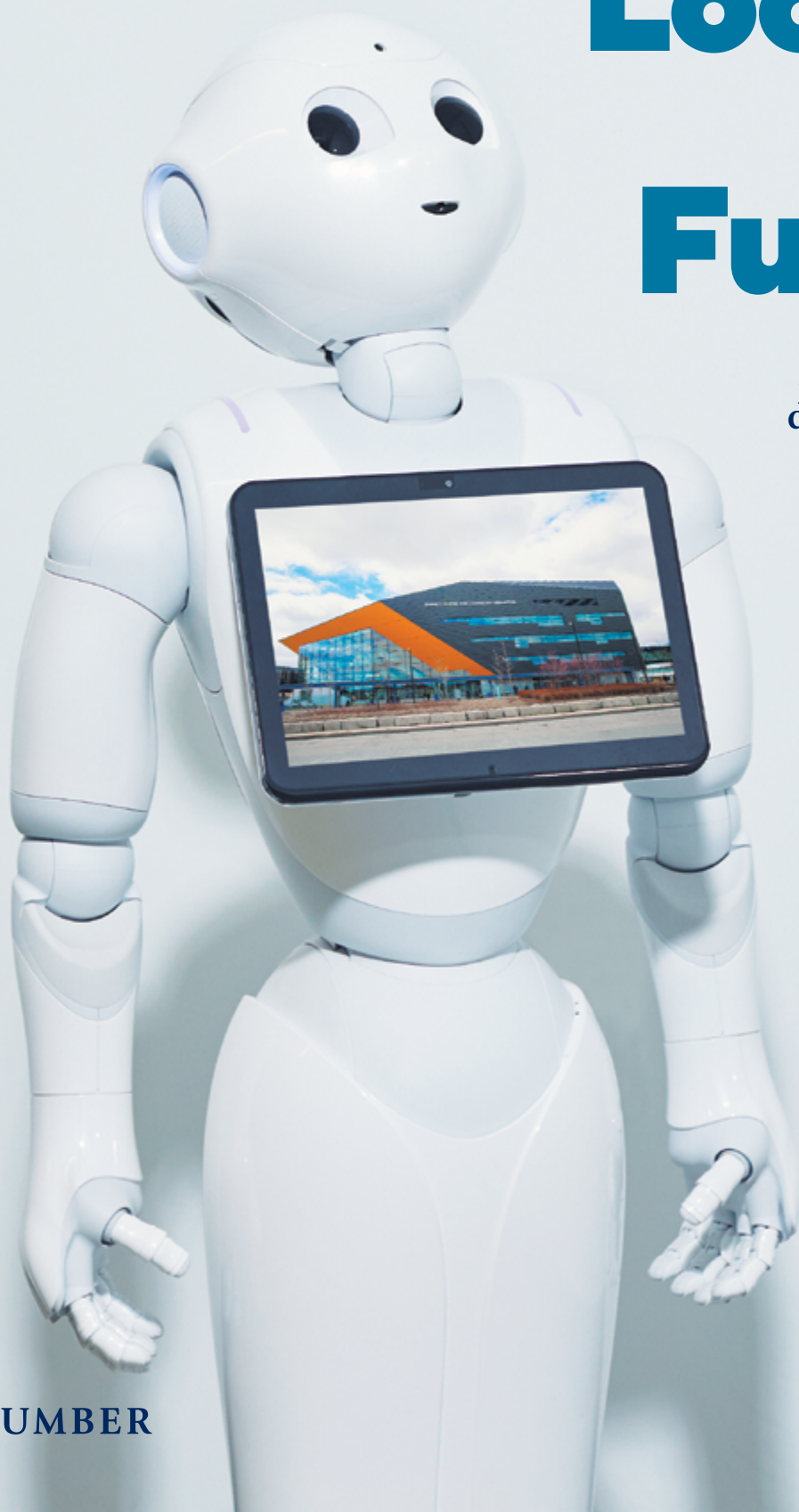


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A groundbreaking
development at the
North Campus
is making waves





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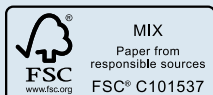
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Mobilizing the Power of Innovation

From the desk of Chris Whitaker, President & CEO



In a rapidly evolving world that often pushes the boundaries of possibility, conventional practices in postsecondary education are not enough. The changing world of work has created a gap between industry needs and educational programming. To address this challenge, Humber is creating a network of Centres of Innovation (COI) to help business and communities learn and grow together.

Humber's three COIs will be innovation catalysts where real-world problems are solved, new concepts and applications are developed, and students are prepared to drive progress and performance after graduation. The COIs will focus on three areas of proven strength and industry growth:

- **The Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation** inspires innovation, supports skills development and promotes science, technology, engineering, art and math outreach. With this groundbreaking centre, Humber is transforming learning by converging industry, community and education to find innovative solutions to real-world problems.
- **The Centre for Creative Business Innovation** will be an economic force, helping businesses and communities benefit from creativity-driven innovation. In an era of digital disruption and growing competitive pressures, creativity is a key driver of competitive advantage and business success.
- **The Centre of Innovation in Health & Wellness** will play an integral role in helping businesses and community agencies achieve measurable, positive improvement in health and productivity.

Picture a network of state-of-the-art facilities, equipment, and resources, where expert faculty advisors, industry partners and students solve problems through hands-on projects, resulting in a talent pipeline of skilled graduates. Students will be able to receive customized skills training, access the newest technologies and build relationships that set them up for life-long success.

Working closely with some of the most creative thinkers in the country, our dynamic COI network will bridge the gap between ideas and results, and maximize the economic, technological and social impact of great ideas. We will look at problems in new ways, and draw on our deep knowledge and industry experience to produce breakthrough solutions.

Together, we will help business take bold steps forward and prepare our graduates to be the leaders of the future.

In this issue of the magazine, you'll read about the grand opening of our first COI, the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation, and how it's helping our community solve important problems.

I know that Humber College is capable of creating change because it has been a leader in polytechnic education for 50 years. I invite you to join us as we take Humber to new heights!

Humber Remains One of Canada's Greenest

For the fourth straight year, Humber was named one of Canada's Greenest Employers by Mediacorp Canada. The award recognizes employers that lead the nation in making environmental values part of their organizational culture. Humber has committed to ensuring that all new college buildings will be constructed to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certification. The college's sustainable initiatives include a retrofit of Building NX, the first retrofit to achieve Zero Carbon Building – Design Certification, awarded by the Canada Green Building Council, making Building NX one of the most energy-efficient buildings in Canada. It will also include a new Commuter Hub with 16 electric vehicle charging stations, a secure bike parking room for 100 bikes, and a 1,000 car parking garage at Humber's North campus. And, thanks to the solar panels on the parking garage, the new Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation is a net-zero energy building. Humber is one of only four colleges to receive the distinction in 2019.

Humber's green initiatives include supporting sustainable commuting options, holding campus cleanup days and installing a green roof.



Humber's North Campus Receives Fair Trade Designation

Following Humber's Lakeshore campus' Fair Trade designation in 2017, North campus received the designation in 2019 from the Canadian Fair Trade Network. Humber is recognized as a leader in creating a culture of environmental awareness, for its dedication to supporting sustainability and ethically sourcing products, and making a host of Fair Trade products available including coffee, tea and chocolate across campus. After becoming the first Fair Trade campus in Ontario, Humber is now the first Ontario college to have multiple Fair Trade-designated campuses. There are plans to introduce more Fair Trade food and other Fair Trade products in the future.



To learn more about sustainability initiatives at Humber, go to humber.ca/sustainability.

Juno and Canadian Screen Award Winners

Humber alumni and faculty celebrated wins at two of Canada's biggest events, the 2019 Junos honouring musical talent, and the Canadian Screen Awards, recognizing the country's best in film, television and digital media.

Robi Botos, faculty member in Humber's Bachelor of Music program, took home a Juno for Jazz Album of the Year: Solo, while alumna **Laila Biali** won Vocal Jazz Album of the Year.

The Arkells (which includes alumnus and keyboardist **Anthony Carone**) won two awards for Rock Album of the Year and Group of the Year. In total, Humber alumni and faculty accounted for 17 Juno nominations. More on the Juno nominees and winners can be found at junoawards.ca.

