

STARCENTRAL

WHO IS
BAY
DUVAA

GET TO KNOW
STARCENTRAL'S
ULTIMATE
MALE MODEL

SKIN
CARE
FOR
WINTER

HOW TO GIVE
YOUR SKIN CARE
REGIMEN A
GOOD BOOST

THE
Beauty
pageant
Issue

MISS
EARTH
AUSTRALIA

FASHION
SPECTACULAR:
AN AMAZING
LEAD-UP TO
THE NATIONAL
FINALS

+

MEET
BRITTNEE
SHEATH

STARCENTRAL'S
TOP MODEL
WINNER
READY TO TAKE
THE MODELLING
WORLD
BY STORM



RAY BARTHOLOMEUSZ

Photography

Fashion | Weddings | Events

M: 0413080713

E: ray.bartholomeusz@yahoo.com.au

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 6 Skin Care: How to give your winter skin care regimen a boost
- 8 Feature Story: Dejashran Moodley
- 9 Feature Story: Chris Holmes
- 15 Feature Story: Madison Croft
- 16 Feature Story: Nicole Watts
- 18 Event Review: Miss Grand Australia
- 20 Feature Story: Miss Grand Australia 2017 Cassandra Kashian
- 22 Feature Story: Sophie Grosser
- 24 Feature Story: Yolandi Franken
- 28 Event Review: Miss Earth Australia Fashion Show at Club Marconi
- 30 Event Review: Fashion Spectacular featuring Miss Earth Australia
- 32 Feature: How to build a girl squad as awesome as Taylor Swift's

10

Cover

Brittnee & Bay

Get to know Star Central magazine's 2017 annual winners Brittnee Sheath and Bay Duvaa



OPENING REMARKS



It has been nearly 11 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 2017. Firstly, I want to thank the great people behind StarCentral Magazine who are tirelessly 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 2017, 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 Ilagan
Managing Director

14

Marona Tanner

Find out more about Flair 2017's first runner-up





EDITORIAL

Editor-in-chief
Jennifer Aluning

Managing Director
Mike Ilagan

Photographic & Art

Archie K, FIN Photography, Ash Narayan, Brendon Angelicall, Brooke B, Raymond Bartholomeusz, Gary Abella, John Mungcal, David Moore, Lisa Chan, Raf Flores, Thang

Marketing

Alex Abella, Krissy Anderson, Eileen Maynigo, Barnes Luz, Jason Harris, Stephanie Macabenta, Charles Chan, Albie P, Joanna Cubelo, Annabel Gotfried, John Esquerro, Michelle Palmer, Cam, Angelica Whitelaw, Joanne Azzi, Chevvy, Tricia Argeanu, Zenaida G, Gerry Samaniego

Writers & Contributors

Anjelica Whitelaw, Shiwani Guprah, Renae Smith, Holly Phillips, Jenny Hu, Charles Chan, Jill Antonio, Scott Murray, Vanessa Jensen, Leanne Harrison, Patricia Higgins, Judy Flynn, Angie, Katrina R, Joerisa, Rommel P, Christian Q, Christine Claire dela Pena, Dasein Catedrilla

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Unbelievably, we're already into the second half of 2017! Hitting the halfway mark in anything – a race, an assignment, the school year, a book, a fitness plan, even a meal – is usually the impetus to keep going. Thoughts of: "I'm halfway there, I can't stop now!" start going through your mind. It's a heady sensation and is great motivation to finish your goals. But what if you didn't start in the first place? What if those New Year plans and resolutions never got off the ground? Well, get started now! There is nothing worse than looking back in frustration at those dreams that never came true just because of the simple reason where you NEVER TRIED. The journey to fulfilled hopes may be hard, but REGRET is a harder burden to carry every day. So go ahead and emulate the artists and entrepreneurs StarCentral has had the privilege of meeting over the years. I guarantee that not one of them will tell you they begrudge the blood, sweat and tears it took to get them to where they are now. Don't wait, START, and get going!

Jenny Aluning
editor in chief

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Juliet Custodio
Official makeup artist & hair stylist

Juliet Custodio is the manager of Salone by V Guilieta located at Kogarah, NSW. She is a renowned hair designer and makeup artist in Sydney and is known among the modeling and beauty pageant communities as a reputable and talented hair and makeup artist. She has been involved as hair, makeup and beauty consultant for Miss Earth Australia from 2009 to 2011.

Juliet is a multi-awarded hair and make-up artist and has been in the beauty industry for more than 20 years. True to her life, Juliet pushes the boundaries directing style in a way like none have before. Her cuts can be sharp and bold, soft and seamless or sophisticated yet edgy. Meticulous by nature, this director's creative expression is limitless as proven in her success of being an official makeup artist and hair stylist.

As a salon manager, she leads her team with integrity and respect taking pride in assisting and moulding her team member's crafts. With a wealth of knowledge and a knack for leadership, Juliet is an integral member of the team. Her passion for hair and makeup is reflected in the high quality of work she consistently produces and has also won her over some of the salons most loyal clients. Among her endless list of accolades, she has also been the finalist on excellence in business - Hair and Beauty and People's Choice award in Rockdale NSW formerly known as Salon Julieth.



SKINCARE FOR WINTER

As temperatures draw downwards, as daylight hours get shorter and as the air gets crisper, there are a few things that we need to think about when it comes to our daily skin care routine. The approach of winter brings a drop in humidity, a harsher wind chill factor and can result in sensitivities. In terms of our skin it's a time to pay it more attention and to give it the care that it deserves. So, what can you do to ensure beautiful skin all year round?

Nourish

What you might not realise is that plump, radiant skin is best served from the inside. The skin's cell renewal system works on a 28 day-cycle so healthy eating, drinking plenty of water, getting a good night's rest and avoiding too much caffeine/ alcohol is always the best prescription for the health of your skin. Revive it when it's a bit under the weather by sticking to a sensible regime and the rewards will follow.

