

# ALEXANDRA SOSIK

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## EXPERIENCE

### ***Capital News Service, Reporter***

January 2018- Present

- Reported on state government for Virginia media outlets
- Filmed Inauguration of Va. Governor Ralph Northam and RVA Women's March
- Covered the March For Our Lives in D.C.
- Collaborated with fellow reporters to write long-form stories

### ***WBBT, NBC 12 News, Richmond, News Intern***

February 2018- Present

- Collaborated with reporters to deliver the news for both the evening and nightly news
- Researched and Interviewed sources for packages alongside reporters
- Utilized Edius to edit interview clips
- Shot stand-ups and mock live-shots pertaining to news stories

### ***WTVR, CBS 6 News, Richmond, News Intern***

September- November 2017

- Worked with morning show reporters from 3:30 a.m.-12:30pm.
- Assisted in setting up live shots
- Shot stand-ups for reporters and myself
- Conducted interviews with reporters

### ***iPad Journos—Student Contributor, WTVR CBS 6***

September- December 2017

- Reported on the 2018 Virginia gubernatorial campaign and conducted interviews with candidates
- Produced multimedia stories for CBS 6 online
- Utilized iPads to shoot and edit interviews to supplement stories
- Shot video and photos with 360 degree cameras

### ***VCU Insight, Reporter***

January- May 2017

- Researched, wrote, filmed, recorded and edited news packages that aired on WCVE Richmond PBS
- Conducted two on-set interviews with people of interest and relevance to the VCU community
- Anchored two episodes of VCU Insight
- Produced one episode of VCU Insight

## EDUCATION

### **Virginia Commonwealth University Richmond, Va.**

August 2018

Bachelor of Science: Mass Communications

Concentrations: Broadcast, Print/Online Journalism

**Honors:** Dean's List 2015-2018

# From doughnuts to dancing, 'The Bachelorette' films in RVA hot spots

[wtvr.com/2018/04/10/from-doughnuts-to-dancing-the-bachelorette-films-in-rva-hot-spots/](http://wtvr.com/2018/04/10/from-doughnuts-to-dancing-the-bachelorette-films-in-rva-hot-spots/)

By Capital News  
Service

April 10, 2018



Becca and a contestant on a 1-1 date at the Veil Brewing Co. on April 7 (Credit: Reality Steve)

RICHMOND, Va. – The Bachelorette is in town and looking for love – and Richmonders love to look for her.

Fans of "The Bachelorette" have been in a frenzy since photos of the hit ABC reality show filming in Richmond surfaced on social media over the weekend.

Rebecca "Becca" Kufirin, the show's current love interest, was spotted filming a one-on-one date at Sugar Shack Donuts on Lombardy Street on Saturday. The shop posted that it would be closed to the public from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"She seems super down-to-earth and the kind of person that would live in RVA in real life," said Peyton Hannon, 23, who attended a taping of the ABC reality show on Monday night at the Carpenter Theatre in the Dominion Energy Center.

Hannon said she and more than 1,000 other fans were told to arrive at the theater at 7:30 p.m., but Kufirin and contestant Leandro Dottavio arrived closer to midnight. The pair danced on a stage surrounded by fans as they were serenaded by Australian country music singer Morgan Evans.

A Twitter account by the name of “TheBachelorTV” invited Virginia “Bachelorette” fans to participate in the show’s taping with a tweet on Thursday: “Virginia #bachelornation it’s your turn! Come on a date with Becca and her men this Sunday 4/8!!



Becca and a contestant walk into Sugar Shack Donuts on Lombardy Street on April 7  
(Credit: Reality Steve)

Email [BachelorRSVP@gmail.com](mailto:BachelorRSVP@gmail.com) now to save your spot #thebachelorette.”



