

# STAR CENTRAL

FIVE  
CHIC  
OUTFITS  
TO  
ROCK  
ON A  
RAINY DAY

DAVID  
DELANEY  
+  
LEAH  
GERSTELING  
MODELS ON  
THE RISE

A SNEAK  
PEEK  
INSIDE THE  
AACTA AWARDS

six  
upcoming  
actors

TO WATCH OUT FOR  
THIS YEAR

# FASHION

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Leah Gersteling

Find out more about one of Australia's most promising female models!



## OPENING REMARKS



It has been nearly 10 years now since we released the first ever issue of StarCentral Magazine and I want to both share a couple of thoughts as well as wish you all the best for 2016. Firstly, I want to thank the great people behind StarCentral Magazine who are firelessly working behind the scenes to ensure that our magazine and website is in tip top shape. You should all be proud of the significant contribution you make to the overall StarCentral business. Like any business there are, of course, ways we could improve. Working together, I am confident that we can elevate StarCentral Magazine to an even higher level this year. I'm definitely looking forward to working with you all again this 2016, and for those of you who just came back from a break, I hope you enjoyed some much needed quality time with family and friends. God bless.

Mike Ilogan  
Associate Editor



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Get to know one of Australia's most promising male models!



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editor's notes

I had a strange start to my 2016. Several things happened in quick succession that had me just scratching my head but at the same time, it filled with the conviction that it meant something. So call me nuts, crazy or just plain idiotic, but I'm going with my gut and I've vowed that my 2016 will be unlike any year I've had so far. Have you felt that way too? Have you been in that moment where logic is screaming at you: "NO!" but intuition, in a persistent whisper, is telling you: "Go for it!" I believe we all have. But it's our reaction to it that sets apart the DOERS from the DREAMERS. So, maybe following your gut might not work out, but at least you'll KNOW. There is no worse torture than regret, than asking "What If?" over and over again. So, I'll leave you with one of my favourite quotes, written by a young writer named Erin Hanson - "What if I fail? Oh my darling, what if you fly?"

Jenny Aluning  
editor in chief

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# FIVE EASY STEPS TO LOVING YOURSELF BETTER

Feeling a little down these days? Well, put a cease and desist on your negative thoughts and get yourself some sunshine. Moping around all day, and wasting a perfectly beautiful opportunity to do something worthy will not make your life any better.

Contrary to what sappy romantic movies seem to tell us, falling in love doesn't complete you. But, what can?

What we fail to realize is that our relationships with the people around us are not the only thing that makes us ourselves. They are merely a part of the vast and complicated system of who we are.

Moreover, taking care of yourself is not a task of another human being. It is a job meant for you.

Whether you stay sad or choose to be happier with yourself and life, it is all up to you. So, if you are ready to have a rather stress-free life, then here are the 5 steps to help you love yourself better:

First, Indulge a little. When you deprive yourself of the things that make you feel good, you stop feeling good, and that can't be good. Eat a bar of chocolate or drink once in a while. Take a vacation from work or buy yourself a new pair of shoes. Read poetry or go zip lining. Just do something that makes you happy about your existence.

Second, revel on the good days. Yes, life can be so depressing.

All the heartaches, disappointments, and the unpredictable weather can leave you downhearted and unenthusiastic. However, it is not always a bad day. Sure, you can get stuck in traffic, be late and get fired by your boss. But you can also get to the office on time, do a great job on a presentation and get a raise. Celebrate the wonderful days and make it count. There is no point in wallowing in the things that had gone wrong. You can either learn from them or move on.

Third, it is definitely okay to say 'no'. You do not have to always say yes to everyone to please them, and certainly not your job. Though being polite is nice, but when you are not comfortable with something, you are entitled to say no. What you want should matter. So if you'd rather stay at home and watch reruns of your favorite series than go out and party with your friends, then you are by all means allowed to do so.

Fourth, embrace your beautiful self. You are not too skinny, or too fat, and there is nothing wrong with the shape your face. One thing that you can do for yourself is to accept every part of it, including its imperfections.

And finally, follow your heart. The best gift you can give yourself is to be its own. You will be so much kinder to yourself if you live a life that you want instead of following what the society or other people has laid out for you. Remember that life is too short to be spent regretting what could have been. So, be a musician, a chef, an engineer, a mother or a ballerina. And most of all, love who and what you desire.



## ALL THE GLITZ AND GLAM FROM THE AACTA AWARDS

By: Jenny Hu

Have you ever had those moments in life where it was so surreal, that you had to constantly pinch yourself just to double check that the moment was indeed real? And then you suddenly feel that undeniable pang and you realise that it is in fact happening and you just can't believe it!

Well that was the feeling I got when I was invited to the 5th Annual Australian Academy of Television and Cinemas Arts Awards. (For those StarCentral American and British Readers, the AACTA Awards is the Australian equivalent to the Oscars and BAFTAs but, rather a small-scale and niche ceremony.) The AACTA Awards honours screen excellence in multiple areas from acting, screenwriting, producing to cinematography, musical score and costume design. It is considered as the most prestigious award one can ever receive in the Australian film industry.

Like any other red carpet event, the paparazzi/media arrived early (4.15 sharp) to photograph and capture the everlasting star quality radiating up and down the red carpet on the night of November 30, 2015.

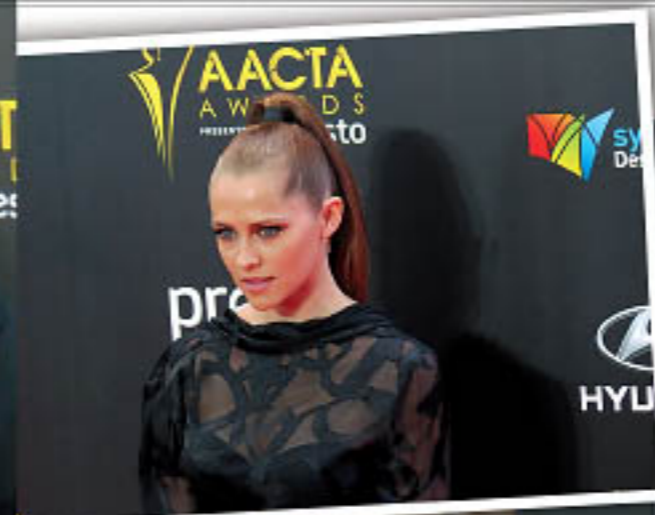
The event was split up into two nights. According to event publicist, Giovanni, the November 30 Industry Dinner covers the achievements of those behind-the-scenes such as cinematography, screenwriting, directing, etc. The dinner was not aired on television which gave its host, Silver Logie award-winning actor, Rob Carlton (best known for playing Australian media mogul, Kerry Packer in the mini-series, Paper Giants: The Birth of Cleo) a lot of free reign.



