

BRIERCREST

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

"BCA Explore Your Career Event 2020" (v3)

Event Theme: "Every person is a minister; every industry is a ministry."

Plenary Sessions: "Finding Your Mission--In Whatever You Do"

The keynote and inspirational speaker for this year's Career Day comes to us via pre-recorded video. Megan Alexander, whose bio you can read below, will inspire and challenge us all to understand that, in any job, career, industry or environment we find ourselves working in--short-term or long-term, Christian-based or not--we are all ministers of God. We each have the distinct privilege and responsibility to do our work well and to minister God's grace and gospel to those we work with. We look forward to the day, interacting with our special guests and learning about how we can contribute positively to our current and future places of school and work.

[Megan Alexander](#) is an Emmy-nominated national news correspondent, author, speaker and actress. She can be seen every evening as a correspondent on the longest-running, top-rated syndicated national news magazine television show, "Inside Edition."

Since joining "Inside Edition" in the fall of 2007, Megan has covered a variety of news topics, including the last seven Super Bowls; she has swum with wild animals, tackled breaking political stories and interviewed celebrities. She is known for her sense of humor and her knack for putting people at ease while entertaining and informing the public. For the 2014 and 2015 NFL seasons, she covered "Thursday Night Football" on CBS. She currently hosts the popular sports podcast, "Women Talk Sport".

An actress and producer, her film credits include roles in the movies "Space Warriors," "Redeemed" and "Heartbeats" on which she is the Executive Producer; her television credits include "Nashville" on ABC and "Still the King" on CMT. Megan hosts the nationally televised Inspirational Country Music Awards each year from Nashville, TN. She sits on the Board of Trustees for the Hugh O' Brian Youth Leadership Foundation as well as the Advisory Board for The Pursuit of Harmony.

Ms. Alexander was born and raised in Seattle, WA and attended King's High School. She graduated from Westmont College with a degree in Political Science and served her senior year as the Student Body President. She previously worked with Fox 17, Metro Networks, KENS5, the CBS station in San Antonio, TX, and co-hosted the morning show "Great Day San Antonio" before joining "Inside Edition." She is also a frequent guest commentator on HLN, CNN, FOX NEWS, "The Wendy Williams Show" and more.

Her first book, [Faith in the Spotlight: Thriving in Your Career While Staying True to Your Beliefs](#), was released by Simon & Schuster on October 4, 2016. She has recently published a second book, a children's picture book, entitled [One More Hug](#). Megan splits time between NYC and Nashville, TN. She and her husband have two sons.

(Information adapted from <https://www.meganalexander.com/bio/>)

Breakout Sessions (Alphabetical Order by Category):

- Please note that some options are offered in more than one breakout session, as indicated.
- Students will receive their first choice for every session; as a result, pre-registration is crucial in order for us to adjust facilities to accommodate student numbers.
- Options are listed below and on the online form in alphabetical order and according to category.

Focus on Educational Institutions & Apprenticeship Programs:

Briercrest College & Seminary: College Success (Breakout #1 OR Breakout #3 BCS Rm 174 wing)

Presenter: Erin Gordon

Theme: You've learned a lot about history, literature, science, and math in high school, but have you learned how to learn? In this session, we will explore tools for learning that can lead to college success.

Website: <https://mybriercrest.ca/resourcecentre/support/>

Erin works as the Director of Student Success at Briercrest College. She has an MA in Education and is currently a doctoral student. As a student balancing multiple responsibilities, Erin is very aware of the need for good time management and learning strategies. Her passion is to help all students succeed in meeting their academic goals.

Briercrest College & Seminary: "Holding Onto Your Faith After High School" (Open only to grade 12s) (Breakout #2 BCA Rm 129)

Presenter: AJ Crocker

Theme: Five ways to hang onto your faith after High School

Only 33% of Canadian Christian teenagers hang onto their faith into young adulthood. This transition is long, hard and complex--but there is hope! A recent study gives us five key ways to hold tight, choose the narrow and follow Jesus faithfully into young adulthood. Regardless of whether you are planning on going to university, Christian college or entering the workforce, these five tips will help you navigate your next few years.

