

ICA ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES

Highlighting the stories of ICA's incredible alumni

Claire Flum

ICA Class of 2006



Major/Area of Study: Special Education

Current Occupation: Director of Student Services

Current Location: Cincinnati, Ohio

Name a memorable experience during your time at ICA: I was always terrible at Geography and failed most of Mrs. Kemmerer's tests because of it. She was almost in tears one day, so frustrated at my lack of map knowledge. She asked me to name just ONE country in Africa. From the front of the room, I turned around to look at a map, just as she told me not to look at the map! I panicked, remembered seeing an M on the map, and yelled, "MOSCOW!" ... Moscow is NOT in Africa. Don't be like me!

How did ICA help shape your career or life after graduation? I always knew that I wanted to be a teacher, but having Mrs. Lawson as a Grammar teacher confirmed my feelings. She was wonderful! Once I got to college, I decided I wanted to help those who needed it most and majored in Special Education instead.

What advice would you give to current ICA students or ICA alumni who are preparing for high school or college graduation? Keep the finish line in sight! Stay motivated, prioritize your studies, and set goals!

What's something you're particularly proud of achieving since graduation? I'm particularly proud of marrying my husband and having 3 incredible children that we get to raise in the Catholic faith as well. Watching them live out some of the same experiences I had at ICA, and seeing my daughter in the same uniform I wore, is such a blessing!

How have you given back or stayed connected with your alma mater? I taught at ICA for nearly ten years after I obtained my degree, and we now send our children there and have continued attending Church at ICC.

If you could go back and give your high school self one piece of advice, what would it be? It's easier to give this advice than to take it, but "being cool" and "fitting in" is far from the most important thing in your life. What IS important is being good and virtuous. Your friendship group will change through every phase of your life, and you will find your people - whether you were "cool" or not.

What are some of your passions or interests outside of work? I LOVE reading, taking walks, and going on little adventures with my family.

What is a favorite quote you'd like to share with our alumni and current students? "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." -Thomas Edison