There are a couple of other ways to boost the quality of your skin during winter. Keep up your Omega 3 intake, whether by supplements or through nutrition (try consuming more salmon, walnuts and flaxseed, for example). Fatty acids benefit the body in a lot of ways, particularly when the climate is colder. Aside from supporting the nervous system and improving heart health, they are perfect for improving your appearance, gracing you with a radiant complexion (and also shiny locks).

Protect your PH levels

Preserving your skin's natural barrier is your best line of defence against the wrath of frigid temperatures. Do this by avoiding soap, surfactants and sulphates that can strip your skin. Looking for a cleanser that is soap-free and PH balanced. Avoid Sodium Lauryl Sulphate and Sodium Laureth Sulphate where possible. It has been proven that these chemicals can remove skin's natural lipids (the oils in your skin that keep it smooth and hydrated).

Moisturise

Cold and wind can strip your skin of vital moisture. During winter look for a moisturiser high in emollient ingredients. Emollients provide a protective layer on the skin that guards against environmental stresses. Therefore, they greatly reduce moisture loss. Some people are particularly susceptible to effects of winter temperatures on their skin and experience flare ups of serious skin disorders such as psoriasis and eczema.

Some examples of high quality and natural emollient ingredients include coco/shear butter, argan/olive oil and also beeswax. They are perfect for anyone with dry, irritated or ageing skin. They are safe for use on sensitive skin. An emollient rich lip balm will serve you well during the winter months. It's often hard to avoid cracked lips during this season.

Also, don't skip the night cream. Your skin replenishes itself best at night and this is also, obviously, when the temperature drops lower. If you use a heater you will encounter even more dryness in the air. So make sure you do your best to protect your skin during the night with an emollient rich moisturiser. This is even better coupled with a serum and an eye-cream.

So, there you have it: some simple ways to care for your skin all year round. You don't have to sacrifice beautiful skin just because it's winter. With a little more care and attention you can overcome anything the season could possibly throw at you, particularly when it comes to your complexion and the health of your skin.



DEJASHRAN MOODLEY

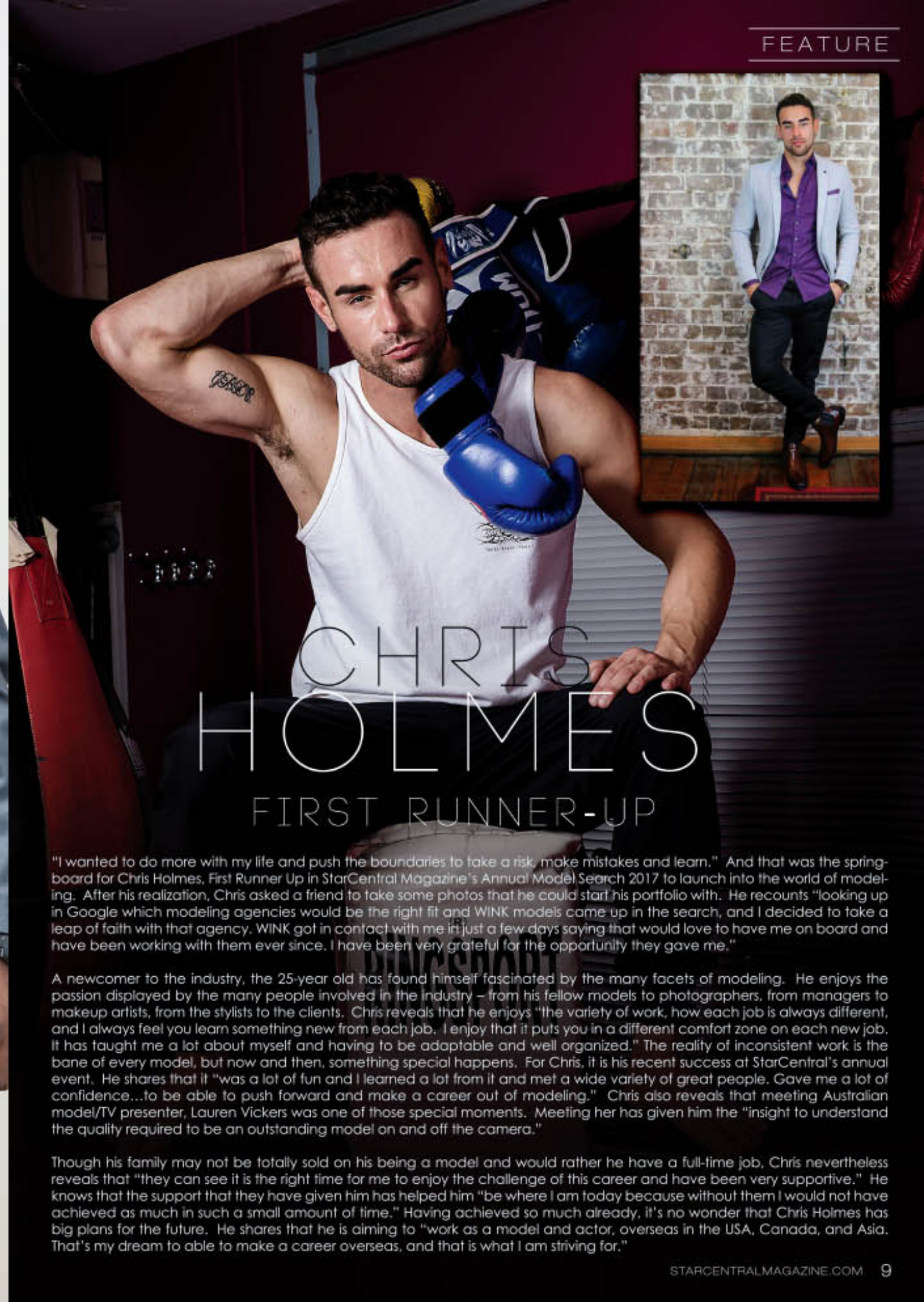
SECOND RUNNER-UP



Dejasran "DJ" Moodley (Second Runner Up for StarCentral Magazine's Annual Model Search for 2017) took a chance, and it launched a career. He reveals that he was discovered through an online photo shoot competition. "I entered the competition and won it! I decided to use those photos to kick start my career..." Since then, DJ has embraced the modeling world. He admits that "it's not your conventional career. It's different to your standard pathway of finish high school then university than 9-5 job..." He concedes that, unfortunately, being a model is "very emotionally draining at times..." The specter of rejection looms constantly, and the 24-year old confesses that "it's a handy skill to have not to let every rejection get you down because it's not always about the job suiting you but you have the suit the job as well. I still have difficulty with this, but the more you get rejected, the better you become at handling it..." The task of staying grounded in this challenging industry is helped along by his group of loyal friends. A group of friends, he laughs, who isn't afraid to tease him now and then – "with every photo that gets publicised there is always a photoshopped copy in the group chat with drawings all over it."