Website: <https://www.briercrest.ca/keepingthefaith/>

AJ has worked at Briercrest since 2008. He has served in many ways but we'll give you the highlights. He led our chapel program at BCA for over seven years. He has traveled the country as a youth speaker, served as a youth pastor and, more recently, was appointed as Vice-President for Briercrest Marketing and Recruitment teams. He loves Jesus, his wife (Mrs. Crocker), his three kids, Briercrest, sneakers, finding new music, eating fancy burgers, his dog Rocky and the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Briercrest College & Seminary: Information Session: "Thinking About Attending Briercrest? This is for you!" (Breakout #3 BCA Rm 129)

Presenter: Adam McNeil

Theme: Learning more about Briercrest College

Briercrest is a uniquely Christian college built on three pillars: Biblical learning, Christian community and exceptional education. Continuing your education at Briercrest is the best opportunity to deepen your faith, strengthen your community

and start your future strong. So what are you waiting for? Come to this Briercrest info session to find out if Briercrest is the best place for you next year!

Website: <https://www.briercrest.ca/>

Adam McNeil is an avid supporter of hipster coffee, black jeans and a Japanese version of ball-in-a-cup. After graduating in 2019 with a Business degree from Briercrest, he unashamedly travels throughout B.C., Manitoba and Saskatchewan, speaking at camps, conferences and schools, sharing the gospel and promoting Briercrest.

Briercrest College & Seminary: “Kaléo, A Leadership Program of Camp Qwanoes and Briercrest” (Breakout #1 BCA Rm 129)

Presenter: Jori Willems

Theme: Learning More About the Kaleo program and its connection with Briercrest

If you are thinking of doing a GAP year or want to do your first year of a Briercrest degree differently, this session is for you! The Kaléo program is a fusion of fully-accredited academics, foundational leadership training, close-knit community, outdoor adventures and ministry in camp, local churches and beyond. Come hear from two recent graduates of the Kaléo program as they share their experience.

Website: <https://www.kaleo.ca/>

Jori Willems graduated from Briercrest with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and a Diploma in Marketing from Saskatchewan Polytechnic. She started working at Briercrest in 2016 and currently works as the Assistant Director of Recruitment Marketing. Her favorite role, though, is being a mom. She loves reading, swimming, dancing, chasing after--and doing just about anything--with her daughter, Myla. Jori is married to our BCA Chaplain, Caleb Willems.

Saskatchewan Apprenticeship & Trade Certification Commission: “The Skilled Trades in Saskatchewan” (Breakout #1 OR Breakout #3: BCS Rm 134, Reimer Hall)

Presenter: Glynn Wright

Theme: Saskatchewan Youth Apprenticeship is a high school program designed to help students discover the rewards of working in the skilled trades through hands-on experience. It provides students with a head start on apprenticeship and a better understanding of the steps to journey person certification.

Website: <http://saskapprenticeship.ca>

Saskatchewan Polytechnic: “Welcome to Saskatchewan Polytechnic: Programs and Opportunities” (Breakout #2 OR Breakout #3: BCA Rm 200)

Presenter: Marlene Frechette

Marlene is the part of the Student Recruitment Team, and is based at the Moose Jaw Campus. In addition, she organizes and delivers on-campus experiences such as INSIGHT events, special events, tours and school visits.

Website: <https://saskpolytech.ca/>

University of Regina: Information Session (Breakout #1 OR Breakout #3; BCA Rm 107)

Presenter: Amy Dakue

Theme: We Are U of R

Discover what the University of Regina has to offer! We Are U of R! We are explorers, innovators, partners and doers. We are proud of our world-class facilities and exceptional programming. We believe that our greatest strength lies in the rich

diversity of our students, staff and faculty. We believe that many perspectives foster a well-rounded education and produces invaluable citizens of the world. Come and learn about the programs and student services we offer at the U of R. Now, more than ever, the world needs graduates who are intellectually sharp, humbly open, morally thoughtful and vocationally wise.

Website: <https://www.uregina.ca/>

Amy Dakue has a Bachelor of English from the University of Regina through Luther College. With 12 years of campus experience, as both a student and employee, she has acquired a wealth of knowledge on departmental programming, supportive resources, financial aid and living the Queen City life. Feel free to come by and ask questions--she loves to chat!