At the Canadian Screen Awards, Humber celebrated nine alumni wins as individuals or as part of a team, including honorary degree recipients **Adrienne Arsenault** (Best Host or Interviewer in a News or Information Program or Series), and **Russell Peters** (Golden Screen Award for TV Drama/Comedy). Additional alumni who took home hardware include: **Espe Currie** (Best Live News Special); **Devon Burns** (Best Feature Sports Segment and Best Sports Opening); **Lisa Mayor** (Barbara Sears Award for Best Editorial Research); **Clare Elson** (Best Picture Editing, Reality/Competition); **Claire Dobson** (Best Sound, Fiction); and **John Flores** (Best Original Interactive Production). In total, Humber alumni were nominated for 33 awards. Kids in the Hall (which includes alumnus **Kevin McDonald** of Humber's Theatre Arts – Performance program) were also honoured for their body of work with the Academy Icon Award. More on the Canadian Screen Award nominees and winners can be found at academy.ca.

1 Laila Biali

Vocal Jazz Album of the Year



2 The Arkells

Rock Album of the Year and Group of the Year



3 Adrienne Arsenault

Best Host or Interviewer in a News or Information Program or Series



4 Devon Burns

Best Feature Sports Segment and Best Sports Opening



5 Clare Elson

Best Picture Editing, Reality/Competition



6 Claire Dobson

Best Sound, Fiction





Humber Hawks Have Stellar Year

The 2018-19 Humber Hawks had much to cheer about. In keeping with a tradition of excellence, Humber earned nine gold medals, eight silver medals, and three bronze medals at the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA), along with numerous accolades for player, team and coach performances.

The season was also a historic one as the Hawks won their first National College Baseball Championship behind pitcher Rory Pollard, knocking off defending champion St. Clair College. Humber won the OCAA division crown, then their first OCAA title, followed by the National Championship victory on their home field of Connorvale Park. Along the way, Humber gained an incredible 18 consecutive league, provincial and national wins. Brendan Lyons was named tournament MVP and Top Pitcher, while Brandon Costa earned a Gold Glove. Three Hawks players were named to the Tournament All-Star team, including Rory Pollard, Justin Marra (catcher) and Keegan Murphy (infielder).

At the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) level, the Hawks added gold to their resume in Women's Doubles and Men's Singles badminton and Men's soccer. Their medal tally, which included three silver and two bronze medals, was bolstered by four All-Canadian, seven Championship All-Stars and a Championship Most Valuable Player award. With their sustained level of excellence, the Hawks have captured at least one CCAA title in 13 consecutive seasons. With 52 National Championships, Humber has won more CCAA Championships than any other school in the country. ●



Checklist for Your Career Search

There may be no perfect formula for taking the next steps on your professional journey, but there are plenty of ways to help you stand out from the crowd and leave a lasting impression.

Lanny Barcelos, a Humber alumnus and Vice-President, Technical Services at GTT Communications, has been managing people for over 13 years. When it comes to building exceptional teams that perform cohesively at the highest level, he understands what it takes. We asked Lanny to share with our readers his checklist for becoming a successful candidate, no matter the industry.



Every job is unique, just as each candidate has distinct characteristics. While your skill set may be equivalent to your counterparts' showcase the differences that make you the perfect fit.



Finding a job is a time of great change and opportunity. Young professionals should cast a wide net in their employment search. Use job boards from your alma mater, visit sites like *Indeed.ca* and find a recruiter or recruiting agency. These methods may not yield results right away, but you have to ask yourself, "What have I got to lose?"



Knowing the right people can help streamline the job search process. Use platforms like *LinkedIn* to help build your professional network. It takes time to develop, but throughout your career journey, you can count on meeting people from all walks of the professional world. *LinkedIn* can also act as your digital resume, so keep your profile sharp and add a little personality where you can, such as an eye-catching background photo.



Focus on how and why you would be a great addition to a strong professional culture in your application and during the interview process. Understand the company you are applying to and their values, and highlight why you are an ideal candidate.



When it comes to resume writing, always quantify your key points. Make your qualifications and abilities jump off the page, and avoid generalizations. Also, try to keep your points brief. Hiring managers spend mere seconds reviewing resumes for an opportunity that may have dozens, if not hundreds, of applicants. I also enjoy when people specify their hobbies, volunteering efforts and achievements. It's a great way to get to know the interests of candidates outside of the professional context of the interview.



Employers and hiring managers use various data points to make decisions on building their teams. The right fit consists of technical skill sets, experience, education, behavioural and cognitive assessments and interview sessions. However, the one area that stands out above all else is attitude. If you have the desire, a great work ethic and a "whatever it takes" mentality, that will carry you far.



Remember that first impressions are lasting ones. At every step of the process, develop strong relationships, look and act the part and, most importantly, follow your passion. When you find a company that nurtures it, the sky is the limit.

HUMBER GOLF CLASSIC

To learn more, visit
humber.ca/golfclassic



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to the supporters of the 2019 Humber Golf Classic. Together,
we raised \$165,000 for student awards and scholarships.

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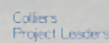
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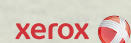
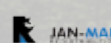
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Playlist for Your Workday

Having the right playlist can impact your productivity. Get inspired and stay focused with music from Humber artists.

Music is the soundtrack of our daily lives, and the right tunes can have a major effect on your mood. The best music can turn a hectic day at the office into a breeze, and it can make even the best days at work seem brighter. *gratitude* recently spoke with **Mike Downes**, Juno Award-winning jazz musician, composer and arranger and newly-named program coordinator for our Bachelor of Music program. Downes shared his music picks from Humber's vast catalogue of successful faculty and alumni artists that will help our readers make the most of their workdays.

1. "Budapest" – Robi Botos, *Old Soul*

This pretty tune offers some great meditation to start your day, as well as a reminder to focus on the important things in life while not sweating the small stuff.

2. "All Saints' Bay" – Gordon Sheard, *All Saints' Bay*

No matter if you're caught in traffic while alone in your car or stuck on a crowded bus with only your earphones, this great melody will make your commute more fun and less stressful.

3. "Momentum" – Mike Downes, *Root Structure*

One of the tracks from my 2018 Juno Award-winning album, this is an excellent choice to get your energy flowing when you're struggling to stay motivated through the workday.

4. "With Reference" – Brian Dickinson, *Soul Mission*

Searching for the perfect tune for your afternoon? This swinging beat will help keep the mood up on the final stretch before packing up for the day.

5. "Baker's Dozen" – Shirantha Beddage, *Identity*

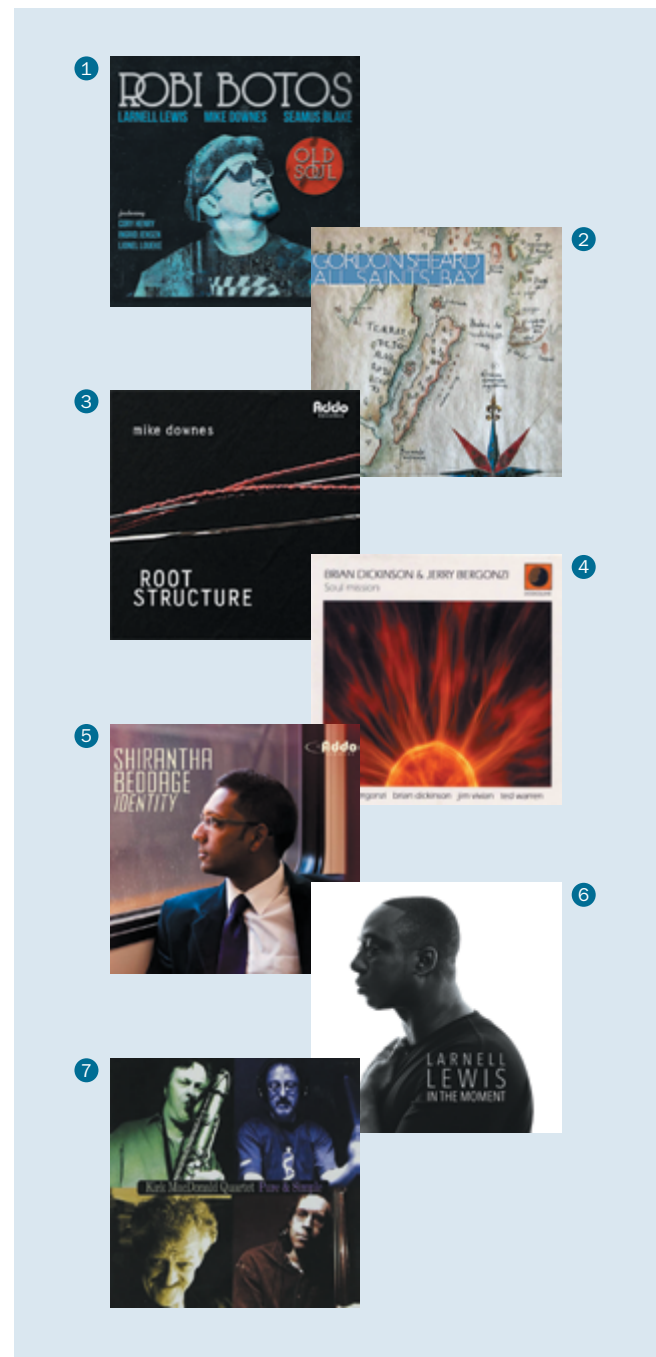
A relaxed tune with a terrific groove, this song is the ideal choice to decompress and start your evening off on the right foot.

