

# BEYOND THE CAMPUS







WINTER 2023 — ISSUE 01

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AT A  
GLANCE

# WELCOME MESSAGE



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT DR. GERVAN FEARON

**GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE** has for many years been known as a thriving post-secondary community in the heart of downtown Toronto. Through our programs and courses, we provide essential skills and knowledge to a diverse student body and, through our city-building efforts, we foster vibrant neighbourhoods and communities.

*The city is our classroom and because of that, we know that our community is made of more than just a place, a campus, and those who study and work here at any given moment.*

Our George Brown community thrives over time as well - through the work and contributions of you, our community of alumni, who every day take what they have learned at George Brown and apply in your careers, lives, communities to shape a remarkable legacy.

As I enter my third year as President of George Brown College, I stand

in awe of this living legacy of ours. And as you will see in the pages of this, our first annual digital Alumni publication, there is much to be awestruck about.

**Limberlost Place**, Ontario's first institutional mass-timber, zero-emissions building, rises at George Brown College's Waterfront Campus thanks to the skill, knowledge and hard work of George Brown graduates. Before it even opens in 2024, it has garnered several winning awards. It will be a learning lab and a part of our efforts to contribute to a vibrant city.

When Limberlost Place is opened, George Brown's **Brookfield Sustainability Institute** will move onto the 10th floor, where it will continue the groundbreaking work by students and alumni, in partnership with industry and government, to find practical and immediate solutions to our ongoing climate crisis.

You can read more about Limberlost Place and Brookfield Sustainability in these pages – and discover the remarkable contributions of your fellow alumni far beyond the College and its initiatives.

George Brown graduates are leaders who generously share their skills and knowledge through mentoring, volunteerism, and scholarship initiatives. They create jobs, deliver vital services, construct homes and infrastructure, and enhance lives. With their wisdom, our alumni help advance industries and sectors forward, keeping pace

with evolving technology and best practices.

Year by year, George Brown alumni numbers grow. In June, 4,700 students graduated from George Brown College programs bring our total number of alumni members to over 280,000. I look forward to seeing, hearing and celebrating the contributions that our alumni make to our community, our country and around our connected world.

I want all of our alumni from many years past to know: you are always welcome here at George Brown College: to share your knowledge certainly, but also to refresh and build on the skills demanded by an ever-changing world. Join us in furthering the growth and impact taking place through the initiatives of George Brown College.

At George Brown, we understand that learning is a life-long endeavour, and we will be here to help facilitate that learning.

Please - let us stay connected in the years ahead. Come back and engage with us. Follow **Alumni Relations on LinkedIn**. Visit **George Brown College's Alumni Benefits website**, to learn of the many perks, benefits and events available to you as an alumnus.

And remember: We are here for you, just as so many of you have been here for us.



AT A  
GLANCE

# WELCOME MESSAGE



**MESSAGE FROM DR. CINDY GOUVEIA  
VICE PRESIDENT, GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIP, AND PRESIDENT,  
GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE  
INTERNATIONAL**

**GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE** is a landmark in Toronto's education landscape, currently serving almost 24,000 full-time students over nearly 2 million square-foot of prime real-state in the heart of downtown Toronto. We continue to grow, expanding our program offerings, our diverse student community, and our engagement with the world at large.

These incredible achievements are thanks to the dedication of our faculty members and College leaders, and the determination of our students. But it is equally thanks to the success of our alumni. Our students come from all over the world, from a variety of backgrounds and bring a host of unique experiences and perspectives with them. When they graduate, they go out into the world and make a difference in a variety of areas.

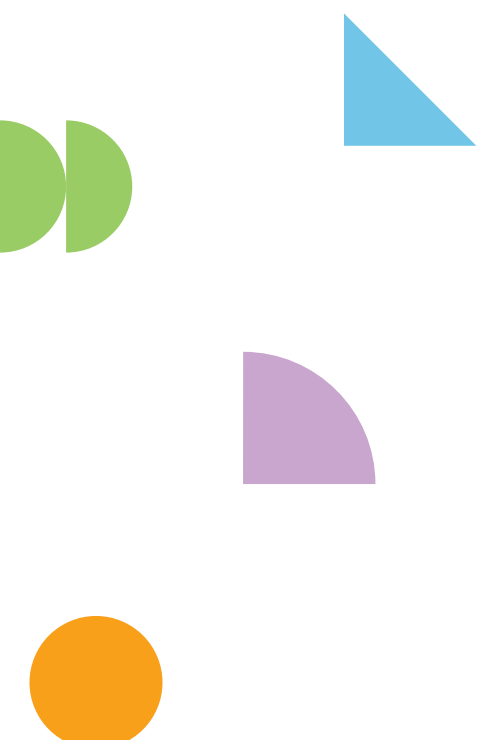
With celebrity chefs and entrepreneurs, business leaders and captains of industry, George Brown College students have gone on to have some exceptional careers in their chosen fields. From Toronto to Hong Kong, from boardrooms to bakeries, from corridors of power to disruptive start-ups, our alumni are doing some amazing things across the globe. There is nothing that makes me prouder!

Our alumni network is large, diverse, and constantly expanding. I am incredibly excited about the launch of our new chapters in various parts of the world, which will enable more of our graduates to stay connected with the College

and benefit from the support that can be offered.

My hope for our alumni is to stay in touch. We're ready to connect, to lend a hand, and to open doors in any way we can. Feel free to contact the Alumni Relations team, your chapter leaders or me at any time! Do not miss out on this incredible opportunity to leverage George Brown College's vibrant alumni community, which has 280,000 members, working and living all over the world, each who are making an impact within their communities.

