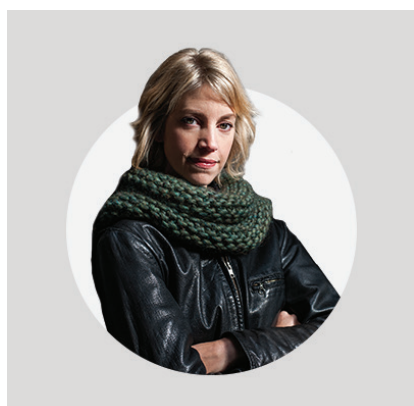




Artsci Alumni | Issue 2

Welcome to the second edition of the McMaster Arts & Science alumni newsletter. This time around, we have program highlights and news of grads making headlines for award-winning literature, important research, creative design, and local advocacy. As always, we encourage you to connect with us and share your stories so we can, in turn, share them with the wider Artsci community. Enjoy Issue 2!

Newsmakers



Artsci Alum Wins GG Award

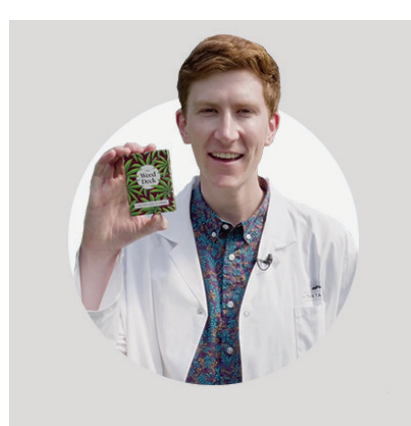
Sarah Henstra (1996) has won a Governor General's Literary Award. One of Canadian literature's most significant honours, the prize is awarded annually to Canadian authors who display literary excellence in a series of categories ranging from fiction and non-fiction to poetry and young people's literature.

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Artsci Alum Creates 'Weed Deck'

With cannabis now legal across Canada, Ben Barrett-Forrest (2014) has developed a unique deck of cards to help Canadians make informed decisions about cannabis use. "The Weed Deck" is a comprehensive and practical guide for both new and experienced users.

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Fighting on Behalf of a Hospital

Matthew Noble Wohlgemut (1998) is leading the charge against a Hamilton Health Sciences decision to move the obstetrics and surgical units out of West Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Grimsby, Ontario. This decision, it is believed, could effectively close the hospital.

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Artsci Grad Named Vanier Scholar

This past summer, Saad Syed (2016) was one of 11 McMaster University researchers to receive a Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, the Government of Canada's most prestigious grant for doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers.

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Program Highlights



In line with McMaster University's mandate to increase experiential learning in undergraduate studies, Arts & Science offers students a range of courses that take students outside the typical classroom setting. One such course is Urban Placemaking. Taught by Artsci grads Jackie Brown (2014) and Rosalind Pfaff (2013), this one-unit learning module explores the collaborative process of animating public and private spaces to strengthen the social and cultural fabric of cities.

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Arun Lakra, a Calgary-based writer and ophthalmologist, is the author of *Sequence*, this year's [Common Reading Program](#) selection. The Arts & Science Program joined with McMaster's Socrates Project to bring the author to campus 6-8 November for a workshop and the play reading with Artsci students, followed by an engaging career talk in LRW-3038 (the new C-105!).

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Notices, Reminders, and Events



• Special thanks to Anna D'Angela (2013), Rebekah Pullen (2013), Nathan Cupido (2016), Mack Gillies (2017), Varun Puri (2017), and Sarah Sandor (2018), who participated in the enthusiastically received Milk & Cookies & Grad Studies event for current students last month.

• If you are willing to participate in similar Milk & Cookies events, please contact Artsci Director Jean Wilson at wilsonj@mcmaster.ca. A reminder also to contact Mat Savelli at savellm@mcmaster.ca by 30 Nov. if you'd be willing to serve as an in-class co-facilitator and/or as an interviewee for this year's [Alumni Experience Inquiry](#) course.

• Please visit the [Alumni in the News](#) section of the Artsci website. There, we post links to articles about or referencing our grads. Recent posts include stories by or featuring Helen Kang (2002), Lisa Austin (1994), Kate Parizeau (2001), and Vivian Tam (2014).

• Please send in news items as well as notice of your awards or distinctions (we'll add the latter to our list of [Alumni Honours](#) on the website).

• As noted above, if you have interesting stories, we encourage you to share them with us so that we can share them further with the Artsci community!



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