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- An invitation to attend a student-conducted tour of King’s, including lunch
- A King’s information kit

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You can direct your support to an area closest to your heart, including student awards, mental health support, areas of academic study, or the highest priorities of King’s.

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The King's Herald is published semi-annually by King's University College Alumni and Development.

We welcome your letters, suggestions, or comments about the Association and the University. Opinions expressed in the King’s Herald do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the University’s administration. Contact the Editor or Alumni and Development at:

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Some articles may have been reformatted to fit the style of the King’s Herald.

Cover image: King’s Campus in the spring - Photographer, Steve Grimes

Parents: If you are receiving mail for your child, we would appreciate his or her current address. Please contact Alumni and Development.

If you wish to receive the King’s Herald in ELECTRONIC FORMAT ONLY, please contact alumni@kings.uwo.ca.
A message from our Alumni Association President

MY FELLOW KING'S ALUMNI:

As we cautiously move forward and ease restrictions, I will cherish the opportunity to go out and safely meet in person again, but I’ll also remember some of the positives that came out of this challenging time.

The way many communities, including King’s, were able to make changes and stay connected is impressive. Our Alumni Board meetings have remained virtual, which has allowed us to involve more members from outside the London region. I’m happy with our Board’s steps to increase and diversify its reach to our alumni body.

As part of our strategic plans, the Alumni Board added two new positions in the fall. Dalla Zhao ’19, International Rep, and Ian McCallum ’95, Indigenous Rep, are making progress in expanding our reach and inclusivity. Dalla is working on a new virtual event series for international alumni, which will kick off with an event for Chinese alumni (for those who have returned to China and those who’ve stayed abroad). You can read more about Ian to the right on this page.

As we move towards more in-person events, we also plan to keep virtual opportunities, giving our alumni more chances to stay connected and engaged with the King’s community. To all of our upcoming graduates – I want to welcome you to the Alumni Association, and I hope to see many of you involved in our programming!

Kind regards,

Colin Whitehead ’06
President, King’s University College Alumni Association

Ian McCallum ’95
Indigenous Rep, King’s University College Alumni Association

Although Ian enjoyed his time as a King’s student - appreciating the small community, getting involved with the rowing team, and working at the Student Centre - he was careful not to be too open about his background. “Back in the 90s, my generation had a fear to share,” Ian explains. He only knew of two other Indigenous students at King’s, noting that they were cautious of discussing this when around others, respecting each person’s choice to share their identity. Ian found support at the Student Centre but acknowledges that there wasn’t universal acceptance of cultural identity.

Ian is a member of the Munsee/Delaware Nation. In their community, the Elders expect that if you go away to a Colonial/Western style school, you will come back to the community and share what you’ve learned – you need to practice reciprocity. Ian taught on the reserve before joining the Barrie School Board and has acted as a mentor to teens interested in going to university. Currently, he co-teaches the Munsee language virtually twice a week and organizes quarterly sessions to intertwine culture and history with the language.

Ian acknowledges that there is still a lot of work to be done, but he is seeing progress. His hope is “for all Indigenous people to be able to share who they are and not hide.” He is helping the Alumni and Development Office plan a panel event for October 2022 featuring Indigenous alumni and current students. Indigenous Students Past & Present will provide a forum to discuss Indigenous experiences and share stories.

We are currently looking for Indigenous alumni to serve as panellists. If you’re interested in getting involved, please reach out to alumni@kings.uwo.ca.

Follow @KUCAlumni on social media.
As a Catholic university, King’s embraces a culture of open and honest dialogue between all peoples. As part of our ongoing commitment to advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization (EDID), King’s became an employer partner of the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (CCDI) in February 2022. CCDI is a non-profit social organization committed to research and education that generates awareness, dialogue, and action for people to recognize that diversity is an asset and not an obstacle.

In the fall, King’s took important steps toward creating a safer, more respectful, and more equitable environment in which to study, teach, research, work, and live. In October, King’s joined nearly 50 universities and colleges across Canada to sign the Scarborough Charter, a historic charter pledging to fight anti-Black racism and promote Black inclusion. In November, the King’s/Brescia Anti-Racism Working Group (KB-ARWG) released a report on the campus racial climate along with recommendations. “They think you are exaggerating”: A report on Campus Racial Climate at King’s and Brescia is available on the King’s website.

To further develop relationships with local Indigenous communities, King’s joined Brescia and Huron University Colleges to hire Sean Hoogterp in a new role as Indigenous Initiatives Coordinator. On December 15, the College marked the sixth anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)’s final report with a participatory reading of the 94 Calls to Action.

On April 1, 2022, the Catholic Church made an important step toward Truth and Reconciliation. Following three days of meetings at the Vatican between Pope Francis and Canadian Indigenous Peoples, Inuit Peoples, and Métis Peoples, the Pope extended an apology regarding the Canadian residential school system.

In his statement, Pope Francis expressed shame and sorrow for the role that Catholics had in causing intergenerational suffering through abuse and a lack of respect for identity, culture, and spiritual values.

We recognize that the apology from the Pope can be a step toward the Catholic church taking responsibility for and acknowledging the residential school system and its impacts on every Indigenous generation that has followed.

The path toward Truth and Reconciliation has been adopted and supported by King’s. I ask our community to embrace the apology as we continue to listen and work towards creating Indigenous awareness and inclusion through curriculum, community outreach, and advocacy.

King’s faculty and students are actively involved in Truth and Reconciliation scholarship. Dr. Robert Ventresca ’93, History professor and papal scholar, shared his thoughts on the apology. “We know that apologies can’t undo the harm done by historic wrongs. Yet they can be meaningful and effective if they engage sincerely in hearing and addressing the needs of victims, their families, and their communities. Consider, for example, the TRC’s call for a papal apology to be followed up by educational initiatives to make sure that Catholics and other Christian communities learn about the role of their churches in colonial racism and the residential schools. Catholic schools, including universities, have an important role to play in honouring these educational commitments while working with Indigenous communities to foster a deeper understanding of the history of residential schools and the intergenerational harms of historic wrongs.”