Impressed by the professionalism he witnessed backstage at the StarCentral event, the South African born hunk added it to the list of memorable experiences of his modeling career. Topping that list though is his being on an international campaign for the Australian electronics retailer, Jaycar Electronics – "I still have friends sending me photos of posters or magazines!"

Though he possesses a Bachelor's Degree in Biomedical Science and is currently studying for a Bachelor's Degree in Construction and Project Management, he is hopeful that his modeling career will take off. He confesses that "future plans are to take it as it comes. I may get spotted tomorrow or may never make it to the big time; we'll just have to see where I go."



CHRIS HOLMES

FIRST RUNNER-UP

"I wanted to do more with my life and push the boundaries to take a risk, make mistakes and learn." And that was the springboard for Chris Holmes, First Runner Up in StarCentral Magazine's Annual Model Search 2017 to launch into the world of modeling. After his realization, Chris asked a friend to take some photos that he could start his portfolio with. He recounts "looking up in Google which modeling agencies would be the right fit and WINK models came up in the search, and I decided to take a leap of faith with that agency. WINK got in contact with me in just a few days saying that would love to have me on board and have been working with them ever since. I have been very grateful for the opportunity they gave me."

A newcomer to the industry, the 25-year old has found himself fascinated by the many facets of modeling. He enjoys the passion displayed by the many people involved in the industry – from his fellow models to photographers, from managers to makeup artists, from the stylists to the clients. Chris reveals that he enjoys "the variety of work, how each job is always different, and I always feel you learn something new from each job. I enjoy that it puts you in a different comfort zone on each new job. It has taught me a lot about myself and having to be adaptable and well organized." The reality of inconsistent work is the bane of every model, but now and then, something special happens. For Chris, it is his recent success at StarCentral's annual event. He shares that it "was a lot of fun and I learned a lot from it and met a wide variety of great people. Gave me a lot of confidence...to be able to push forward and make a career out of modeling." Chris also reveals that meeting Australian model/TV presenter, Lauren Vickers was one of those special moments. Meeting her has given him the "insight to understand the quality required to be an outstanding model on and off the camera."

Though his family may not be totally sold on his being a model and would rather he have a full-time job, Chris nevertheless reveals that "they can see it is the right time for me to enjoy the challenge of this career and have been very supportive." He knows that the support that they have given him has helped him "be where I am today because without them I would not have achieved as much in such a small amount of time." Having achieved so much already, it's no wonder that Chris Holmes has big plans for the future. He shares that he is aiming to "work as a model and actor, overseas in the USA, Canada, and Asia. That's my dream to be able to make a career overseas, and that is what I am striving for."

DANI

BAYARTOGTOKH Duvaa

GRAND WINNER

By: Jennifer Aluning

Bay Duvaa's being named 'Ultimate Male Model' at StarCentral Magazine's annual model search punctuates a career that began ten years ago. Bay shares that he got his start as a model when "my teacher Bolormaa invited me to become a model in her agency named "Mongol Model Agency" in Mongolia." It is a career that has seen success. As well as his StarCentral win, Bay won the Grand Prize at the Asia New Face Model Contest held in Seoul, Korea in 2012 – a win he describes as one of the most memorable experiences of his career. Bay had won "Face of Mongolia" first before competing in the international competition run by the Korean Model Association. He beat out 60 other models from 19 Asian countries to win the contest.

The full-time model thoroughly relishes his time strutting down the runway. Outside of the modeling world, Bay enjoys playing basketball and soccer with his friends. He also reveals that he is a marketer, "I like to implement my new ideas to promote new brands or products in marketing and management sectors."

As he pursues his modeling career, the 32-year old can count on the full support of his family, especially that of his wife whom he gushes is the most interesting person he has ever met. That support will be invaluable on the road as Bay has realized that modeling "can create a high career in few years easily, but keeping the career is difficult." But he has great plans which include studying to become an actor – "Acting is very interesting that expresses many kinds of human characters...Hollywood which is my dream..."

'LIGHTNING FAST' Round:

- 1. What do you consider beautiful and why?** Sense of humor is the most beautiful thing in the world. Human outer beauty is temporary, but inner beauty is immortal.
- 2. What haven't you done yet that you wish you could?** I have many things to do which all included in my plans.
- 3. Complete this sentence: "If I had no fear, I'd...go to travel alone all around the world."**
- 4. What is the one "flaw" you wouldn't change about yourself?** I think, there are no any flaws that would not be changed. I am not a perfect person. I always try to improve myself. I am still working on my flaws because I will study until the end of life.



Image credit: FIN Photography

BRITTNEE Sheath

"It's clear that beauty and heart mesh wonderfully in Brittnee Sheath. She holds firm to her belief where if one continues to definitely "believe in yourself that you can do anything you put your mind too and most of all just be yourself."

By: Jennifer Aluning

It all began with the talent directory website, Starnow.com. It was here that the greater modeling world discovered StarCentral Magazine's Ultimate Female Model Winner, Brittnee Sheath. But the StarCentral event was not Brittnee's first foray into the spotlight.

Like most little girls, playing dress up was a part of childhood. She remembers that she's "always had a passion for fashion/stilettos/makeup..." and for being in front of the camera. But for Brittnee, that early imaginary play went up a whole new level when she began entering beauty pageants when she was 13 years old. She's become a finalist at multiple Miss Teen Galaxy Australia pageants, and she is currently a National Finalist for Miss Teen Continents Australia.