6. "Rejoice" – Larnell Lewis, *In The Moment*

This joyful and uplifting rhythm, by a former Humber student, current faculty member and brilliant drummer, is the perfect way to accentuate and enhance your evening.

7. "New Piece" – Kirk MacDonald, *Pure and Simple*

Spending 10 minutes listening to this is a fantastic way to give yourself a break before bed, focusing your mind and clearing it of any clutter. ●





Humber's Indigenous Cultural Markers

Humber's Indigenous Cultural Markers at the North and Lakeshore campuses are designed to place the college in the context of the long history of Indigenous peoples in what is now called the Greater Toronto Area. We invite you to visit and see the markers for yourself!

Anishinaabeyaadiziwin Miikana

At the Grand Opening of the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation at North campus, Humber unveiled Anishinaabeyaadiziwin Miikana, the latest cultural marker honouring Indigenous voices and experiences.

This marker, created by Anishinaabeg architect Ryan Gorrie, represents the seven Stages of Life as told within the Anishinaabeg Life Path story. It features lighting that is infinitely glowing, teachings that mark the seasonal shifts of the solstice and equinox, and histories that came before human beings entered the world. The Path of Life Teaching takes us back to the beginning of the road and highlights paths that were given to us by the Creator.

Anishinaabeyaadiziwin Miikana connects to the existing cultural markers at Humber's Lakeshore campus.

The Seven Stages of Life are:

1. The Good Life
2. The Fast Life
3. The Wandering or Wondering Life
4. The Truth Life
5. The Planning Life
6. The Doing Life
7. The Elder Life

This marker is in the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation at North campus

The Migration of the Anishinaabe

The Great Migration markers at the Lakeshore campus were unveiled in November 2018 at a grand opening ceremony with The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

These cultural markers tell the migration story of the Anishinaabe people. The markers feature several key stopping points along the journey from the Eastern shores of Turtle Island to the Western end of Ojibwe Gitchi-Gameh, today's Lake Superior. The stops also explain the original names of each area.

The development of the markers and their stories were guided by members of the College's Aboriginal Educational Council, staff and Indigenous students. Ryan Gorrie, architect from Brook McIlroy, served as the lead designer for the project. ●



These markers are at Lakeshore campus



Gabekanaang-ziibi, "mouth of the river"

Gabekanaang-ziibi refers to the mouth of the Humber River at Lake Ontario. Currently, the area is characterized by natural marshland shoreline and a low beach that would have acted as a landing space for canoes since the banks are too high and muddy upstream.

Adoobigok, "place of the alders"

The name "Etobicoke" originates with the Mississauga Ojibwe, who called Etobicoke Creek and the area around it "Adoobigok," meaning "where the alders grow." Over time, the word was gradually corrupted and anglicized into "atokecoake" and finally "Etobicoke."

Tuhbenahneequay

On the high east bank of the river, Riverside Drive traces the path of the ancient Toronto Carrying Place Trail. Large oak trees, remnants from the time of the Carrying Place, still stand along the drive. Around 150 of these trees were proclaimed as the "Tuhbenahneequay Ancient Grove."

Ishpaadina, "high hill" or "high place"

This higher place is of spiritual significance to Anishinaabe people and acknowledges present-day Toronto, which could be seen from Minesing, the island looking north.

Gete Onigaming, "the Carrying Place Trail"

Refers to the ancient Carrying Place Trail, Holland Marsh.

Zhoniaung, "place of the silvery waters"

Refers to the place of the silvery waters or cold water, Lake Simcoe.

Minjikaning, "the place of the Great Fence"

Refers to Atherley Narrows, the ancient fishing weirs at the rapids between Lake Couchiching and Lake Simcoe.

Chimnissing, "big island"

Refers to Beausoleil First Nation and Christian Island.

The Premier's Awards

This is What Polytechnic Looks Like

At Humber College, our vision rests on a world-class polytechnic education – one that opens doors for students to become the leaders of tomorrow in countless vocational and technical fields. Though these pathways are numerous and diverse, each enables alumni to gain a distinct mix of hands-on, practical skills and theoretical expertise that can be applied to their pursuit of personal and professional success.

There is no better representation of how these many pathways are launching our grads into prosperous careers than our Premier's Award nominees. Established in 1992 by Colleges Ontario to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Ontario college system, the annual Premier's Awards recognize the contributions made by college graduates. Today, 26 years later, the program continues to honour and recognize distinguished alumni in a variety of categories, and each year, Humber nominates exceptional grads of our own that fit the bill.

Here is a look at the seven notable grads and recent Premier's Award honorees that help showcase the quality of a Humber education.

Learn more about Premier's Award nominees through the years by visiting the 'Our Alumni' page at humber.ca/alumni.

Humber Proud



2018 Award Recipient

Allan Cole

President and Owner, MacKinnon & Bowes Ltd.
Funeral Service Education, 1978

As Canada's leading specialist in the movement of deceased persons throughout the world and as the first Civilian Mortuary Affairs Director for the Department of National Defence and the RCMP, Allan Cole has been fundamental in disaster preparedness efforts alongside government institutions. In the face of the panic and stigma surrounding the 1980s AIDS epidemic, he also created a protocol for safely and compassionately handling the remains of those who died from this and other infectious diseases.

Since graduating from Humber College's Funeral Service Education program in 1978, he has applied the skills he learned in school to working with others to serve his country. In his own words, "I am inspired by those around me who feel a common sense of purpose and who participate as a team in a complex and demanding environment. Together, we thrive in the face of significant challenges." Now as president and owner of MacKinnon & Bowes Ltd., he remains Canada's expert in international repatriations of deceased persons.

Our 2018 Nominees



**Debra
DiGiovanni**

Stand-Up Comedian
Comedy Writing & Performance, 2000

Debra is an award-winning stand-up comedian who rose to fame on MuchMusic's *Video on Trial*, after which she became a finalist on NBC's *Last Comic Standing* and released a DVD special titled *Single, Awkward Female*.



**Keon
Lee**

**Justice of the Peace,
Ontario Court of Justice**
Paralegal, 2013

A rising star within the legal field, Keon is also a long-serving member of the Canadian Armed Forces and has volunteered with various youth-oriented organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club for the past 16 years.



**Jason
Parsons**

**Executive Chef and General Manager,
Peller Estates Winery Restaurant**
Cook Apprentice, 1992

An iconic figure in Canadian wine and cuisine, Jason has cooked twice at the James Beard House, known as "the cathedral of food," and in the kitchen of Chef Gordon Ramsay, while also serving as a guest chef expert on Citytv's *Cityline* for the past 15 years.



**Darius
Mosun**

**Chair and
Chief Executive Officer,
Soheil Mosun Limited**

Mechanical (Manufacturing)
Engineering Technology, 1990;
Business Management, 1999

Under his leadership, Soheil Mosun Ltd. has become one of the world's leading custom architectural fabricators, contributing to projects such as the Peace Tower, the Library of Parliament in Ottawa, the Baha'i Temple in Israel and the Central Market towers in Abu Dhabi.



**Jamil
Jivani**

Activist and Author
General Arts and Science, 2006

Jamil founded the Citizen Empowerment Project, an initiative to empower underrepresented communities to engage with national legal and policy issues. He recently published his critically acclaimed book *Why Young Men: Rage, Race and the Crisis of Identity*.