By six 'o'clock, we were all escorted to the media room for three hours of being blown away by the amount of movie magic that has been cultivated in each film. The biggest contenders that were nominated last year were Mad Max: Fury Road and Nothing Dead among others.

The media room was like its own little set up; lined with rows of maroon, cushy chairs and a food banquet located at the back of the room. Mediated by ex-journalist Chris Murray, comprehensive questions were asked of the various awards recipients (I had a feeling the host started to sound like a broken record as he kept saying to the winners: "Now, you are going to be blinded by some photography").

There were some highlights that struck a chord with me during my time in the media room. One, was the interview with a rather giggly ABC reporter, Sarah Ferguson and her partner-in-crime where they spoke about their love for wine and champagne and their experience with 'The Killing Season' (the gripping three-part documentary about the forces that shaped the Labor Party during the Kevin Rudd / Julia Gillard leadership years) which won Best Documentary Television Program that night.



Another one was when Michael Ware, the ex-Afghan/Iraq veteran turned journalist who swore unapologetically at the media and told us to get a "real job," obviously in good humour.

He accepted the AACTA Award for Best Direction in a Documentary for 'Only The Dead', which was a joint win with Oscar winning director, Bill Guttentag who, unfortunately, was not there to receive the award.

Bromance was in the air between Jeremy Sims and Reg Cribb when they won Best Adapted Screenplay for their joint effort, 'Last Cab To Darwin' based on the 2003 play of the same name. The pair were in acting school together.

The second part of the AACTA Awards was the more glamorous Awards Ceremony held on December 9, 2015 which was telecast on Channel 7. The night's talented nominees graced the red carpet in their designer brand frocks and tuxedos.

This time the media was called out at 2:00 pm on the dot. The reason for this was to give time for the media to set up their equipment because by 4pm, the stars will start walking the red carpet. I actually enjoyed watching the paparazzi fight for the best position to get the best shots of the celebrities.

Cyrus, the X-Factor winner performed his winning single, "Stoned" to start off the night's ceremony before letting the stars roll into the red carpet such as Home and Away stars, Georgie Parker, Kerry Anne, the Justice Crew, Teresa Palmer and Cate Blanchett.

The media migrated into the media room after the red carpet just like last time. We sat in the exact dark maroon chairs and the same majestic banquet of sour-dough sandwiches and scrumptious bacon and salad rolls. Not knowing how hungry I was at the time, I ended up scoffing those sandwiches down as if my life depended on it!

The ceremony began and one by one, the winners were announced. Nominees nervously sat in the Star Event Centre gripping their seats, hoping they will hear name called for the award. Meanwhile, the media was cooped up in their little room playing guessing games with our lovely host, Chris Murray, standing at the podium. We were greeted with the winning recipient of the award in our media room, where Murray quizzed the winners with his comprehensive yet thoughtful questions. Cue the protocol 13 more times and you might have an idea of what it was like in media room.

Among the worthy award winners were Sigrid Thornton, who won Best Supporting Actress for 'Peter Allen: Not The Boy Next Door', Hugo Weaving won Best Supporting Actor for 'The Dressmaker' and MasterChef won Best Reality Television Series. And to no one's surprise, 'Mad Max: Fury Road' took out Best Film presented by Presto was (not a surprise) MAD MAX: Fury road.

In the film industry, there is always this one outstanding actor who outshines their peers and this year, it is Cate Blanchett who was honoured with the AACTA Longford Lyell Award - Australia's highest screen accolade. The multi-award winning actress has been instrumental in promoting Australian films in the international market. She was presented with the award by fellow actors, Richard Roxburgh and Hugo Weaving while tributes poured in from some of the film industry's greatest names such as Martin Scorsese, Alejandro González Iñárritu, Robert Redford, Bruce Beresford, Ron Howard and Ridley Scott.

"Oh, I'm going to be one these ridiculous people who cries, but it's a f\*\*\*ing award," she said humbly as she wiped her tears on stage.

Blanchett also grabbed the opportunity to address one of the hot topics that surrounded 2015 - that of the underrepresentation of women in the film and television industries. She commended the AACTA for changing perceptions.

"So often in any industry, the film industry is no exception, female achievement, because we just get on and do stuff, we get swept under the carpet... I think it's fantastic that AACTA are coming into the 21st century and so it's a particular pleasure for me to receive this."

Meanwhile in the media room, Cate Blanchett was immediately swamped with cameras as soon as she came out, as she elegantly posed with her honorary award. At one point the host, Chris Murray said he's blinded and rubbed his eye. Talk about the radiance of the Australian National treasure!

Here's a parting thought I would like to leave you with that sums up the essence of the AACTA Awards. It is in the same vein of Cate Blanchett's inspiring speech that resonates with the rest of us - that we should be proud of the diverse film-making and acting talents within Australia.

SIX UPCOMING  
**ACTORS**  
 TO WATCH OUT FOR IN 2016

By: Jenny Hu

Anthony Darval wanted to be an actor for almost 10 years before he went on to go to ACTT (Actors College of Television and Theatre) in Sydney for three years. Since then, he has been working in various theatre productions and feature films. He was recently cast in the feature film, 'Being Dead', a thriller featuring a gonzo journalist caught up in a murder investigation.

On what he loves the most about being an actor:

"It's about telling a story-- a chance to immerse myself into the world. I always sort of love books, video games and movies and TV shows and anything that presents me a world that I can escape to; something about being a part of that and sharing my love of the world."

On the most memorable experience of his career:

"I played Hamlet in Drama school. My drama school teacher used the words that "my 'To be or not to be' speech is clearer than Daniel Day-Lewis' speech," when he gave me feedback. My best memory as an actor is working on the 'Nameless: Blood and Chains' with Micheal Shamer where I played a young assassin."

On the most interesting people he has ever encountered:

"I say 80% of my social circle is involved to the industry one way or another. My best mate Peter is an actor and Micheal Sharma is a director. I would also count all of my tutors from ATC because they encouraged me to continue on my path."

On his future projects:

"I love to be able to do projects which I am very passionate about such as fantasy books. I have loved them ever since I was a little boy and I wanted to purchase the rights for these books and do justice by the author. If I can do that then I would cry with happiness. I also want to manage and continue my career in theatre as I am very much a Shakespeare fan. I want to manage these two aspects of my life, whether it's here or overseas - I'll do whatever it takes to achieve my dreams."