We have been waiting for you!



AT A  
GLANCE

# BUILDING CONNECTIONS AND CELEBRATING ALUMNI



Betsy Elliot, grad with her own scarf design



startGBC alumna, Emefa Kuadey, showcasing her new line of *israella Kobla*



## SHIFT

Shift 2023 Fashion Show featuring new alumni designs

Maria Pavlou and Emmanuel Awuah, architectural technology alumni on-site of mass timber campus building with Carol Phillips, (centre) Architect of Limberlost Place

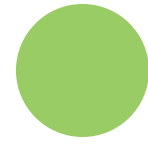


Chef La-toya Fagon, alumna preparing dishes for Canadian Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau

Career Development Practitioner Chapter's Annual Crystal Awards







Black Screen Office at TIFF – amazing GBC alumni volunteering at the film festival

Alum, Chef Raquel Fox's book signing & recipe demonstration



Alum, Chef Joe Sarnovsky volunteering with Jose Andres' World Central Kitchen in Poland supporting refugees



Dr. Gervan Fearon, President of GBC with Marc Pannia, Director & Producer alum at TIFF

The Honorable Jean Augustine with alum, Chef Selwyn Richards



GBC Advancement team at Women's Day event



School of Architectural Studies alumni panel discussion

Centre for Business Student-Alumni Mentorship Program Orientation





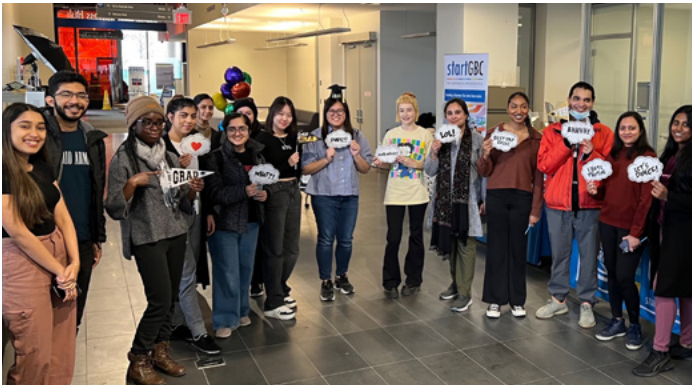
Mix & Mingle multi-campus events with final year students getting ready for graduation



Algonquin log cabin research exhibit with alumni contributing



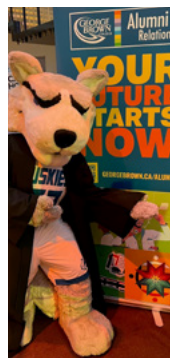
Architectural Technician alum, Nassim Ravaee, presenting on Algonquin research project



Theatre School new alumni celebrating their final performance at the Young Centre



Research project launch with alumni, students and faculty featuring Indigenous log cabin project



Convocation

GBC Husky at Convocation

Residential Construction Program graduating class of 2023 celebrating with alumni employers, faculty, and sector leaders







Launched our special Alumni Badge in celebration of our alumni networks & chapters

Alumni meeting at the GBC booth at Construct Canada



Dr. Gervan Fearon, GBC President with Michael Decter, Economist & Author; and Lloyd Robertson, Canadian Journalism icon at book launch event



Alumni couple Latifa and Nick Smujda participated in a bridge climb while working in Sydney, Australia

Sustainable design for tomorrow by alumni & students - Brookfield Sustainability Institute

Celebrating the professional successes of alumni couples on Valentine's Day

Brookfield Sustainability Institute Launch event - alumni carpenters, Chris Campbell and Rokhaya Gueye with Dr. Gervan Fearon, GBC President



We have launched our Alumni Virtual Book Club!



Neal Lilliott, from startGBC with alum, Chef Sand Tsoi, Founder of Thai cuisine takeout business



Student Association supporting Orientation Week



2023 Premier's Awards Nominees

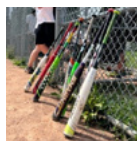


Alum, Chef David Wolfman teaching Indigenous cuisine at Orange Shirt Day Dinner



Honouring Orange Shirt Day with drummer, Albert Therrien and alum, Chef David Wolfman

GBC staff Softball Tournament – Alumni & Friends Team competing



Celebrating Pride Month at GBC



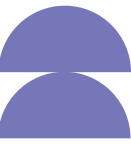
Alumni Summer Social Reunions





OUR  
HIGHLIGHTS

# LIMBERLOST PLACE



## GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE'S MASS-TIMBER BUILDING

**CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY** on Limberlost Place, is the latest addition to George Brown College's Waterfront Campus. Our mass timber, net zero carbon emissions project will be the first institutional building of its kind in Ontario, Limberlost Place will welcome students in January 2025.

## A MASS-TIMBER BUILDING WITH LOCAL & GLOBAL IMPACT

### A GLOBAL MODEL OF MASS-TIMBER CONSTRUCTION

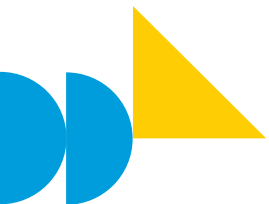
George Brown College's commitment to the development of Toronto's East Bayfront community continues with Limberlost Place, a 10-storey building currently under construction at Queens Quay East and Dockside Drive.

