



Hello Southridge School Alumni,

We are delighted to share with you the Spring issue of the alumni newsletter for the 2018-19 school year!

This edition includes information on the *25 Remarkable Alumni* initiative - please consider nominating fellow alumni who you think are deserving of recognition. There are also two save-the-date reminders: the Alumni BBQ/Basketball Tournament and the Class of 2009 10-Year Reunion! Finally, we have included a great story written by one of our Grade 12 students, Avery Martin, called *Passion over Paycheque* about Darren Jones ('01), who also happens to be the Vice-Principal in the Senior School.

We're also sad to announce that Jasmine Boyes will be leaving Southridge and her position of Community and Alumni Relations Manager. Jasmine has been at Southridge since 2015 and has worked closely with your Alumni Association, organizing our many alumni events and activities. I'd like to thank Jasmine for her many contributions to the school and our alumni program over the years!

We are now looking for someone to take on our Alumni Relations portfolio. If you or someone you know is an enthusiastic and organized individual with superior interpersonal skills and event, communications and/or advancement experience, please [check out this rare opportunity](#). A passion for Southridge and alignment with the vision and mission of our amazing community is a must!

Christiane Hodson  
Director of Advancement

## Feature Stories



### 25 Remarkable Alumni – Nominate Today!

Believe it or not, Southridge will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. As part of this exciting milestone, there will be many events and initiatives planned in the 2019/2020 school year for our entire school community.

One of the initiatives we have launched to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> is recognizing the remarkable achievements of our alumni. From their contributions as volunteers and community leaders, to their academic and professional successes, our alumni are making a difference in the world. To acknowledge their achievements, we are running the *25 Remarkable Alumni* campaign.

We are currently calling for nominations, of which 25 alumni will be selected and recognized at a special anniversary event during the 2019-2020 school year.

Individuals who received their Grade 12 diploma from Southridge School are eligible for nomination.

In evaluating nominations, a selection committee will be guided by the following considerations:

TWENTY-FIVE  
*Remarkable*  
ALUMNI

- Does the nominee live the values of Southridge School, demonstrated by their personal integrity and moral character?
- Has the nominee contributed to the greater good through extraordinary service to society?
- Has the nominee attained a high level of leadership, creativity, distinction, and/or achievement in the arts, athletics, academics, business, teaching, research, sciences, or in any other field or discipline?

Alumni are encouraged to nominate fellow Southridge graduates. If you know a grad who is making a difference in the world through extraordinary leadership, community service, academic accomplishment or achievement in the arts or athletics, then nominate them today!

The deadline for nomination submissions is May 31, 2019.

To submit a nomination or to read more about criteria and instructions or contact info, please visit [www.southridge.bc.ca/alumni/25](http://www.southridge.bc.ca/alumni/25) or email [remarkable@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:remarkable@southridge.bc.ca).



## Save the date – Alumni BBQ

Come back to the Southridge campus on Saturday, May 11 to catch up with your fellow grads and enjoy a burger and some beverages!

This event is exclusively for alumni. Southridge will provide a complimentary BBQ lunch and 2 drinks for each grad (beer, cider, and coolers will be available).

We are also hosting separate basketball tournaments for our alumni boys and alumni girls on campus that same day. In addition, there will be an opportunity for grads to use the outdoor fields for soccer, bocce, or volleyball.

Whether you drop by for a quick hello, come to cheer on the alumni sports teams, or stay a while to play some lawn games, we hope to see you there!

View the [Facebook event page](#) for more details and to RSVP.

To arrange an alumni soccer game or other sports activities on campus that day, email [jboyes@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:jboyes@southridge.bc.ca).



## Alumni Story – Passion Over Paycheque

Since November 2018, the Grade 12 Journalism class has been producing *The Breezeway*, a student-led publication which is distributed to students, faculty, and staff every 4-6 weeks.

Each edition features a variety of stories written by student editors, covering topics such as teacher interviews, course announcements, homework hacks, and sports updates.

A common inclusion in *the Breezeway* are spotlight stories on specific faculty members. These features are often born from a connection that the teacher has fostered with a student throughout their time at Southridge. Editors will almost always choose a teacher that they believe the student body would love to know more about.