ANTHONY DARVAL



BELINDA SMALL

Belinda Small is an acting chameleon-- she completely encompasses her characters, such as playing the head strong wife in her potential television show, "Tracker". She is currently working with John Howard - a well-known Australian actor.

On what he loves the most about being an actor:

"I like to play different people. I suppose that being an actor you are trained to understand human condition. I can do both comedy and drama, particularly for me, I would like to play a character who has an internal struggle within his/her life. It's important to tell stories that can touch people and connect with them as human beings".

On the most memorable experience of her career:

"A few months ago, I shot a pilot with a working title of 'Tracker'. The set had a great group of people and all the characters are very interesting; my character is the wife - a strong woman who has her own thoughts and feelings rather being just an appendage to a man."

On the most interesting people you have met during your career:

"I love working with other actors and other creative people because they think outside the box such as John Howard, the famous actor from Sea Change and All Saints. He's a very enthusiastic guy who has many interesting ideas - the pilot that I was recently on was his directing debut."

On what he loves the most about being an actor:

"I love the fact that you get to play a journey from beginning to end in theatre shows. For film, I love the specificity of film because the camera so close and you can be very specific with your thoughts and audience can see that through your eyes."

On her future projects:

"I want to write in the future. I'm interested in documentaries so I am also looking into that. Different characters and stories. I prefer a good story rather than something necessarily high-profile."



AARON J. MARCH

Aaron J. March is an actor, producer and director who has almost 15 years' experience in feature films. His love for acting started when he saw his father grace the stage in a musical theatre production. His first feature film, 'Scratch' (2001) was critically-acclaimed and won him numerous awards. Aaron has been trained both in Australia and US in methods like the Chekov Technique.

On what has inspired him to get into acting:

"I started in primary school— we had to do a Greek Tragedy in primary school. I had to audition for the role. I think my love of acting started when my father was an actor in musical theatre. It was the smell of the theatre that made me inspired."

On what he loves the most about being an actor:

"Most days are very different and meeting different people and working with good people is good too."

On the most interesting people he has ever encountered:  
"There may have been interesting adventures that I should not talk about in this interview. There's an array of people such as Robert Carlyle, John Rhys-Davies, Tasma Walton whom I worked with on the project "Roommates". There were a lot of memorable moments there and it was kind of filmed in little chunks over 6 months. It's a difficult question to answer."

On his future projects:

"There are certain films that I want to produce and act in that I still haven't done. I want to have an international name for myself so that it makes it easier for me to get opportunities. I would love to make films all over the world. Ideally, I would like to shoot a movie in Los Angeles which is the filming capital of the world."



ELLEN BROOKE WILLIAMS

Ellen is a very talented newcomer to the entertainment industry. She went to school at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga where she practiced her craft. Ever since she graduated, she has starred in movies such as Dogs' Breakfast (2015) and Wyrnwood: Road of the Dead and Binary (2015).

On what he likes most about being an actor:

"The fact that you can become somebody entirely different to yourself and it's a process – it's a mental and emotional process and you have to use your imagination and intellect to bring an entirely different person to life."

On the most memorable experience of her career:

"I came back from a shoot in Queensland just recently and I came back from Cairns and different parts of North Queensland where I had to play a US marine. I was the leading lady. It was a bit demanding, as we are going through summer at the moment and up there it's never cold and we were decked out in full marine gear and the boots killed me! It was the best - I came back for about a month and I kept flying back and forth to work on some projects down here."

On the most interesting people she's ever met:

"Directors are very different to normal people; if you were to compartmentalize; you have your quiet and amicable directors who mostly let you do your thing but then there are "others" directors. I had a director who directed me line by line and told me and where to place my hands while, I was saying my line and structured my performance to the last letter. I'd rather not say his name; he actually set up his own film school in Redfern, Sydney. He has done six consecutive feature films so far."

On her future projects:

"Keep going. My ultimate goal is to be able to pay my bills through my acting - by doing what I love and being able to sustain myself that way. That's my dream. Call it humble."



EMMA MONK

Emma Monk is what you call in the entertainment world as a "triple threat" - someone who possesses three talents; singing, dancing and acting. Her talents have been on display on various children's programmes such as The Wiggles where she plays Dorothy the Dinosaur, as well as on The Little Scallywagz. The starlet also played a role in a handful of short films such as Busted (2014) and Dating Mandy Luna (2014).

On how she got discovered:

"Auditions, I worked my butt off! Originally, I wanted to be a dancer but then I dislocated my knee and that's when I discovered acting. I went to school at Screenwise and I have gotten a scholarship at TVI studios in LA."

On the most interesting person she has met so far:

"Well, I actually met Clint Eastwood before but at that point in time, I didn't know it was Clint Eastwood. I was talking about this artwork to him. My friend was like "do you know that is Clint Eastwood?" He was probably the most interesting man I've ever met."

On the most memorable experience of her career:

"I met Nick Jonas - I went up to him when I was drunk and called him a nugget man, because he was a short and stumpy nugget man. I think he was a little offended after that encounter."

On her future projects:

"I want to do a lot more films on social issues but I want to write and produce my films. Also, I have a couple of feature films that are coming up next year such as "Brutally Honest Love." It's kind of like a weird love story, where the lead falls in love with a prostitute who's into drugs and then it ends, very unexpectedly."



ANGELA TRICKER

It's never too old to start out in the entertainment world - just ask Angela Tricker who is 42 who had a passion for acting ever since she was a teenager. After getting her economics degree and having children, she decided to re-ignite with her childhood passion of acting by enrolling at NIDA and began professionally acting at 37 and then started modeling a year later.

On the most memorable experience of her career:

"It's very hard to pinpoint one. I did a few TV guest roles and I have done lots of modelling in Woman's Day, Destination NSW, and IKEA. With my feature, I had a small role on an ABC series called "The Years that made us." I have also done other US documentaries such as Behind Mansion Walls. Another memorable moment of my career was when I attended the Actor Awards this year."

On the most interesting person she has met so far:

"I actually sat next to Rose Byrne before; she was very well known for the Bridesmaids."

On her future projects:

"Okay, back in 2011, I went with my agents to the US and did some workshops and met some casting directors there and I am hoping to make it from Sydney, all the way to Hollywood. Some feature films that I would be starring next year are "Other World" which is an independent sci-fi film where I get to play multiple character roles ranging from a messed up soldier which morphs into a female terrorist. As well as "Centennial Park" with Stuart White."

