



Cynthia Kennedy

A first-generation Canadian with Armenian parents born in Lebanon, Cynthia attended John Abbott from 1989 to 1992 after finishing her high school studies at Collège Beaubois in Pierrefonds, Québec. She graduated from John Abbott with a DEC in Health Science after taking three years, not two, to complete her studies, having discovered her true calling in student life. Her involvement in Student Congress, Academic Council, the Board of Governors and SUJAC led to her winning the Outstanding Student Service Award in 1991. She served as Vice President Academic of the SUJAC Executive in 1991-1992, and her involvement in implementing teacher evaluations, library modernization, enhanced academic support as well as social activities such as Springfest and Multicultural Day led to a second Student Service Award in 1992. Cynthia was the first and only student ever invited to speak at the Faculty and Professional Day in 1991, at the JACFA “Challenge of Change Conference” to speak on behalf of students regarding the generation gap between teachers and students.

The passion that was sparked by Cynthia’s experience at John Abbott College inspired her to take her university studies in a different direction, and she completed a Bachelor of Arts at McGill University in History, Economics and Political Science.

Cynthia started her career at Montreal-based animation company Cinar in 1995. She relocated to London, UK in 1998 and worked for several television production companies and broadcasters such as the BBC, Channel 4 (UK), A&E (USA), Keshet (Israel) and ITV (UK). In 2016 she moved to the Netherlands to work for John de Mol’s media company Talpa. Throughout her career she has been responsible for international launches of iconic TV shows such as Homeland, Dancing with the Stars, The Office, and The Voice.

In 2022, Cynthia was appointed Vice President, Distribution at Québecor Media, where she oversees all international distribution activities of the group and bringing Canadian content to audiences around the world.

She is currently completing her Executive MBA at Nyenrode Business University in Breukelen, the Netherlands, and with her passion for serving her fellow students as strong as ever, she was voted Student of the Year in September 2022.