

Where Are They Now?

KFPA ALUMNI PROFILE



Ryan Egan – Participant 1986-95

Ryan was introduced to the Festival by his Grade 3 teacher—Pat Jarvis. After participating in a group choral performance with his class, Jarvis encouraged him to enter the Festival as a solo participant. During the nine years he was involved with the Festival, Ryan participated in solo and group classes and on several occasions represented Kamloops at the BC Festival of the Performing Arts.

Ryan cultivated a multitude of skills through his participation in the Festival, skills he's been able to apply directly to his professional pursuits.

Artistically speaking, "Any moment you are able to perform or get in front of an audience/adjudicator you are guaranteed to learn something new about the performance or yourself."

As an actor and TV personality/host, Ryan has appeared on *Saturday Night Live*, *Spun Out*, *Breakout Kings*, *Cold Squad*, and *Ruby Skye PI*. He's hosted CBC's *This is High School* after show, competed (and won) on *Come Dine With Me, Canada* and is currently involved in *Riverdale Rewind*.

Not really one for rules or structure, Ryan views himself as a free spirit and believes the Festival helped him understand the importance of being on time, being prepared, being respectful, and listening. Feeling like a kid who didn't quite fit the mold, Ryan recalls the Festival as being a safe place where he was free to express who he was and what he wanted to be.

"I loved the festival—it was my track and field day. It was my reach for the top competition. I don't know what kind of person I would've become without the Festival. It gave me an escape from a reality at school that wasn't awesome. Thanks for that!"