But she confesses that her most memorable experience so far has been gracing the cover of "the very first "Model And Mode" magazine..." (published by StarCentral Magazine) and of course, being named StarCentral's Ultimate Female Model.

From beauty pageantry it was an obvious transition into the modeling world where, the 18-year old confesses, she fell in love with all its ins and outs – "You have the chance to meet many interesting people nationally and internationally, be the first to wear unique designer clothes, shoes, and accessories, you can become internationally recognised and could potentially lead to being your full-time career." It has also given her the chance to meet, she reveals, "so many interesting people nationally and internationally from America, Philippines, Indonesia, Russia and Africa just to name a few."

As with the world of beauty pageants, the modeling industry is not an easy one. There is the constant

pressure of competition as well as looking your utmost best. Brittnee confesses that for her the downside of being a model is that "some weeks I'm completely booked and then other weeks are quiet and I have a lot of down time. So that made it important for me to figure out how to create balance in my life." Part of achieving that balance has been her philanthropic work. The Australian beauty shares that "I have spent the past few years volunteering and fundraising for multiple charities and seeing how such simple deeds can be so vital and also just putting a smile on faces, it keeps me humble and enables me to give back to the community in a different but positive way."

It's clear that beauty and heart mesh wonderfully in Brittnee Sheath. Add to that, the continuous support of her family, and success seems assured for the Sydney-based stunner. Brittnee hold firm to her belief where if one continues to definitely "believe in yourself that you can do anything you put your mind too and most of all just be yourself." It's a belief she will find valuable as she has big plans for her future. She reveals that her plan "has always been to compete in Miss Universe Australia and to walk the Victoria Secret runway." Watch out for the beautiful Brittnee Sheath!

'LIGHTNING FAST' Round:

1. **Last good movie I've seen** – 'Baywatch'

2. **What do you consider beautiful and why?** Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. For me, a beautiful heart will always shine brighter than anything else.

3. **What haven't you done yet that you wish you could?** Compete in Miss Universe

4. **Complete this sentence: "If I had no fear, I'd..."** Jump out of a plane.

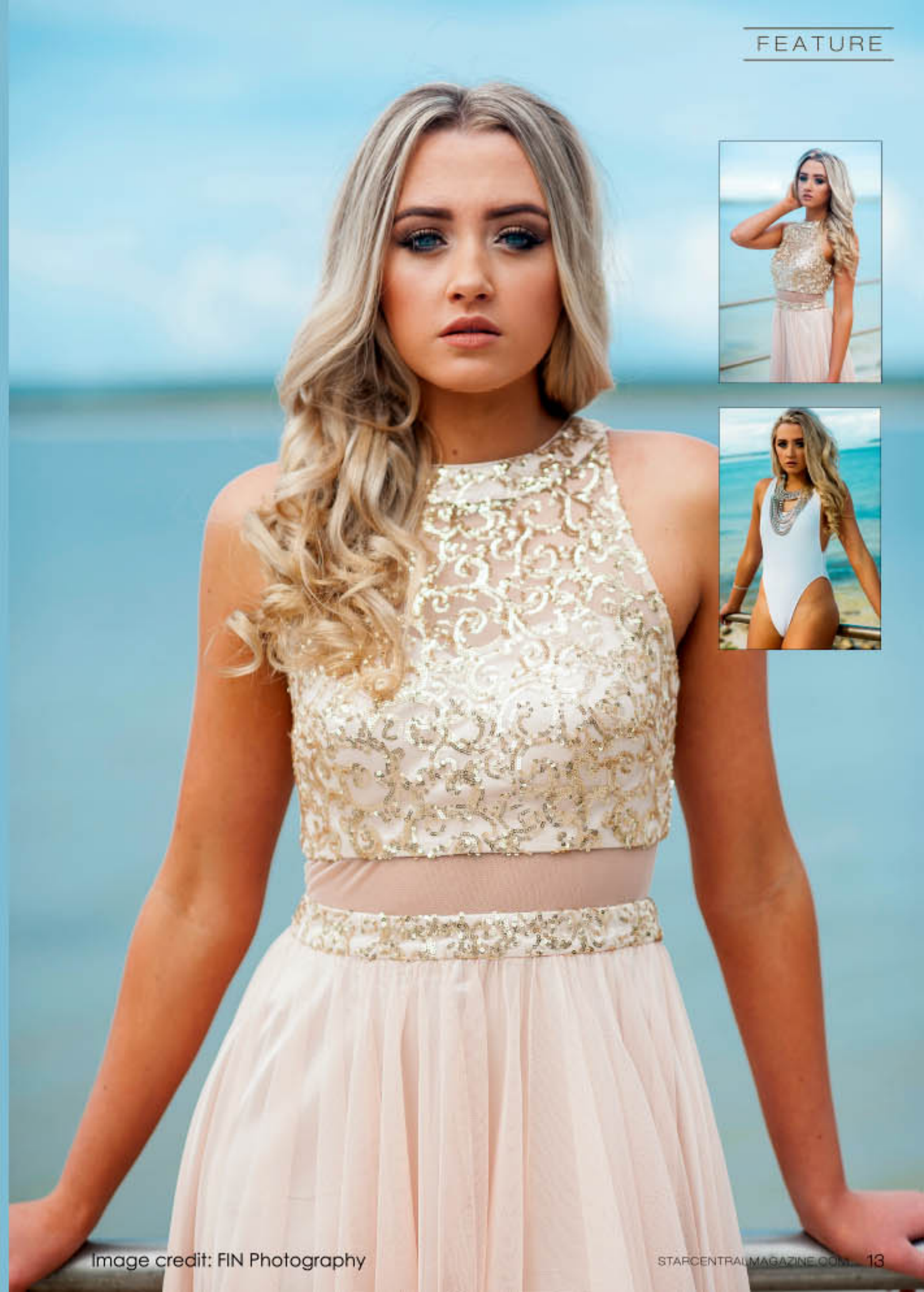
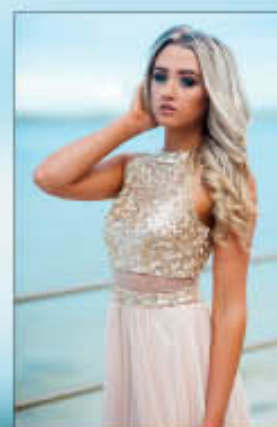


