

Where Are They Now?

St Elizabeth Catholic High School Regional Arts Program

Drama



Victoria Martire

Art discipline? Drama

Year of Graduation? 2012

Education After graduating from St. Elizabeth, I went to York University to pursue a bachelor of specialized honors in Theatre concurrently with a bachelor of education.

What is your current job and what does that entail?

Currently I am a teacher with YCDSB. As an teacher in the board I grew up in, I am able to see long-range plans in motion and how the course of education has changed since the years I have been a student.

Please comment on any skills you feel you have developed in the RAP When I was in elementary school, I was always the student who had her desk turned over for being messy. Being in RAP, especially the drama field, helped me learn what it takes to be organized whether it be from planning out assignments, rehearsals with various groups, or learning what it means to be backstage and organizing the run of a show. Being in RAP taught me at a young age that I am able to balance multiple things at once – which allowed me to work multiple part time jobs and volunteer at various schools and events while completing two degrees in University.

What is your most fond memory of RAP My fondest memory of RAP- I do not think I can choose just one. I loved the excitement of us all being silly backstage before that curtain went up. I enjoyed learning about Comedia Dell'Arte, and one of my fondest memories is performing a lazzi and being VERY committed to the scene. I “sneezed” into a pie and when I jolted my head with too much force into the table, I caused my nose to bleed – but the show went on! Everyday felt like a new adventure in RAP and still to this day I hear “rabbit hole” and immediately spring into action to play!

What piece of advice would you have for current students?

There will be moments when you are frustrated, maybe your group members aren't pulling their weight or maybe you cannot connect to the piece you are with – that was my struggle with anything dramatic. Do not give up. Always take the opportunity as a blessing, even if you are not the best at dramatic monologues it will teach you what makes one so empowering that one day you can write about it, or teach it, or even judge them competitively. Having done little drama work in elementary school and completing a degree post- RAP in theatre, I can say that the St. Elizabeth RAP program taught me WAY more than just the basics of theatre, acting, and the stage – it gave me a passion. My wish is that more students could experience such a program and my hopes are to create an extra-curricular in elementary school to help students see this passion for the arts prior to attending high school. The RAP program should be highlighted for its capability to bring a group of students with a common passion together and create a family.

Why did you choose to attend St. Elizabeth? My sister was in RAP for visual arts, and I wanted to be apart of that group as well. It felt nice to know I would see familiar faces everyday and build bigger relationships with the same kids everyday. When my best friend, Deanna, decided she was applying to drama I decided to go ahead and try it out with her. We went to the open house together that night and the students were playing “park bench” and I knew from that moment I needed to be here.