# LEAH GERSTELING

## MODEL

By: Jenny Aluning

It was acting that introduced FLAIR 2015's Female Model Winner, Leah Gersteling to the world of modeling. Ever since she scored her first lead role in an independent feature-length film (playing the role of Petah in 'Straight Cut'), Leah thought to experience other aspects of the entertainment industry and "modelling seemed to be something that I thought I would enjoy so I applied for some castings on StarNow and landed my first modelling job for a bridal shoot with The Paper Florists."

The 22-year old found that what she enjoyed most about modeling was that "it's always different. Whether you're meeting new people, wearing new clothes or hanging out in different locations, there's always something new and exciting to look forward to." And one of the most exciting has been winning FLAIR's ultimate prize! "I literally learnt to walk in stilettos within a couple of hours before the show, I was practicing backstage, telling myself to just act like I know what I'm doing and hopefully they won't know this is the second time I've ever worn high heels!"

Up until winning FLAIR, Leah has been immersed in the acting world. As well as being on 'Straight Cut', she had a lead role in a short film called 'Road Kill' which was shown at Tropfest in 2014. More recently, she has starred in a music video for Catherine Britt's, 'Boneshaker'. Catherine Britt is an Australian country music artist who has had success in both Australia and in the US. Leah has also had the privilege of meeting Johnny Depp and Geoffrey Rush. "I got to have a conversation with both of them on separate occasions and it was really humbling to speak to them as regular people."

Though a relative newcomer to both the acting and modeling industries, the Sydney-based beauty has nevertheless learned "to just be myself and trust my instincts. If I believe in something that will make me happy or help me learn and grow, then I will without a doubt take part in it and give it all I've got. Like anything, if you want to achieve a good result you have to work hard and eventually it will pay off. I live my life by a simple rule, find out what makes you happy and simply do that." And being in two industries where one is judged both on talent and appearance, staying grounded is a constant challenge. "In an industry full of beautiful people, scrutinising yourself is something that tends to be part of the job, however reminding yourself that like everyone else you are uniquely you and therefore you bring your own presence and own special qualities, inside and out, to any job helps to keep you grounded."

Her family's support has also been instrumental in keeping her feet on the ground – "they are very supportive of anything I do as long as it makes me happy and as long as I stay healthy doing it."

Leah has big dreams for her career – from traveling overseas to experiencing new places "I never knew existed..." "I think I'm just going to take every experience as it comes within the industry and work hard, but not too hard! Got to have fun sometimes...as long as wherever life takes me is inspiring and positive in some way, whether it be in the world of modelling or acting or anything else creative for that matter, I know I will be happy."





# DAVID DELANEY

## MODEL

By: Jenny Aluning

David Delaney's passion for fitness and crossfit inevitably resulted in a body worthy of any male model in the modelling world, which is why David's family friends encouraged him to enter the industry. The next thing he knew, he was being crowned as FLAIR 2015's Male Model Winner! "I like the fact that modelling is out of my comfort zone but allows me to focus not just on the job ahead, but disciplines me in everyday living with just always taking care of myself physically and mentally."

The engaged Filipino/Australian father-of-two (David is engaged to Jersay, a popular singer in Sydney's Filipino community) has high hopes of being able to combine modeling with his love for fitness. He would love to be a model for crossfit or to be a model for a sportswear label. He also hopes to soon qualify as a crossfit coach as "it's a passionate hobby/commitment I've had for a while." Outside of the modeling world, David works as a business development manager for Moofish, a meat and seafood wholesale company (where he was also recently promoted!) with over 20 years experience in the hospitality industry. His duties include being responsible for accounts with some of the airline industry's most prestigious names such as QANTAS 1st Class, Etihad Airways and Emirates. "24hr responsibility and on call 7 days...I'm pretty routine, day-to-day and with 2 kids, life's flat out but I wouldn't have it any other way."

"The one thing I would like people to know is that I worked hard for what I have and very humble for my achievements but proud of my family and heritage." He hopes to "someday achieve success in a way that they are proud of me." It is a grounded mentality that he aspires to pass on to his children the way it was inspired in him by his father-in-law. "Not only he has taught me a lot about life and living, he keeps me grounded and mentors me like my late father did. I know he might not be well known but to me, the value of family goes beyond the rich and famous."

His FLAIR win has opened a whole new path to success for David Delaney. With his strong sense of self-belief and hard work mentality, it is a bright future indeed – "believe in your goals and overcome your fears and progress in whatever you are doing...then repeat because life's too short to limit yourself."

#### 'LIGHTNING FAST' Round:

1. **Last good movie I've seen** 'Get Hard' (funniest movie)
2. **What do you consider beautiful and why?** I consider beauty is about what we do as a person whether we inspire, help or care about people, beauty will always show
3. **What haven't you done yet that you wish you could?** I would love to travel to the Philippines to get married
4. **Complete this sentence:** "If I had no fear, I'd..." Fly a Jet!
5. **What is the one "flaw" you wouldn't change about yourself?** My scars because it shows my story and reminds me of my past



# Five Chic Dresses

## TO ROCK ON A RAINY DAY

It's raining, so what? Staying in style doesn't have to be put on hold because of gloomy weather. You can look as fabulous as you want to be even if it's raining cats and dogs. Take off your boring raincoats and be a ball of sunshine and style. Try out these hot outfit ideas to keep you warm and pretty on a cold rainy day.

1. What better way to stand out than to wear a dress. Don yourself a summer dress even when the sun's out of sight. Sport multicolored frocks with shades like red, orange, yellow, pink or green. You can pair it with winter boots, a little bit of coat, and top it with a colorful umbrella. #sundrasstoimpress

2. Staying warm doesn't leave you putting on ankle-length dresses. It is not wise because you might just end up getting it dirty, which entails a heap of time spent cleaning. The solution, leggings. They come in all colors and sizes. Off to a date? Put on a short and sexy wardrobe, and keep your thighs from freezing with a little see-through legging. Then, sass it up with knee-length boots, and maybe a little leather jacket. #leggingsarethebomb

3. Black is said to absorb heat, which means you don't need to slip into five sets of clothing to stay toasty in a storm. Go all black and look sultry with a blouse and a skirt. You can highlight it with a khaki Sherlock Holmes coat, and a pair of black-heeled boots for a sophisticated look. #blackishot

4. Yes, coats are definitely a must-have during a downpour. Your unsuspecting dull-looking coat can actually help you turn a few heads during this dismal weather. What you need to do is perk it up with the right ensemble. Make sure there's contrast between the clothes underneath. Bright colored tops could be paired with darker hues. You may also try a grey coat, which looks great with a black skirt and leggings, and a white satin blouse. #coatsaretotes

5. Finally, be modish with a little wool. Sport cool in a flushed or maroon wooly oversized jacket, complemented with leggings, and maybe some chucks. Woolly jackets are thick enough keep you from getting a cold, if you plan to stay outdoors for a little while. What are you waiting for? Take out those crocheted coats by granny, and show them you're not just a granny's girl, but a rather stylish granny's girl. #wooliscool

So go ahead and scour your closet for these winter-ready wardrobes because looking gorgeous is not meant only for fair weather. You can look beautiful and trendy in any climate, as long as you're willing to experiment with your clothing. The key to looking great is to be comfortable and confident about it.