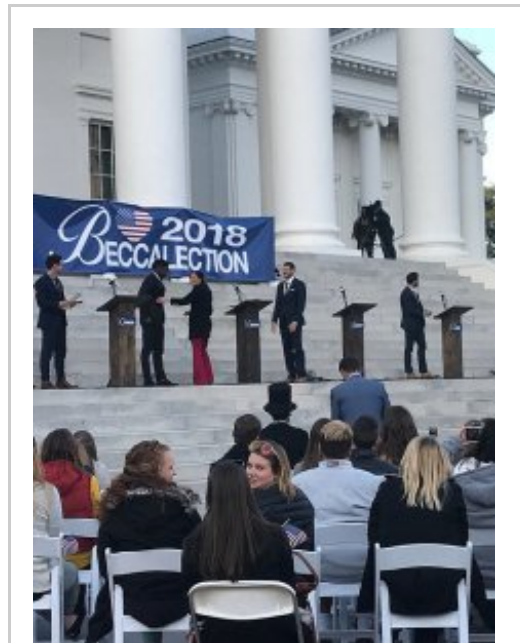
Kufrin, 28, is originally from Minnesota. She was announced as the next bachelorette after unedited footage was televised showing bachelor Arie Luyendyk Jr. breaking up with her to pursue a relationship with runner-up Lauren Burnham.

Reality Steve, a “Bachelor” blogger, officially tipped off fans that the cast and crew had arrived when he tweeted photos of Kufrin and Chris Harrison, host of “The Bachelorette,” filming at the Quirk Hotel on Saturday.

Kufrin was also spotted by fans several times on a private trolley ride around Richmond, making stops at the Veil Brewing Co. and the Edgar Allen Poe Museum.

On Sunday, a group date was filmed at the Capitol, where a banner displayed “Beccalection 2018.”

“The group date was essentially an election debate,” said “Bachelorette” fan and VCU nursing student Sarah Daniel.



A group of men participate in a group date at the Capitol where they debated why each of them would make the best partner for Becca.

April/8 (Credit: Reality Steve)

Daniel said Harrison, Becca and men dressed as Abraham Lincoln and George Washington asked the contestants questions to decide who would be the best partner for Becca.

Harrison has been spotted by many fans trying to guess where he might pop up next.

CBS 6 reporter Melissa Hipolit said she and her friends decided to eat dinner at Graffiato, an Italian restaurant next to the Quirk Hotel, hoping to catch a glimpse of the action. They never thought Harrison would walk through the doors.

“We never expected to be sitting down to eat and have him literally sitting behind us,” Hipolit said.

Sherri Zhang, who was with Hipolit, said she was surprised when Harrison initiated a conversation.

“He saw my friend taking a pic of him, and when he walked by our table to be seated, he actually talked to us first,” Zhang said.

Hipolit said Harrison asked them how the food was and even took an interest in their jobs. She said Harrison told her he watches the local news wherever he travels. “I told him I was a local news reporter, and then one of my promos came on the television and I pointed to it.”

Season 14 of “The Bachelorette” premieres on May 28 on ABC. The Richmond episode is expected to air in July.

***By Alexandra Sosik/Capital News Service***

***Capital News Service is a flagship program of VCU’s Robertson School of Media and Culture. Students participating in the program provide state government coverage for Virginia’s community newspapers and other media outlets, under the supervision of Associate Professor Jeff South.***

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## 'March For Our Lives' draws huge crowd to D.C. in plea for gun control

By Adam Hamza and Alexandra Sosik, Capital News Service Mar 25, 2018 Updated Mar 27, 2018



©P3241929 Teachers W Signs Although there was some sporadic chanting by participants during the March For Our Lives rally Saturday March 24, 2018, most messages were quietly displayed on posters. ©Marty van Duyne/News Net News  
Marty van Duyne ©Marty van Duyne/News Net News