Now, the challenge of reconciliation rests with each of us to listen, learn, and continue taking steps to better facilitate healing.

Respectfully,

David C. Malloy, PhD
President
MARILYN MASON RETIRES AFTER 35 YEARS AT KING'S

For more than three decades, Marilyn Mason, Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Strategic Partnerships, met hundreds of students as they applied to King's and celebrated with them only a few short years later as they crossed the stage at their Convocation. After 35 years of dedicated service, Marilyn officially retired from King's on January 2, 2022.

When she first came to King's in 1987, Marilyn thought she’d stay for a few years.

“I quickly realized how fortunate I was to work at a place that aligns with my values and my faith,” she says. “To me, King’s is family.”

“Marilyn has been instrumental in the growth of King’s,” says Dave Malloy, President. “We have been so fortunate to have had the leadership, loyalty and dedication from Marilyn throughout her career, and her legacy will position King’s well to navigate and grow into the next phase of its journey.

A retirement celebration for Marilyn was postponed due to the pandemic, but members of the King’s community were invited to share messages of congratulations which were presented to Marilyn in a video. A celebration will be scheduled for a future date.
APPOINTMENTS

Sean Hoogterp was jointly hired by King’s, Brescia, and Huron University Colleges in a new role as Indigenous Initiatives Coordinator. In this role, Sean will facilitate and report on deliverables that reflect the institutional commitments to Indigenous pedagogy, spaces, curricula, learning resources, and student success.

Dr. Robert Ventresca ’93 has been appointed the interim Academic Dean effective May 1, 2022, for a two-year term. Dr. Ventresca started his post-secondary career at King’s as an undergraduate student in 1989. Since then he has achieved teaching and research excellence with numerous publications, and he is a Member of the College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists at the Royal Society of Canada.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

King’s partners with Bennett University

King’s has entered into a partnership agreement with Bennett University in Uttar Pradesh, India, which will promote academic exchange and support intercultural activities and projects between students from Canada and India. There will also be opportunities for joint collaboration of research and academic activities in the areas of commerce and management.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

To support and enhance research by full-time faculty, King’s established a $1 million fund to award up to $60,000 annually for projects conducted by King’s faculty that advance “engagement in the open pursuit of truth and the discovery and sharing of knowledge in service to humanity” as outlined in the College’s mission statement.

The fund provides three types of awards, and recipients are selected by the King’s Research Activities Committee and external peer reviewers.

KING’S RESEARCH EXCELLENCE CHAIR - Early-Career
Dr. Bharati Sethi, Associate Professor, School of Social Work – “Experiences of Muslim Immigrant Parents of Children with Disabilities during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Photovoice Study”

KING’S RESEARCH EXCELLENCE CHAIR - Established
Dr. Joseph Michalski, Professor, Department of Sociology – “Couples’ Conflict Resolution Strategies: The Social Structure and Interpersonal Dynamics of Violent and Non-Violent Encounters”

KING’S RESEARCH EXCELLENCE CHAIRS

The King’s Research Excellence Chairs are awarded to one early-career scholar, defined as someone in the first seven years of their academic career, and one established scholar every three years. These awards honour scholars who are recognized by their peers as authorities in their fields on a national or international scale. The inaugural recipients are:
RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KING’S RESEARCH EXCELLENCE SCHOLAR GRANTS

Up to three King’s Research Excellence Scholar Grants will be awarded annually to fund high-quality, innovative, and impactful research projects by King’s full-time faculty. The inaugural recipients are:

Dr. Andrea Lawlor, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science –
“A Lack of Time, Money and Resources: Analysing the Systematic and Situational Factors Contributing to Burnout Among Ontario Midwives”

Dr. Corina Sandu, Associate Professor, Department of English, French, and Writing –
“Les débuts de la presse en français en Indochine [The Beginnings of the French Press in Indochina]”

Dr. Tom Malleson, Associate Professor, Department of Social Justice and Peace Studies –
“Economic Hierarchy or Democracy: Should Large Firms be Governed Through Codetermination?”

NATIONAL RESEARCH GRANTS

King’s faculty continue to pursue high-quality and innovative research that gives a voice to the experiences of marginalized people across Canada. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) has awarded Insight Development Grants to the following faculty and projects:

Dr. Jinette Comeau, Assistant Professor of Sociology, was awarded funding for “Intergenerational Persistence of Social Assistance Receipt: Pathways of Risk and Resilience”. The SSHRC grant will help with research to inform policies and interventions that might prevent future social assistance use among the children of current recipients.

Dr. Jane Sanders, Assistant Professor of Social Work, was awarded funding on “Assessing the Support and Aid to Families Electronically program: An online social work practicum delivering support to families remotely”. Dr. Rick Csiernik, Professor Social Work, was a co-applicant and Professor M.K. Arundel, Coordinator of Field Education, was a collaborator.

The School of Social Work partnered with the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) to develop the Support and Aid to Families Electronically (S.A.F.E) program. S.A.F.E fills a gap in mental health services by offering immediate support to the families of TVDSB students while at the same time providing remote practicum placements for Social Work students. The SSHRC research grant will investigate the impact of S.A.F.E. for the families, social work students, King’s, and the TVDSB to determine the feasibility of continuing or expanding this program. S.A.F.E. has also received funding from private donations and foundation grants awarded through the King’s University College Foundation.

Dr. Bharati Sethi, Associate Professor of Social Work, was the lead applicant awarded funding on “Visible Minority Personal Support Workers: An Invisible Labour Force”. Dr. Sethi’s research seeks a deeper understanding of racialized PSWs’ employment experiences in home/community-based care and long-term facilities in Southwestern Ontario.

