



# WHO IS SHE?

The tributes have been rolling in, and we love reading about the amazing women in your lives. You've sent us stories about your moms, your partners, your sisters, and your daughters. You've sent in stories of teachers and mentors who were there for you at exactly the right moment.

It's not too late to honour an inspiring woman in **your** life with a tribute and donation to the Ban Righ Centre, you can visit our website at [queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/whoisshe](https://queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/whoisshe)



## Renata Quattro honours the Women of Ban Righ

"Who is she? They are the remarkable women who run the Ban Righ Centre, recognizing their invaluable contributions in fostering an environment of inclusivity, support, and celebration for women from all walks of life. In honoring the women who run the Ban Righ Centre at Queen's University, we celebrate not only their individual accomplishments but also the collective impact they have on the lives of countless women."

See more tributes on page 6 and visit the Ban Righ Centre website for more! [queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/whoisshe](https://queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/whoisshe).

## ACTIVITY AT THE CENTRE



### Front Lawn Concert

In the fall of 2023 we brought back our Front Lawn Concerts with two engaging performances. Danielle Hope (left) delighted Ban Righ folks and passers by alike with her “song-writing on the spot” along with her regular repertoire. Jenica Rayne (right) performed a selection of originals along with some old favorites. We are lucky to have such talented friends of the Ban Righ Centre!



### Holiday Lunch 2023

To celebrate the end of term, Ban Righ Centre Staff and our work study students prepared a holiday lunch in December to share with students. We ate together, and the lounge was full with laughter and lively conversation. It was a great way to connect before the holidays, and everyone left feeling satisfied.



## Winter Bazaar 2023

On December 7th we held our 8th Annual Winter Bazaar. Parents filled the lounge and chatted while the kids secretly “shopped” for gifts in the downstairs activity room, with the help of staff and board members. There were big smiles on the children’s faces when they emerged with bags filled with wrapped gifts for their families.

We shared a great meal along with a lot of laughter and stories.

Families at the Ban Righ Centre come from many countries, cultures, and traditions. For many, the Winter Bazaar is a comfortable, non-denominational way to participate what may be their first winter holiday celebration event in Canada. For students who have attended in previous years, the Winter Bazaar is a keenly anticipated tradition. One mom tells us that her young daughter refers to the Ban Righ Centre as “The Christmas House”.



## THE WOMEN OF BRC

### Delphine Ang

#### Bachelor of Health Sciences

I'm a second degree student in the online BHSC program. I was born in rural China and moved to Singapore at a young age for my education, and embarked on a classical music career after high school which gave me the opportunity to travel and perform in Europe. At the same time, I completed my Bsc. International Development through distance education from The London School of Economics and Political Science.

Fate brought me to Canada in late 2021, and despite the challenges I faced as a newcomer here, I eventually became a permanent resident in 2023. I obtained a job as a 988 responder after volunteering full time for the same organization for a year.

I want to give back to a country that has given me so much, so I set my sights on becoming a medical officer with the Canadian Armed Forces. That's why I chose the online BHSC at Queen's. While I had initial hesitations about being a mature student who lives far away from campus, the community at Queen's University has been wonderfully supportive every step of the way.

I'd like to share a quote from my favourite book, *Meditations* by Marcus Aurelius, that has kept me going even in the most challenging times.

*"...when the fire is strong, it soon appropriates to itself the matter that is heaped on it, and consumes it, rising higher by means of this very material."*

-Marcus Aurelius (the George Long translation, revised and updated, Dover edition, 1997)



## SAVE THE DATE

### Celebrate Our Students

# Ban Righ Foundation Spring Celebration 2024

The Ban Righ Foundation 2024 Spring Awards Celebration will be hosted on **Saturday April 27 at 2pm**. The event will be held next door to the Centre, in the Elspeth Baugh Fireside Room at Ban Righ Hall. Join us in celebrating the achievements and determination of mature women students at Queen's. Everyone is welcome.

The first Ban Righ Foundation Awards Ceremony was held in 1993. Originally held in the Fall and with only a small handful of awards, by the late 1990's the Celebration had been moved to the Spring, and new awards were added to the program. We now present 14 awards at the annual Ban Righ Foundation Spring Celebration.

While emergency financial assistance is an important support offered by the Ban Righ Centre throughout the year, the Spring Awards allows us to honour students in a public ceremony, to hear from the students themselves, and to celebrate the end of the academic year. It's a time to come together - student award winners, their families and mentors, Ban Righ Centre staff and Foundation board members, donors, and members of the Queen's and Kingston communities - to applaud the successes of mature women students at Queen's University.



