

I cannot believe that I first met Julie back in 2003, a whole 10 years ago, 7 of which I spent at the Drama Studio. When I was younger I seemed to have a bit of trouble finding a hobby that I was actually interested in and after attending classes and groups for various things, drama was the one that stuck. Even now, after just finishing my second year of University I have spent a lot of time producing shows up here in St. Andrews, touring them over to Dundee and have even been elected onto the committee which funds all the student productions. It is for these reasons that I was lucky to find Julie, discover something that I was really fascinated by and have been able to make so many friends through. Without Julie's passion and determination to get young people involved in theatre I definitely would not be the individual that I am today as it has given me so many opportunities to develop as a person, throughout my Drama Studio years and beyond.

There were so many ideas thrown about during the shows that we did together it is impossible to recollect them all, however I shall always remember a few as clear as day: reading my poetry at the funeral in the Death of Jimmy Brown; getting the chance to perform the Rime of the Ancient Mariner, such a famous and interesting piece; being the real villain, Pierre the pirate, who seemed so unassuming throughout the show; putting on the pantomime one year as the ugly step-sister (for which I still have a pair of purple and pink striped tights which I was wearing); and of course all the fantastic musical numbers from throughout the years.

For these memories and so much more I am thankful for Julie McDonald and her passion and creativity. Thank you Julie, you have done so much for me over the years and I really wish you all the best. It is amazing the Drama Studio has reached its 20th birthday and you deserve the recognition for its tremendous successes. Thank you Julie, you were and still are a star!

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