Insight Development Grants were also awarded to King’s faculty named as co-applicants on projects in political science and disability studies that examined the Supreme Court of Canada, political parties and immigration, and children’s reaction to climate change.

Dr. Andrea Lawlor, Associate Professor of Political Science, was co-applicant on “Understanding Public Support of the Supreme Court of Canada” and “Political Parties and Immigration in Canada”. Dr. Lawlor also received an Insight Grant for “Evaluating Canada’s Experience with Behavioural Insights Policies in Personal Financial Management”, which was announced in April.

Dr. Daniella Bendo, Assistant Professor of Childhood and Youth Studies, is a co-applicant on “Children’s rights, climate change, and emotional well-being: Equipping young Canadians to thrive in times of crisis”.

8
Deionte Knight, Mustangs football defensive lineman, was named Western University Mustangs Male Athlete of the Year. He also won the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) & U SPORTS J.P. Metras Trophy as Most Outstanding Lineman of the Year awards.

Brett Ellerman (football), Omar Shiddo (basketball), and Daniel Valente Jr. (football), received Purple Blankets in recognition of their academic and athletic achievements.

Madison Wilson-Walker is the 2022 recipient of the Jeffrey Reed Courage Award, presented by LondonOntarioSports.com. Madison is an internationally-ranked long jumper and sprinter, a multi-sport athlete, and a bi-lateral amputee with goals to compete for Canada at the 2023 World Championships and the 2024 Paralympic Games slated for Paris, France.

Zachary Zynomirski signed a Canadian Football League (CFL) contract with the Calgary Stampeders in January 2022. During his four seasons as the Mustangs long snapper, Zach recorded nine tackles including two tackles during Western's 2021 Vanier Cup victory. He will graduate from King's this June with a Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies in Finance and Administration and two Vanier Cup rings under his belt.

ACADEMIC ALL-CANADIANS

Congratulations to the 35 King’s student-athletes who were recognized as USPORTS Academic All-Canadians for the 2020-2021 academic year. Student-athletes were members of Western Mustangs cross country/track & field, field hockey, figure skating, football, hockey, rugby, soccer, and wrestling teams. A full listing of recipients is available online. To be named an Academic All-Canadian, a student-athlete must obtain an 80% average the previous year and participate on a varsity team.

81ST MUSTANGS AWARDS

King's student-athletes who were named team MVPs are:

Paige Baynham, Women's Wrestling Co-MVP
Kaitlyn Booth, Women's Hockey
Shona Branton, Women's Swimming
Gavin Eldridge, Men's Wrestling
Keon Edwards, Men's Football
Nathaniel Mechler, Men's Track and Field
Omar Shiddo, Men's Basketball
Rachel Van Bakel, Ringette
It was serendipity that led Mike Walsh ’64 to meet Father Herman Falke ’57, more than 50 years after they both graduated from what was then named Christ the King College. And it was this introduction that resulted in the publication of Father Falke’s latest book, A Celebration of Life and Art, in March 2022.

Mike Walsh has worked in publishing since 1967 and founded Mosaic Press in 1975. He has written and published a book of his poetry, Singing in the Mist, and two volumes of his memoirs, Roughin’ it in the Bush and Roughin’ it in Kanata. Eh! He is currently working on volume 3, Revellin’ in the Halls of Academe, which will reflect on his time as a student at “CKC” (Christ the King College) in the 1960s.

While trying to track down schoolmates from his grammar school days in England, Mike contacted the Priests of the Sacred Heart in Toronto, who offered to connect Mike with fellow King’s alumnus Father Herman Falke, SCJ.

Herman Falke was born in Holland in 1928 and chose religious life at a young age. However, the German occupation of Holland during World War II halted his education at a junior seminary. It wasn’t until Canadian forces arrived in 1945 that he was able to complete his studies.

In the early 1950s, the Sacred Heart Fathers expanded to Canada and Father Falke was given his first mission teaching art and music while completing his Bachelor of Arts at Christ the King College. In the 1960s, he was given a new mission in Uganda, Africa, where he taught at an art school. His time in Africa dramatically changed his artistic expression. He discovered a new way of interpreting the human figure and adopted a more contemporary feel in his depiction of biblical scenes.

Following their introduction in 2020, Father Falke provided Mike with a 150-page handwritten manuscript with images taped throughout the document.

“I proposed how I felt the book should be and what images should be used,” said Father Falke in a conversation with The Catholic Register. “[Mosaic Press] gave me the freedom to curate the book however I liked.”

From there, Mike worked diligently to convert Father Falke’s content and vision into an electronic format for publication.

With decades of stories to tell, Father Falke has authored several art books, but he describes A Celebration of Life and Art as his “most personal yet.”

The book is the artistic story of the evolution of Father Falke as a man and member of the religious community whose passion for art has been non-stop over the years. It chronicles his life and art from his roots in Holland, his development as a young artist, his personal renaissance during his years in Uganda in the 60s and 70s, resettlement in Canada, and into his golden years. At the age of 94, Father Falke can often still be found working on a new sculpture in his art studio in Ottawa, Ontario.
“Father Falke is an internationally recognized artist who has made significant contributions to Canadian art,” says Mike. “There are many churches in Ontario where people can find Stations of the Cross that he created. He also created sculptures for Pope John Paul II.”

Mike added that the Vatican requested copies of Father Falke’s latest book, which were sent just in time for Christmas.

“A member of the first graduating class of Christ the King College, Father Falke is truly a distinguished King’s alumnus.”