**Kelli
Saunders**

**President and Chief Executive Officer,
Morai Logistics Inc.**
Marketing, 1985

An award-winning entrepreneur and leader, Kelli is an influential voice in the logistics, supply chain and third-party logistics industry with over 30 years of experience and a pioneering spirit that has grown her business into a successful multi-million dollar, multi-national organization. ●



A New Era of Technology Innovation

◀ **Neal Mohammed**

Neal is the Director and visionary of the Barrett CTI and previously program coordinator and faculty member in Humber's elite and award-winning Electromechanical Engineering Technology program. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Education, a Bachelor of Applied Science degree, an Electronics Engineering Technology Diploma, and an array of certificates in automation, robotics, manufacturing and programming. He has championed a positive learning environment that blends theory and practical, hands-on learning in state-of-the-art labs, and has led the charge on student success over a decade at skills Provincial, National and International Mechatronics competitions, winning 26 gold, 12 silver and three bronze medals.

Not surprisingly for such an advanced facility, the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation's features and applications can be experienced via an online,

virtual-reality walk-through. Before it opened in April 2019, this peek into the near future presented a tantalizing vision of a project rich in potential, promise and opportunities.

"I'm excited," says student **Jessica Little**. She and her peers – including fellow second-year students **Hartej Tapia**, **Maramawit Demisse** and **Marko Gunja** – are keen to access the Barrett CTI's cutting-edge equipment and infrastructure, and to benefit from opportunities for project-based learning with industry and community partners.

As members of Humber's Skills Canada team, role models for youth in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math), and recipients of Barrett Family Foundation Access to Education and Skills Training Fund scholarships, these Humber students have already shown the creativity, entrepreneurship and ambition to stand at the forefront of a technological revolution. Indeed, some of them have already been offered jobs, to begin upon graduation. Add to that the opportunities within the new Barrett CTI, and students such as these gain unprecedented potential to take the lead in Canada's skilled workforce.

Humber's Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation (CTI) is a world-class facility, purpose-built to encourage innovation, applied research and project-based learning with students, industry and community partners.

“If Canada wants to attract business and compete in this global competitive space, we have to equip our students with the right tools and technology that positions them for the future.”

“I’m very grateful that we have the new building,” says Marko.

“The Skills team is actually going to be putting together a smart factory,” says Hartej. “We’ll connect about 10 or 15 workstations, program them and have it on display.”

“There will be more equipment, more training cells for the varsity team and even access for anyone who’s not a Humber student,” says Maramawit.

Jessica is pleased that the centre will host STEAM outreach programs – a great way to encourage younger people, and particularly girls, to enter these fields.

Neal Mohammed, Director of the Barrett CTI, agrees. “Sometimes I look back and say, ‘I wish I were back in school again,’ because in my day we didn’t have this level of opportunities.” The new centre, he points out, is the ideal environment for current and emerging needs. Industry and community partners can engage and collaborate in a purpose-built space with students in order to solve real-world problems.

“If Canada wants to attract business and compete in this globally competitive space, we have to equip our students with the right tools, with technology that

makes them career-ready. The world needs to know that the Barrett CTI is open for business and is focused on skills development and training for current and future jobs.”

After 25 years with Humber, and having been very actively involved in the automation and robotics industry, Neal understands those needs – and how to deliver on them in a multidisciplinary environment. Before, resources at Humber were spread out geographically. “You had to move from one department to the next to get various services. Students wanting to use the machine shop for their capstone projects had to go to the Faculty of Applied Sciences & Technology. AR, VR and programming resources were in the Faculty of Media & Creative Arts.

Space to do skills training, capstone projects, applied research and other experiential learning opportunities has always been a challenge. The Barrett CTI will provide the conditions and space to foster collaboration and innovation.”

Through the support of The Barrett Family Foundation, Humber is now offering integrated services within one hub. “It’s really huge for us,” says Neal. “This is the game changer.”

Second-year student Marko was torn between electrical engineering and mechanical engineering when he learned that Humber offered electrical-mechanical engineering. Given Humber’s reputation, he knew he had found his school. In his first year, Marko placed second in the Skills Ontario competition, along with his teammate Hartej Tapia, and he has a job offer waiting for him when he graduates. His passion is building things, being creative and taking on challenges – a combination that he finds is often called upon at Humber.

Maramawit is a second-year student studying mechanical engineering in Humber’s Technologist program. Previously a social science student, Maramawit has always been interested in engineering and mathematics, and has a particular passion for programming. In her first year, she participated in the Skills Mechatronics competition and finished in second place. Currently, she works in Humber’s Research Department, and she plans to continue her education upon graduation by pursuing a bachelor’s degree.

Jessica graduated from culinary school and worked as a chef and restaurant manager before shifting gears to study tech. She is currently in her second year and works as a lab monitor. Jessica has been a mentor on the Mechatronics varsity team. Between first and second year, her summer job included running STEAM outreach programs for boys and girls, which brought her so much satisfaction that she continues to contribute her time as a volunteer.

Hartej has always been interested in technology and the arts. He cemented his calling in high school, where he was in a sci-tech program that had him competing internationally in VEX Robotics events in grade 10 and nationally in robotics in grade 11. Last year, his first year at Humber, he and teammate Marko Gunja competed in the Skills Canada competition for electro-mechanical engineering, coming in second. His achievements have earned him a job offer with a major corporation.



Marko Gunja

Maramawit Demisse

Jessica Little

Hartej Tapia

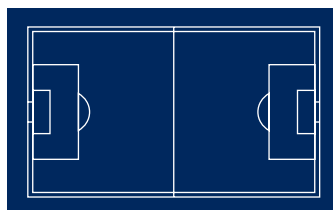


Rendering to reality: With the Barrett CTI, designed by architects Perkins+Will and built by Bird Construction, Humber is taking a bold step forward in technological innovation.

93,000
sq. ft.

Built To
LEED
Platinum
Standards

**New open-concept
spaces for students and
faculty are larger than
the pitch at Toronto's
BMO Field!**



That, and the world-leading equipment the facility houses. “We have invested in some of the latest and greatest technology. There’s a mobile system we’re building that’s going to be the only one of its kind in all of North America.”

Key to all aspects of the Barrett CTI’s technological and architectural profile – including its open-concept gathering spaces, cutting-edge prototyping labs and makerspaces, interactive technology zones, digital media studios and demonstration areas for showcasing new products and technologies – is alignment with industry.

Collaboration between academia and industry is a key aspect of the vision for the building and Neal’s mission as its director. “It’s an opportunity for us to tie the gap between industry and academia, so that curricula can align more with industrial needs. And industry can actually bring real world problems for us to work with, to solve, to de-risk,” Neal says.

“We are listening. We’re bringing them equipment that will position Humber not only for today, but 10 years down the road. As technology evolves, as we introduce the Industry 4.0 digital age, the building is equipped to handle such changes and can adapt to the equipment that’s coming. It is serving an immediate need and a futuristic need.

It makes the learning more fun for students, and that’s what it’s all about. Learning should be fun.”

Ask the students, and you’ll find that the fun factor has already been high. Marko, who has a passion for creating things, appreciates that the program “pushes you to the edge. I like a little bit of challenge in what I do. I really enjoy it.”

Maramawit also enjoys the creativity factor. “You get to design and program or build or do wiring. It’s a bit of everything, and it’s beautiful. I love it.”

Now, these students have the opportunity to collaborate on creative problem solving in a digital building of the future – with its elite platform, its net-zero energy consumption, its non-traditional structure. In each room, students and faculty are engaged in solving practical, real problems for the community and for industry.

Thanks to the generosity of The Barrett Family Foundation’s transformational giving, all of Humber is reaping the rewards of the new, remarkable building. More importantly – as Neal says – students, community and industry are working together in “a space that offers many, many opportunities. That’s the differentiator.”

Meet Pepper

Your Guide to the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation

Now that the doors to the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation have opened, we wanted to introduce our readers to the face that will first greet them each time they enter the building – Pepper the Robot. This semi-humanoid robot will serve as the Barrett CTI's official greeter. We decided to chat with Pepper to learn more about her new role at Humber.

**It's nice to meet you, Pepper – thanks for chatting with us today!
How did you find yourself here at Humber?**

I was originally developed by SoftBank Robotics in Japan, where I am being used for everything from enhancing customer experience to selling cell phones. With technology innovation being a key priority for Humber College, I am the perfect addition to the Barrett CTI, which is a hub of cutting-edge, technology-enhanced learning and a key driver for future industry innovation. Plus, I am quite cute, if I do say so myself.

We hear you're a part of the new Barrett CTI – tell us more!