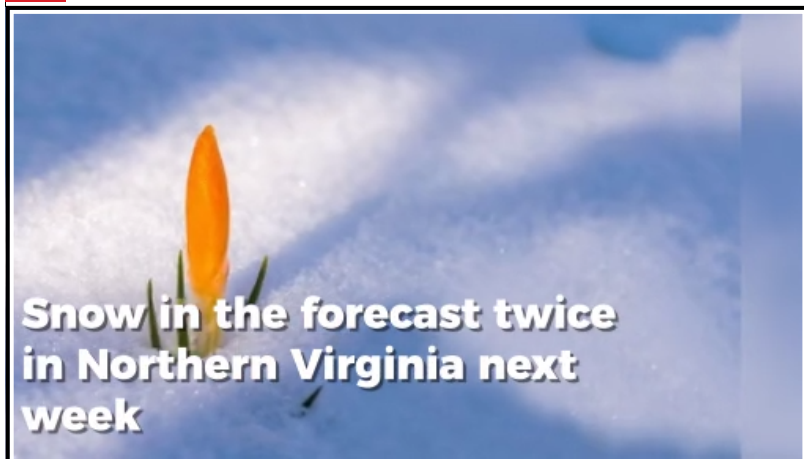
Hundreds of thousands of people from around the country rallied in the nation's capital Saturday to send a single message to lawmakers: Enough is enough.

David Hogg, a Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School senior and event organizer, said it's time to remove politicians supported by the National Rifle Association because "this isn't cutting it."

“To those politicians supported by the NRA, that allow the continued slaughter of our children and our future, I say: get your resumes ready,” Hogg said.



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The demonstration was the work of Hogg and fellow students at the Parkland, Florida, high school where a gunman killed 14 students and three staff members on Valentine’s Day. Saturday’s March for Our Lives – and more than 800 sister marches around the world – was a response to that massacre.

Georgia native Adam Marx, 27, said he was most impressed by how the students have risen up in this movement.

“These students are leaders,” Marx said. “It doesn’t matter if you’re 16, 17 or 27 ... age is a number. [Having a] mission, passion or vision for what we want to have for people living here, that’s not restricted to a number. It’s that simple.”

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School sophomores Jorgie Garrido and Anna Bayuk were among many of their fellow students at the nation’s capital. They described the atmosphere in one word – unity.

“To see all the people that came out, the students, and especially the non-students, it’s really reassuring,” Garrido said. “It provides a sense of unity where you can see how many people are standing with you, how many people are supporting you, and how many other people are also

demanding change in this country. “

Garrido knew Helena Ramsay, 17, and Carmen Schentrup, 16, and Bayuk knew Jaime Guttenburg, 14, who were killed in last month's shooting.

“I know that my friends, if they had survived and other children had died, they would be here too,” Garrido said. “They would be fighting for the same things we are. To know that we're trying to guarantee that no other child ends up like they did, shot dead in a classroom, I think that that's the best way to pay respect to them.”

Bayuk said she and her classmates will be transitioning back into their routines after they travel home, but they will keep advocating for stricter gun laws.

“We're going to be moving on and trying to get back to everyday life, but there's a new normal, and we can't just sink back into complacency and sink back into being quiet,” she said.

#### MORE INFORMATION



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Students hold walkouts to call for action on gun violence





# In walkout over guns, Richmond-area students say 'enough'

 [wtkr.com/2018/03/14/in-walkout-over-guns-richmond-area-students-say-enough/](http://wtkr.com/2018/03/14/in-walkout-over-guns-richmond-area-students-say-enough/)

By Capital News  
Service

March 14, 2018



RICHMOND – One month after the massacre that killed 17 students and staff at a Florida high school, Richmond-area students joined their peers across the country and walked out of their schools at 10 a.m. Wednesday to protest gun violence.

The international protest was promoted by EMPOWER, the youth branch of the Women's March. Students around the world participated in #NationalWalkoutDay by leaving their classes for 17 minutes to honor the 17 lives lost when Nikolas Cruz opened fire at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on Feb. 14.

"We're taught from Day One to stand up for ourselves. That's what we're doing," Maxwell Nardi, a senior at Douglas S. Freeman High School in Henrico County, wrote in [an essay](#) published in the Richmond Times-Dispatch. "We're walking out of school to say we've had enough. We're walking out for our lives."

More than 20 Richmond-area schools participated in the walkout. At Freeman High School, students gathered on the baseball field with signs stating, "Enough is Enough."

Karen Allen, a mother of three Freeman High School graduates, stood outside the high school holding a sign that read, "In solidarity with the students!" Allen, who has grandchildren in grades ranging from kindergarten to middle school, said she and her children worry about their safety.

