

Where Are They Now?

St Elizabeth Catholic High School Regional Arts Program

Drama



Luke Pieroni

Art discipline? Drama

Year of Graduation? 2012

Education Devised Theatre and set/costume Design.

What is your current job and what does that entail?

Currently, I work as a freelance industrial designer and project manager. I work for a variety of companies designing and producing technical drawings. I do a lot of kitchens, home renovation drawings. I also work for a company that makes fire rated enclosures for which I make designs and manage manufacturing, logistics, and installation. On the side I keep busy with the arts performing in live music and helping companies write grant applications.

Please comment on any skills you feel you have developed in the RAP Being in a specialized program, you are expected to perform at a higher standard. I have found that if you hold yourself to a higher standard in any field, you will excel.

What is your most fond memory of RAP

There are a few:

- Bang
- Major Bedhead teaching us children's theatre
- Performing as Macbeth in Stratford for the Stratford Shakespeare Challenge
- Watching our grade 12 final performance of *Albertine in Five Times* From the audience and crying my eyes out.

What piece of advice would you have for current students?

If you want to pursue theatre as a career, get involved NOW. Go to shows and see what new emerging artists are doing. Go to the Toronto Fringe Festival, that is where your first shows will most likely be. VOLUNTEER at Fringe, you will get an inside look at what it means to work in the industry. Look at the listings in Now Magazine and see shows that you think are interesting, you'll learn about the venues and different theatre companies of Toronto. The next time you think of seeing a Broadway/West end style production like *Mary Poppins* or *Wicked*, remember that there are so many great shows happening in the city produced by emerging artists that need your support.

Learn how to host an awesome fundraiser so you can fund your shows.

Also, learn how to write a compelling grant application!

Why did you choose to attend St. Elizabeth? My brother was already enrolled in the visual arts RAP. I found out about the program through him.

What else have you been up to - anything that is interesting or you are proud of that has brought you to where you are today! My few years spent as the owner of my own theatre company producing, acting, designing and building were some of the most redeeming times of my life, they were also the most challenging. Take risks, be open to new ideas and be ready to roll with the punches.