

RowanAdvances

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Alumna gifts \$25,000 to support Rowan Radio students

At Rowan Radio 89.7 WGLS-FM it's the music that matters.

But, as generations of students have found, so are the lessons and connections that may be developed there.

Radio, Television & Film major Raquel Bruno '93, had such a good experience working at the station that she's gifted \$25,000 to the music library, which has been renamed in her honor.

A Leonia, New Jersey native, Bruno attended then-Glassboro State College for its robust communications program. "I was actually one of the only students at my high school who was looking for internships before college," said Bruno. "All the career forms they had us fill out—what I wanted to do was never on them. I was always very excited to start a career in broadcasting, even though I didn't know that's what it would be at the time, and I knew the program at Glassboro would be the best fit for me."

Once on campus, Bruno gained experience broadcasting sporting events, commentating, hosting a 1980s music show called "Pop Rocks, Kabangers and Clogs" and serving as music director for WGLS. She credits the station with helping her

develop a wide range of professional skills and industry connections.

"My time at WGLS was life-changing," Bruno said. "By giving back to it I hope to help keep this program special for Rowan students who also look forward to bright futures in the industry."

Bruno has worked for such iconic networks as Nickelodeon, TV Land and MTV Radio. She recently spent time in Thailand helping to produce the Miss Universe pageant, joined the Producers Guild of America and produced the ABC/Disney Holiday specials for the fourth year in a row.

Currently, Bruno is the owner of a New York City production and talent agency, DRIVE Entertainment Group.

"There is no typical day in this business," said Bruno. "We are talent bookers and producers, so there are a lot of nuances that go into each of our projects. We also work on getting talent to support nonprofits. So many different things, no day is ever the same, which is why I love what I do."

Bruno said her ties to her alma mater still remain crucial even as she works to build her business, and that she hopes to use her own experiences to help students in the RTF program as much as she can.

Bruno visited campus last spring and encouraged students to take advantage of opportunities afforded by participation in Rowan Radio.

"There are so many wonderful opportunities in the industry today, far more than when I was trying to land my first job," she said. "Students now have the resources to go faster and farther than ever before, so I want to do what I can to help them execute on their own unique potential."