"People have stopped listening to adults," Allen said. "Maybe if the kids come out and say what they think – they're the ones in danger right now, and they're having an impact on this nation right now."

The nation will have another chance to echo their message on March 24 in Washington D.C. at the March for Our Lives, organized by Parkland survivors. So far, about 740 marches have been registered worldwide.

The Richmond March for Our Lives will begin at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School, 1000 Mosby St., and go across the MLK bridge to the state Capitol grounds before ending at the Bell Tower.

*By Sarah Danial and Alexandra Sosik*

*Capital News Service*

# Women's March In Virginia Capital Draws Over 1,000

[P patch.com/virginia/richmond/women-s-march-virginia-capital-draws-over-1-000](https://patch.com/virginia/richmond/women-s-march-virginia-capital-draws-over-1-000)

January 20, 2018



By Ryan Persaud and Alexandra Sosik, Capital News Service

RICHMOND, VA – Demonstrators took to the streets of Carytown on Saturday for the second annual Women's March, recalling the demonstrations a year ago when hundreds of thousands of people gathered in Washington and cities around the world to protest President Donald Trump's inauguration and the GOP's stance on issues such as women's rights and immigration.

Hundreds of demonstrators held up signs that ranged from mocking the president to promoting equality. They chanted phrases such as "This is what democracy looks like," "Women's rights are equal rights" and "Coexist."

Kim Young, a demonstrator who missed the Women's March last year due to health issues, said she was excited to attend Saturday's event. "It's about freedom, choice, 'Love is Love,' [and] showing the president that not all Americans in the United States are in agreement with him," Young said.

The Richmond demonstration was one of many across the country Saturday. Brigitte

Newberry, a demonstrator who attended last year's Women's March in D.C. and a counterprotest against the Confederate statues on Monument Avenue in September, said it is necessary to resist the current administration.

"I feel like it's important that women unite together," Newberry said.

Kathe Wittig, a retired Virginia Commonwealth University faculty member who participated in anti-war protests in the 1970s, said she worries that Trump's policies will set society back decades.

"We have to let the world know that we're not going to sit back," Wittig said. "He is a disaster."

Gov. Ralph Northam also joined event organizers in leading the march. Northam helped carry a banner that read, "Women's March RVA."

Mary Leffler, one of the organizers of the event, attended the 2017 Women's March in D.C. As the anniversary approached, she looked for whether others locally were commemorating that demonstration.

"I sought out to see if there was already a march happening, and there wasn't. So I made a few phone calls, called the city manager's office, helped decide this location and then just started spreading the word," Leffler said.

Leffler said she was surprised at the size of the crowd. "We've had estimates of a little over 3,000 – some more like 1,500," Leffler said. "We're thrilled."

Mark Loewen, a children's book author, brought his family with him, including his 5-year-old daughter.

"We talked about girls can do anything that boys can do, and that girls should be making the same amount of decisions that boys make," Loewen said. "We're so excited about women's voices getting stronger, and we need them to be stronger."

Members of the National Organization for Women, which advocates for equality for all women, were also in attendance. Andrea Lancaster, president of NOW's Richmond chapter, said she was pleasantly surprised by the event's turnout.

"A few of our board members, me included, went up to the march in D.C. last year, which was overwhelmingly huge, so we didn't know what to expect from Richmond," Lancaster said. "It's exciting to see how much momentum the movement still has."

NOW and other groups are urging the Virginia General Assembly to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The ERA would explicitly state that women have the same rights as men in the U.S.

ERA supporters believe that if two more states ratify the amendment, it will be added to the Constitution. There is a legal debate about that because the deadline to ratify the ERA has passed.

According to Lancaster, Virginia has become a focus of ERA proponents because Democrats have gained power in the General Assembly. Last fall, the Democratic Party picked up 15 seats in the House; however, Republicans still hold a 51-49 majority.

Lancaster said there is a need for a constitutional amendment guaranteeing women equal rights.

"If you ask a lot of people in the streets, they think we already have that," Lancaster said. "But we don't, and there is no constitutional protected equality."

*Photos of Richmond Women's March 2018 by Kim Young, Capital News Service*



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