University of Saskatchewan: Information Session (Breakout #2 OR Breakout #3: BCA Rm 102)

Presenter: Ally Chertez

Ally is the Current Student Recruitment Officer at the University of Saskatchewan, and former student at the U of S. She convocated with both a Bachelor of Arts and Science with High Honours in Environment and Society and a Certificate of Proficiency in Sustainability from the University of Saskatchewan.

Website: <https://www.usask.ca/>

Focus on Ministry:

Careers in Missions: North America Indigenous Ministries (Breakout #3: BCA Rm 106)

Presenters: Cliff & Cheryl Reynolds

Theme: Are you a "Harvest Worker?" Living Outside the Box

God is choosing a group of strong, energetic, friendly, caring, intelligent and compassionate young people to live life outside the box. Are you one of them?

Challenge accepted?

Website: <https://www.naim.ca/>

Cliff and Cheryl have lived outside the box for a combined 55+ years and God has never failed. Life is exciting. They love sharing what God is doing in missions and helping others see God at work in their own lives.

Focus on Service Through Careers:

Careers in Business: "From Farm to Table at Fix. Coffee (Regina): Creating and Running a Local Business with Ethically-Sourced Global Goods (Coffee from Brazil)"

Presenters: Fabio & Cristina Maletta: producers, importers and retailers at Fix. Coffee

Theme: Fabio and Cristina, originally from Brazil, have created a business in Regina which combines the warmth of a local, downtown coffee shop with the quality of ethically, globally-sourced coffee beans and the expertise of professional Barista training. Native Portuguese speakers, they want to help you understand their journey from first visiting Canada to research the market to then immigrating to Regina from Brazil and developing their business from raw source to final product. They will share with you what it's like to move to a new country and to celebrate what's different, while also bringing along with them the rich cultural and culinary traditions of their homeland. As business owners and operators, they believe that "customers...are looking for hand-made items, ethically sourced items, items where they can connect with the business owner and know who made a product, and where, and how. We are part of this change at Fix" (quote taken from "Facebook Business Spotlight on Fix. Coffee" (see below).

Website: <http://fixcoffeeqr.ca/>

About: "Business Spotlight on Fix. Coffee":

<https://www.facebook.com/ReginaDowntownBID/posts/10155889252205974>

Careers in Carpentry: "Crafted With Care: Finish Carpentry, the Ins and Outs"

Presenter: Jesse Wright

Theme: Crafted With Care

This will be a session focused on expanding your knowledge of the business aspect of working for yourself as a finish carpenter, as well as providing a chance for you to get a hands-on fun experience working with wood.

Jesse Wright is a Briercrest employee who works at the Arena driving the zamboni. As a hobby and side job, he build cool things out of wood and has extensive training and experience in this area.

Careers in Education (Breakout #1 OR Breakout #2: BCA Rm 201)

Presenter: Shayla Alexander

Theme: The Road to a Career in Education

What you need to know to become a teacher in today's current university landscape.

Shayla is a teacher at Briercrest Christian Academy. She has taught grades 9 - 11 in English, Social Studies, Christian Ethics and Art. Shayla enjoys spending time with her dog and with friends.

Careers in Financial Services & Banking with the Royal Bank of Canada (Breakout #1 OR Breakout #2: BCA Rm 105)

Presenter: Bradley McClanahan & Scott Paquin

Theme: Changing the face of financial services

I will discuss the typical education requirements, places one can find employment, rough salary potential and what we are seeing in the industry going forward in terms of changes in technology and society needs.

I am originally from Boise, Idaho. I am a graduate from Briercrest Bible College and Briercrest Seminary. I started at Briercrest in the Fall of 1989. I also studied at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Polytech (back when it was SIAST) and Alberta Vocational College. I always had an interest in money and finance. I started buying individual stock shares when I turned 14 years old. I have been in the industry for about 15 years. I have worked for personal insurance companies and sold investments for some of the investment companies in Saskatoon. In 2005, I started my own brokerage firm (Edward Jones) and was the chief stock broker and trader for my branch. Shortly afterward, I worked as a Financial Advisor and Financial Planner for The Bank of Nova Scotia, the Bank of Montreal, CIBC and have spent the last 5 1/2 years with Royal Bank of Canada in Moose Jaw.
Website: www.rbc.com

Careers in Fine Arts: Writing & Publishing (Breakout #1: BCA Rm. 103)

Presenter: Chrissy Dennis

Theme: "Life as an Author"

"Chrissy M. Dennis carries a Masters of Divinity in Youth and Family Ministry. She loves working with teens and has felt the call of God to minister to the needs of youth in this culture. She hopes to continue writing, specifically regarding issues relevant to today's teens, offering a message of salvation and hope. Her first novel, *The Lion Cubs*, received positive reviews and deals with themes of abuse and abandonment." Excerpted directly from:

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5826990.Chrissy_M_Dennis

Chrissy published two novels this year, *A Sinking Star* and *Safe on Solid Ground*.