A Celebration of Life in Art is available at your local bookseller or Mosaic Press at mosaicpress.ca.
When Rebecca Brown enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work program at King’s, she knew what she wanted to do after graduation. Although she admits now that she had a narrow vision of her career path and what social workers do, Rebecca had a goal of becoming a medical social worker, which is exactly what she did... for five years.

When her husband’s job transferred them to a new city, Rebecca felt like a door had been shut for her. While she figured out what to do next, she accepted a 6-month contract with the Children’s Aid Society (CAS), a position she never saw for herself, but she ended up staying with the organization for 23 years.

“A Social Work degree can take you in many directions,” explains Rebecca.

“I never imagined I’d be where I am now. It’s important to think outside the box and be open to opportunities.”
Today, Rebecca's career is divided between working three days per week in a Family Medicine Practice, and running a private practice that includes an Equine Assisted Therapy Program for trauma survivors and a variety of mental health conditions. She is honoured to hold a faculty appointment as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Western University, and she delivers workshops and conferences throughout North America on post-traumatic stress disorder, vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue, and resilience to professionals in the trauma and health fields.

A few years after leaving her management position with the CAS, she discovered that horses have a powerful impact on healing trauma. After earning her EAGALA Certification (Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association), Rebecca started working at an equine-assisted therapy program near St. Thomas, then expanded to co-found two additional programs in London and Woodstock. After moving up to the beautiful shores of Lake Huron in Bruce County, Rebecca now runs the equine therapy program at Prance Therapeutic Equestrian Center in Port Elgin, Ontario, where she boards her own horse, Dolly. Dolly is an integral part of the therapy sessions and is usually joined by two or three other horses who support people through emotional growth and healing from a wide variety of life's challenges, traumatic events, and personal struggles.

LEARNING FROM OUR EXPERIENCES

Throughout her extensive career, Rebecca has helped countless people grow and heal through resilience-building activities and self-discovery. When the COVID-19 pandemic caused people to change how they work and interact with others, she felt inspired to slow down, stop running from herself, and share her own story.

“The pandemic has taught us how to be flexible and how to find creative ways to do what we love,” explains Rebecca. And for Rebecca, this meant taking time for personal reflection and writing her book Shelter from our Secrets, Silence & Shame: How Our Stories Can Keep Us Stuck or Set Us Free.

Rebecca’s personal journey takes readers through sadness, tragedy, self-sabotage, the impossible pursuit of perfection, distorted thinking and eating, engaging with her shadow self, divorce, and numbing with alcohol, all in an attempt to avoid the stories needing to be shared.

“Dispelling the limiting beliefs we hold about ourselves can unlock our limitless potential to reach goals we never dared to dream.” From the Boston Marathon to working with horses, Rebecca sets out to prove to herself that anything is possible when you don’t listen to the negative stories you tell yourself.

“We become who we are because of what has happened to us, and because of the stories we tell ourselves. But do our stories continue to serve us well, or do they keep us stuck?”

Rebecca’s book provides strategies to help reframe the thinking patterns we have developed and offers tools to recognize when we are suffering from our own thoughts, feelings and actions. Resilience-building techniques are woven through the pages along with encouragement for the lifelong journey of collecting moments of awe and happiness.

“Everyone has a story,” says Rebecca. “We may not have written our beginnings, but we have the ability to write every word from this point forward. Just imagine where our stories can take us when we are free of secrets, silence, and shame.”

She hopes people will read her book with a highlighter in hand, pages folded down, re-read, recommended to a friend, and use as a guide to start sharing their own stories with those they love.

Rebecca’s book is available online and at all major book retailers. For more information about Rebecca, her book, and equine therapy, visit www.rebeccabrown.ca and follow @rebeccabrown.ca on Instagram.
Matthew Scholtz ’69 devoted his career to helping people discover their love of reading and books. Now, in retirement, he remains committed to this pursuit as he dedicates time to repairing and restoring books so families can enjoy them for generations to come.

His distinguished 40-year career as Chief Librarian of the Tillsonburg Public Library provided Matt with plenty of opportunities to hone his skills. “I repaired books while working at the library, but it was only after I retired that I was asked to do repairs and restorations for the public,” says Matt. “I got really interested in it. I started to build up my supplies, and I began experimenting with different ways of doing things.”

He notes that he is a “practical repair worker,” not an archival specialist.

“A specialist works to return a book to its original state so it can be preserved. My goal is to repair and restore books so they can be read and enjoyed.”

Most commonly, Matt is asked to repair bibles and cookbooks. “Just because a book is old, it doesn’t mean it has monetary value,” says Matt. “However, the books I receive have sentimental value. In many cases, they have already been passed from one generation to another.”

Each book presents unique challenges. Matt relies on special library tools like archival tape that won’t yellow pages, but he also uses more common household items like sandpaper to gently remove residue. “Duct tape is one of the worst things I come across on books. It leaves behind a film that must be carefully sanded off to not tear delicate pages,” he explains. “Please do not use duct tape to try to hold a book together!”

When he works on a book, Matt knows he will not be returning it to the owner in its original condition.
“Every time someone reads a book or even handles it, they leave an imprint on it like a historical marker,” explains Matt. “I don’t always remove handwriting in margins, watermarks from spilled drinks, or even forgotten bookmarks. Those are memories of loved ones who held the book in the past. Those marks contribute to why the book is sentimental. That handwriting in a cookbook may be the last preserved writing of a loved one or perhaps even the secret ingredient of a family recipe!”

Matt’s work recently received media attention as he was tasked with restoring a first edition of The Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum for a family who has owned the novel since it was printed in 1900. It is one of 10,000 first-edition copies.

The first step of the restoration process is an inventory of the pages. Matt handles each page individually, working from the middle of the novel outwards to the cover. It took approximately two months to complete the restoration of the 230-page copy of The Wizard of Oz. Matt is pleased knowing that the owners have no plans to sell the book. Instead, they will pass it on to their children and grandchildren so it can be read and enjoyed for many years to come.