Limberlost Place is years ahead of Toronto's 2030 goals for sustainable design and performance for new developments, and it has become a global model for mass timber

sustainable construction. Built with made-in-Canada mass-timber components, the design provides generous spaces focused on well-being by maximizing access to natural light and fresh air.

Students will learn *in* and *from* this flexible and future-proof facility, equipped with networked and adaptable smart building systems designed to adjust to changing academic uses.

To learn more, click [here](#).





## JACK COCKWELL'S HISTORIC DONATION

**WE ANNOUNCED THE BUILDING'S** name, inspired by the Limberlost Forest and Wildfire Reserve near Huntsville, Ontario, when Canadian business leader and philanthropist Jack Cockwell donated \$10 million to George Brown College for the Limberlost Place project in 2021. This donation was in addition to his earlier gift of \$8 million in 2015. The \$18-million gift is one of the most significant donations made to the College.

## THE BROOKFIELD SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE

**THE BROOKFIELD SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE (BSI)** at Limberlost Place will focus on aligning digital transformation and sustainability to benefit communities everywhere, becoming a beacon for "smart sustainability." Students, alumni and faculty will work with government, industry, and community partners to develop tangible solutions to climate change impacts.

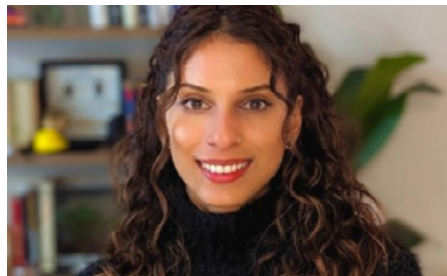
Click here to learn [more](#).



## ALUMNI ON-SITE



**BENNETT STABLEFORTH**  
Honours Bachelor of Technology -  
Management, 2013  
Project Manager



**NIRMALA SINGH**  
Civil Engineering Technology,  
Engineering co-op student



**MESFIN TADESSE**  
Construction Engineering  
Technician – Management, 2005  
Site-worker



# CELEBRATING ALUMNI SUCCESS

## CHRIS CAMPBELL



### Chris Campbell, George Brown Carpentry Apprentice making a difference in the community

**CARPENTER, UNION LEADER AND EQUITY, DIVERSITY** and inclusion champion Chris Campbell is passionate about helping others succeed in the skilled trades. When he delivered a keynote address at a 2022 George Brown College convocation ceremony, he shared a Maya Angelou quote that guides his efforts. "When you learn, teach. When you get, give." Campbell is a proud graduate of George Brown's Carpentry Apprentice program and the Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity for the Carpenters' Regional Council. He travels across the province to talk to industry reps, visit job sites, and connect young people to meaningful career options. Campbell is also Vice-President of the Toronto Carpenter's Union, Local 27.

"From Thunder Bay to Sarnia, you can't assume that things are the way they are in Toronto. So I go to

each community, engage people and listen to what they're saying," he says, all with the goal of increasing diversity in the field and promoting inclusive hiring practices and industry policies.

#### CONNECTING YOUTH TO OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SKILLED TRADES

For more than two decades, Campbell has been laser focused on connecting Black and Indigenous youth and youth from other diverse communities to opportunities in the skilled trades. He meets with young people at their places of worship, community centres, and other social hubs.

Following transit expansion and other development announcements in Toronto, he worked with developers to ensure they provided employment opportunities for young people from the surrounding areas. This work laid the foundation for the Toronto Community Benefits Network, of which he is now Chair of the Board of Directors.

Campbell sits on several other construction industry and community boards and committees, including the George Brown College Foundation Board of Directors, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and the Toronto Police Black Community Consultative Committee. He also volunteers for The Children's Breakfast Clubs.

#### ADDRESSING RACISM ON JOB SITES

When asked about the working environment for Black people in the trades, Campbell admits it wasn't great when he was coming up, but positive changes are happening — changes he is helping to push forward.

*"When I reflect, I say, yeah, that happened to me, but I was too driven by wanting to make something of myself that I didn't pay much attention to it at the time," he said. "I can remember some of the conversations, word for word."*

When questioned by the media or anyone else about racism on the job, Campbell says he speaks openly and honestly about the issues.

*"I tell both sides, the good and the bad, the challenges and the success."*

#### WORK THAT RESONATES WITH NEW TRADESPEOPLE

The advice, support and straight talk Campbell provides have meant a lot to many. He said he often receives emails and phone calls from people he has helped get work in the skilled trades.

*"Earlier in my career, there were a lot of Caribbean folks, but today it's more international. You have people from Africa, Asia, and all over the world," he said. "So, it tells me that maybe what I did and said resonated with them."*



## JULIA HUYNH



### Alum Mentor Julia Huynh Aims to Help International Business Students Overcome Challenges

**JULIA HUYNH HAD ALREADY** completed a law degree in Vietnam when she decided to pursue her dream of studying abroad and finding a career that aligned more with her passions. After a successful journey at George Brown College pursuing marketing and an interest in mental health advocacy, she’s now giving back as an alumni mentor to current students through the Centre for Business’ [Student-Alumni Mentorship Program](#).

“I received a lot of support and guidance from the College, especially the academic advisors

and Student Association, which helped me take my first step toward a successful career. Now I want to give back and help other international students who may be facing similar challenges I did,” said Huynh, referencing language barriers, financial struggles and entering the Canadian job market, all of which can take a toll on a student’s mental health.

Back in Vietnam, Huynh had been looking to explore her full potential. She heard that George Brown College has a reputation as a leading educational institution among Vietnamese students, as well as the competitive advantage of gaining practical work experience in addition to education.