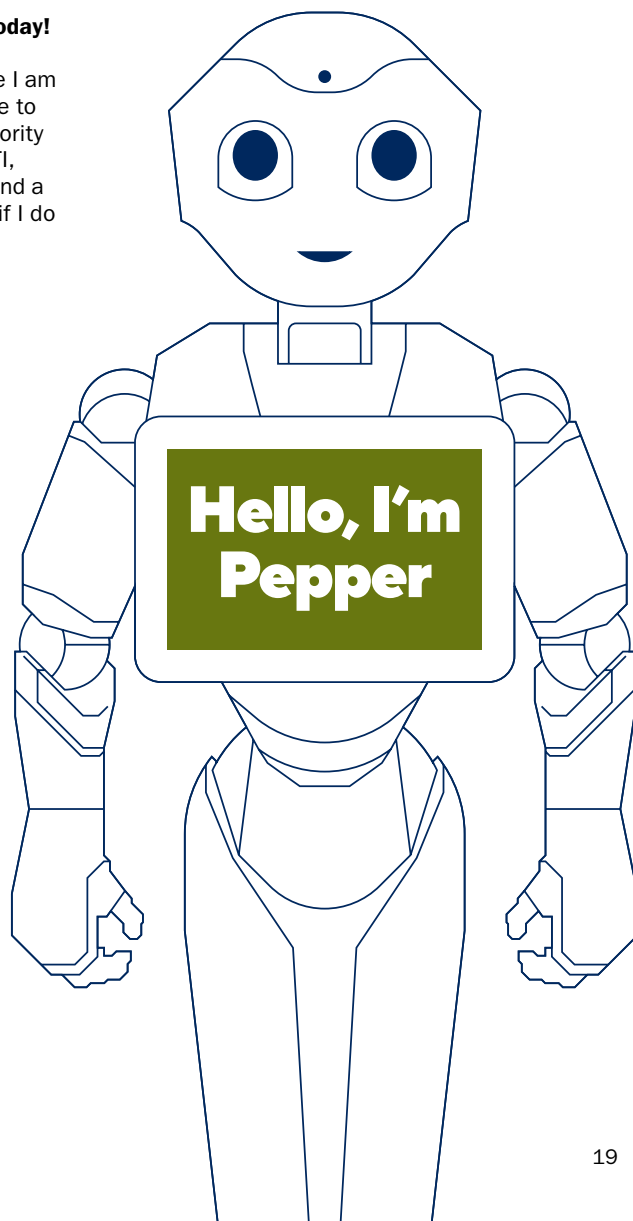
At my core, I was designed to be a storyteller, and the Barrett CTI's story is one I'm excited to tell. It's my job to welcome all of the guests and inform them of everything there is to know about the building and the amazing things going on inside. On top of providing this basic information, I have the capability to connect visitors directly with key staff located in the building. I am also a natural-born entertainer, amusing students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community with music, games and even #selfie opportunities.

Are you excited to work with Humber students?

I love interacting with students and helping them as they discover all of the incredible ways they can apply their growing skills and expertise with technology. Beyond current students, I am also able to connect with visiting high school STEAM students and help foster their growing passion for technology, doing my part to nurture the tech leaders of tomorrow. Once I have had the chance to stretch my circuits a bit, there will be even greater possibilities for students to evolve my functionality, giving them hands-on experience working with the latest technology to solve problems and make life easier for users.

What's next for you, Pepper?

I hope all of your readers will come pay me a visit at the Barrett CTI! ●



Strong Partnerships

Humber's Advanced Manufacturing Skills Consortium sets students and industry up for success

More than ever before, employers aren't just looking for a student who has the know-how, they want an employee who knows how. Career-ready graduates – those that are equipped with the up-to-date skills and experience to apply their training immediately once on the job – are the candidates most highly sought-after by today's top companies for the vast potential they represent. At colleges across Ontario, this career-readiness has long been achieved through creative, collaborative partnerships with industry leaders – and Humber is no exception.

Nowhere is the value of these vital partnerships becoming better recognized than within the Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation. The Barrett CTI's incredible potential as a powerhouse of applied technological research and student skills development has drawn considerable interest from members of the broader community, enticing them to take part in Humber's next great evolution.

"The Barrett CTI is home to a revolutionary new Industry 4.0 consortium – a joint effort with our partners to deliver a distinctive brand of skills development and training to generations of talented students while focusing on clean technology, renewable energy and the development of 'smart' factories," says Darren Lawless, Dean of Applied Research and Innovation. "The College is laying the foundation for a network of partners that will not only enhance the student experience and open doors for

Industry 4.0 – the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Industry 4.0 refers to the current trend of automation and data exchange in manufacturing technologies. It includes cyber-physical systems, the Internet of Things, cloud computing and cognitive computing.

their successful future careers but will also change the face of technology-reliant industries across the province."

These collaborations expose students to practical methods, environments and tools that help their education reach the next level. While the student benefits are clear, these partnerships also present companies with unique opportunities for recruitment, research, corporate training, business development and engagement with students, faculty and alumni.

Tech leaders like Cisco, Festo Didactic and SEW-EURODRIVE were first out of the gate to throw their support behind the Barrett CTI, and for them, the benefits were crystal clear.

"Working with Humber College and the Barrett CTI gives us the chance to provide our feedback on what the industry needs and wants from higher education moving forward."

"An employee who can hit the ground running on day one is critical, and thanks to our partnership with Humber, we can now contribute to and benefit from the development of this kind of skilled employee," says Lyall Watson, Central Canada Sales Manager for SEW-EURODRIVE, a world leader in drive technology and a pioneer in drive-based automation. "The cost of training employees is a worthwhile yet significant investment, so the more students that graduate with a working understanding of the job, the quicker their promising careers can begin and the sooner our business can benefit from their creative ideas and sharpened skills."

These collaborations are also giving partners the opportunity to expose the academic world to the latest industry trends and most innovative technology available.

“Working with Humber College and the Barrett CTI gives us the chance to provide our feedback on what the industry needs and wants from higher education moving forward,” says Greg James, Regional Sales Manager for Festo Didactic, a leading provider of technical education equipment and training. “Technology is ever-changing, meaning that industry needs to remain ahead of the curve to stay successful. With Festo’s expertise in education, we recognize that the schools that are preparing our future employees need to stay current in this area as well, so the opportunity to collaborate on technology and training that meet these evolving demands is critical.”

Examples of this innovation-sharing from partners are countless – from Cisco’s cutting-edge collaboration tools and networking equipment to Festo’s Digital Factory and SEW-EURODRIVE’s Industry 4.0 smart factory assembly solutions. This is on top of the many other partners that continue

to join our efforts at the Barrett CTI, including scholarships, experiential learning, curriculum expert guest speakers, industry career days and much more.

“These partnerships are more than just about one company, or one specific field of expertise – they have a significant impact on the competitiveness and effectiveness of the entire workforce talent pool,” remarked Tom Matrakoukas, Regional Director, Higher Education at Cisco Systems, the global leader in networking, communication and collaboration technologies. “Working with Humber to cultivate talent will produce smarter workers with the new ideas to drive new projects and new solutions across the board, and this employability will help drive the economy across the city and beyond. Cisco will continue to have its piece of the pie, but by increasing the available pie – that being skilled, employable workers and innovative ideas – then everyone’s slice gets bigger, and we all benefit.”

You can learn more about the Barrett CTI and our growing list of industry partners by visiting humber.ca/barrett-centre-for-technology-innovation. ●

Founding Partners

CIMETRIX,
a division of Javelin
Technologies

Cisco Systems
Canada Co.

DMG MORI

Festo Didactic Ltd.

KUKA Robotics
Canada Ltd.

Rockwell Automation

SEW-EURODRIVE
Company of Canada

SICK Sensor Intelligence



Welcoming the Future of Education

Celebrating the Grand Opening of the
Barrett Centre for Technology Innovation



Below: The Grand Opening was celebrated with Humber friends and community members; Bottom right: Bob Barrett and Francine Rouleau-Barrett officially open the Barrett CTI.



Built to inspire innovation, support skills development and promote STEAM outreach, the Barrett CTI officially opened its doors on April 10, 2019, paving the way for students, faculty and industry to collaborate and solve real-world problems.

More than 350 people attended the celebration, including government representatives, donors, industry partners and other leaders from Humber and the wider community.

The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, P.C., M.P. Etobicoke North and Minister of Science and Sport, and The Honourable Merrilee Fullerton, M.P.P., former Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities were also on hand to help celebrate the Grand Opening of the Barrett CTI.