When he’s not repairing books or tackling his “honey-do” list, Matt is an avid reader. “People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks was such an inspiration to me,” he says. “Reading it made me feel that I’m doing the right thing with these books. I appreciate the opportunity to become part of each book’s history.”
Sam Boer knew that he’d always play music, but he had no idea that it would end up being such a big part of his career. Since graduating in 2017, he has been involved with many aspects of music and is loving the creative journey. Most recently, Sam had the exciting experience of staging his own musical.

In 2020, Sam had just finished his master’s, and his friend Jake Schlindler contacted him with a couple of songs he had written, asking Sam if he wanted to contribute something. What he was expecting to be casual involvement turned into a full-fledged musical. During the onset of the pandemic, Sam and Jake started meeting every week by Zoom until they had created Ursa: A Folk Musical – a whimsical show about the star-crossed friendship between an anxious bear and a restless teenager.

They applied to a few places to present it, and the Watershed Festival in Kingston gave them some funding to film a 15-minute excerpt. He and some of his artist friends filmed a sample piece the best they could in April 2021, using Zoom. Having this tangible teaser to showcase the work made it easier to shop around and apply to other festivals. The musical received its full-length premiere as part of the Toronto Fringe’s NextStage Festival in January of 2022, and was described as “combining the joys of
a folk concert with the timeless wisdom of a folktale.” Sam performs in the show and serves as the Narrator.

Sam admits that he tends to be fairly reserved and anxious about sharing his work or asking other artists to get involved. But he has usually found that people are happy to be asked and will get involved in some way, even if it’s only to provide some feedback.

Sam credits his fourth-year thesis advisor at King’s, Jeremy Greenway, for encouraging him to be more assertive. At one point, Sam found himself stuck with a piece of work he was using. Professor Greenway suggested that Sam just reach out to the author of the work and ask his questions. The author responded and was happy to answer Sam’s questions. That little piece of advice really helped him. Sam remembers many of his King’s professors fondly, explaining they instilled not just a love of reading but gave him a great foundation to draw on when he is writing.

While completing his History degree, Sam thought he’d become a professor. Music was always an interest, and he was thankful that King’s gave him so many opportunities to get involved with musical pursuits. He was heavily involved with both the King’s Players and the King’s University College Chamber Choir and loved that these clubs “embraced anyone who wanted to participate.” It was while performing with his guitar during O-Week that Sam met Jake, mentioned above, and Stephen Ingram (both are Western students also involved with Ursa: A Folk Musical).

After graduating, Sam continued singing, writing songs, and performing instruments for various bands while performing at festivals across Canada. In 2019, Sam released his debut full-length album Pigeon, under the name Samson Wrote. The well-received folk music album explores how familial upbringing affects life’s most intimate moments. It was nominated for a Canadian Folk Music Awards nomination. Sam has focused on becoming involved in all aspects of the folk music community. He has written music journalism, hosted a podcast, led children’s music classes, filmed videos for different bands, and helped produce two online, 24-hour international arts festivals during the pandemic.

Sam’s schedule will not be slowing down any time soon. He’s planning iterations of Ursa: The Musical at the Grand Theatre in Kingston and in Tweed, where he’ll get to stage his show, which takes place in a cave, in an actual cave. Meanwhile, he’s planning a European tour this summer to perform his Samson Wrote songs. Sam is grateful he’s been able to partake in so many “adventures with folk music.”

When asked for any advice he would give to current students or recent graduates considering pursuing a musical career, Sam reflected that there’s a lot of pressure these days to promote yourself before you really know who you are. His advice: “Hold off a bit on marketing yourself and just breathe and exist and love.”

For more on Sam’s work and upcoming shows, visit: https://samsonwrote.ca
HOMECOMING 2022

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:
SEPTEMBER 22-25

Whether we come together in person or online, don’t miss this annual opportunity to reconnect with friends, faculty, and your alma mater.

- Alumni Awards Ceremony and Reception
- Alumni-Student Speed Mentoring
- Friday Night Live with Rick McGhie
- Faculty Fireside Chat
- 5K Fun Run
- Football Game
- Life after King’s Panel – Alumni Athletes
- Faculty Reunions

Stay tuned for more exciting event announcements!

www.kings.uwo.ca/homecoming

Grad years ending in 2 or 7 are celebrating their anniversaries!

Alumni Awards
Call for nominations

Now accepting 2022 Alumni Award Nominations!

Nominate a deserving graduate for the Alumni Award of Distinction or Recent Graduate Award using our NEW online nomination form:

www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni-awards

Nominations for 2022 will be accepted until

June 30
VOLUNTEER WITH KING'S!

Do you have an hour to spare? Here are just a few ways you can get involved with King's and support students and recent graduates:

**LIFE AFTER KING’S SPEAKER**
Be part of a panel of alumni who speak to students about their career experiences since graduating from King’s. Event dates for the 2022-23 academic year to be determined.

**HOMECOMING**
We are looking forward to welcoming our alumni back to campus for Homecoming 2022. Help us shape this signature event and volunteer to get involved with promotions, or help with events like Speed Mentoring or the Fun Run.

Contact us, and we’ll find the perfect spot to use your talents!

**JOB SHADOW PROGRAM**
King’s is looking for employers to participate in the Job Shadow Program, including placements during the fall 2022 and winter 2023 reading weeks. For more information about the Program, visit

[www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/career-connect/experience/](http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/career-connect/experience/)

Or contact Jenny Richmond-Bravo at:

jenny.richmond-bravo@kings.uwo.ca

One hour of your time can significantly impact someone’s outlook or career path. Sign up for these opportunities by completing the Career Services Volunteer Form at

[www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni-volunteer/](http://www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni-volunteer/)

Or contact:

alumni@kings.uwo.ca

**BECOME A 60-MINUTE MENTOR**
Meet with a student or recent graduate virtually or in-person for a one-hour conversation. Answer questions about your career path, provide advice, and share your expertise.