Clothes are supposed to be an extension of who you are. Don't let a heavy downpour or two to strip you of your right to looking fabulous.

Let everyone see your sexy, quirky, adventurous, smart, fascinating and wonderful self even when the sky isn't blue. Make everyday a statement.

FIVE DIET PLANS TO SHAKE OFF YOUR

# W<sup>HOLIDAY</sup>eight

Even the most stressed of people let their hair down and hang ten during the holidays. So, in the most celebrated and comfortable time of the year, you find yourself relaxing and devouring three times the calories per day you usually consume. And, unknowingly, you make it to three sizes up in just two weeks.

Now, you no longer fit into your favorite jeans, and you are forced to wear the sweatpants even if it's Wednesday. Suddenly, wearing a bikini is not an option and the holidays don't seem so appealing anymore.

Well, stop moping around about eating that bowl of chocolate fudge ice cream and the three slices of blueberry cheesecake your sister made you. There's no point in crying over spilled milk, or in your case, empty bottles of milk.

Get you're A-game on and take back your body! Here are five easy and effective diet plans to shave off the excess weight:

## 1. Don't skip your breakfast

Just because you've eaten too much for the last few weeks, doesn't mean you have to stop eating anything to lose a few pounds. Skipping meals, especially breakfast, will only leave you starving and then wanting to eat more. This will then lead to gaining more weight, which is something that you don't want.

Eat breakfast so you have the energy to do your tasks for the day. And, you won't have the urge eat a few sugary treats every now and then.

## 2. Drink more water

Feeling constantly hungry is sometimes your body's way of telling you that you're thirsty. Next time you have an impulse to eat a donut, try drowning that impulse with a glass of water.

Moreover, your body mostly composed of water so

making sure that you're hydrated ensures that all your body parts get the necessary amount of water they need to function properly.

## 3. Eat your greens

Fiber is your friend. You want to inject more fibrous fodder in your meals because it helps you digest the food better. Leafy green vegetables are rich in fiber and you have tons of selections from your local grocery and Farmer's Market to choose from.

Aside from fiber, you are dosing up your body with much-needed nutrients, which you can only get from fresh veggies. Taking care of your body doesn't mean just being thin enough for a bikini but also having the body and the energy to do the things you want to do

## 4. Say goodbye to your bag of chips

Losing weight is already hard enough. There is no need to make it more difficult for yourself. So, throw away your bags and bags of junk food, and anything that isn't necessary for your health.

Make an inventory of what is inside your fridge and kitchen cabinets and take out those that don't fit into your healthy diet.

## 5. Commit!

Yes, make a commitment. It is easy to choose the food that we eat but being consistent about it can be very challenging. An effective diet plan mostly depends on how unswerving and dedicated you are in following it.

Keep sight of your goal and don't let a few donuts take you off the right track. A few bites of pizza once in awhile won't hurt. And, of course, don't forget to stay active and exercise. Your dream body is within your reach as long as you stay disciplined and you always put your health first.





GREEN CARPET SHOW 2016

FASHION MANDU

By Anjelica Whitelaw

FashionMandu was first introduced to the world in August 2015 as a beauty pageant/charity event that benefitted Jiwan Utthan Australia, an Australia-based organization working to help earthquake victims and orphans in Nepal. The show, consisting of 20 models from 14 different countries, featured the work of Nepali designer, Bishwo Gautam. It also featured the talent of other acclaimed designers such as Jai Ho Instyle, Kyatre Murray and Amit Baral. FashionMandu (whose name is an homage to Nepal's capital city, Kathmandu) was first brought to life by its founders, Kiran Newa and Archana Thapa to showcase the work of talented designers fusing Western and Nepalese fashion.

On Saturday, the 12th of March 2016, FashionMandu held their first Green Carpet Show (which also featured the launch of their official magazine) at Hurstville Civic Centre. The program began with a slide show composed of behind-the-scenes footage of the rehearsals and featured the hard work of the individuals who helped bring the event to life. Following the slide show was the introduction of the emcees for the night, Ms Kim Cancellier and Mr Binod Paudel. Both were vibrant and hospitable, and kept the audience engaged and entertained

throughout the night.

The founder of FashionMandu, Ms Archana Thapa, then took to the stage to announce what's in store for FashionMandu in 2016. Archana is a very proud citizen of Nepal who has also fallen in love with her adopted country of Australia. She states: "Fashion feels better when you feel comfortable and proud in your own skin and surroundings." She hopes to do both Nepal and Australia proud in her pursuit to help local creative talent promote their work nationally, and hopefully one day, internationally.

After another slide show (one that featured last year's FashionMandu event), Kim and Binod introduced the first performer of the evening, the 12-year old singing phenomenon, Jasmine Henry. After her performance and a thank-you to the event's sponsors, Kim then went on to reveal the launch of FashionMandu's official magazine.

Next came the fun part of the evening: the fashion. First up was Lavashe Couture by Teeto Schmidt-Stowers, a returning designer from last year's show. He presented three gowns (modeled by Sarah Jeham and Tanya Duncan) from his Summer/Autumn collection as a sneak preview for 'FashionMandu 2016' later on this year.

*"FashionMandu was first introduced to the world in August 2015 as a beauty pageant/charity event that benefitted Jiwan Utthan Australia, an Australia-based organization working to help earthquake victims and orphans in Nepal."*

Lena Kasparian was the next Fashion Creative to showcase her amazing designs. Designer and stylist to the stars, Kasparian will also be featured in 'FashionMandu 2016.' Her creations were worn that night models, Kayla Kember, Tanya Duncan, Rosy Shrestha, Elizabeth Mary and the winner of Best Model at FashionMandu 2015, Brittnee Sheath.

Emcees Kim and Binod, then introduced another designer whose work will also be featured at FashionMandu 2016 - Anya Hurwood. The ladies wearing her designs shashayed down the runway accompanied by the vocal stylings of Jasmine Henry.

A very energetic dance performance by the Samoan dance group, SOTI soon saw the room come to life. The entire audience where on their feet dancing along to the traditional dance moves and customary music of the Samoan Islands.

