



Fall 2021

CELEBRATING ALL TOGETHER:

With a year of virtual celebrations under our belt, the Ban Righ Foundation has decided to combine our Inspiring Women Awards and Spring Celebration events this year.

We will be hosting this online event on International Women's Day, March 8th, 2022 at 7:00 pm. We have launched our Call for Nominations for the Annual Ban Righ Foundation Inspiring Women Awards, and put out a Call for Applications for the Student Spring Awards. We are excited about giving all these deserving women a chance to connect with, and to celebrate each other.

Check out our Website, Facebook page and Instagram for more information as we move forward on this exciting project.

Save the Date : March 8, 2022 @ 7:00pm

INSPIRING WOMAN 2021/22

Call for Nominations

Have you been inspired by a Faculty Mentor or a Community Member?

The Ban Righ foundation is seeking nominations for two awards:

Mentorship Award

Recognizes a current or retired Queen's faculty member who identifies as a woman, and who demonstrates mentorship and knowledge sharing. She supports women students in achieving their goals and has been inspirational to a student or students.

Leadership Award

Recognizes a Kingston community member who identifies as a woman, and who has been an inspiration in the community. Her leadership builds capacity and fosters opportunities for others.

Nomination forms are available by contacting brc@queensu.ca or at queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/inspiring-women



Call for Nominations
Ban Righ Foundation
Inspiring Women Awards
2021-22

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Awards will be presented in a pre-recorded online ceremony March 8, 2022

Deadline for Nominations November 19



STUDENT MATTERS/STUDENTS MATTER

Jazmin Eadie

My name is Jazmin Eadie and I am a psychology and education student. I aspire to get my master's degree and PhD in psychotherapy and clinical psychology after teachers college. In my second year of university, I got pregnant with my amazing daughter Harper. As excited as I was, I was hit with the first-trimester exhaustion of a growing baby, an increase in hormones, and a full course load. I attempted to find resources on campus and was beyond lucky to find the Ban Righ Centre. I was welcomed with open arms with a place to study without judgment, soup, nice people and most importantly for me, at the time, a place to have naps! I recall coming in whenever I was tired and having amazing naps and it honestly helped me get through my first trimester.



Photo of Jazmin Eadie and her family

Now I have an incredible and adorable one-year-old and anytime I am on campus I go to the Ban Righ Centre to study. The women I encounter at the center are determined and want the best for their children and their selves and I really admire everyone for putting their education forward. I love that there is a breastfeeding room and feel extremely safe studying here with covid since there are individual study rooms and good cleaning protocol. I also love that there is a changing table for days where I have my daughter and need a place to change her on campus. The incredible staff are always welcoming and willing to talk regardless of what you might have to say and it is really nice to feel like you have a place where you belong on campus!

Mother's Day 2021

In the spring, we realized that student mothers had been working extra hard through the pandemic all year - completing academic work while raising kids at the same time. The Ban Righ Centre celebrated these women by delivering dinner and flowers to the families and setting up a zoom get-together.



*"Wow thank you so so much!!!
This is incredible!! Is there
somewhere I could donate or
volunteer I love everything you
guys do!! We are so appreciative
thank you so much! "*



"You made the day a very special one for me this year and I'm so thankful for that! The roses have bloomed and just wanted to share the joy with a picture. They're so beautiful.. just like the beautiful people with beautiful hearts at the Ban Righ Centre."

BAN RIGH LEGACY DONOR

Maureen Ewan



Throughout her life, Maureen dedicated herself to others. Born in Edinburgh, she grew up in Liverpool. She met George when they were both at Edinburgh University, and in 1952 the newly-married couple immigrated to Canada, where George began his career as a physicist. Maureen worked as a social worker in Edinburgh and then in Montreal. She moved with George to Deep River and in 1970 to Kingston, where she became a well-loved student and study skills counsellor here at the Ban Righ Centre. In fact, we still call the little room on the second floor where she saw students "Maureen's Room".

