



SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



## *Panther Connections*



### Casey Tharpe '19

Casey Tharpe, class of 2019, graduated from SVCC with a General Studies Associate degree. Casey also graduated from Radford University Carilion and now works in Mary Washington Hospital as a Respiratory Therapist. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Healthcare Administration. Casey says SVCC gave her a great transition into her other college experiences. SVCC taught her how to thrive in college before leaving home to further her education with Radford.



### Cole Feinman '23

Cole Feinman, class of 2023, graduated from SVCC with a Welding Career Studies Certificate. He attended SVCC as a dual-enrollment student from Randolph-Henry High School. Cole currently works for Phenix Land Management. Cole says he very much enjoyed getting to attend SVCC as a dual enrollment student. He got to experience hands-on learning at a level that was not available at his high school. To further his education, Cole plans on attending SVCC's Diesel Technician program starting in October.



### Christian Reed '17

Christian Reed, class of 2017, graduated from SVCC with a Welding Certificate. He went on to graduate from Hampden-Sydney College, where he majored in Physics and minored in Environmental Science. Christian now works for Ontario Hardwood in Keysville as a supervisor. Christian says that attending SVCC gave him a feeling of pride. He was able to learn an in-demand skill through hands-on teaching with his instructor.



## Brayson Arrington '23

Brayson Arrington, class of 2023, graduated from SVCC with a Automotive Tune-Up Career Studies Certificate. Brayson is from Charlotte County, and he currently works for Clowdis Farms. He plans on attending SVCC's Diesel Technician program later this year. Brayson says attending SVCC made him excited since he got to learn new skills that helped him in everyday life. In his spare time, Brayson volunteers with the Red House Volunteer Fire Department.



## Melissa Jones '17

Melissa Jones, class of 2017, has graduated from SVCC with a Phlebotomy Certificate, a Practical Nursing Certificate, and an Associate Degree in Nursing. Melissa has also graduated from Chamberlain University with her BSN. She is from Brunswick County and currently works at VCU CMH at The Hundley Center in South Hill, where she is an Infection Preventionist. Melissa says SVCC gave her the guidance to achieve her career goals. She says SVCC's Nursing program prepared her well for her BSN program.



## Shawn Howard '00

Shawn Howard, class of 2000, graduated from SVCC with an Associate degree in Electronics Technology, a Certificate in Applied Electricity, and a Career Studies Certificate in Cisco Internetworking. Shawn also graduated from American InterContinental University with a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology. He currently works in Prince Edward as an Information Technology Manager. Shawn says SVCC allowed him to simultaneously start a career in the IT field and pursue a degree to help further his career.

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If you are an alumni, please contact **Meredith Dawson** to be featured in an upcoming Alumni Spotlight! You can reach her at [meredith.dawson@southside.edu](mailto:meredith.dawson@southside.edu) or 434-736-2023. We love to hear from our past students!

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