**ALUMNI/STUDENT CONNECTION CALLS**
This call program connects students and alumni for short interviews that take place over the summer months. Alumni will share their King's experience and how they've used their degrees, while students can share what it's like to be a student at King's today.

“I loved having the opportunity to connect with and talk to current students about my career path. I try and check in to see what is happening at King's every once in a while, but hearing from a current student made me feel so much more connected to the school and the community - it was a dynamic and exciting school when I was there, and it is great to hear that our current community feels the same!”

— Jason Hatch ’07
UPCOMING EVENTS

The King’s Golf Classic is going back to its traditional format – in-person at Highland Country Club with a shotgun start and a full day of competition and camaraderie in support of King’s students!

Last year’s tournament sold out, so don’t wait to register! Even if you don’t participate as a golfer, you can still bid on fun items at our virtual silent auction.

To register or for more information, visit www.kings.uwo.ca/golf-classic/

COMING SOON: THE THRIVE WEB SERIES FOR RECENT GRADUATES

Aimed at younger alumni, this speaker series will provide tips and tools to help navigate this phase of life. The episodes will feature practical topics such as: money management; networking tips; how to use LinkedIn; establishing a work/life balance; and healthy eating on a budget.

STAY TUNED!

Other alumni events are in the works. Sign up to receive alumni emails so that you don’t miss out!

www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni/stay-informed/

Registration is requested for King’s alumni events. For more information about upcoming events, please visit www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni or contact the Alumni and Development Office at alumni@kings.uwo.ca or 1-800-265-4406 x4502.
WE REMEMBER ARNOLD LOGAN, INDIGENOUS SOLDIER WW1

Alumni Terri King ’21, Atlohsa Family Healing Services, and Ian McCallum ’95 (see page 4 for more information on Ian), Indigenous Education Officer, Ministry of Education in Ontario, gave a virtual Remembrance Day presentation celebrating the short life of Private Arnold Logan (1896-1916). Private Logan was one of the “first hundred” to sign up for the First Battalion (Western Ontario Regiment) of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) in August 1914. The presentation followed his life from community to residential school to work on the railway and ultimately become one of the first to enlist in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in August 1914.

A recording of the presentation is available on the King’s Campus Ministry YouTube Channel: https://youtu.be/2nNRnnQ_Bnw

CLASS OF 2022 LAST LECTURE CELEBRATION

As graduating students prepared for their final exams, they were invited to a special celebration featuring the Class of 2022 Last Lecture. Selected by members of the graduating class, this year’s Last Lecture was presented by Professor Chris Roney, Psychology, who provided words of reflection and inspiration as they move into the next phase of their lives. One student remarked that Dr. Roney “is the epitome of what an educator is or can be.” Laura Peters, Alumni Engagement Officer, provided information on alumni benefits and unofficially welcomed the soon-to-be graduates to the King’s Alumni Association. Following the lecture, the Alumni and Development Office hosted a reception with a champagne toast given by Alumni Association Board Member Kathy Mitchell ’15, who encouraged the attendees to stay connected with King’s.

BELL LET’S TALK DAY FEATURING MARK HENICK

On Bell Let’s Talk Day, mental health advocate and strategist Mark Henick shared his personal experience and insights with alumni, students, and community service providers. His inspiring talk provided a unique perspective as someone who has been a patient, a professional, a policy influencer, and a public figure in the mental health system.

STEP INTO CHRISTMAS

The King’s community showed their generosity by donating shoeboxes filled with items of need at the Step into Christmas drive-thru event. Later, shoeboxes were wrapped and distributed at the St. Joseph’s Hospitality Centre by King’s Campus Ministry.

It’s never too early to start collecting items for your shoebox donations!

Check out the Step into Christmas Wish List* for ideas:

- New wool socks
- New hats, waterproof gloves/mitts, scarves
- New masks/hand sanitizer
- New toiletry items such as hand lotion and soap
- New hairbrush/comb
- Lip chap, lip gloss, nail polish
- Flashlights
- Chocolate, candy, cookies
- Gift cards for Tim Hortons etc.

*Shoeboxes do not need to include all of these items, and you are not limited to items on his list!
A message from our EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Spring has arrived on campus, and once again students and faculty are winding down the semester, finishing exams, and making plans for the future, whether that be the next semester or Life After King’s. Our department - Alumni and Development - is so privileged to be part of welcoming new graduates into that next stage. For the first time since fall 2019, we will be able to do so in-person at our June 2022 convocation ceremonies. Yes - plural! King’s now has enough graduating students to warrant two convocation ceremonies.

First, though, we wanted to unofficially welcome our new alumni in what we hope becomes a new tradition here at King’s. Students were asked to vote for a professor that inspired them, someone they wanted to hear from one last time before leaving King’s. Announced at the 2022 Grad Ball, this year’s Last Lecturer was Dr. Christopher Roney, Associate Professor, Psychology. Dr. Roney had the honour of speaking to over 100 (almost!) new alumni, and then Alumni Association Board member Kathy Mitchell ’15 led the group in a toast to the class. We are excited to see where life takes these new alumni over the coming years.

Speaking of which, you may have participated in one of our alumni panels for a Life After King’s session or experienced this as a student yourself. We are always looking for alumni speakers to share their King’s and career experiences with students. If you are interested in being a panelist or being engaged in other ways such as a 60-Minute Mentor, please let us know. Sign-up is easy by visiting www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni-volunteer/.

