

Music Department Alumni

Danielle Purdy



What year did you graduate and with what degree?

2008, Music Performance - Voice

What have you been engaged in since graduating from WPC?

Since graduating, I completed a Master's in Music in the Community from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland where I studied music through social science and neuroscience. Essentially we were studying how music affects the brain and how that can be applied to various community settings. For my dissertation project, I designed and directed a musical theatre production with adults with developmental disabilities and PTSD in Bosnia. I moved back to Portland in September 2011 and have been working as a professional actor and singer ever since.

How did your education at WPC prepare you?

I was lucky enough to have some genuinely brilliant professors who challenged, encouraged, and pushed me in the direction of my goals and wouldn't accept any less than my capabilities, which, coincidentally, were much greater than I was able to see. The mere fact that five years after graduating, I still come to these amazing people for advice, both personally and professionally, speaks to the caliber of their care and crafting in my time with them. Any wild dream I have had has been met with, "Yes, and!" That kind of support is unparalleled.

If you had three words to describe the WPC Music Department what would they be?

Unexpected, Passionate, Encouraging