The FashionMandu Magazine launch was the conclusion of the Green Carpet Show. Kim Cancellier proceeded to thank all the sponsors and presented them with gifts and a copy of the magazine. Everyone was then invited 'FashionMandu 2016' which was promised to be bigger and better than last year!

# PEOPLE AND FACES

1. Miss Earth Air Australia Lyndl Kean and Miss Earth Australia Dayanna Grageda

2. Kelly McCracken at the Aussie Elite modelling industry networking night

3. The StarCentral magazine crew with Dean Marzolla and the Aussie Elite Models

4. Leah Gersteling during a StarCentral photoshoot

5. Miss Earth Australia director Kelly Louise Maguire with the Miss Earth Australia winners, Kim Cancellier and Brittnee Sheath

6. Aussie Elite models at the modelling industry networking night

7. Miss Australasia Official director Maryrose Salubre with Miss Earth Australia director Kelly Louise Maguire



5 Kelly Maguire with the Miss Earth Australia winners



4 Leah Gersteling



6 Aussie Elite models

"Get to know who's who in the social scene down under"



7 Maryrose and Kelly



1 Lyndl Kean & Dayanna Grageda



2 Kelly McCracken



3 Aussie Elite models

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StarCentral's  
**Hot List**  
of the year

# BERNARDO Santos

## ACTOR OF THE YEAR

By: Jenny Aluning

The chance to inhabit the world of a wide variety of characters is what interests StarCentral's Most Promising Actor of the Year for 2015, Bernardo Santos, about the film industry. He could be in the 1940's, looking "all smart and appropriate for that year and a week later I could be filming a new sci-fi film and I get to play a zombie and look horrible and have blood dripping out of my face..."

For multi-lingual Bernardo (he speaks English, Portuguese and Spanish fluently), he has always been working towards acting as a career. As a child, "when I was home with my parents I used to dress up with different masks and costumes and ask my parents to film me and even to perform with me..." He studied Performing Arts in college for 3 years and then went on to attend the dynamic Celebrity Talent Academy in the UK for 2 years, where he was enrolled in the school's The Television and Film Programme. The course exposed Bernardo to the industry's many film coaches, talent agencies and directors.

While getting into the mind of the many different characters he's played has been a fun and interesting challenge, behind the scenes it isn't always so. An actor has to contend with not only the long hours but the weather as well. The 20-year old describes "standing outside in the cold and sometimes it is like -4 degrees outside and you really freeze and you also feel like fainting because it is so uncomfortable..." The workload is also constant – even when you're not on a job filming. And when you are on a job, "you really have to put in the work, because if you don't, you are not just letting the company down but you are also letting yourself down..." The rejections can also be wearing. But "I have to stay up and carry on attending auditions every time there is one, and I have to be strict with myself because that is the only way that I will eventually get the chance one day to get to the top."

But as any actor knows, committing to the art form is a long, rollercoaster journey full of fascinating twists and turns. Some of the Lisbon-born/UK-based actor's most memorable experiences include playing Macbeth at the City of Westminster College. He not only had to convincingly portray the emotional nuances of such a dark and complex character, he also had to "learn more about stage combat and sword fighting due to a couple of scenes in the play." He also had the incredible opportunity of being cast in the upcoming film, 'Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them', penned by none other than Harry Potter creator, J.K. Rowling. Bernardo also enjoyed the privilege of being "on scenes with Eddie Redmayne who I really admire, and enjoy seeing the work he puts on films."

It is high points like those that fuel Bernardo's desire to remain in the entertainment industry. He hopes to one day act alongside Hollywood's A-list stars, travel to other countries and meet many other people who are as passionate about the craft as he is. Fully supported by his family, who he hopes to one day "earn enough to actually help my family...for them to stop working and live a more relaxed life and enjoy themselves..." The road to the bright lights of stardom is only beginning for this promising thespian, Bernardo Santos.



# BROWN Mohammed

## SEXIEST MAN OF THE YEAR

By: Jenny Aluning

The world of modeling did not exist for Brown Mohamed until he was asked to participate in a photoshoot showcasing "fitness, fun and energy." A state level track and field athlete, he described the experience as "so fun and the day seemed to fly by. I secretly didn't want it to end." The next thing he knew, his girlfriend was entering him to become StarCentral's Sexiest Man of the Year for 2015 and won the title "I was excited when I discovered I won. I'm really grateful for everyone that voted."

So far, what Brown has enjoyed most about modeling is "being able to express myself without the need to use explicit words. I love the energy and emotion that can be brought into a still picture. I'm a believer in that a picture can tell more than a thousand words. There's emotion, there's passion and there's energy."

There is such a positive mindset inherent in this Kenya-born hunk. It is a mindset born of the discipline required to be a successful athlete, and it is a mentality that will stand him in good stead in his journey into the sometimes cut-throat world of modeling. "I'm a believer that we should all love what we do and do what we love. By making modelling a lifestyle it eliminates downsides because everything would feel normal, natural and fun." He also firmly believes in "applying yourself in what you're truly passionate about. As corny as it sounds, I've personally found that through hard work and perseverance I've been able to achieve far more of my set goals in relation to my career and personal life." Brown also understands that in becoming a model, the outside characteristics of a person may start to outweigh his inner attributes. The 23-year old has a strategy to combat that though. "I think maintaining a well-balanced lifestyle has really helped...from training to nutrition and social interactions. These have all helped me to stay in the moment and not get carried away...it helps to have fantastic people around me who motivate, encourage and keep me honest with every aspect of my life."

Currently finishing a double degree in business management and sports science at the Queensland University of Technology, Brown "can't wait to graduate!" Fully supported by his family, friends and girlfriend ("She's been very enthusiastic and supportive of me pursuing modeling even when I initially had self-doubt. I've learnt a lot from her and I'm uber excited and grateful to have met her."), he plans to continue his modeling career. He does have aspirations beyond being in front of the lens - "I'm very business minded so I wish to one day have my own business somewhere in fitness and health," helping athletes in injury prevention and performance enhancement. With his attitude and determination, there's little doubt that Brown will achieve all he sets his mind to.



# DENAI Gracie

## ACTRESS OF THE YEAR

By: Jenny Aluning

For StarCentral Magazine's Most Promising Actress of the Year for 2015, Denai Gracie, the world of acting opened up for her in primary school when she won the lead role in the school musical. But it was in high school when she first started to seriously consider it as more of a career path. "If I had to pinpoint the moment I was 'discovered', I'd say it was when I won a national acting competition, was flown to Melbourne for acting workshops and secured my first agent. From there, I studied acting both in Australia and in the USA under some of the most influential and inspiring performance coaches in the business."