We are in the process of planning in-person Alumni Chapter events as well as Homecoming 2022 (September 22nd - 25th) and the King’s Golf Classic (September 12th). We are thrilled to be back on campus and in-person for our events, but we are also pleased to be able to incorporate some of what we learned over the past two years. This means keeping some virtual aspects, allowing us to bring King’s to you wherever you are in the world. Be sure to keep your contact info up to date so we can keep you posted on great events. You can also go to www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni for the latest details.

Before I close, I want to ask you to think about a King’s grad who should be recognized. We are now calling for nominations for the King’s Alumni Award of Distinction and the Recent Grad Award. Submit your nomination at www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni-awards.

Wishing you a fantastic, fun, and healthy summer -

Jana Gordon, MA, CFRE
Executive Director, Alumni and Development

To donate to any of the listed funds, or support King’s students in another way, please contact Kim Malcolm at kim.malcolm@kings.uwo.ca, 519-518-0240 or visit www.kings.uwo.ca/give.
In November, 127 students were recognized for their academic achievements and personal accomplishments at a virtual Student Awards Ceremony. Four scholars shared messages of gratitude in the Ceremony video, which is available on the King's YouTube channel.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, five new awards were given out, including the Indigenous Student Award. In March 2021, King's committed to raising funds for an award that celebrates the achievements of deserving Indigenous students and provides financial assistance for tuition and living expenses. Forty-nine donors contributed to this award, and with a matching donation from King's, the fund was established with $56,835.

The award will be granted annually to a First Nations, Inuit, or Metis student based on academic achievement, community contribution, and financial need. The first recipient of the Indigenous Student Award was Caitlin Morris. Caitlin is a fourth-year student in the Sociology program. She works three jobs to support her family and finance her education. After graduating, she hopes to earn her Master of Social Work and work with the Children's Aid Society. Support from this award has alleviated her financial stress, allowing her more time to focus on her son and her studies.

King’s continues to support students who are facing financial instability due to the pandemic. We are grateful for the ongoing support from the King's community to the Student Emergency Fund, which provides students with financial assistance for unforeseen expenses due to the pandemic.

King’s has also established a Ukraine Conflict Emergency Fund to provide financial aid to members of our community who are directly impacted by the Russian-Ukraine conflict.

All funds raised will support those directly affected and demonstrates that King’s stands in solidarity with those suffering from the violence and injustices.
My heartfelt gratitude and immense love go out to King's University College for the opportunity to embark on my higher education journey and the generosity with which you have catered to my needs. As a student with a disability, I am both humbled and thrilled to be a King's University College student. It might be difficult for some to understand my profound sentiments. Prior to the stroke which left half of my body paralyzed, I had a huge appetite for life. When my physician declared that I would never walk again and gave up on me, I felt broken. It was during that time I saw the King's University College sign and something inside of me yearned to be there. The fighter in me emerged.

Being accepted into King's University College was like being given a second chance at life. King's University College validated me and declared, “We believe in you!” I felt a sense of belonging. I felt whole again. It’s as if King's took me by the hand and provided the parchment on which I would write my story.

Just as a strong heartbeat is synonymous with life; so, too, is King's University College. To me, King's represents the strong heartbeat of living life to the fullest; accepting each challenge, and persevering until the goal is reached. Knowing that I am supported, and I am not alone, has had such a huge impact on my life.

My wish for everyone who passes through King's University College's doors is that they feel the passion and compassion I feel, and each person will excel to great excellence. Between every line of pain and glory, King's will be there. I certainly cannot thank you enough, but you will always have my heartfelt gratitude and love - thank you for a second chance at life! By the grace of God, I will make you proud. I love you, King's University College!
THE JEWEL IN YOUR KING’S CROWN CONTEST WINNER

Chelsea Jeffery ’19 met one of her best friends, Eman Chahbar ’19, in their first-year sociology course in 2015. “One day she sat right beside me in our Labatt Hall lecture room, and I immediately turned to her and started chatting as if we had known each other for years. The rest is history!” Congratulations, Chelsea, for winning the Jewel in Your King’s Crown contest.

ALUMNA’S DEBUT NOVEL BECOMES #1 INSTANT BESTSELLER

Heather Marshall ’10 published her debut novel, Looking for Jane, on March 1, 2022, and it became a #1 instant bestseller in Canadian fiction. Inspired by true stories, Looking for Jane explores the lives of three women from different eras who are bound together by a long-lost letter, a mother’s love, and a secret network of women known only by the code name “Jane.” The book discusses abortion legislation, adoption, and cultural attitudes towards pregnancy over the decades.

KING OF KINGS NHL HOCKEY PLAYOFF DRAFT CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

By: Fred Stoneman ’75

In April 1972, eight King’s students sat around Townhouse 2 and held the first King of King’s NHL hockey playoff draft. The entry fee was $5 (the price of a case of beer).

The participants were Dave Convery ’73, Paul Finley ’74, Mike McIissac, Rick Mayers, Peter Apostle ’78, Jim Doran ’74, Fred Stoneman ’75, and Don Cooper ’75. The winner that year was Jim Doran with the princely amount of $25. Second prize was $10, and third place got your money back.

Flash forward fifty years and the draft is still happening. Some people have come and gone, but the four remaining from the original contingent are Paul Finley ’74, Peter Apostle ’78, Dave Convery ’73, and Fred Stoneman ’75. Sadly, one of the faithful originals, Don Cooper ’75, passed away in 2018. These four have participated every year so this will be the 50th year for all of them.

The entry fee has gone up to $100. But the real prize is the King of Kings trophy. It has travelled around the country, been lost and found, but nearly always makes it to the home of the current champion.
Paul McDonnell ’62 is based in Fredericton. He retired from the University of New Brunswick in 1999 and retired from his private practice in psychology in 2018. Currently, he is Chair of the Board of Directors for Autism Connections Fredericton. He was a co-founder and past president of the Atlantic Provinces Association for Behaviour Analysis. Paul is passionate about east coast music and hosts the Lansdowne Concert Series.

