



SRJC Alumni & Friends

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When Ryan Reynolds proposes marriage to you, most people would happily accept.

For Max Scoville, it was just another day at the office. The SRJC alumnus interviewed Ryan Reynolds recently about the *Deadpool 2* movie for entertainment site [IGN](https://www.ign.com). Max shared with the actor his longtime love for the Deadpool character and a book report that he had written in fifth grade. Ryan was so impressed with Max's dedication to the character that he offered to marry him.

(Watch Max's interaction with Ryan Reynolds here: <http://time.com/5281011/ryan-reynolds-marriage-proposal/>)

Max's journey to the red carpet started at Santa Rosa Junior College. After graduating from Sonoma Valley High School, Max found his way into journalism, media and the entertainment industry due to his experience working on SRJC's award-winning student newspaper, the [Oak Leaf](#).

"The Oak Leaf was a huge opportunity for me. A fellow Sonoma Valley High School graduate, Will Cooley, was the editor-in-chief and he reached out and asked if I wanted to write columns or draw comic strips. I found Anne Belden, the advisor for the paper, to be incredibly welcoming and learned so much."

Max sings the praises of community colleges any chance he gets. "I'm a big proponent for community college. It gives you the chance to figure out what you want to do without racking up massive student debt. You get shot out of a cannon at 18 years old and are expected to know what you want to do for the rest of your life. I was able to try different things at SRJC and develop a range of skills that I later used in my career."

He gravitated towards classes in art, with various courses in printmaking, painting, life drawing and fashion. After completing his general requirements, Max transferred to San Francisco Art Institute but didn't finish the program. "I found an internship with CurrentTV and helped get a show off the ground about gaming. It gave me a foot in the door in the industry and I felt I would learn more with hands-on experience. Persistence and being in the right place at the right time is how you break into the entertainment and gaming industry."



To survive in the industry though, you must be resourceful and versatile. Max developed Destructoid (a blog) with his video production and writing skills, which led to Revision 3 (a web television channel) and then he was approached by IGN in 2015. They were seeking someone with writing, hosting and producing skills who was passionate about pop culture. Max's skills, developed in his diverse SRJC classes, checked all the required boxes.

Max currently co-hosts and produces [Up At Noon](#), a weekly pop culture variety show, and [Podcast Beyond](#), a weekly gaming talk show focused on PlayStation. He also records and hosts a few personal podcasts, [The Comedy Button](#) and [Weird Heat](#).

"Getting a job in any media field in 2018 is difficult because things are constantly changing. But I was able to hone my communication and writing skills at the Oak Leaf and it's given me an edge in the industry. It's funny how popular podcasts have gotten. We've reached this point on the internet where we have 24 hour streaming high definition videos, yet people have gravitated back towards a type of radio with podcasts."

Despite all the technological innovations of the last decade, millions of listeners tune in regularly to podcasts and many have developed an almost cult-like following. Podcasters act as storytellers, inviting their audience to feel as if they are building a personal relationship with their hosts. Unlike radio though, podcasts allow the audience to tune in when they are able, to press pause and return to an episode at their leisure. As a podcaster, Max sees the low-tech medium as a way to hold a conversation with his audience and celebrate their shared love of pop culture and gaming.

Whether he's interviewing Ryan Reynolds, Jackie Chan, Harrison Ford, or musing on his podcasts about raccoons, Max is thriving in the constantly evolving entertainment and gaming industry.