

FM Retention News



Where Are They Now? ... Jessica Mayfield class of 2007

In 2004 NYC resident Jessica Mayfield came to FM, not unlike many other students, unsure of her education and future career path. She did well her first semester and showed academic promise but developed the “Freshman Syndrome” her second semester and landed on Academic Probation. This seemingly unfortunate situation was a blessing in disguise for Jessica. As a requirement of Academic Probation, she had to enroll in a Career Exploration course. The results of the course assessments pointed toward her having a strong interest and affinity in TV and Film Production. Jessica knew this was the field she wanted to pursue.

Ultimately, she earned an **AA degree in Liberal Arts General Studies from FM**. After graduation she transferred to Virginia State and then eventually Long Island University-Brooklyn campus. Her FM credits transferred smoothly and she was able to earn a BA degree in Media Arts with a concentration in T.V., Film and Video Production/Directing in January 2010 from LIU.

Since graduation Jessica has been busy and is well on her way to becoming a Big Shot. She was one of 30 individuals selected out of 200 applicants into the “Made in NY” Program through the NYC Mayors Office. This is a program funded by the Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting. An initiative of the "Made in NY" program works with New Yorkers representing an inclusive range of race, gender, ethnicity, and physical ability working below-the-line in entertainment to build and strengthen their professional networks for the purpose of ensuring growth and long-term, fulfilling retention within the entertainment industry.

Through this program Jessica has worked as a Production Assistant on TV shows as Ugly Betty. She credits FM with helping her to find her career path and giving her a strong educational foundation. In addition, Jessica states she has made lifelong friends during her time at FM. Ultimately, her goal is to be a Film or Television Director and to make YOU a STAR!! There is no doubt Jessica will fulfill her dreams. Good luck Jess and remember your friends at FM when you make it to Hollywood.