

Where Are They Now?

St. Elizabeth Catholic High School Regional Arts Program

Vocal



Natalie Ciarallo

RAP discipline? Vocal

Year of graduation? 2007

Education? Bachelor of Commerce, specializing in Hospitality & Tourism Management, Ryerson University

What is your current job and what does that entail?

Senior Manager, Conferences & Events at Proof Experiences. I design and create meaningful and memorable experiences for a wide variety of clients. Anything from a 20 person board retreat to a 1000 person town hall or the launch of a new product. From sourcing a destination and venue to working with the art department on visuals to writing speeches for VPs, I'm involved in the event strategy as well as the execution. Onsite, you may find me backstage with a headset, cueing all technicians, or I may be leading a team of 40 staff in various roles. From registering 500 attendees in 30 minutes or ensuring everyone gets their luggage onto shuttles to the airport in a timely manner, each event is its own production!

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

Public speaking – being onstage throughout my RAP experience made it a lot easier to present in front of a group of executives or walk into a room of 20 clients and lead a presentation.

The value of transferrable skills. You likely won't find my performing on a stage anytime soon but stage presence is something I use in many meetings and presentations.

Practice – whether it was site reading or vocal warm ups, rehearsing key presentations or pitches is something I currently practice.

Time management - being a part of RAP meant early morning rehearsals, after school rehearsals along with being on some sports teams or a part of other clubs. I could be working on up to 10 different events at a time so being able to remain focused yet keep all the balls in the air is a true skill!

What is your most fond memory of RAP?

The connections – to this day, I am still friends with so many of my RAP colleagues (including teachers). These were friends I shared a class with for every semester for all four years. That was something truly unique and created a strong bond between us. Memories of being a part of different productions

What piece of advice would you have for current RAP students?

Soak it all in. It may not seem like its going by quickly but there will be a time where you wish you were back in that class room with your peers!

Get involved! I was on the sound and lighting crew, music council and a bunch of other clubs which strengthened my connection with my classmates and teachers and lead to many great memories!

What else have you been up to that has brought you to where you are today?

After university, I spent 2 years working at an incentive travel company planning events all over the world. I planned a 40 person private dinner around the statue of David in Florence – something we saw on our March break music trip years before.

I then worked for TD Bank Wealth Management and ran events across the country and the US

I have obtained my Certified Meeting Professionals (CMP) designation and won Meeting Professional International's Toronto Planner Member of the Year award in 2016, was named a member of Ontario Hospitality Institute's Top 30 Under 30 and was inducted into the Meeting & Incentive Travel Hall of Fame in 2012

I currently am an active volunteer member of MPI's The EVENT committee, working with Montreal & Ottawa chapters to bring experiential learning to life at an annual conference.