When she arrived in Canada, Huynh’s path led to class leadership roles, being on the Dean’s List and graduating with honours, already having received a job offer from the wholesale supply company she worked at for her co-op program. Now she works as a freelance digital marketer and is preparing for permanent residency alongside acting as a mentor.

#### PROVIDING CAREER GUIDANCE

For Huynh, mentoring is more than just advising on necessary marketing skills. What excites her the most is guiding her mentees in choosing the right career path and helping them discover their passion for their profession. Additionally, she also emphasizes the development of important soft skills such as time management, problem-solving, critical thinking and teamwork.

“I feel proud and honoured to have the opportunity to give back to the community,” said Huynh. “Returning to George Brown

College to assist students, especially international students, is a refreshing experience for me. I am delighted to learn from the vision of the Mentorship Program and find it fulfilling to live and work with a sense of purpose.”

As for advice to students, Huynh recommends that they make the most of their time in college because it’s an investment for their future, and remember to prioritize their well-being.

*“Living abroad can be stressful at times, but there are resources available on campus to help students cope with these challenges,” said Huynh. “Don’t hesitate to reach out and seek support when you need it. You’re not alone in this journey. With hard work, dedication and a positive mindset, you can achieve your goals towards your future career.”*

George Brown offers a range of services and supports for international students. Learn more on the [Current International Students page](#).





## EMILY CLAIROUX



"The Good Way" by Emily Clairoux



### GBC Graduate's Art Featured on the TTC for National Indigenous History Month

**LOOK OUT FOR THE ARTWORK** of George Brown College graduate Emily Clairoux on the TTC (Toronto Transit Commission) throughout June for National Indigenous History Month.

Clairoux is an artist from the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation and a graduate of the Community Worker program. Her piece called Mino Pimadiziwin – That Good Way (pictured) will be featured across the TTC system, wrapped on transit vehicles. Clairoux's description on the TTC's website says the piece "reminds many Indigenous peoples to walk in a good way or live in that good way."

"As for what this means to me, it's a huge accomplishment," she says. "When I was growing up, not a lot of people believed in me and I didn't believe in myself. It is so validating to have been chosen to share my art with such a large audience."

Clairoux makes jewellery, tote bags and other items featuring her art, which her TTC profile says is inspired by her "community and teachings she's picked up along the way." She produces her work under Eagle Woman Arts (@eaglewomanarts on Instagram).

Learn more about Clairoux's art and the work of other Indigenous artists being featured across the TTC this month.

**INDIGENOUS ARTS FESTIVAL AT FORT YORK**  
The Indigenous Initiatives team at George Brown College was proud to support the 2023 Indigenous Arts Festival as a community partner, supporting the local talent of DJ Shub and artist food payment through community food security project Dashmaawaan Bemaadzinjin (They Feed the People).

The team was onsite at the event to share information about events, opportunities, knowledge sharing and services at GBC.



## KEVIN BUCK AND DARRYL SHOTLANDER

### From George Brown College to Michelin Stardom: How Alumni Foster Culinary Success Worldwide

AT GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE, students benefit from an extensive network of fellow alumni—both in and out of the classroom. As a recent graduate of the college's [Italian Culinary Arts postgraduate program](#), Darryl Shotlander has experienced firsthand the life-changing perks of tapping into the strong network of mentorship and support the college offers.

As part of his postgraduate program, Shotlander (pictured chef on the left) had the incredible opportunity to complete a three-month internship at a restaurant in Italy. After expressing his dream of working at the famed three-Michelin-star restaurant Osteria Francescana to his professor and program coordinator Chef Dario Tomaselli, Tomaselli reached out to George Brown alum and chef Allen Huynh—who just so happened to be working in the kitchen at the acclaimed Massimo Bottura restaurant in Modena, Italy.

The plan was set in motion, and Shotlander packed his bags for Italy to embark on the beginning of his culinary journey overseas.

*“Chef Alan was a fantastic mentor and taught me to take a creative and narrative approach to preparing food,” Shotlander says, as he reflects back on the profound experience of working at one of the world’s best restaurants. “The way he coached me changed my whole career trajectory and how I think about food.”*

After completing his internship in Italy and graduating from the program, Shotlander knew he wanted to continue pursuing his career abroad, and he had his eyes set on the thriving culinary scene in London. Chef Tomaselli again jumped at the opportunity to



George Brown College Graduates, Darryl Shotlander (left) and Kevin Buck (right)

help Shotlander achieve his goals, connecting him with Kevin Buck, also an alum of the Italian program and of the Culinary Management program, who currently works as a sous-chef at Above at HIDE—another esteemed Michelin-rated restaurant.

Hearing the high praise from Chef Tomaselli and knowing that Shotlander had received the same level of guidance and mentorship from George Brown’s faculty that he had experienced, Buck (pictured chef on the right) felt it was an easy decision to extend the new grad an invitation to come to London and do a trial shift at his restaurant.

Shotlander is grateful for the advice and support he’s received from Chef Buck in the lead-up to London, as he navigates the possibility of moving and working abroad.

*“Kevin has been so helpful in guiding me through this process of essentially immigrating to a new country, especially since he’s gone through it himself,” Shotlander says. “He doesn’t even know me, apart from a few video calls, so what he’s doing for me is amazing.”*

Buck, whose experience since graduating has included competing in the prestigious culinary

competition Bocuse d’Or and working at the three-Michelin-star Frantzén in Sweden, credits his impressive trajectory to his education at George Brown.

