

Thank you for that warm introduction, Jamar!

Working at the MCC for the past two years has been extremely rewarding and memorable. It's an honor to be given the opportunity to serve our students of color on campus and create that safe space for them. Some of my favorite memories at the MCC include playing our favorite 90s Hip Hop & R&B in the space as well as our most recent event, World Without Borders. Being able to plan a cultural celebration for over 100 guests, during a pandemic, with a small, tight team of five was so memorable and made us proud. These moments, and many more, are memories I will never forget.

As our time at the MCC comes to a close, I'd like to offer one piece of advice to current students who will also be graduating not too long from now. Cherish your time here on campus and insert yourself into spaces that celebrate your identity and talent. Take advantage of positive opportunities that come your way and upon leaving the University of Oregon, share your experiences with the rest of the world. We, Black Indigenous Students of Color have so much to bring to the table with our unique and diverse perspectives. Know that in every space you walk in to and if your thoughts and ideas aren't welcomed, create a new space where they are. Never stop loving who you are, your culture, and your identity. This is what makes us all special and the world needs to know how special we are.

To the Class of 2021—our resilience and dedication has paid off and we deserve to celebrate this huge accomplishment. Congratulations!

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