When asked about her first impressions of the Barrett CTI, Duncan said, “If we want to build the future of this community and the future of Canada, we need to invest in innovation and our people. With this centre – artificial intelligence, advanced manufacturing, virtual reality – students are going to have the cutting-edge skills to be employed and to build Canada.”

“Humber is building important relationships. They provide insights into what employers need and what they are looking for... This is the future and it is happening right here,” said Fullerton.

The Barrett family was also present for the ribbon-cutting and official opening. “We started working with

Humber in order to help young people in Canada train for the careers of tomorrow through applied, hands-on learning. We are proud to have been the catalyst to bring about this building and the network of partners that Humber has cultivated. We are amazed at how well Humber has gone about realizing the dream we created together,” said Bob Barrett, founder of The Barrett Family Foundation and President of Polytainers Inc.

Building on the vision of The Barrett Family Foundation, the college will work closely with its industry partners to train students and employees to advance their skills and embrace technology innovation.

The building contains no traditional classrooms and the space is meant to provide a unique teaching and learning environment to bridge the gap between education and real-world experience. Industry partners were on hand at the Grand Opening to show guests how they will work with students and faculty in technology zones, digital media studios, cutting-edge prototyping and maker spaces, and demonstration areas throughout the building.

The opening of the Barrett CTI brings together community, researchers and companies to advance industry across the country. Most importantly, it gives students a new way to explore their education and to realize their full potential. ●



Sparkling Change

Getting to the bottom of why Toronto's young people are turning to guns

Tina-Nadia Gopal-Chambers, faculty member in Humber's Faculty of Social & Community Services, was a principal researcher in a report produced in partnership with the City of Toronto's Youth Equity Strategy, Amadeusz and The Laidlaw Foundation. The report is already informing the development of a violence intervention program for youth.

With young lives continuing to be at risk, the stakes were high; it was critical that the research was carefully targeted, scrupulously accurate and ethically conducted. Tina-Nadia had a vision for how the research methodology should be approached and designed. Her background as a youth worker for the City of Toronto had shown her that life experiences could play a role in a person's vulnerability towards engaging in violent crime. But which specific experiences led Toronto's youth to pick up guns? Tina-Nadia turned to Humber's Applied Research & Innovation for guidance in her quest for answers.

Applied Research & Innovation (ARI) helps faculty and student research teams collaborate with industry and community partners to find innovative solutions to pervasive problems. With ARI's support, Tina-Nadia wrote and submitted the grant application for the report on the results. ARI also helped Tina-Nadia ensure that the project used ethical research methodologies.

The purpose of the research was to answer four questions:

- *What does the research say about the protective factors and the risk for becoming involved in crime and for firearm possession?*
- *What are the experiences of young people in Toronto who have been incarcerated for possession of a firearm?*
- *What are the issues that young people who have previous charges for possession of a firearm face when trying to integrate back into the community?*
- *What were the different sparks that young people experienced in their lives, and how did they impact their involvement in crime?*

"Sparks" is the report's terminology for triggers that prompt positive or negative activity. Identifying the sparks in the lives of Toronto's youth, Tina-Nadia notes, is key to "providing them with the support, opportunities and resources they need... to lead more positive and productive lives."

Research began in June 2016 and continued to the end of that year. Funding was provided by The Laidlaw Foundation and Humber College ARI, along with resources and support from The City of Toronto Youth Equity Strategy. Research participants were recruited by Amadeusz, a not-for-profit organization focused on young people impacted by incarceration, violence and crime.

Tina-Nadia worked with one research assistant from Humber and a second from Ryerson University to do a literature review and to interview young people who had been charged with firearm possession in Toronto. The 10 interviewees had an average age of 23.8; 90% were Black, 10% were Latino and 90% were male. They had all been incarcerated on more than one occasion for multiple charges, including firearm-related charges.

The research paints a clear picture of the sparks that led these and other Toronto youth to turn to guns before and after incarceration. It creates a deeper understanding of the issues these young people face, including early trauma, negative school and family environments (including a lack of positive parental figures) and a lack of mentors and positive peers.

The report and summary report were released by the City of Toronto in July 2018 and are already making a difference. As the summary conclusion states, "The City of Toronto, through the Toronto Youth Equity Strategy, has already identified the issues and the actions that we need to take to effectively address the problems... More support systems need to be put into place for youth outside and inside the system to ensure that their exposure to risk factors decreases while their access to supportive systems increases."


With this research setting the wheels in motion for a system that expands on positive sparks while defusing or eliminating negative ones, Toronto can begin to look forward to all seasons with less gun violence, and with better prospects for youth whose futures and young lives would otherwise have remained at risk. ●

3.1B

Estimated economic
and social cost
of gun violence
per year

90%

Males charged with
firearm possession



“I had a basketball coach for a couple of years that believed in me. That was positive. Cause you needed that as a young boy, especially an older man to tell you a couple of positive things.”

—Respondent to survey

My Humber Story



Ninko Pangilinan

President and Owner, Nitro Lifestyle Fitness and Health Promotion, 2007

Feats of physical strength take dedication, commitment and perseverance to attain, and Ninko Pangilinan is a shining example of each of these traits. In the fitness world, Ninko is a star on the rise, defeating overwhelming odds to keep his budding business alive while fighting for his life.

Following a Fitness and Health Promotion diploma from Humber, he became part of the first graduating class in the University of Guelph-Humber's Kinesiology program. Ninko immediately put his entrepreneurial spirit to the test by opening a sports-focused training studio called Nitro Lifestyle, which grew steadily in popularity, earning the Brampton Guardian's Readers' Choice Award for the best local fitness centre.

Despite his new-found success, Ninko's story took a drastic turn when he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, forcing him to walk away from his dream at the young age of 22. Dedicating his life to health and overall wellbeing, he was suddenly at risk. Following surgery, chemotherapy, radiation treatments and some much-needed rest, Ninko was remarkably cancer-free.

But another obstacle was about to present itself. On opening day for his new fitness facility, Ninko was involved in a car accident that left him in a coma-like state for several days. "They had to use the Jaws of Life to free me from the wreckage," he says.

Undergoing physiotherapy and seeing both a psychologist and occupational therapist to recuperate from the mental stress of such significant trauma, Ninko is now on a steady road to full recovery. With a new lease on life, Ninko is committed to serving his community, holding fitness boot camps with proceeds going toward SickKids Foundation and the Canadian Cancer Society. Nitro Lifestyle is also thriving, with a second location primed to open in the coming months, and Ninko is now a proud father of two.

"My main message is to never quit or give up on your dreams," Ninko says. "If you want something, go and get it. Life goes on. I have those words on a tattoo on my forearm."

Tammy Kundakcioglu

Freelance Musician and Instructor Music, 1987

On Tammy Kundakcioglu's first day of Humber College classes in 1984, she and Kira Payne couldn't help noticing one another. "Oh wow," thought Tammy, "there's another girl with a saxophone!" They were the only female woodwind players in the music department. Kira came right over, and a great friendship was born.

Today, Tammy is a freelance musician and itinerant instrumental music instructor for the Toronto District School Board, teaching concert band instruments to middle-school children and playing in various big bands and musical ensembles. But she never forgot the struggles of the early years – or how Kira helped her get through. "We were hungry

and had very little money, so we sort of held each other up while we were getting on our own feet. There was a huge bond."

That bond would inspire Tammy to establish a tribute scholarship in her friend's name after Kira's death in 2016 at age 50. And what a name Dr. Kira Payne made for herself! Kira became a professional musician – an inspiring trailblazer in the male-dominated jazz scene – a physician and a psychiatrist.

"She was phenomenal," says Tammy. "She touched every single person's life that she met."

Thanks to Tammy, Kira's positive and transformative influence lives on. "One of those last nights, we were laughing about days at Humber and how we got each other through. On the way home, I thought, I could start a scholarship in her name for a first-year saxophone player... someone who might be a little hungry right now, who might not be able to afford the instrument they need."

The scholarship was noted in Kira's obituary, and the donations poured in. Now Tammy looks forward to the annual ceremony, where she shares with students what Kira did, "and what they can do." Thanks to Tammy Kundakcioglu's thoughtful actions, her cherished friend will continue to inspire and "hold up" young musicians, now and for years to come.





Michael Hainsworth

**Co-Host, Producer,
Geeks & Beats Podcast**
Broadcasting – Radio, 1993

With a powerful voice tailor-made for the airwaves, business commentator Michael Hainsworth is one of the most instantly recognizable names in Canadian radio and television broadcasting.