# WHO IS SHE?



## **Hilary Sirman honours Carol (Saunders) Sirman**

“My mother is the greatest champion for education that I know. This gift is to honour all that she does to inspire her children and grandchildren to reach their highest potential in academics, athletics, and life.”

## **Franklin L. Wiebe honours Janice L. Sutton**

“Janice Sutton, who passed away in August this year, was my loving wife for 47 years. During this time she was always caring and generous. She supported many charities in our community and one of her two favourites was the Ban Righ Centre and she greatly enjoyed visiting the Ban Righ kitchen. I know she would be pleased and humbled to be recognized by the Ban Righ Centre.”

## **Naomi Mori honours Molly Higginson**

“Molly was a special person, intelligent, caring and witty... She was careful, I pushed for serendipity. She was thorough so I could be a little flighty. She was truly a wonderful friend who is missed by me and so many other people.”

## **Blake Noyes honours Tanya Noyes**

“My mom is my rock and my forever travel buddy. Thank you for always being there for me and ready to go along with any crazy thing I sign us up for. You have taught me so much and continue to inspire me with your strength and open heart. I look forward to our many more adventures together!”

Please join us by honouring the special woman in your life with a donation to the Ban Righ Centre. Honourees, their nominators, and family and friends will be publicly celebrated at our 50th anniversary gala on October 24, 2024.

[queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/whoisshe](https://queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/whoisshe)

## FRIENDS OF THE BAN RIGH CENTRE LEND THEIR SUPPORT IN SO MANY WAYS

### A Seasonal Gift

For a second year the Ban Righ Centre has received a \$3000 donation from Claude Chapdelaine (ArtSci '64), to help mothers buy winter clothing for themselves and their children. This donation was once again matched by the Estate of Larry Gibson.

*"I cannot adequately express how grateful I am for your kind contribution. This bursary will be immensely helpful, especially as a parent, as it will enable me to provide my family with basic winter gear. It means a great deal to me to have the financial assistance to ensure the well-being and comfort of my loved ones during the colder months."*

Performing live at  
Crossroads United Church  
690 Sir John A. Macdonald Blvd

SHOUT SISTER CHOIR

FEATURING

JENICA RAYNE & LYNNE HANSON

CHANTAL THOMPSON

FOSTER, SHEA, AND SUDAC

Monday, March 11  
7:00pm  
Admission by cash donation

In support of  
BAN RIGH CENTRE

### Shout Sister Fundraiser

Shout Sister Choir will be performing at Crossroads United Church (690 Sir John A. Macdonald Blvd) on Monday March 11 at 7pm.

Featuring performances by:  
Jenica Rayne & Lynne Hanson  
Chantal Thompson  
Foster, Shea & Sudac.

Cash admission at the door in support of the Ban Righ Centre.

Like the Ban Righ Centre, Shout Sister is all about inclusivity and building community. It was founded by Georgette Fry on the idea that music-making is for everyone, and that there is power and joy in singing together.

Georgette was a Ban Righ student decades ago, and in 2016 was the recipient of the Ban Righ Foundation Inspiring Women Community Leader Award. Jenica Rayne has several times provided music for our lunchtime concert series; Chantal Thompson was a Ban Righ Centre student while she was at Queen's, and has performed at our Inspiring Women events and hosted her own fundraisers for us.

# BAN RIGH FOUNDATION 50th ANNIVERSARY GALA

Don't forget to  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**October 24, 2024**

Watch your email, snail-mail, and our social media for events and programming in celebration of 50 years of the Ban Righ Foundation. More information about the event will be released soon.



## WHO WE ARE and WHAT WE DO





The Ban Righ Centre relies on a team of experienced staff to provide supports and services to mature women students at Queen's. It takes creativity, time, and dedication to stay connected with our students. We provide one-on-one student advising both in person and virtually, offer quiet study spaces, and student-centred programming including a daily lunch, professional development activities, and more.


### Ban Righ Centre Staff

- Susan Belyea - Director
- Lisa Webb - Student Advisor & Program Planner
- Taylor Cenac - Student Advisor & Program Coordinator
- Nikisha Grant Ridley - BRC Assistant

## STAYING IN TOUCH

The Ban Righ Centre welcomes visitors Monday - Friday 9am-4pm.

-  [queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre](https://queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre)
-  [instagram.com/banrighcentre](https://instagram.com/banrighcentre)
-  [fb.com/TheBanRighCentre](https://fb.com/TheBanRighCentre)
-  [youtube.com/@banrighcentre](https://youtube.com/@banrighcentre)

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## Ban Righ Foundation Board of Directors 2023-24

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