The most recent issue includes a story about Class of '01 alumnus, Darren Jones, who also happens to be the Vice-Principal of Student Life in the Senior School. The article tells the story of how Jones left Southridge as an alumnus and returned 13 years later as a teacher in a story titled "*Passion over Paycheque.*"



## Passion over Paycheque By Avery Martin, Grade 12



Most Grade 12's at Southridge can't wait to leave, but Mr. Jones couldn't wait to come back. Mr. Jones became a part of the Southridge community in his Grade 11 year when his father became the Head of the Senior School.

Coming from the public school system, the new experience was shocking. Not only was there an abundance of new opportunities that ranged from travelling across the world to exploring the wilderness of British Columbia, but he noticed that his teachers really cared about his success. They were not just there because it was their job, but because they were passionate about what they did, and wanted to share their passion with students.

One of his favourite subjects while at Southridge was chemistry. Like all Grade 11 students currently taking chemistry, Mr. Jones participate in the national crystal growing contest. Hours of work went into the project, guided by the mentorship of Ms. McCaw who was excited to see students who enjoyed applying their knowledge of science.

Eventually, Mr. Jones and his partner, Tamlin Reed, were crowned national champions. Although Ms. McCaw credits the success to their hard work, Mr. Jones was quick to declare

“not only did she make me a national crystal growing champion, but also someone who is passionate about science.” Although he was passionate about science, his end goal was to go into business at the University of Calgary, so that someday, “he could park his Porsche 911 next to his Mercedes G-Wagon.”

While pursuing his degree in business at the University of Calgary, Mr. Jones really struggled with the teaching. It was as if he had gone back to the times before Southridge, the teachers weren’t there for the students. During his first year, he took a statistics course that proved to be his turning point. Although he could do the course, it was very difficult, and whenever he went for help, his professor “made him feel dumber each time.” This very course taught him that doing what you love is worth much more than a massive paycheck.

Mr. Jones dropped out of the business program and pursued a degree in political science at the University of Calgary and then spring-boarding his undergraduate degree to acceptance at Columbia. Mr. Jones spent one year getting a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership and Organization which led him to eventually getting his first job at the Vancouver School, Crofton House. When Mr. Jones worked at Crofton, although a great school, he was “constantly looking for openings at Southridge.”

When he had the chance, he pounced, and since, has quickly become the Vice Principal of Student Life! Not only does Mr. Jones currently work here, but his son Myles attends the Junior School, which Mr. Jones finds, “amazing and hopes that his other son will have the opportunity as well!”

As students, we should all follow Mr. Jones by example. He tried what he wanted to do, but also understood that you must love what you do when he decided to become a teacher. Although fancy cars are an amazing luxury, Mr. Jones drives a “Ford Focus and is happier than ever!”





## Class of 2009 10 Year Reunion

Each year, Southridge hosts an event to honour the alumni celebrating their 10 year graduation reunion. This year, we are honouring the class of 2009!

To celebrate this milestone, we invite the '09 alumni and their significant others to attend a light-hearted evening of celebration and reconnection.

The event will include complimentary drinks and canapes at City Side Winery in Vancouver. All alumni will also receive a commemorative "Class of 2009" alumni scarf.

Please visit the [Facebook event page](#) to view event info and to RSVP.

## Upcoming Events

### [Alumni Association AGM](#)



MAY 15, 2019

7:00 pm  
Southridge School  
Alan Brown Great Hall

### [Alumni BBQ](#)



MAY 11, 2019

11:30 am – 2:00 pm  
Southridge School

### [Class of 2009 – 10 Year Reunion](#)



MAY 11, 2019

Time: 8:00 pm  
Location: City Side Winery  
(328 W 2nd Ave, Vancouver)

### [Alumni Basketball Tournament](#)



MAY 11, 2019

Time: TBA  
Southridge School

## Recent News

[The Pursuit of Happiness](#)

[Oh, the Places You'll Go!](#)

[A Journey to Canada's Highest Court](#)

[Alumni focused Spirit Magazine](#)

[Access the Southridge Alumni Network on LinkedIn](#)

## Alumni Photos



## Quick Links

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