*“Each place that I’ve worked has taught me something new,” he says, “but it was my time at GBC that laid the foundation for me to become successful in this industry.”*

Buck also won the 2023 Chef of the Year award from the British Culinary Federation. He was among 14 finalists vying for the top prize on June 12 at the University College of Birmingham’s Competition Kitchen.

Chefs Buck and Shotlander have shown, it’s clear George Brown’s alumni network is much more than a list of names—it’s a culture of support and collaboration, reminding students that education extends well beyond the school walls.

For current George Brown culinary students who wish to emulate Buck’s success, he emphasizes that networking is the secret ingredient to following in his footsteps.



OUR  
HIGHLIGHTS

# LIFELONG LEARNING

**WE BELIEVE THAT EDUCATION IS A LIFELONG PURSUIT**, and we provide our esteemed graduates with continued opportunities for skills development and intellectual enrichment. Whether you choose to join us virtually or in-person, the College provides an opportunity for experiential learning, to engage in thought-provoking discussions, hear from industry experts, and expand your professional network. Embrace the opportunity to reignite your intellectual curiosity and join us here to continue your lifelong learning. To learn more, click [here](#).

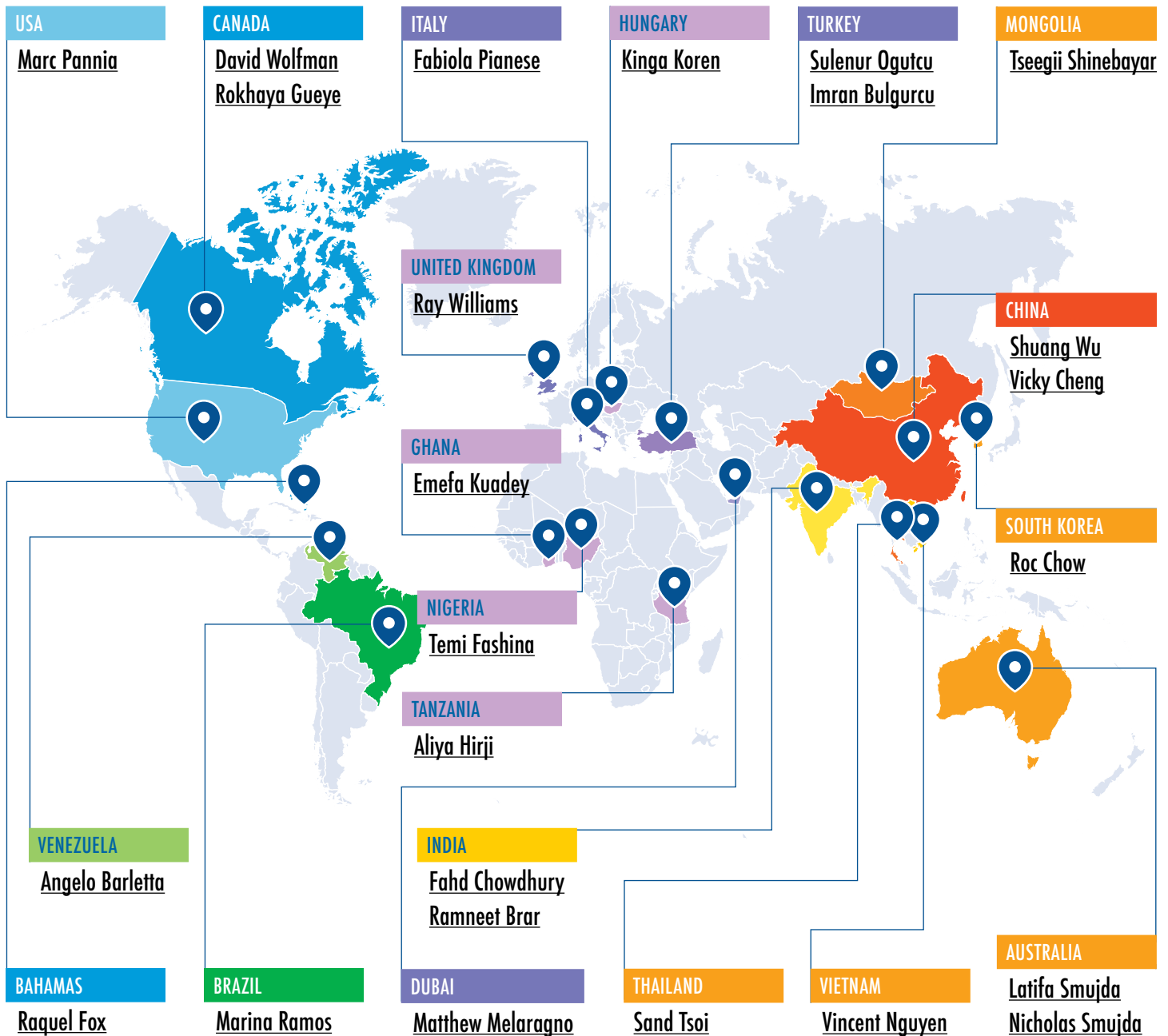


OUR HIGHLIGHTS

# GLOBAL ALUMNI

PUT YOUR PIN ON THE MAP!

Connect with us and share your story:  
[globalalumni@georgebrown.ca](mailto:globalalumni@georgebrown.ca).





OUR HIGHLIGHTS

# PREMIER'S AWARDS 2023



LAUNCHED IN 1992 to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ontario colleges, the annual Premier's Awards honour outstanding college graduates in seven categories from Ontario's 24 public colleges. George Brown College has a fantastic history with the Premier's Awards and proudly celebrates the achievements of our nominees and our winners.