Image credit: FIN Photography

It was her family's move to Australia that started Marona Tanner's (First Runner Up in StarCentral Magazine's Annual Model Search for 2017) modeling career. Her exotic beauty, a result of her Egyptian heritage, drew the admiration of many a passerby and Marona admits that she "felt like an Egyptian queen to be honest." But her feet was set on the path to modeling when, at university (where she was studying for a Bachelor's Degree in Visual Communications, majoring in 3D Animation), she reveals that "the photography students would approach me walking the campus and request me to model for them, so that's where it all began."

Marona gushes that she is enamored with the many aspects of the modeling industry but "if I had to choose one it would definitely be the art of creating the perfect shot and portraying different looks and emotions. The way it allows me to communicate with the viewer via a still image." Even



MARONA TANNER

FIRST RUNNER-UP

the downsides of being a model in which she has to constantly exercise and eat healthy to maintain her figure, Marona wholeheartedly accepts as, she says, she finds "the results are very satisfying." Also in possession of an acting degree, is a sculptor and animator, and an accomplished belly dancer, it's clear that Marona is drawn to the more creative, artistic sides of her world. Her business, Sydney Snaps Photo Booth, is a true reflection of that.

Another aspect of her modeling career that Marona has found memorable is the chance, she confesses, to "meet and interact with great and unique people with interesting and amazing talents." Though her family may not be totally fond of her modelling career, they have nevertheless supported her as she pursues her dreams. Marona plans to keep pursuing modeling as well as continuing to build up her business.

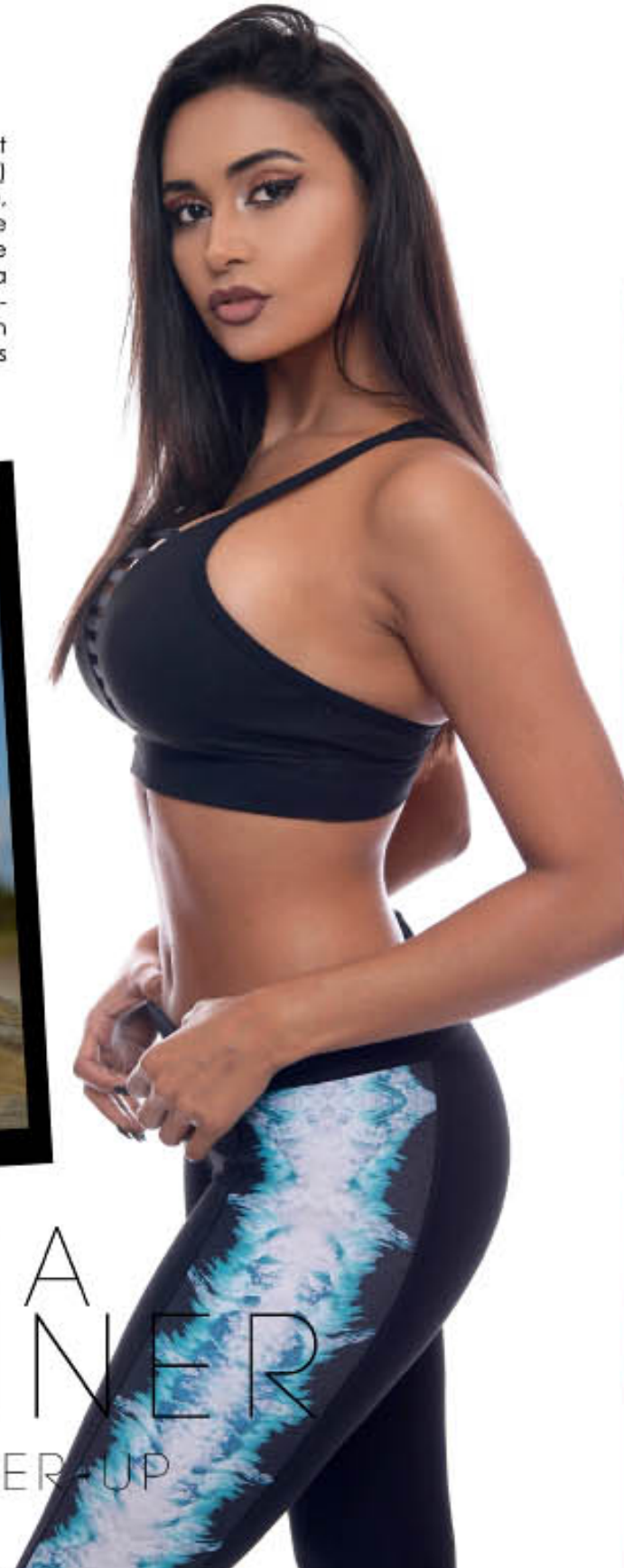


Image credit: Shekhar Jay

MADISON CROFT

SECOND RUNNER-UP

She may only be 15 years old but Madison Croft, Second Runner Up at StarCentral Magazine's Annual Model Search for 2017, possesses a modeling and pageantry portfolio that peers twice her age would be incredibly envious of. In the space of one year, all in 2016, she became a national finalist in the Miss Teen Galaxy Australia Pageant; was crowned Miss Teen Continents Australia and Miss Teenage Universe Australia. She then flew to the US to represent the Land Down Under and did us proud by being named First Runner Up in the Miss Teen Continents Pageant and winning the Miss Teen Universe Pageant. And she's only 15! Madison reveals that "this was a fantastic learning curve and I feel this showed me an insight of the expectations of a working model. When I returned from America, I contacted Dean Marzolla from Aussie Elite, who has advised me on the best direction to take for my future modeling career."

