



**Meet Alumna and Entrepreneur Fabi Preslar
Class of 1986, Advertising and Commercial Art**

Fabi Preslar, President and Creative Director of SPARK Publications

It was a billboard, viewed from the window of her family's car that caught her imagination and transformed her life. Fabi no longer remembers the billboard message, what she does remember is that graphic design was going to be her life.

Fabi's passion brought her to Central Piedmont Community College just a few days before her 18th birthday. At CPCC, Fabi knew she would get the quality education and degree she desired. The educational journey towards the degree would not be easy. Fabi arrived in Charlotte without the support and safety-net of family or friends, without money and with no place to live.

Student Services at CPCC helped Fabi find housing and some financial aid. In addition, Fabi worked three jobs to support herself as she worked towards her dream of becoming a graphic artist.

Fabi credits many of her instructors for keeping her on task and expecting nothing but the best. They kept her inspired, focused and passionate about realizing her dreams and reaching her potential.

Fabi believes that her hardships prepared her for the entrepreneurial ventures. They also inspired her to "pay it forward." Today Fabi is an active community volunteer who often does pro bono work for nonprofits.

When Fabi was asked about her CPCC experience she stated, "CPCC didn't launch my career, it helped me launch my LIFE."

Fabi is proud to state that her husband is also a CPCC Advertising and Commercial Art graduate and their only child attended CPCC for 2 years. Their daughter is now pursuing a dual degree in early childhood education and sociology.