

Where Are They Now?

St Elizabeth Catholic High School Regional Arts Program

Drama



Amanda Cordner

Art discipline? Drama

Year of Graduation? 2007

Education York University Theatre Program

What is your current job and what does that entail?

I have been dedicated to pursuing a career in the arts. Since graduating from university, I have had several part-time jobs (a candy factory quality control agent, customer service rep for the City of Markham, cruise ship entertainment host, Ontario Science Centre host, barista, bartender, theatre usher, Canada Post Delivery Agent). I was fired from a few, quit most of them. Currently, I am working and surviving as an artist. Creating and touring work across North America. Auditioning and working in film and television. Living the life I imagined, with less money. I imagine more money in my future, please.

Please comment on any skills you feel you have developed in the RAP.

A piece of advice I received from one drama teacher in the RAP program was, "Never put something bad on stage." These words fuel everything I create and every character I perform.

What is your most fond memory of RAP.

My most fond production during the RAP program was Tony and Tina's Wedding. A fully immersive theatre experience where I play an old Italian grandmother. It was my most challenging role yet. I killed it. I really went deep into studying my Italian grandmother. She inspired my character.

What piece of advice would you have for current students?

Read as many plays as possible. Learn to create your own work. Don't wait around for people to tell you what to do or give you the "part". Study. Learn. Create.

What else have you been up to?

Since high school a friend from the RAP program and I have remained friends and we have started a theatre company together called, *Madonnanera*. Since 2016 we have created, developed and toured our shows across North America (*Body so Fluorescent and Writing the Roses*). We have been to Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary twice – we're kind of a big deal over there! Montreal, Wilmington North Carolina- to name a few. It has been challenging and incredible. I create art with my best friend and we travel the world with it. Life is good and exciting most days. No doubt a struggle but I wouldn't know the pleasure without the pain.