives. And to my best friend for always knowing and believing in me. I love you guys."

#1. Thanks for the memories, Dream Team, especially my bar buddy. Couldn't imagine Cornell without you... Good job showing up!

For my many families: Beta, Theatre, and biological. Thank you for your love, support, and motivating me to not throw away my shot.

And thanks to Suite 310 for great memories and being my home away from home, I wouldn't have made it through this year without you guys. Thank you also for the offering of unconditional love of my parents when answering panicked phone calls. And for you, Chris, Ellen, and Sandy in the Art Department for your guidance, support, and both gentle and not so gentle pushing.

#2. To my roommate Margaret, thank you for dealing with my bi-polar neat freak self these past four years because we all know no one else would have been able to do it. Shane is lucky to have someone as special as you.

To my Delphi sisters who made my confidence soar, to Professor Tepper who always kept my feet on the ground, to Professor Molleur, without whom I would not have made it through these four years and to my parents and brother who never stopped believing in me and pushing me to follow my dreams, I thank you all from the bottom of my heart."

#1. Thank you to everyone in the Anthropology Department, for helping me learn to see 'turtles, turtles all the way down.'"

"To the friends who made me want to stay, the family that didn't let me leave, and the professors that pushed me: You are the reason I have succeeded. Thank you."

#2. For my family, friends—and families of my friends—for helping make Cornell a home away from home.

And to the amazing people in the class of 2016: I know your futures are bright and I can't wait to get my stories one-upped by yours at our class reunion.