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Triton College

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Triton College Alum Maryna Salkovski is CEO and Founder of Bean Bar
Bean Bar Provides a Coffee Vending Machine Located in the Triton College Library



Maryna Salkovski, Ph.D., is the CEO and Founder of Bean Bar

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Maryna Salkovski, Ph.D., a 2014 Triton College graduate, is inspired by entrepreneurship, diligence and coffee.

“I believe in working hard, having fun and meeting a lot of great people along the way!” she expressed.

Salkovski is the founder and CEO of Bean Bar, a coffee vending machine company with a high-end product. Bean Bar serves high quality hot drinks, such as cappuccinos, hot chocolate and lattes, and has a machine that’s open for business in the Triton College Library.

“Bean Bar offers delicious, healthy, on-demand, high quality espresso drinks,” she noted. “It’s ideal for any college or university student and staff alike!”

Salkovski, born in Ukraine, immigrated to the United States when she was 6 years old. She grew up in River Grove, attended East Leyden High School and worked in the community at Goody's Fast Food (located in River Grove). After East Leyden, she was accepted into the Scholar's Program at Triton College. She knew she wanted to attend Triton which she felt was a "perfect fit from every angle."

"I liked how student oriented Triton was and I expanded my experience in the Scholar's Program. The location and price were perfect, and the faculty were very welcoming and helpful," she explained.

After Salkovski graduated from Triton, she attended Elmhurst College, where she received her bachelor's degree in chemistry and graduated Summa Cum Laude. She continued her education at the University of Illinois at Chicago studying autophagy and received a doctorate degree in chemistry from The Aldrich Lab.

Salkovski said the idea for Bean Bar came when visiting her husband's home country of Bulgaria. She explained that in Bulgaria, coffee vending is ubiquitous and believed people back home would enjoy the convenience of a coffee bar while studying or working.

"My husband Tihomir and I are coffee aficionados and wanted to bring this concept to the states," she noted. "We found a manufacturer from overseas and the rest is history."

After purchasing a coffee vending machine, Salkovski and her husband took to their lab (aka their kitchen) and spent several months perfecting different coffee recipes to make sure every drink is delicious, healthy and made with the cleanest ingredients. After finetuning the recipes, Salkovski came up with the name Bean Bar and the slogan "We Bean Business". They are in the process of getting both trademarked.

Salkovski explained that after a lot of emails, Triton College was kind enough to give her the opportunity to install a Bean Bar machine in the Library. The Library has since created a "Library Café" where students can get a cup of coffee from Bean Bar, relax and read a magazine while they take a break from studying.

"We are forever grateful to Triton College," she said.

In the future, Salkovski wants to expand to other locations, such as schools, businesses and airports. The goal is to grow the business nationwide and create a line of healthy and delicious products people can enjoy at home.

When Salkovski is not growing her business, she likes to dance, socialize, and of course, drink coffee.

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ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is a two-year college dedicated to helping members of the 25 Western Cook County communities in our district and beyond to achieve educational, professional and personal success. Located in River Grove, Ill., Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs on its 110-acre campus, featuring a comfortable, friendly and diverse atmosphere. Triton also holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's dedicated faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 14,000 students each year. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at <http://www.triton.edu/>.