Denai's love for the art form is fueled by the fact that "no two days are the same" and that the possibility of being called to be outside your comfort zone is a wonderful chance to discover what more she could do. "I love the challenge of preparing for roles where I get to explore emotions and experiences...there's something truly thrilling about pushing emotional limits in confronting or sometimes dangerous situations, all the while knowing you're totally safe. It's freedom."

It's a brutal industry and a livelihood where one has to be ready for the long haul and "hearing the word 'no!' A lot!" But while there are lows and lulls, there are high points that make it worth the journey. One such experience for Denai (who is also an accomplished horse rider and instructor) is being cast as Grace Wilkins in the full-length feature film, 'Forbidden Ground' (known as 'Battle Ground' in the US and Germany). Set in WW1, the film, directed by Johan Earl and Adrian Powers, tells that story of 3 British soldiers who find themselves stranded in No Man's Land after a failed charge on the German trenches. "It was my first feature in a leading role and playing a character in a period piece was such a terrific learning curve, particularly researching women's rights from that era. The wardrobe totally transported me to the time, and stepping onto set felt so effortless, like I truly belonged in that moment in history. It was such an incredible first feature project and I felt so blessed to have been part of it."

Another facet of the industry that makes the ride interesting are the unforgettable personalities one meets along the way. Denai talks of Charles Waterstreet, a Sydney-based barrister upon whose life the show, 'Rake' (Fox, ABC Network) is based. "I can attest that the storylines of that show are dead on accurate! I worked for him for several years, and saw it all firsthand...the fans of the show watch it because it's got great appeal...I bet most don't know that what they think are just fabulously creative storylines are actually real-life events!"

There is no doubt that passion is an essential part of being an actor. Without that passion, one cannot endure "eating two minute noodles and living in older decor apartments whilst you continue to audition for that perfect role." Being passionate about the craft also means having the heart to devote every day to improve your skills. "You can't just be a weekend actor - no athlete can get to the top by only training two days a week! If acting is going to be a career, you have to treat it like a career!"

So much of the film industry is not only based on one's skills but appearances can also tip the scales between success and failure. It "has a real superficial façade to it, there's no denying it." For Denai, her parents have been instrumental in keeping her feet on the ground ("...some of the advice...I received from my parents wasn't always what I wanted to hear, it was support nonetheless.") as well as her work with horses. "To wrap on a job and head home to stables full of manure that need to be cleaned daily...is enough to keep anyone grounded!"

Fully supported by her family, Denai plans to be in the film industry for a long time. "Acting will always be my number one passion..." With a Bachelor's Degree in Communications, she has recently discovered a love for screenwriting and would one day love to not only see one of her scripts on the big screen, but to maybe have a role in it as well! But wherever she goes, "home for me isn't where I live, but rather who I live with... so long as I'm surrounded by my family and my beloved horses, I'm happy."





# DIANE De Mesa

## ARTIST OF THE YEAR

By: Jenny Aluning

While most children still weren't speaking in complete sentences when they were 2 years old, Diane de Mesa (StarCentral Magazine's Female Artist of the Year for 2015) was already singing along to Madonna's 'Like A Virgin'. That love for music continued to grow and now, Diane has so far released 3 independently produced albums ('Fly Away', 'Heartstrings' and the latest, 'Only For You' released in January 2016) packed of her own compositions and collaborations reflecting her smooth, soulful style.

For the Northern California Bay Area-based singer/songwriter performing makes her "feel alive. It is when I can express my emotions and free all the sentiments that I feel inside. I feel a different kind of high, a rush of adrenaline like no other...it is a stress-relief and very therapeutic for me. Whenever I sing, all of my troubles and worries go away." Along with her albums, Diane still continues to upload YouTube videos (which was her "training ground to further improve myself in singing and performing"), she is also the lead vocalist for the acoustic band: 'Diane de Mesa and the LSS Sessionists' in which she regularly performs in along with her bandmates, acoustic guitarist, Greg Felix and drummer, Audy Felix. "They are seasoned musicians and veterans of the live music scene. I learn a lot from them especially when it comes to performing live. My musician friends are those people I can truly connect with. No one else in this world can truly understand the rollercoaster ride that can go with this ..."

Also a registered nurse (she works with mothers and their newborns in the postpartum unit), Diane took part in the 'Power of Love' concert in 2013. The concert (organized by Amado Tuazon), was held as a benefit for the victims of Typhoon Yolanda/Haiyan. She performed her original song 'Love Will Find A Way' - a collaboration with Andy Chesterton from London. "It meant a lot to me to be able to sing for a good cause, touch people's lives, and inspire and help people at the time of calamity."

"The music industry is a truly intimidating world and highly competitive..." and it is a world Diane would have found difficult to navigate without the support of her husband, Mike. "He has always been there for me and without his love, patience and understanding, it will be hard to juggle being a nurse, a wife, a mother to a 2 year old, and a musician."

With her 3 albums already available on iTunes, Spotify, Amazon Music, Google Play and more, Diane has already enjoyed success other artists could only dream of. While "happy to be an independent music artist" for now, "I hope one day the right ears could hear my music and get me signed to reach a wider audience." With her voice, her heart and a poet's soul, Diane de Mesa may just see that dream become a reality.



# EDITORO Essien

## FASHIONISTA OF THE YEAR

By: Jenny Aluning

An inherent "love for looking fabulous" is what led Itoro Essien, StarCentral's Fashionista of the Year for 2015, to the world of blogging. She first tried creating her own blog in 2011 but it took a backseat to her educational pursuits. She completed a Bachelor's Degree in Communication and Media Studies from Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo State in Nigeria and then she went on to achieve a Masters of Art degree in Media and Communications Management from Middlesex University in London.

But through it all simmered her passion for fashion, styling and makeup. Her second attempt at blogging began in 2014 and last year, her blog 'HowStyledit' was born. She "wanted to show/teach people who had no clue that they could learn and grow and that it is not rocket science."

Now based in Houston, Texas, Itoro sees "styling/fashion as one of the less challenging things to do. To be honest, I have fun while shopping and creating looks. I love the fact that fashion is a form of art, there are only a few boundaries." But even those boundaries disappear when an eye-catching outfit is paired with unwavering confidence!

She finds inspiration from many different sources like other fashion bloggers, for example. But she finds the strength to keep going in her blossoming career in the support of her friends and family. "My siblings knew about my intentions and as soon as I started. They were like it's something you love already, so why not go for it. When I told my parents, I wasn't sure what their reactions would be...with my mum I knew she was going to be supportive because she is very fashionable as well. I wasn't sure my dad would...but to my greatest surprise he said: "Go for it as long as you do what you are doing with morals, and God is involved, I support you".