Careers in Fire Fighting & Front Line Services: MJ Fire Department (Breakout #1 OR Breakout #2: BCA Rm. 202)

Presenter: Rod Klippenstein

Theme: Learn about careers in the front line services, including fire fighting.

Websites: <https://moosejaw.ca/fire/fire-department>

<https://www.facebook.com/MJFireDept/>

Careers in Law Enforcement: Moose Jaw Police Service (with Canine Unit) (Breakout #1 OR Breakout #2: BCS Rm. 178 wing)

Presenters: Rodney Zoerb and Chad Scheske with Police Service Dogs from the Canine Unit

Website: <http://mjpolice.ca>

Careers in Massage Therapy (Breakout #3: BCA Rm 201)

Presenter: PJ Adkins, RMT

PJ Adkins is a Registered Massage Therapist who works and lives in Caronport.

PJ Adkins, Biography: I grew up here in Caronport. I've lived here for 34 years. I moved here when I was six and went to school here from grades one through 12. I grew up in a home that was a lot of fun. It was a place I went to when I got bored with friends...it was a place my friends loved to come hang out. I married young and had six kids. They are 21,19,14,13,11 and 9. Some of you will know I'm Matt and Faith's mom. I am a very laid-back kind of person who loves to laugh. I am the kind of person who can always see the positive things in life even when life gets really

hard. Our society teaches us to rely on feelings instead of truth. Learn to rely on truth--know your beauty and worth even when you don't feel it. Learn this when you're young and you will do well in life regardless of what is thrown at you. I say all this because this is how I got into massage therapy. I found myself in a life-changing situation. I suddenly became a single mom to six very active kids. At the time, all six were still at home and involved in drama, basketball, football, gymnastics, baseball and hockey. I had been a stay-at-home mom for 18 years and didn't want to miss out on one moment of my kids' lives. I wanted to be able to be at every practice, every game, every tournament and every drama performance. I decided I needed a job where I could still be at every possible event and still be "home" as much as possible, not working nights and weekends and never home--that's why I chose massage therapy.

Careers in Medicine: "Compassionate Care" (Breakout # 2 and Breakout #3: BCA Rm 103)

Presenter: Dr. Susan Bell, Family Physician and local provider of medical care at Caronport Medical Clinic.

Theme: Dr. Bell will explore her calling and training, as well as her educational journey towards becoming a family physician. She will share her heart for healing and caring for people through her chosen profession.

Website: <https://caronportmedical.vpweb.ca/>

Careers in Nursing (Breakout #1: BCA Rm 106)

Presenter: Sabina Wiensz

Theme: This session will give those who are interested in a career in nursing a better idea of what is needed to become a nurse, options of schooling, job and mission opportunities, one nurse's personal experiences, the challenges nurses face and why they love it!

Sabina Wiensz is a registered nurse of 15 years who has worked primarily in surgical and paediatric acute care settings but has also had short stints of nursing in Africa with Mercy Ships and as a student nurse.

SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:

This is a regular day of school and is part of our career education component; attendance is required as usual and will be recorded at every session. Students will gather at 8:25am for attendance in Edwards Chapel in advance of the 8:30am opening session; attendance will be taken by students' current CE teachers. For each of the three breakout sessions, attendance will be taken by the supervising teachers. Lunch will run from 11:30am to 12:30pm. We will assemble again as a large group at 2:00pm in Edwards for the second main session; attendance will be taken by each group's discussion leader (groups will be posted). The day will conclude at approximately 3:30pm.

The staff and students of Briercrest Christian Academy would like to warmly thank all of our presenters and booth representatives for working with us to make this day a meaningful and inspirational day for all of us! See you next year!