The young Australian beauty confesses that she entered the world of beauty pageants as a way of building up her confidence and to build up stage presence. Her wins have gone a long way towards that goal, and she shares that what she likes most about modeling is the "feeling I get when I am on a runway or doing a photo shoot is that I have achieved something that I always felt was out of my reach." She recently received a boost to that confidence when she was chosen to be one of the models at the Habol Ilongo Fashion Week Show that was held at the prestigious Art Gallery of NSW in Sydney in July 2017.

Despite her incredible successes, the modeling newcomer has learned to handle the sting of rejection – "I have learned is that you may not be chosen at an audition as clients are looking for specific looks and evaluate every opportunity...I treat modeling as a job and feel it's a privilege to be a part of the modeling industry..." Cherishing encounters such as the one she had with current Miss Earth Australia, Lyndi Kean has helped Madison deals with the downs that come with a modeling career.

With the future so big and bright for young Madison Croft, the full support of her family is an essential ingredient to her journey ahead. She reveals that "next year I am going to study makeup Artistry and Gym Instruction, while still pursuing my modeling career. I have always been extremely active, and these three fields work well together."

NICOLE WATTS

THIRD RUNNER-UP

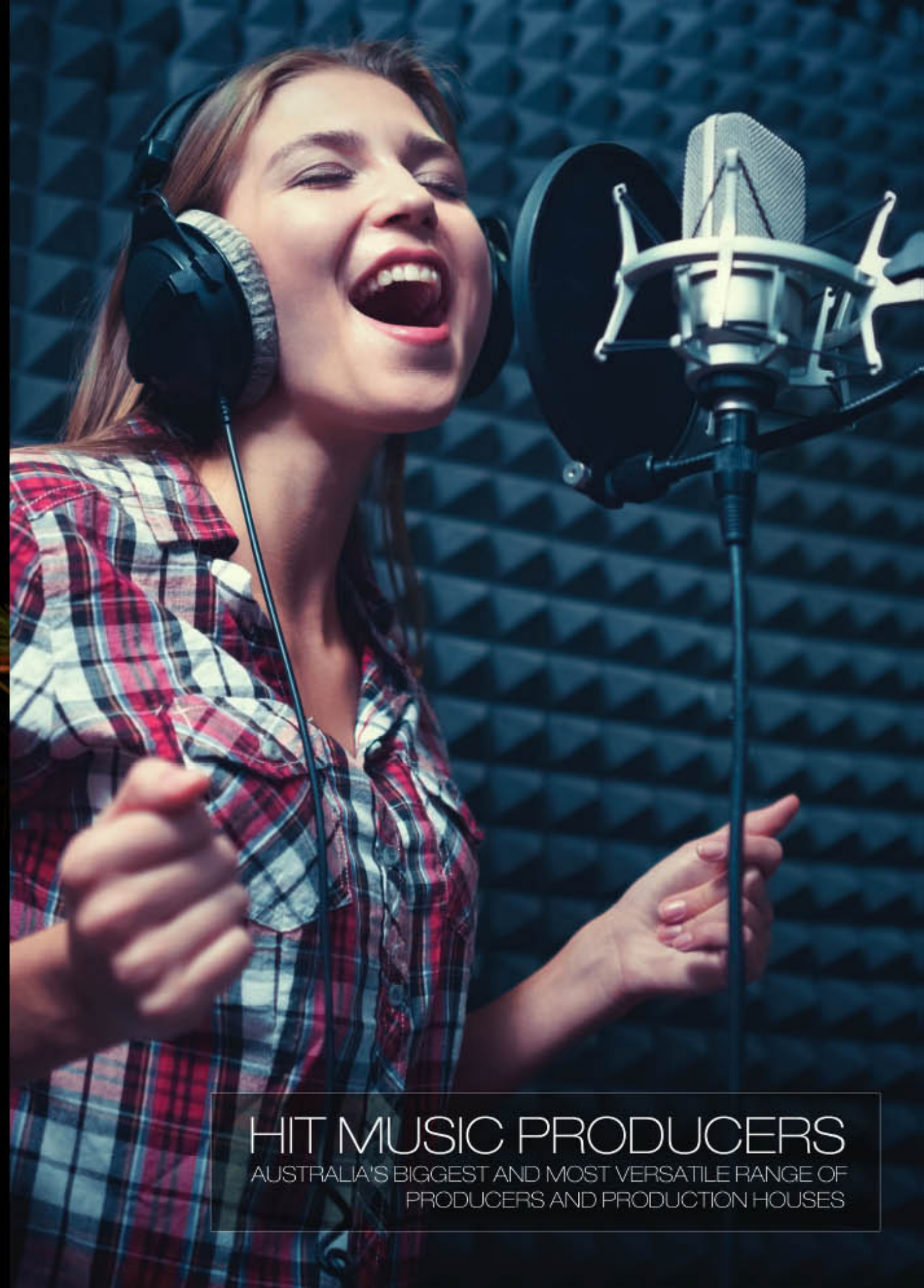


"I love working hard for something I love doing." And that's the attitude that saw Nicole Watts named as Third Runner Up for StarCentral Magazine's Annual Model Search for 2017. After starting out strutting the runway in resplendent Bing Cristobal fashions, Nicole has fallen hard for the modeling world. She gushes that she loves "everything about modeling, projecting myself in front of the camera, it's definitely not a job, it always has and will always be a passion of mine..."

The "stressful work environment, long, unpredictable hours, maintaining body image, variable pay..." she says are definite challenges in her chosen career, but by far the biggest downside is the hits to one's self-esteem – "the feeling of not being good enough, insecurities, being self-conscious." But, the 18-year old has learned, she confesses, "to make the most out of the body I've got...there will always be someone out there who is better than you...I stay grounded by staying true to myself and accepting that both success and failure will teach me a lesson."