## APPRENTICESHIP

Carpenter General Apprentice Certificate (1991)



[LINKEDIN PROFILE >>](#)

**CHRIS CAMPBELL**  
Director of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Carpenters' Regional Council of Ontario

Chris exemplifies the benefits of a college education. Through college training, he improved his wages, entered the Carpenters' Union and achieved a leadership position.

A proponent of youth apprenticeship and diversity, Chris mentors students and created an endowment for BIPOC youth. He is the Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion of the Carpenters' Regional Council of Ontario and a Director at the George Brown College Foundation.

Chris is also involved with the Children's Breakfast Club (as Community Outreach Program Ambassador), the Toronto Community Benefits Network, the Black Action Defence Committee, and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

## BUSINESS

Sport and Event Marketing, Post-Graduate Certificate (2006)



[LINKEDIN PROFILE >>](#)

**MELONIE DE GUZMAN, PMP, SSM**  
Owner, Melonie de Guzman Program Management Services Inc.

Melonie is a pioneer and advocate for the inclusion of women in technology-focused industries. She is a multi-certified (PMP, SAFe, and Scrum Master II) and award-winning leader and professional who has served as a mentor and international keynote speaker.

Melonie has positively impacted the community by co-founding Women in Technology and being affiliated with several prominent mentorship organizations.

## CREATIVE ARTS & DESIGN

Fashion Techniques and Design (2017)



[LINKEDIN PROFILE >>](#)

**LESLEY HAMPTON**  
Founder, Fashion Designer, and Creative Director, Lesley Hampton

Lesley is the owner, Fashion Designer and Creative Director of LESLEY HAMPTON. She is an Anishinaabe artist, model and speaker passionate about increasing Indigenous representation in the fashion industry and changing stereotypical views on beauty standards and body types. These passions led her to be one of six Indigenous designers to represent Canada at the 2023 Milan Fashion Week.

Lesley cites her college education as instrumental in facilitating her success in the fashion industry. Through her design work, Lesley continues to be a voice for Indigenous representation and body positivity in fashion.

## HEALTH SCIENCES

Culinary Management Nutrition (2010)

**AMY SYMINGTON**

Nutrition Professor, Researcher &amp; Chef, George Brown College

Having merged her love of the culinary arts with pragmatism, Amy found her calling in applying her culinary education to support people with cancer. Her research on proper nutrition for cancer patients led her to write "Community Guide to Cancer Nutrition Companion Cookbook" and "The Long-Table Cookbook" as valuable resources for cancer patients, caretakers and survivors.

[LINKEDIN PROFILE >>](#)

As a nutrition professor, researcher and chef, she trains and inspires the next generation of chefs to create healthier recipes. Amy is currently pursuing a PhD in Nutritional Sciences.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Worker Program (2018)

**KAYLA MORYOUSSEF**

Death &amp; Grief Worker, Good Death Doula Private Practice

Kayla Moryoussef has made significant contributions in the area of death and grief counselling. Through her company, Good Death Doula, as well as her work with the Home Hospice Association and Death Cafe, Kayla has positively impacted her community and brought a pragmatic and compassionate perspective to care for persons at the end of their lives.

[LINKEDIN PROFILE >>](#)

## RECENT GRADUATE

Fashion Techniques and Design (2019)

**EMEFA KUAHEY**

Fashion Engineer and Founder, israella KOBLA

Emefa started her successful fashion design business while still in college. Her hard work and design acumen brought her significant milestones and brand recognition, particularly her company's online and in-store partnership with the mega-retailer Hudson's Bay.

Emefa is an exemplar in every sense, continuously demonstrating the power of college education, showcasing the talent pool within BIPOC students and mentoring those starting in the fashion industry.

[LINKEDIN PROFILE >>](#)

## TECHNOLOGY

Information System Business Analysis Certificate (2013)

**RAMKUMAR ARUNAMOORTHY**

Senior Manager, Site Reliability Engineering &amp; Cloud Operations, Thomson Reuters

Ramkumar devoted his time and career to empowering people through education, providing for 4,000-plus individuals across Ontario the training needed to work in the technology sector. His work has garnered recognition from major tech companies like Google and Amazon, with him currently serving as Google's "Mentor East Canada Region" and "Women TechMaker Ambassador." Additionally, he serves as "AWS Community Builder" for Amazon AWS and supports not-for-profit organizations pro bono.

[LINKEDIN PROFILE >>](#)

Ramkumar received the Michael Cook Leadership Award in 2014 and the Walk the Talk Leadership Award from the Ontario Trillium Foundation in 2018.



OUR HIGHLIGHTS

# EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT

**COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS** are at the core of George Brown College's vision for student and graduate success.

Alumni Relations values the business partnerships we forge with all employers and has created pathways for organizations to hire our College's top talent or to bring a student onboard for a Work Integrated Learning opportunity (co-op or internship).

Alumni Relations is also a supportive champion of our alumni who return to recruit our graduates and we provide unique ways to do so, one of which is through the #EmployerTalks panel discussions on company hiring practices. Once recorded, these employer videos are made available to our college community through our Alumni Relations website and our college YouTube channels.

GBCareers is our college job posting site which provides a platform for employers to post opportunities to our grads and everyday new jobs are made available.