Even though she is a newcomer to the fashion industry, Itoro has already learned that "you need to bring your 'A' game...it has to be done correctly and professionally. This has changed my life and one of the quotes I live by is: 'All the effort in the world won't matter if you're not inspired', - Chuck Palahniuk."

That passion for the craft and the support she has from the people she loves is an essential combination for Itoro's future success. She dreams of one day being able to "attend fashion shows around the globe as a well acclaimed fashion blogger" as well as to be "identified with the top bloggers and valued for doing what I love most." If winning Fashionista of the Year is anything to go by, Itoro has a long and very bright future in the fashion world!



# KARLA Gutteridge

## SEXIEST WOMAN OF THE YEAR

By: Jenny Aluning

Few things can make one jump to instant conclusions than the sight of tattoos – especially multiple tattoos! Labels such as 'rebel', 'troublemaker', 'biker' are applied without knowing more about the person underneath the ink. For StarCentral's Sexiest Woman of the Year for 2015, Karla Gutteridge, this is the discrimination she faces every day. Luckily, StarCentral's readers are much more open-minded and saw Karla for the beautiful woman she is.

Though she is a relative newcomer to the modeling world, Karla has nevertheless gained a lot of experience with being in front of the camera of multiple photographers. She enjoys being able to see the final product and "seeing that perfect shot! It boosts my confidence and makes me believe I am beautiful." The competitive nature of the industry is a challenge she faces all the time and it can be especially frustrating for Karla as she has "always been a first place sort of person and I always want to be the best!" But she's developed the mentality that her not being chosen for a particular job isn't an affront to her, but only because she didn't have the look the job called for – "...we are all different, and my definition of beauty could be very different to others, we all see beauty in different things!"

One of her favourite experiences so far has been taking part in a multi-cultural fashion show. "Each model came from a different place and had different experience and goals, but when it came down to the runway we all wanted to look our best. These girls were so lovely and welcoming even though we were all strangers. It wasn't competitive and I felt like I could 100% be myself with a large group of people, and that can be rare. That whole experience made me feel very lucky to meet those people."

Another favourite, and her most memorable has been shooting a music video for Lecia Louise's "Shock Me" (Louise is an Australian singer/songwriter/guitarist whose second album, 'Into Being' gained airplay in the US as well as all over Australia and New Zealand. Her inspiration comes from a wide variety of musical styles but her heart lies with 60's and 70's rock). "It was such a different, but fun experience. I got to work with a great team and we were always having a laugh! Video shoots are very different to photo shoots, and this was one of my first video shoots so I was very excited."

Knowing her ink could make it more difficult for her to enter the mainstream modeling world, the Australian 18-year old beauty (who is also a qualified assistant nurse and is the social media coordinator for iModel Fashion Magazine, a bi-monthly online and limited print fashion magazine) nevertheless dreams of becoming a "well known tattoo model. I want to show everyone that tattooed people can still be as classy and clean and anyone else. To do this I want to make it as a model for some of the big, fancy brands such as Chanel." The unfailing support of friends and family will certainly help her achieve her dreams though her "mum eeks when she sees revealing photos...but they are all proud of me and are glad it's something I love."

There is another of Karla's that puts her above the rest – her total belief in herself. "There is no one like me. I can 100% be myself and although some people may not like it, I will always stay true to who I am and never try to be someone I'm not." Karla Gutteridge, the world awaits your arrival.



# PHAM LOAN Pham

## BEAUTY GURU OF THE YEAR

By: Jenny Aluning

It all started with one tutorial. "I was getting ready to go out one night in college, and wanted to do something different to my hair..." That tutorial snowballed into "countless hours of watching YouTube videos on all things beauty related." For StarCentral's Beauty Guru of the Year for 2015, Loan Pham, that one video ignited a passion which now fuels a burgeoning career.

Her YouTube channel, 'LoanPhamBeauty' was born last year amid the unfailing support and encouragement of her family and friends. One of her biggest supporters is her cousin, Kathy. "She basically gave me her DSLR camera to film my videos and always offer her time when I need someone to take pictures of my outfits. She is my number one fan and the first person I go to when I receive exciting news regarding my beauty channel...without her encouragement, I don't think I would've had the nerve to start my channel."

Another source of inspiration for the 28-year old books and music lover is her parents. "I get really emotional when I think of all they've sacrificed (time, money, vacations) to support my brother and I. They have worked endlessly and tirelessly to provide us with everything we've ever needed or wanted growing up...so when I'm having a bad day or feel too lazy to film a new video, I think of them and remind myself that what I have to do for my career is nothing compared to what they've done and gone through for my brother and me."

So for Loan (who also has Bachelor's degree in Science, majoring in Biology), transforming her hobby into a full-fledged, well-paying career is enough incentive to keep going. But for her, that desire for financial independence is coupled with her enjoyment of being able to indulge her creative side. "I'm someone who gets bored really easy, whether it be a place, thing, or trend, so I really love the fact that the beauty and fashion industry is always changing. There's always new trends or products to try out and have fun with." One of the highlights of her career so far is "being invited and attending Generation Beauty in Los Angeles" last year. Generation Beauty is a weekend-long event, run by Michelle Phan's 'ipsy.com' which brings together the leading online beauty, fashion and lifestyle gurus, their fans and the industry's top beauty brands. "Not only was it my first big beauty event, but I also got to meet people, like Michelle Phan, Desi Perkins, and Chrissy, who I've watched and admired for years." She was also able to meet some of her viewers and other beauty vloggers at the event. "I made some amazing friends who share the same passion for beauty and fashion as I do."

Starting something new and stepping out of one's comfort zone is never easy. For the Vietnamese-born/US East Coast-based, self-confessed introvert "putting myself out there for millions of people to watch was pretty daunting." Being exposed on the internet and "to show yourself in a very vulnerable way, without makeup on, isn't the most comfortable feeling." But she's learned that facing down a challenge like that can bring about some pretty amazing things - "...had I not put myself out there, I wouldn't have had the experiences I've had because of my channel nor would I have been able to have the relationships and friendships I've formed through my channel."

For Loan Pham, to one day grow her channel into a full-time job would be a dream come true. She hopes that her channel would give her that chance to repay her parents for their sacrifice. "I hope that my career and YouTube channel allows me to take over their financial burdens and send them off on an amazing vacation one day" and "I'd love the chance to work and collaborate with makeup brands and hopefully someday, create a beauty line of my own." With her mindset, dedication and talent, Loan Pham may one day achieve just that.