A newcomer to the modeling industry (she only began modeling a year ago), Nicole has nevertheless taken on new skills to help her tackle her craft. She shares that she has learned better time management, resilience, confidence and going in prepared. She even pre-plans poses in her head! She confesses that "you will get rejected a lot, but hard works pay off in the end..." And that hard work has certainly paid in dividends! Adding to her success at StarCentral Magazine's annual event, Nicole is also a NSW State Finalist for Miss World Australia 2017.

If her early success is any indication, the half Filipino/half Australian beauty is in for a long career in the modeling industry. Confessing that she loves to "push myself to my boundaries and limits..." is evidence that she also has the drive and determination for the exciting journey ahead of her. "My plans are to keep doing what I love to do, this will hopefully, give me pathways to open up new work opportunities that will allow me to take things to the next level..." Good luck on all you'll do, Nicole!



HIT MUSIC PRODUCERS
AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST AND MOST VERSATILE RANGE OF
PRODUCERS AND PRODUCTION HOUSES



Miss Grand

AUSTRALIA 2017



By: Anjelica Whitelaw

On Friday, June 30, 2017, Cassandra Kashian was crowned Miss Grand Australia 2017 at Doltone House in Hyde Park Sydney. She bested 15 other national finalists for the coveted crown where she will now represent Australia in Vietnam for the title of Miss Grand International 2017.

Miss Grand Australia embodies the 'Stop the War and Violence' campaign, which means ... 'taking a stand to reduce and remove violence both at our doorstep and abroad to stop wars arising or worsening.' Miss Grand Australia's mission is to be the voice of reason to help break the barriers of war with peace within Australia and eventually internationally.

The coronation evening was a formal black-tie event, which aimed to raise \$20,000 for Miss Grand Australia's chosen charity of Destiny Rescue. Destiny Rescue is a non-for-profit charity organization that rescues children from red light districts, brothels, and sexually abusive situations. The candidates each respectively fundraised as a part of Miss Grand Australia journey to help support Destiny Rescue. The coronation was also a charity ball named 'Back to Peaces' which held auctions, raffles, and bid-offs to raise much-needed financial assistance for Destiny Rescue.

Candidates from four out of seven states from around Australia paraded in introduction wear, swimwear and evening gown. The New South Wales team consisted of Alana Thomas, Amelia Conway, Cassandra Kashian, Kerry-Anne Peterson, Maddison-Clare Sloane, Olympia Hitner, Priscilla Marie, Samantha Mullins and Tahnee McGann. Team Queensland comprised of Emily Cook, Gemma White, Kaitlyn Walsh and Lynaah Wangui. Followed by the Victorian pair of Sarah Pinkerton and Jessica Parish. And finally South Australia's very own Sophie Grosser.

The evening began with a red carpet entry for each of the guests with canapés circulating the ballroom. Once the guests were seated, they were graced by the entertainment of international winning Latin dancers. Followed by the introduction segment, which afterwards lead to an auction of a Swarovski crystal necklace. The 2017 Miss Grand Australia candidates then paraded the stage with Styelle swimwear and to conclude the group judging sections; they graced the ballroom in their stunning OMT evening gowns.

After the above segments, the top five was announced where they each were then asked a question individually regarding international conflicts and socio-economic issues. The top five were awarded to the following candidates; 4th Runner Up Alana Thomas, 3rd Runner Up Amelia Conway, 2nd Runner Up: Sophie Grosser, 1st Runner Up: Maddison-Clare Sloane and Grand Winner Cassandra K. Kashian.

KASSANDRA Kashian

MISS GRAND AUSTRALIA

By: Jennifer Aluning

Even as a young girl, the recently crowned Miss Grand Australia 2017, Cassandra Kashian, knew what she wanted and how to get it. As an avid reader of 'Total Girl' magazine, the then 11-year old began to toy with the idea of being a model in it. Cassandra reveals that she submitted her photo "and they picked me to model!"

Her excitement for the modeling world has not dimmed since that first feature. She confesses that she loves "acting and performing so when I am modelling I enjoy creating a character and bringing out different sides of my personality. I love to step outside of my comfort zone and challenge myself as it makes me more confident and builds character..." The various challenges of the modeling world, she says, has helped her "grow as a young woman." Her self-admitted "positive outlook on life" has been a definite advantage when faced with these challenges, including, she reveals, "doing swimsuit photoshoots during early winter mornings..." She confesses that she "learnt resilience and how to present myself in the most polished, professional and positive way possible." Raised with uncompromising, strong moral values, the 22-year old shares that she has "always been encouraged to lift others up and be humble. I love to show my support for others and remember where I have come from. I do not put myself above others but see how I can help, inspire and bring happiness to those around me."

That combination of stunning beauty and a generous heart proved irresistible to the judges of the recent Miss Grand Australia Pageant held on June 30, 2017 at Doltone House in Hyde Park, Sydney. Being named Miss Grand Australia has understandably been Cassandra's most memorable experience in her career so far. The pageant's promotion of the international 'Stop The War' Campaign advocating peace, she reveals, holds a "special place in my heart". Cassandra will go on to compete at the Miss Grand International Pageant to be held at Phu Quoc, Vietnam in October.

The Australian/Armenian stunner (who also has her own YouTube channel called: 'Keeping Up With Cassandra Kashian') has been fortunate to encounter others who complement her own positive mental attitude. She reveals that she has "met lots of incredible beauty queens who are working hard to bring positive change to the world..." These ladies include businesswoman and beauty queen, Kate Johnson; Miss Grand Australia 2016, Dani Fitch; Claire Parker, Miss Grand International 2016 and talented pageant coach and advisor, Peter Sereno.

Not only does she have beauty and heart, Cassandra has brains too! She holds a diploma in public speaking as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Business with a Major in Marketing Communications, Event Management and Public Relations. With the 100% support of her huge extended family, she says that she hopes to "combine these skills in the future to forge a successful career for myself as a television presenter, actress and model..." beyond her reign as Miss Grand Australia. So, for the next year, her "dream is to win the Miss Grand International 2017 title and travel the world supporting the 'Stop the War' campaign through humanitarian missions. I believe in everything the Miss Grand International organisation stands for and I would love to be given the opportunity to make real change in the world and inspire others to do the same."