Dennis Roy ’64 retired in 2016 after practicing law for 47 years.

Margaret Rabideau (nee Gregor) ’73 is married with three adult children and two grandchildren. She is a retired elementary art teacher and pilates instructor. She says, “Life is good living in a small town!”

Michael Capotosto ’77 is retired and following his passion of becoming a musician in a rock & roll band.

Mark Rodrigues ’80 is the Director, Risk and Internal Audit for World Vision Canada.

Frances Kushner ’81 is a self-employed interpreter and translator in English, French, and Spanish. She specializes as a simultaneous interpreter/conference interpreter. She has two boys currently aged 13 and 17.

John Ross ’81 is a retired police sergeant. He is self-employed and works as a film and television actor.

Michael Cardinal ’83 was ordained a Catholic Priest on May 2, 1987. He is a registered psychotherapist and founded a private practice in 2000. In 2006, he founded University Place, a student residence, and in 2014 he founded Cardinal Place, a retirement home that maintained a COVID-free status during the pandemic.


Erma Jacob ’94 wrote her first book, a memoir, which was celebrated at a book launch at King’s as part of Black History Month. A Dougla’s Tale is a collection of autobiographical stories about growing up in an interracial family in the idyllic, inter-cultural village of Flanagin Town in central Trinidad in the 1950s and 1960s.

Nicole Schiener ’00 graduated from Western’s Faculty of Education with an M.Ed. in Counselling Psychology in 2002 and from Leadership Waterloo Region in 2016. She received the 2020 Woman of Distinction Award from the YWCA of Cambridge, Ontario, in the Non-Profit, Public Service category. She was recognized for her work in mental health, coordinating and facilitating groups for abuse perpetrators and survivors, and her community involvement and social justice work. She specializes in anxiety, transition to parenthood, and work-life balance. Nicole recently launched her virtual psychotherapy private practice and consultant business “Peace and Possibility” and is on a mission to liberate mothers from unrealistic societal expectations and empower organizations with trauma-informed and mental health and wellness education.
Shirley Hachey ‘01 is an Area Program Advisor and Housing Administrator with the provincial government and an ESL Instructor with the Thames Valley District School Board. She is married with four children and ten grandchildren.

Robin Crozier ‘02 has written a screenplay for a film called “The Taste of Blood,” currently available in Canada on Hollywood Suite.

Ali Chahbar ‘04 was appointed to the London Police Services Board (LPSB) and took his Oath of Office on December 13, 2021.

Chris Gray ‘05, (aka Cody Deaner) professional wrestler, re-signed with Impact Wrestling. He has been with the company since 2018.

Simon McNeil ‘05 got married in 2007 and welcomed a daughter in 2014. His novel The Black Trillium was published in 2015.

Adam Thompson ‘06 was named one of London’s 20 Under 40 for 2021. He is Manager, Government and External Relations, with the City of London. This year’s winners were profiled in the February issue of London Inc. and recognized at an in-person reception.

Lindsay Chamberlain (nee Bos) ‘08 and her husband Corey welcomed their second child Connor William on March 19. He weighed in at a solid 9lbs 8oz and completes their family. Big sister Lauren is very excited to have a baby brother!

Bailey Allison (nee Atkinson) ‘12 welcomed her baby, Savannah Allison, on April 18, 2021.

Jessica Bencosme ‘16 is a Mortgage Mobile Specialist with TD.

Nicole Vlasman (nee Bullock) ‘16 and her husband Nolan welcomed their son Troy David on March 20, 2022.

Amelia Wilde ‘16 began a new job as Branch Assistant for the Lambton County Library on September 20, 2021.

Ciara Boyd ‘18 co-authored an article with Dr. Jordan Fairbairn, Associate Professor of Sociology, titled “Montreal Massacre anniversary: The media must play a key role in fighting femicide.” The article was published in The Conversation.

Chandler Mills ‘19 was admitted to membership as a CPA on December 24, 2021.

Sara Villani ‘19 competed in the 2-woman bobsleigh at the 2022 Winter Olympic Games. Before leaving Beijing, Sara shared a photo of her sporting her King’s toque.

Nistha Chakraborty ‘21 started a full-time job at CIBC Wood Gundy.

Share your milestones (job, marriage, birth announcements, etc.) in the next issue of the King's Herald by emailing your news to alumni@kings.uwo.ca or by completing the online form at kings.uwo.ca/alumni/address-update. Photos are welcome, space permitting.

SSHRC SCHOLARSHIPS

Eleven alumni from the Class of 2021 received the highly respected Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Canada Graduate Scholarship, the top academic award for undergraduate students.

The recipients are from Political Science, English, and History. Congratulations to:

- Zainab Al-Jaiashi ‘21
- Mac Buchwald ‘21
- Hussein Sam Chams ‘21
- Kate Cormier ‘21
- Anastazia Csegeny ‘21
- Abigail Gerassime ‘21
- Reece Gordon ‘21
- Michal Kearn ‘21
- Lorena Kettle ‘21
- Natalie Playford ‘21
- Simon Stan ‘21

IN MEMORIAM

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of:

- Brian McCarthy ‘65, who passed away on February 25, 2022.
- James Carey ‘69, who passed away on February 27, 2022.
- Lauralee McCormick (nee McDonald) ‘90, who passed away on September 19, 2021.
- Maryse Leitch ‘92, who passed away on January 6, 2022.
- James Rocchi ‘92, who passed away on November 28, 2021.
- Louisa Midwood ‘03, who passed away on January 30, 2022.
- Alexandra Martin ‘14, who passed away on October 27, 2021.
- Mary Bush, retired professor, who passed away on December 25, 2021.
King’s University College alumni, feel confident with preferred rates from TD Insurance.

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