

Virtual Prom 2020

By: Katy Manning

As schools across America began to shut down in early March, seniors in the Class of 2020 mourned the seemingly inevitable loss of one of the landmarks of their last year in high school—Prom. With almost no way to organize a real-life celebration due to the coronavirus pandemic, many celebrities came together to organize a virtual prom, hosted by John Krasinski on his Youtube Channel, through a series called *SomeGoodNews*. With almost 2.5 million subscribers, Krasinski is using his media platform to bring viewers light-hearted and inspiring stories during the quarantine, and to make fun videos for all to enjoy. On his Instagram account before the virtual prom, he captioned a post, “I can’t take it anymore how much you are all missing your prom. So let’s do something about it!”



Photo Courtesy of UNILAD

John Krasinski announces his virtual prom on TikTok

Over a live stream, Krasinski invited his “*The Office*” co-star Rainn Wilson and popular music artists The Jonas Brothers, Chance the Rapper and Billie Eilish. Despite facing some technical difficulties, the musicians performed their most popular songs for quarantined seniors, and addressed the unfortunate situation. Nick Jonas, the lead singer of the Jonas brothers, commented on the live stream that “we [The Jonas Brothers] want to share this experience with everyone staying safe at home, we could potentially do one of our songs if that’s alright, try to turn this party up a notch.”

While the live stream may not have been what seniors had dreamed of, the celebrity guest stars had a dance party on-screen, decked out in their formal attire to mimic the aspects of a true high school prom. Krasinski even joked that, while seniors’ family members would reminisce about a different kind of prom, that at least the Class of 2020 could respond with, “Oh really? Did Billie Eilish play your prom? Did the Jonas Brothers play your prom? Did Chance the Rapper pop into your prom? And did Rainn Wilson ruin your prom?”

Krasinski also video chatted with a high school senior and her dad from Alabama, whose “living room prom” recently went viral on social media. The family explained that when Marli Odgers’ senior prom was cancelled, her dad took it upon himself to throw her a prom in their living room, slow-dancing with his daughter in lieu of her date. On the video call, Krasinski asked if the Odgers’ family would attend his prom, and help him to DJ. During the prom itself,

the dad and daughter shared yet another dance, to the music of the Jonas brothers over the livestream.

Towards the end of the night, the actor took a more serious tone, commenting that “We are all going through this together,” he shared, “This is a very, very weird time but each and every one of you are missing something and this is the least I could do.” His Youtube series will continue to produce fun and informative segments, such as cooking or dancing videos, celebrity Zoom calls, and even a virtual graduation, as the pandemic continues.



The Jonas Brothers performed at John Krasinski’s virtual prom.
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