*"My learning experience was engaging and incremental," he said. "The professors taught us fundamentals and provided additional learning resources to deepen our understanding. I greatly appreciated the individual attention and guidance from each professor, especially when it came to securing a first job in Canada."*

Fahd Chowdhury, Analytics for Business Decision Making, 2020

ALUMNI EMPLOYERS

3620+

TOTAL GRADS

280K+

ALUMNI CONNECTED

220K+

OUR HIGHLIGHTS

# GBC CAREER SERVICES



**CAREER SUPPORT** – GBC alumni have access to a wide array of resources and career services.

We offer a series of videos with the most current information on career trends, issues, and developments to support you on your career pathway and they are available for viewing on our website through our [Career Support webpage](#).

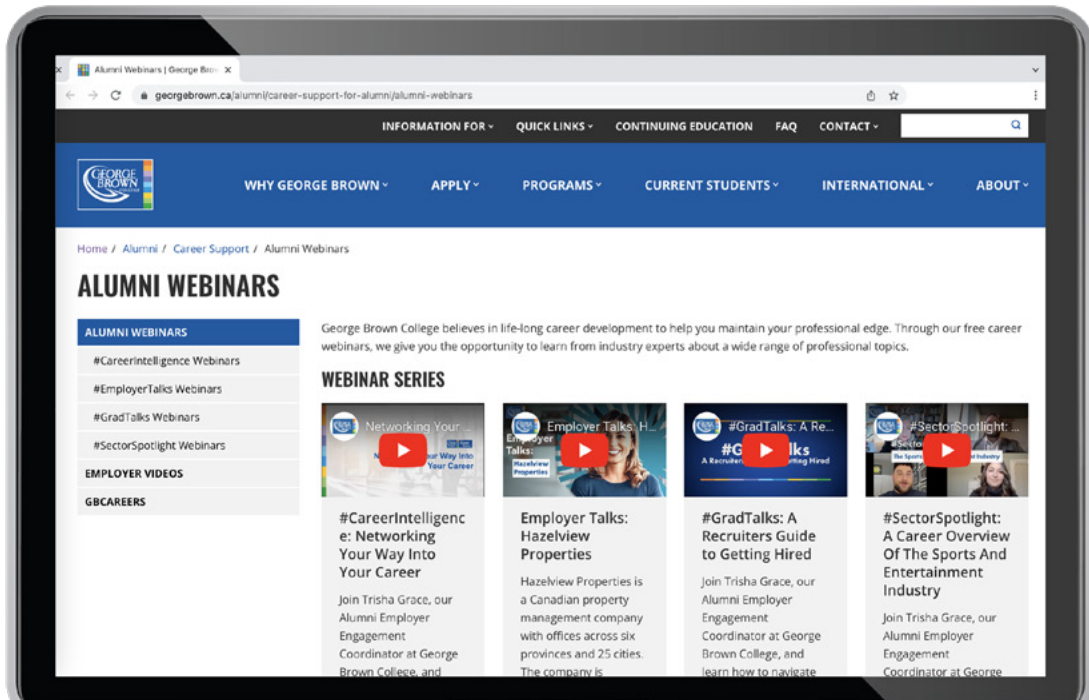
As a graduate you can access appointments for Career Support through the college’s Career Services where you can book an appointment for help with your resume, career exploration, interview practice, LinkedIn development, or any other career support.

[GBCareers](#) is our college platform for job postings where you are sure to find opportunities that match your skills and education.

App Status	App ID	Job Title	Organization	Division	Position Type	Location	App. Deadline
Apply	1000000	Full-Cook/Chocolatier	1 Life Release Foods	Head Office	Full Time		Aug 15, 2023
Apply	1000000	TEACHING FULL-TIME	Toronto District School Board	Secondary Teaching	Full Time		Aug 14, 2023
Apply	1000000	Market Engagement	WSP Housing & Homecare Inc.	Human Resources	Contract		Aug 11, 2023
Apply	1000000	Engagement Center Rep	Water Village Center Care	Head Office	Part Time		Aug 10, 2023
Apply	1000000	Enrolled Dental Assist	WSP Housing & Homecare Inc.	Human Resources	Contract		Aug 11, 2023
Apply	1000000	Social Media Specialist	WSP Housing & Homecare Inc.	Human Resources	Full Time		Aug 11, 2023
Apply	1000000	Engagement Nurse	WSP Housing & Homecare Inc.	Human Resources	Contract		Aug 11, 2023

Over **8,700** full-time and part-time jobs added annually on [GBCareers.com](#)

Active alumni employers: **3,620+**





OUR HIGHLIGHTS

# ALUMNI GIVING BACK — FOOD COURT SOCIAL

**THE GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE**

**FOUNDATION** was delighted to host the 10th annual **Food Court Social** on Thursday, October 5, 2023. The event was held at George Brown College's Waterfront Campus, where guests were treated to an unforgettable culinary and entertainment experience. Most of the participating chefs were graduates of GBC's Chefs School and alumni have also kindly donated items to the event's silent auction.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, Food Court Social raised over \$500,000. One hundred percent of this is going to the George Brown College **Augmented Education Program**, which aids students with mental health needs and addiction histories. The Augmented Education Program, created in partnership with the Center for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), is an innovative, tuition-free program that helps people with a history of mental illness or addiction overcome barriers to education and training, helping them prepare for employment and to stay employed.

We were delighted to treat our guests to another night filled with delicious food, refreshments, and stellar entertainment.



OUR  
HIGHLIGHTS

# GIVING BACK — FOUNDATION

## Student Success Story – Your Support Makes an Impact!

**THANKS TO THE GENEROUS** support of our donors, students across all programs at George Brown College can pursue their academic and professional goals every year.

