



**Trevor Barrette, actor and performer**

In my third year at JRHS, I joined the Actors' Studio, led by Louise Chalmers. This program changed my life! Ms. Chalmers' passion and direction were inspiring. She taught me how to work hard, make interesting choices and find truth in every character. I remember how she made the theatre space (now the Louise Chalmers Theatre) a sacred space. I am so grateful to have had the chance to work with her and to be in her final production before her retirement. After JRHS, I went on to study acting at John Abbott College's Professional Theatre Program and have since performed on stage at the National Arts Centre, the Segal Centre, Centaur Theatre, Geordie Productions and Repercussion Theatre, among others. My passion for theatre has also moved outside of acting as I've gone on to write, compose, direct and stage manage many productions.

I can also think of the impact that assistant teaching has made on me. In my final year of studies at JRHS, I decided to become an assistant teacher, rather than go into the sciences. I worked with students in the Resource program as well as younger drama students. It would take me a while to return to teaching, but in 2015 I joined the Montreal Children's Theatre as a musical theatre teacher, and am now teaching regularly at the Segal Centre Academy as well as the Geordie Theatre School. I have also had the pleasure of teaching workshops at McGill University, Hope and Cope, Pointe-Claire Senior Services and across Montreal through the English Language Arts Network.

Finally, I think of my experience working with the JRHS student council and attending their annual leadership camps. The memories I made with the student council last to this day. The opportunity too that it provided no doubt led me on my path to becoming President of the Montreal English Theatre Awards and Past President of the Quebec Drama Federation.