

PORTLAND CONTEMPORARY ARCHIVES

PROMPTS

Are your morning routines different now than they were before the pandemic? How so?

Show us your day in one photo. Please caption it, too.

As you imagine your time after lockdowns and self-isolation, what benefits would like to take with you from this current experience?

As you find ways to stay motivated during these times, write about a “theme song” or a personal motto that is with you through this- and write about its importance to you.

Describe something good that happened for you this week.

Send in an image, or a video, or some words about your holidays from the pandemic

Write a haiku for a pandemic Fourth of July; Memorial Day; Thanksgiving; Labor Day, etc.

Describe your hopes for our country and for Maine.

During these times, who (living or in memory) has been especially important to you?

What gets you laughing these days?

Write about—or photograph—something that currently fascinates you.

How have your reading, or listening, or viewing habits / tastes changed in the pandemic?

While we’re hearing a lot in the news about “mitigating the risks” in these times, how are you mitigating the misery?

How will we remember this pandemic?

What is one thing that always cheers you up?

Take a photo of a source of strength for you.

Write about how commemorating 9-11 is different for you, during this pandemic era. If September 11, 2001 is too long ago for you to remember, write about- or make a photo tribute- with the event in mind.



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Tell us in writing—or show us with imagery—“What defines the Autumn season for you?”

Tell us in writing—or show us with your imagery—something about the foods and drinks you’ve come to like (or dislike), during the pandemic.

In words or images, convey your experience of the expression: “This situation is temporary.”

Will you vote, and why?

For the Archives and your future memories: Write about—or picture—something about your hopes.

Show us your masks! (and if you have face shields or gloves, send us photos of those, too). These images will be preserved in the Archives.

Send in your words and images related to anything for which you are thankful.

Tell us in words or images about your favorite indoor hobby, and how it makes you feel.

Send in some words or images about how you recognized the holiday season in 2020.

Send us a picture of your pets / animal friends that are accompanying you through these times.

What has the pandemic experience been teaching you?

Send in a photo of a pandemic purchase you’ve made!

Send us a List : 7 Things you are grateful for.

Illustrate (with photos, artwork, etc.) or write about something you are waiting for.

Please tell us about how your library plays a role in your self-care during these times.

Wanted : A Bit of Cheer! Send in a picture, or some words, to cheer your fellow Mainers!

Send in some words or pictures that express what helped you survive this far through the pandemic.



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Tell us—in words or imagery—about your summer hopes.

How has your life changed in the past year-and-a-half?

Show us / write us about how the pandemic's "culture" has altered the culture around you and your perceptions.

What was your COVID Halloween costume? Did you make it or modify it yourself?

How did you make Halloween awesome/creative in the pandemic?

It's been two years... How are you looking ahead?

Describe your first memory of the pandemic. Do you still feel about the pandemic the way you did then? What has changed your mindset?

What are some ways your community has changed? Are new businesses coming in? Are old businesses closing?

Are there outdoor places, such as parks, hiking trails, and lakes that you have spent more time at since COVID?

What has your community's reaction to the pandemic taught you about resilience?

Have you noticed more wild animals in your neighborhood? Are the animals new to you?

How excited are you to see people in-person again? What are your plans for events and travel?

What do you want to do in the future that you still can't do yet because of the pandemic?