This year, one of these students was Christian Sotouadeh, a first-year student at the Angelo DelZotto School of Construction Management, and the winner of the Centre for Construction and Engineering Technologies (CCET) Sustainability Award. This award is given to students who demonstrate not only academic excellence, but innovative and sustainable ideas through their capstone project research. Here is his story:

“A year ago, I wouldn't have pictured myself earning an award. I didn't see myself going back to school to restart my post-secondary education. However, I grew a strong interest in this program. At first, I was nervous, and the course load was overwhelming. However, I told myself, this is it, it's time to advance and make up for all the time I lost exploring different career paths. Here I am a year later, with the utmost confidence I have in my abilities, and a passion for what I'm learning.”

“The truth is, not everyone will know what they want to do in life, however, you can never wait for it. You must seize every opportunity as if it were your last. I'm beyond grateful to receive an award commending all the early mornings



Student award recipient Christian Sotouadeh with Dr. Adel Esayed, Dean Centre for Construction and Engineering Technologies

and hard work that no one else sees, as well as minimizing the financial burden of tuition.”

Christian's journey to George Brown College is just one example of how your support impacts students' lives both inside and outside of the classroom. To learn more about setting up an award and supporting our students and alumni please visit:

<https://www.georgebrown.ca/about/foundation/support>





Scholarship student recipients celebrating with Professor Pietro Ferrari at the Annual GBC Student Awards

This season of Giving, consider paying it forward and helping a fellow GBC student in need.



### The George Brown College Foundation:

**THE GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE** Foundation serves as the primary fundraising vehicle for George Brown College. Together with our donors, we work to ensure that no student is denied post-secondary education because of financial constraints. We achieve this goal by raising money to support student success through scholarships and bursaries, as well as other significant initiatives.

The generosity of our GBC alumni has been critical to the success of our students - from the creation of new scholarships, providing career opportunities for graduates, and especially supporting them through the recent challenges of the pandemic. With the rising costs of living, students need your help more than ever to pursue their academic and career goals.



**ONLINE:**  
[georgebrown.ca/donate](https://georgebrown.ca/donate)



**TELEPHONE:**  
(416) 415 5000 x 3289



**MAIL:**  
Jane Kunovic  
Attn: GBC Foundation  
200 King Street East  
Toronto ON, M5A 3W8

Please do not hesitate to contact Ali Talpur, Director at [atalpur@georgebrown.ca](mailto:atalpur@georgebrown.ca) if you have any questions or need more information about supporting George Brown College.

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

# AFFINITY PARTNERS

**GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE** is proud of the partnership and relationship it has with its affinity partners, Economical and Manulife.

With a variety of different offers, Economical and Manulife have our alumni covered from life and health insurance to home, car and pet insurance. Along with the many perks and privileges of being a GBC Husky, Economical and Manulife have your insurance needs covered.

Visit [Alumni Benefits – George Brown College](#) to learn more!

economical<sup>®</sup>

**CAR & HOME**  
GROUP INSURANCE

SAVINGS WORTH SHOUTING ABOUT!

George Brown College Alumni Relations

This advertisement features a woman with a megaphone against a blue sky background with clouds. The Economical logo is in the top left, and the George Brown College Alumni Relations logo is in the bottom left.

Your little voice knows  
your hard earned money could be working harder

**Manulife Bank**

This advertisement shows two men in plaid shirts, one larger and one smaller, with a speech bubble containing the text. The Manulife logo and name are at the bottom.



# ABOUT YOU – STAY CONNECTED

280,000+

VALUED ALUMNI

**THE ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE** has the primary role of engaging alumni and keeping the college community informed on the evolving careers and accomplishments of our graduates. This enables us to celebrate their success, continue to support learning, and provide opportunities for graduates to give back.

George Brown College's more than 280,000 alumni are highly respected and valued members of the College's broader community and are vital partners in helping to fulfill College goals and objectives. With 65% of our graduates engaging with the college in some manner, it's clear that we are building mutually beneficial relationships. Many alumni are returning to campus to take advantage of lifelong learning opportunities, and many are hiring fellow alumni and hosting our students in work-integrated learning opportunities.

Graduating from college is a significant achievement and as a gesture of appreciation for all your hard work, we offer our graduates a well-deserved reward of significant discounts at selected restaurants, entertainment venues, and a variety of preferred services. These discounts can help alleviate some of the financial burdens often associated with transitioning into the workforce, enabling our grads to indulge in well-deserved leisure activities without breaking the bank.



We are proud that George Brown's alumni are powerful contributors to the College's positive and growing reputation.

**ALUMNI RELATIONS BELIEVES** that interested and engaged alumni are vital members of the George Brown community and we work towards providing alumni with valuable engagement opportunities that are designed to help you stay connected, expand your networks, and get involved. Alumni Relations offers a variety of activities that we are constantly growing to complement your success, talents and interests.

Our volunteer programs strengthen your commitment to your alma mater and meet your diverse personal and professional interests. To get involved reach out to us and let us know how you would like to engage with fellow alumni, students, and faculty at George Brown College. Click [here](#) to find out more.

# UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

**GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE ALUMNI** make incredible contributions to companies, communities and individuals every day. You are an important member of a network of George Brown graduates that is more than 280,000 strong and growing every year.

Over the years to come, your life will evolve. Keep the connections that you have made here alive and make new ones through the alumni network.

Stay connected by updating your contact information [here](#).

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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