

A Birthday Interview with R.B.

You're celebrating 10 years at ACC, what'd you do in your first celebration?

Aha, it all started at the Northridge Campus back in 2010. We had a massive crowd that couldn't wait to see the new logo and yours truly, the new mascot. The emcee also debuted my theme song, the "R.B. Step," and we introduced the crowd to the new dance steps.

You've seen some changes over the years, like having a remix of the R.B. step, your R.B. Sightings pages where ACC family can travel with you — but what's been the most significant?

The biggest significance is how not just people at ACC but the people around the district have welcomed me and the brand with open arms and really embraced "ACC Riverbats" into their lives and families. Hearing people recognize you while you are on the street or in a stadium is something that I'll always cherish.

What's your favorite thing about being ACC's mascot?

Through it all I'd have to say the biggest thing is being a part of a legacy, the Riverbats legacy and what it means to the history of Austin Community College. With every new dance move, blog post and event (sweat, sweat and more sweat), if I can help bring the community of Central Texas together and bring more students to college — well, then it's all worth it.

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Birthdays have been hard for many, as we're faced with how to celebrate in a pandemic. What are you doing for this year's celebration?

Birthdays, anniversaries and any special celebrations happening during 2020 have become one-of-a-kind, memorable, and hard to celebrate because of social distancing, and mine is no exception. This year marks my 10th birthday, but it's also the anniversary of ACC's Riverbat brand and image, so it's a pretty big deal. We have a few surprises and special events lined up this year and we're kicking it all off this month. There will be social media posts where we'll share flashbacks from the past 10 years of the brand and myself along with videos with behind the scenes interviews, contests, trivia and prizes. In honor of my birthday, Student Life is hosting a virtual Animal Crossing party on Facebook! Students, faculty, and staff are invited to come to the virtual party on #RBIsland in Animal Crossing, on Wednesday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m.
Hope to see you there!

What does Go Purple Day mean to you and how are you celebrating it this year?

Go Purple Day is on November 18, when we go all out and celebrate our Riverbat pride! For everyone working at the college (Including myself, haha) it's a day when we remember why we do what we do. We're asking everyone to wear purple or their favorite Riverbat gear that day.

What do you plan on doing for your 20-year celebration?

Not sure yet, but "the sky's the limit" — get it? Hahaha!

Help us celebrate R.B.'s birthday November 16 - November 20!

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