George and Maureen were truly kind and generous people. During their lives, the couple created a bursary for Ban Righ students and provided discretionary funds for the Centre's greatest needs. They also established a lecture series at Queen's in Astrophysics.

When planning their estate, George and Maureen thoughtfully arranged a bequest for the Ban Righ Foundation in their will. We were honoured and deeply appreciative to have been remembered as part of their legacy. As with all charitable donations, estate gifts of any size make a difference to the work we do every day.

If you would like to learn more about including a legacy gift for the Ban Righ Foundation in your will or estate plans, we invite you to contact Carmen Vanderlinde, Associate Director of Gift Planning, to request a helpful estate giving information package. Carmen can be reached by email carmen.vanderlinde@queensu.ca or by calling 613 533 6000 ext. 79444.

GIFTS

The Ban Righ Foundation continues to receive generous gifts from our donors and for that we are truly grateful. Your contributions help us to assist mature women students and students who are mothers to achieve their dreams.

"The financial assistance has helped me to breathe lighter in the midst of achieving school and family balance. I am very grateful and thankful to Ban Righ for being a helpful hand to mature women."

Since our last newsletter, in celebration of her 102nd birthday, Jean Tucker-Galipeau, BA 1941, has created the Jean Tucker-Galipeau Bursary. This fund will provide much needed assistance to mature women students through Ban Righ.

Our sincere thanks to all of you who have made a priority out of giving to the Ban Righ Foundation this year. Your gifts – large and small – make a difference.

You can help us with our mission to provide mature women students and student mothers with the services and supports that help them thrive at Queen's University.

Donations can be made through our website at

queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/donate/making-gift

or mail a cheque made out to Queen's University (Ban Righ Centre) to:

Queen's University
Gift Services
Old Medical Building
99 University Avenue
Kingston, ON K7L 3N6

WHO ARE WE?

The ability of the Ban Righ Centre to provide supports and services to students relies on knowledgeable and dedicated staff.

Ban Righ Centre staff have been working harder than ever to provide student support via Zoom, email, and telephone. It takes creativity, time, and persistence to stay connected with our students. We provide one-on-one student advising; daily online drop-ins, provide quiet spaces to work, and offer targeted online programming including Daily Stretching, Discussion Groups, Guest Speakers and more.

Ban Righ Centre Staff

Susan Belyea: Director

Gamila Abdalla: Student Advisor

Lisa Webb: Student Advisor and Program Planner

Nikisha Grant Ridley: Administrative Support

STAFF PROFILE

Nikisha Grant Ridley

In early 2016 my daughter was born, and six months later my oldest, who was three at the time, was diagnosed with Non Verbal Autism. Due to his other medical needs and many different specialist appointments my son had at the time, my husband and I came to the decision that for our family it was best for me to become a stay at home mom.

In fall 2017 my son had started kindergarten, and I decided that I wanted to do something more in my life and go back to college. Luckily I was able to take advantage of an OSAP grant and went back with no cost to me.



Nikisha, her husband John, and her kids Kaian, Lily & Maverick

To prepare you for job hunting, the college has you fill out what you think your dream job would be. I didn't have huge aspirations, but I definitely thought that what I wanted would never exist:

- A job where there wasn't a large number of staff, where everyone kind of felt like family and not just a number
- A job where I could work during the hours of school, so I could do school drop off and pick ups
- Paycheque that would pay for more than just daycare
- Benefits

I think I applied to 30 jobs before I found the posting for the Ban Righ Centre. When I found it, I thought "This is it! This is where I want to work!" The Ban Righ Centre immediately sounded like where I wanted to be since it was a place to help mom's and mature students who may have found themselves in the same place I was.

I have been at the Ban Righ Centre since July 2018, and I still think. "This is it!"