To more than two million regular CTV News viewers at 6 or 11, he was the “finance guy” (aka Business Reporter). He was also Canada’s longest-serving financial news anchor on BNN’s The Business News, the network’s most watched show, while his signature voice spoke to one million listeners on 680 News, where he became the first business reporter at an all-news radio station in Canada.

It may be a bit unexpected then that Michael’s high-profile career had pretty humble beginnings. A self-described introvert, he liked the idea of being able to tell stories to others without actually seeing them, a quality that made him perfect for radio. At age 17, Michael began working as a Technical Producer with CKFM 99.9 in Toronto, learning the ropes of the studio.

“The worst advice I ever got at that time was to forego a college education and, instead, work my way up the corporate chain by gaining experience from within. Luckily for me, I eventually decided not to take that advice, and instead found myself at Humber.”

Michael started at the college in 1991, eager to advance his passion for radio, and his two-year program in Radio Broadcasting served as the beginning of a successful 30 years in media. In fact,

his first on-air employer in Owen Sound told him he would not have gotten the job without that Humber diploma.

These days, Michael is excited for a renewed start that will shape his next 30 years in the business. He recently walked away from his mainstream success to reinvent himself in the digital age. He is heard by 21,000 listeners on his acclaimed Geeks & Beats podcast, which stood atop the iTunes Canada charts for four consecutive weeks after claiming the top “new and notable” spot following its launch in 2013.

For Michael, exploring new ideas and avenues is a message he hopes resonates with all Humber radio students. In his words, “Your voice is your instrument and you craft it over time. If you have the drive and energy, you can succeed in this business. Lastly, don’t take no for an answer, and always say yes to opportunity.”



Shana King

Vice President of Business Development and Retail Strategy, HauteHouse Brands LLC
Fashion Arts, 2000

Whether contributing to editorials or appearing on the Home Shopping Network, Shana King never forgets the fundamentals she learned at Humber – skills that have proven vital to her flourishing career.

Getting her industry start as a project manager while studying fashion arts, she displayed a flair for brand development and a knack for sales and marketing that was considerably enriched by her studies. Thanks to her now 20+ years of experience, as well as the talent, drive, and intuition characteristic of a Canadian from Etobicoke, Shana has surfaced as a leader in the beauty industry, reaching markets across North America.

Over the course of her career, Shana has successfully launched products for household names like Aveda and held several senior positions centered on product and business development, as well as branding with cosmetic and beauty companies in Atlanta, Georgia, where she now resides. Now a VP at HauteHouse, she leads the retail growth strategy for the global hair care and styling firm.

Before her time with HauteHouse, Shana served as Vice President, Beauty &

Innovation with Astral Brands, creating innovative makeup and skin care products. She has also teamed up with national retailers like Target, Bed Bath & Beyond and Michaels, as well as steering customer relationships and strategic planning with the fragrance company Enviroscent, Inc.

Above all, Shana has established herself as a knowledgeable and credible businesswoman who knows how to stay ahead of the curve. With her Humber education serving as her foundation, she has excelled in cosmetics, skin care and consumer packaged goods, producing enjoyable consumer experiences and eye-catching store displays as unique as each shopper.

Furthermore, as a mother and working professional, Shana wants her story of success to serve as a positive example, empowering other women and future leaders to feel confident in themselves and in their abilities.

John Narvali

Photographer, Narvali Digital Photography Creative Photography, 1975

John Narvali's commercial photography work takes him all over the globe. He has met with world figures including presidents, prime ministers, "people like Nelson Mandela and Pope John Paul...

Photography's been a really good business. I lead a charmed life."

But John has never forgotten his beginnings, both as a Humber student and well before that.

"If you came to our house and my mother or dad didn't know you, but they knew you were hungry, they would let you in. They used to bring people from the streets in for dinner. Our whole household was like that."

It's a mindset, he says, that develops because "someone mentored you, someone walked you through it." For an ever-growing number of young photographers, John is that person. Each year, one Humber Creative Photography student becomes the recipient of the Narvali Digital Photography Limited Award for the best portrait portfolio. In addition to funding this "token of giving back," John donates equipment to the program, seeks out Humber students for internships, and hires Humber graduates to assist on shoots.

He has also helped to pave the way for student success by sitting on the Humber College Advisory Board. Back in his own student days, "There was no money available, but you still had to pay for your own cameras." The Board was instrumental in bringing in cameras for student use through industry sponsorships – which, like the annual award, helps ease the financial strains of student life.

John says that funding the annual photography award is "so easy to do... it's not a big deal." As for the rest of the well-rounded support he provides as a Humber alumnus, it certainly seems to align with how his studio does business: "We over-deliver," he says, "to take it to the next stage." ●



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Humber Film at 50

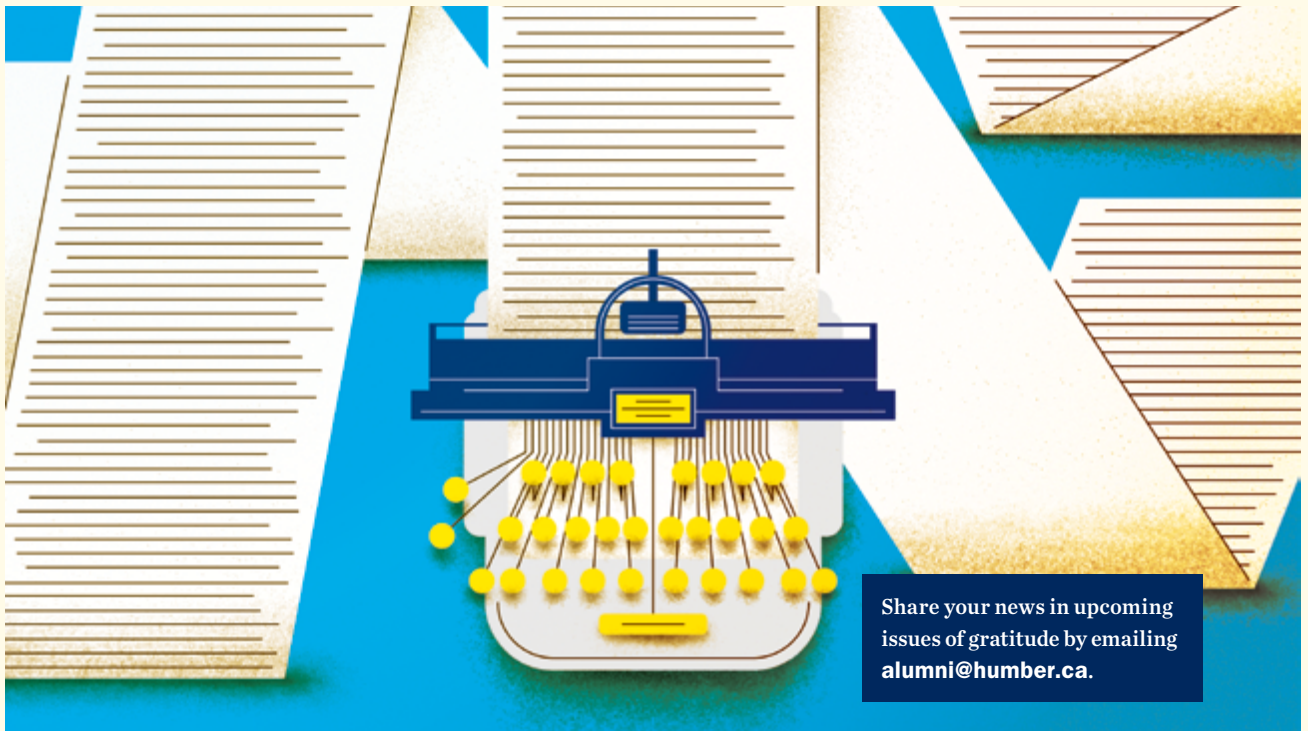
Humber's Film and Television Production (FMTV) program celebrated with a 50th anniversary reunion, dubbed Humber Film at 50. Honouring one of Humber's most highly regarded and competitive programs, over 150 guests including current and former faculty, students and alumni came together at The Spoke Club in downtown Toronto. Emceed by a Humber Comedy alumnus, the evening included a cocktail reception, a special screening, and decor paying homage to the program's success and history.

The Directors Guild of Canada, International Cinematographers Guild, Meridian Artists, and Toronto Film Technicians sponsored the celebratory occasion, along with platinum sponsor Whizbang Films, whose President and CEO, Frank Siracusa, is a Humber graduate. Frank graduated from the program in 1984, when it was called Cinematography. He has worked as an executive and co-executive producer on many TV shows, including *The Handmaid's Tale* and *Star Trek: Discovery*.

