

The media world is changing ... and one program at Maples Collegiate is changing right along with it.

Channel 7 Oaks TV – the school's broadcasting program – provides techsavvy and production-minded students the opportunity to learn multimedia skills in real time, as trends in technology and production evolve.

"I started off learning to work with cameras, doing small interviews and editing all my projects," says Rahiek Mohammed, a Grade 12 student currently in his fourth and final year of the program. "From there I realized I had a real knack for directing, which lead me to directing a majority of the live shows we film at school and post on our website. That led me to have skills I can use on many platforms, like YouTube video making, artistic music videos and simple things like photography."

Participants in the program, which began in 2011, act as both the live and

studio production crews, filming school and divisional events such as concerts, theater productions, sports tournaments and dance recitals. They learn editing, photography, directing, audio set-up, story-building and camera work – all skills that can be used for personal projects or live productions today and beyond.

The unique experience blends academics and passion projects, providing students with a solid production background and a springboard to their future, if they choose this path long-term. "I just like being there because I'm surrounded by

people who like the same things as me," says Kristine Eulalia, who plans to study Fine Arts following graduation this year. Kristine's interest began in an elective Film and Broadcasting course and grew from there.

She's not alone.

"It's not just learning with a pen and paper," says Harvir Brar, who has been in the program for four years. "It's more hands-on because you don't learn just one thing, you get to explore and experiment beyond what everyone else does."

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