"trust the process, believe in yourself"

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Sarah Kastner

I came to Queen’s University as a mature student, with two young children in tow, and was so grateful to learn about the support that the Ban Righ Centre offered students like myself. Friendly faces, a bowl of soup, emergency bursaries, and a feeling of belonging that was hard to find elsewhere on campus. When I graduated in 2018 with a PhD from the Department of English at Queen’s University, I felt a real mix of emotions. Even though I won the departmental award for best dissertation, I was still apprehensive when I received more good news: I had been awarded a SSHRC postdoctoral fellowship at York University. Still, it seemed like nothing could make me feel sure about my prospects in academia. During the second year of my postdoc, I decided to try and gain some employment experience outside of academia to help quell my worries about job prospects. The first job I got was (ironically) at the KEYS Job Centre in Kingston, where I coordinated a professional mentoring partnership program for newcomers. It was a humbling experience that opened my eyes more fully to the challenges that international



graduates face in this city, and it was rewarding to be part of each participant's journey. I joined the Workplace Inclusion Charter team at KEYS as an Inclusion Advisor, helping to design policies and practices to advance equity in local businesses and organizations. Around this time, as my postdoc was ending and the pandemic had started, I was lucky to land a remote position as Director of Social Development at the Native Women’s Association of Canada, where I led the development of policies and projects aimed at improving the lives of Indigenous women, girls, and gender diverse peoples. It was a rewarding experience, but not the right fit for me. After much soul (and job) searching, I started a new remote position this month at a strategic communications and advocacy company in Ottawa called Syntax Strategic, where I am a specialist in policy and advocacy. To help keep my feet firmly on the ground in this city, I joined the Kingston Arts Council Board of Directors and, in a wonderful full circle moment, I also joined the Ban Righ Foundation Board of Directors! It feels like everything is settling into place for me. To everyone reading this who might be feeling the same worry I felt just three years ago: trust the process, believe in yourself, and keep fighting for the future you want.

The Ban Righ Foundation board of directors helps to set policy and guides strategic planning for the organization. The Board is comprised of members of the Queen's community, alumnae, students, and community members.

Ban Righ Foundation Board of Directors 2021-2022

- Melanie Cote
- Sylvie Charlebois
- Connie Taylor
- Xin Sun
- Alka Sood
- Susan Belyea
- Lisa Webb
- Erin Clow

- Sarah Kastner
- Gabriella Castillo
- Ozlem Atar
- Nancy Butler
- Asha Varadharajan
- Ellie Sadinsky
- Blake Noyes
- Amber Hastings Truelove

BAN RIGH FOUNDATION SPRING AWARDS - APRIL 2021



The Ban Righ Foundation Spring Celebration is our annual opportunity to acknowledge the contributions and achievements of mature women students, and to bring together the community connected to Ban Righ; student and their families; donors, our Board of Directors, alumni, Queen's Administrators and staff, faculty and many others. While the awards are needs-based, the focus of the event is on the exceptional accomplishments and determination of the female students.

Watch
the 2021 Spring Awards on our website
www.queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre/events

This past spring, in light of COVID-19, the event was held as a Facebook Premiere event. Students provided videos, graciously and enthusiastically thanking Ban Righ and our donors for the awards.

I am so incredibly honoured to have received the Ban Righ Foundation Troup Ballantyne award. It's been really gratifying to have my academic accomplishments and my women's rights work recognized on this scale. I'm more motivated than ever to continue striving for excellence and meaningful change in all I do.

Ishita Aggarwal, Award Winner 2021

STAYING IN TOUCH

There are many ways to find out what is going on at the Ban Righ Centre. Our website has a whole new look and we regularly post about upcoming events on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. If you are in Kingston, we are always happy to welcome visitors in person at the Centre.



queensu.ca/ban-righ-centre



twitter.com/banrighcentre



[instagram.com/banrighcentre](https://www.instagram.com/banrighcentre)



fb.com/TheBanRighCentre

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

After many months of working remotely, we opened the Ban Righ Centre doors to students on September 7th. While we can still only offer a limited range of in-person services and supports at this time, we are busy welcoming new and returning students to the Centre. It is wonderful to see students face-to-face again.

We hope you have enjoyed this newsletter, and we'd love to hear from you. Please don't hesitate to be in touch.

Warm wishes,
Susan Belyea, Director, The Ban Righ Foundation