

Julie,

Congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone for you and for The Drama Studio. From my very first class at Balerno Church Hall (circa 1995 if my maths is right!) through so many years of classes all across Edinburgh, I know I am just one of the thousands of young people that you have helped become their true selves.

Thank you so much to Louise for pulling this together. It's made me remember years of afternoons, Saturday mornings and school holidays spent in Balerno, Colinton, Fairmilehead, Viewforth and so many more church halls; our now shared love of Cat Stevens, sparked by the wonderful Millennium Concert; friendships forged in rehearsals and backstage in theatres across Edinburgh; and - having lost my voice the weekend of an Adam House show - you once telling me "you'd make a good stage manager" as I scrabbled around in the wings.

It was encouragement like that which led me to chose the degree that I did, the profession I've now entered and the life I now lead. I'm lucky enough to live in London, to work in the West End and to make my living from theatre, but I'm just the exception - it's the young actors, singers, dancers, comedians and musicians who you encourage every week and who don't necessarily go into theatre, but go on to tackle everything they do with the confidence you give them that are the real successes of The Drama Studio.

Congratulations again to you, to your team past and present, to all of your students and to everyone at The Drama Studio - 20 years on.

All the best,

Andrew

Andrew studied Music, Theatre and Entertainment at LIPA and is now Sales and Marketing Manager at Digital Theatre