

## Alumni Matters - September 2020



### You're invited to the new York Circle @ Home lecture series!

Join us for the launch of the 2020-2021 York Circle @ Home lecture series on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020. Hosted by Dr. Rebecca Pillai Riddell, Academic Chair of The York Circle, this virtual lecture series will showcase York's leading faculty members—from policy makers to molecular scientists—to engage in lively panel discussions and Q&A sessions on key themes related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The series will be held over four sessions throughout the year. **Registration is required.**

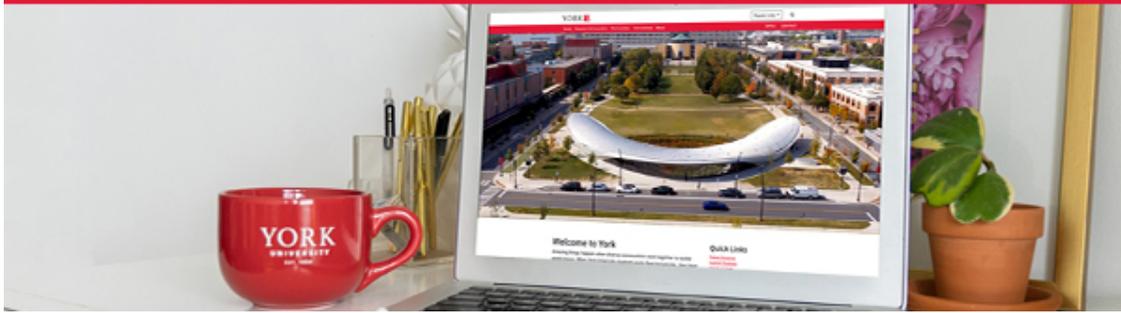
## NEWS



### York alumni featured at TIFF 2020

There will be no shortage of York alumni at the 45<sup>th</sup> edition of the Toronto International Film Festival. While this year's festival, which takes place from September 10-19, will be slightly reimagined to meet COVID-19 guidelines, the show will go on. Many of the talented directors, actors, producers and cinematographers behind the much-anticipated selection of films are proud York graduates.

## YORK NEWS



### It's here! York University launches first phase of new website

The York alumni community is invited to visit the University's new **website**, which launched on Aug. 31 with a modern design, enhanced functionality and an improved user experience. As part of the new pan-University web optimization strategy, the website underwent a major refresh to significantly improve the experience for visitors and infuse elements of York's new visual identity and brand. You will also notice a major update to the new and improved **Alumni & Friends website**.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**Amanda Martinez (IMBA '98)**

*Singer-songwriter*



### Alumni spotlight: Amanda Martinez (IMBA '98)

After graduating from York, singer-songwriter Amanda Martinez (IMBA '98) started working in the International Trade Finance Department at TD Bank. "That's when I started questioning my career choice," she says. "I took time off from work to re-evaluate and decided to pursue music, knowing that I was taking this big risk by jumping off a cliff to follow my heart." She's since headlined the Blue Note Jazz Club in New York, the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa, and the Pan American Games in Mexico and Canada.

## NEWS



### New Faculty to create climate crisis changemakers

As of Aug. 31, York University has a new and dynamic Faculty – the **Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change** (EUC) – ready to take up the challenges of the climate crisis, biodiversity loss and increased urbanization, and their impact on people and the planet. The new Faculty builds on existing academic and research excellence to become a leader in tackling environmental and social issues, and the climate crisis by bringing together the Faculty of Environmental Studies and the Department of Geography.

## THE YORK UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



### Selfie much? Framing the self in self-isolation

In the time of the coronavirus, life, it seems, has become one big selfie. The rise in popularity of Zoom and other face-fronting technologies meant to keep us connected while we stay apart – we're all in this together, remember? – means you can no longer escape yourself, even if you try. This new York University magazine article explores why selfies, even in a pandemic, continue to enthrall us.



**Classes** | Do you have news to share? Send us your photos and news and you could be featured in the York University Magazine.

## EVENTS



### Upcoming virtual events

**September 15: Launching York University's new Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change**, 4-4:45pm ET

**September 16: Scholars' Hub @ Home | Fast-Tracking Our Techno-Future: The Unanticipated Effect of COVID-19**, 12-1pm ET

**September 23: Scholars' Hub @ Home | Back to School Prep: Strategies to Help Your Kids Succeed in Math and Promote Family Literacy**, 12-1pm ET

**September 26: York Circle @ Home | At home and in school: Supporting children, youth and the adults who care for them during a pandemic**, 10-11:30am ET

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## PAST ISSUES

Dive into **our Alumni Matters archive** and see what stories you may have missed!



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