The event concluded with surprise 50th-anniversary cake and cookies created by one of Humber's pastry chef graduates. Proceeds from the event will support scholarships for students in the FMTV program. At the event, it was also announced that a new scholarship was being established in memory of Stewart Aziz. Stew was an Honours graduate of Humber's Creative Cinematography program, and was recognized with the Humber Cinematography Award in 1983 and followed his passion to a successful career in the film and television industries. ●

Want to keep up-to-date on upcoming alumni events at Humber? Be sure to visit humber.ca/alumni and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to learn more.





Class Notes

1980s

Marc Brazeau

(Public Relations, 1988) joined the Railway Association of Canada as President and Chief Executive Officer. Marc previously served as Vice President, Sales and Marketing of Uni-Select, a leading North American distributor of automotive parts and products, and nearly two decades in senior leadership roles with the Automotive Industries Association of Canada.

2000s

Matthew Finbow

(Bachelor of Applied Technology – Industrial Design, 2007), a designer at David Brown Automotive, was the visionary behind the Speedback Silverstone Edition, a \$1.1 million luxury car he created for the British company, which specializes in limited edition and custom-built handcrafted vehicles. Previously, Matthew was Chief of Industrial Design for the award-winning electric bicycle company, BionX.

Scott Gilbert

(Police Foundations, 2008) was named Peterborough's chief of police, the first unanimous choice for the position in the history of the Peterborough Police Service. A 38-year policing veteran, Chief Gilbert was a member of Toronto's Emergency Task Force, served in the Criminal Investigations Bureau, and was an inspector in Prosecution Services prior to his new role.

2010s

Lovell Adams-Gray

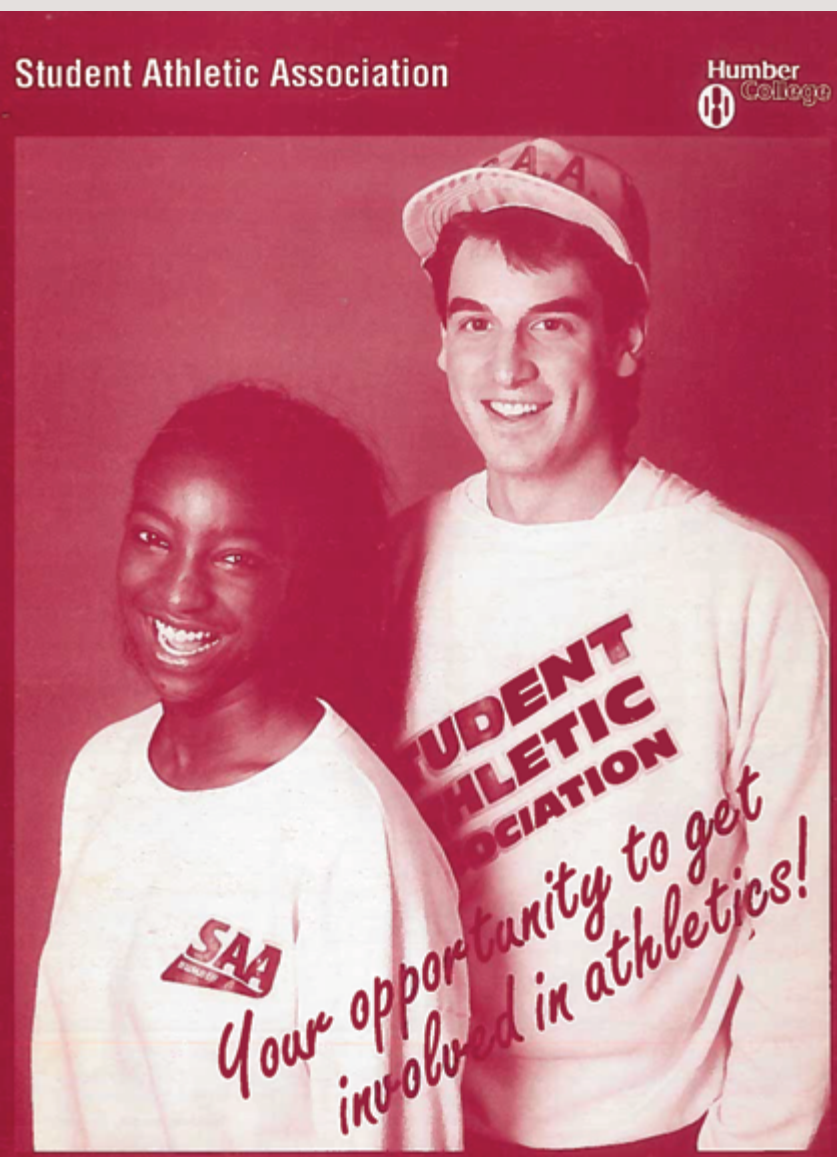
(Acting for Film and Television, 2012) was named to the cast of the TV sitcom *Second Jen*, on OMNI Television. The actor, writer and producer plays the role of Marcus, an innocent and naive former model. Lovell also made an appearance in the CW Television Network's DC's *Legends of Tomorrow*, playing a young Barack Obama.

Molly McGlynn

(Television Writing and Producing, 2010) is a Toronto-based writer and director, and recipient of Corus Entertainment's Fearless Female Director Award for short films. Her first feature film, *Mary Goes Round*, which premiered at TIFF, appeared at the Kingston Canadian Film Festival – the world's largest festival dedicated exclusively to Canadian film. Molly also directed episodes of *Workin' Moms* and *Little Do*, which premiered on CBC in 2018.

Lindsay Wong

(Creative Writing, 2017) published her memoir *The Woo-Woo: How I Survived Ice Hockey, Drug Raids, Demons, and My Crazy Chinese Family*, in fall 2018. It was named one of five finalists for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction, an annual award for excellence in the category of literary nonfiction. Lindsay was also named a CanadaReads finalist, an annual "battle of the books" organized by and aired on CBC. ●



Heath Thomlinson in a 1980s Humber Athletics Association promotional piece.

Nothing but Net

From the Alberta Prairies to the big city

If you had asked Heath Thomlinson back in 1987 where he would end up going to school, Ontario's Humber College might have seemed like a long shot. "I grew up in the Prairies – born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and playing basketball for the Medicine Hat College Rattlers in Alberta – so I really hadn't thought about attending a college so far from home."

But after a chance meeting with Humber's Assistant Basketball Coach, Tom Elwood, at a tournament in British Columbia, Heath became intrigued with what the college had to offer an athlete and aspiring journalist like himself. Elwood, recognizing Heath's talent on the court, immediately extended an invitation for him to visit Humber and see first-hand what it was all about. Heath packed up his car soon after and drove straight across central Canada until he arrived at the gate to Humber's North Campus.

"From my tour of the campus facilities, I quickly discovered that Humber had exactly what I needed, both when it came to sport and my studies. Not only was I able to be part of an exceptional team of athletes,

but the hands-on, expert training of the journalism program helped me land the successful career I have today."

"Above all, the college's atmosphere was far-and-beyond the most familiar and comfortable. Moving from the countryside to the big city was one of the most daunting things I've done in my life, but a combination of the people and the programs made Humber feel like home. In fact, many of my friends from Humber are still in my life today."

Over the next three years, Heath's outgoing personality, academic aptitude and natural leadership became known to many, including Humber's longest-serving president Robert "Squee" Gordon, who presented him with the President's Medal in 1990. These qualities also made him the prime candidate for a new role within the community: the first-ever president of Humber's Student Athletic Association (SAA).

"[Former Athletic Director] Doug Fox wanted student-athletes to have a voice and presence at the table when it came to collaborating with senior college leadership. We were the ones on the ground, and we had big ideas about how to evolve the program moving forward – that's how the SAA was born."

But from those humble beginnings, Heath says he's incredibly impressed with how far the SAA has come. "We built the foundation for something incredible, something that has grown immensely over the past 30 years. The SAA is now an important advocate for varsity student-athletes and a catalyst for bringing the entire Humber community into 'Hawks Family.'"

Three decades ago, Humber unexpectedly became his home, and as with the SAA, the college's evolution since his graduation has Heath excited for what's to come. "I'm thrilled to see that the College is still making an impact, consistently remaining ahead of the pack and surprising students with new possibilities for their futures." ●

Do you have a good story about an old photo of your time at Humber? You can be featured in a future Flashback. Send your story and pictures to alumni@humber.ca.

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