Image Credit: Shekhar Jay

SOPHIE GROSSER

STARCENTRAL'S CHOICE

By: Jennifer Aluning

Sophie Grosser, StarCentral's Choice and Miss Grand Australia's 2017 Second Runner Up, was just 5 years old when the modeling world beckoned. Her mother enrolled her at the then-Tanya Powell Modelling Agency (now Powell Models) where she did commercials for the South Australian department store, Harris Scarfe and for Miki House, a Japanese children's clothing brand. As a teenager, she took a break from modeling but at 21, the world called to her again and she hasn't looked back since.

Having studied both makeup artistry and interior design, and is a trained ballet dancer, the modeling industry fits into Sophie's love for the creative arts. She reveals that what she enjoys most about modeling is "the different roles you are able to slip into depending on what your job is, you can go from feeling extremely glamorous to sporty or edgy, it's kind of like acting but without the pressure of getting your lines right I guess. I love watching the whole creative process...so much work goes into getting that one perfect picture and I enjoy seeing how the stylists, hair and makeup artists, photographers and client all work together to come up with their idea of how they want the image to look." And that variety in the modeling world was no more evident than at one of the 24-year old's favourite photo-shoots which involved urban clothing brand, Unfold. She shares that "they wanted someone with a dancer's background for the role...it was really fun to lose the standard types of poses and just pretend I was dancing around in some gorgeous clothes."

While the half Australian/half German's love for the modeling world is absolute, she confesses to the challenges she faces daily such as the enormous amount of pressure she puts on herself to succeed and achieve "the next big goal." The chance of rejection is also an ever-present hurdle. But Sophie has discovered an innovative way to get her through it. She shares that she was "told once when you are going for roles to think of yourself as an item of clothing not as the person that you are. So, you might be a green skirt, however, this season they are only looking for yellow skirts so don't feel too disheartened if you don't get the role as next season they may be loving green skirts again and that will be your time to shine."

With the constant emphasis on one's physicality, keeping a level head is another challenge that faces models every day. According to Sophie, "the key to staying grounded is to have a good mix of people that you surround yourself with, I have a beautiful group of friends that I can laugh and be myself with and not worry that they are seeing me without makeup or not how people expect you to look all the time."

Sophie Grosser's modeling career has all the hallmarks of becoming a successful one. Because she admits that she has the tendency to "stress myself out way too much..." when she plans too far ahead, Sophie is forcing herself to relax and enjoy her current modeling contract in Manila, Philippines. After she returns home, she says that she'll see "what opportunities present themselves before I make any more big decisions."



YOLANDI FRANKEN



NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF MISS MULTIVERSE AUSTRALIA

Yolandi Franken is a true example of a multi-faceted and modern woman.

It is no wonder that she accepted the National Directorship of the model contest, Miss Multiverse Australia. She leads the search for the country's most amazing and multi-faceted models to represent Australia at the world finals of Miss Multiverse. She is also the producer of the Reality TV Series that documents all the trials and tribulations, victories and achievements of girls during the contest. The TV Show is called "I Am Multiverse - Australia" and is a branch of the successful international version of the show.

As a previous Australian winner who represented Australia overseas in Dominican Republic in 2016, she knows exactly what it takes to be a Miss Multiverse Australia. She also knows how to prepare for the world finals and what they are looking for.

"I have learned what to do and what I should have done differently, and would like to share that knowledge with our Australian winner", says Yolandi Franken.

She knows now, even more than before, that it is not nearly enough just to be a good model with model-looks and modelling skills. The competition is tough and the judging criteria is not for the faint hearted. Girls are tested mentally, physically, socially, intellectually, and the list goes on.

Only the best of the best will be sent overseas to hopefully, bring back the crown.

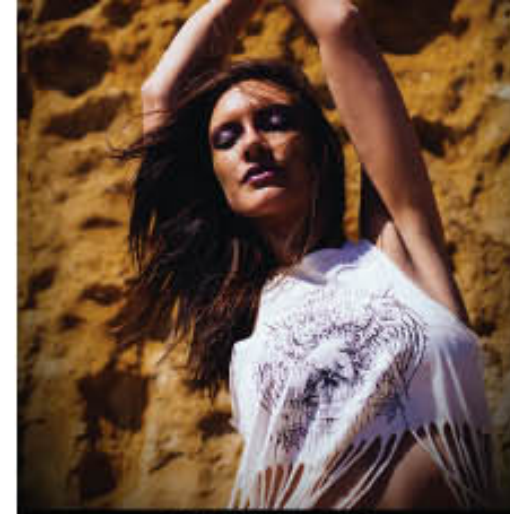
Yolandi has only known two things in her working life;

Being in front of the cameras and being behind the cameras. As a Film and TV producer as well as a model and presenter, being in charge of Miss Multiverse Australia was the next logical step in her career. It ties together all avenues of her professional life. It all happened at the right time for her. She has produced and acted in many award winning Feature Films, TV Shows, music videos and much more. She is currently also a Producer and Host of a TV Show - The Fast Lane - which is available worldwide on Pay TV.

According to Yolandi, her proudest achievement was being nominated as Australian of the Year early 2016. She was initially introduced to Miss Multiverse when she was a finalist in the Miss/Mrs Australia Quest, run by Karen Sabarre. Prior to competing in Miss Multiverse, Yolandi also represented Australia in Mrs Globe and Mrs World.

"Miss Multiverse was a complete different experience than other contests I competed in. It is definitely more of a model contest than a pageant. It was the best experience of my life to date." Says Yolandi.

Miss Multiverse Australia has a secondary focus, after finding the best of the best of girls in Australia. The organisation also wants to ensure that the Miss Multiverse Australia journey is a life-changing journey to all the contestants, no matter how far they get in the competition. By finding and creating opportunities for the models, they are hoping to help the girls gain more exposure and grow their modelling careers. They also encourage girls to make the most of the time that they have the title as "finalist" and to use it to achieve things they always wanted to, but maybe never could.



SHANELLE



DANA



STEPHANIE



JESSICA



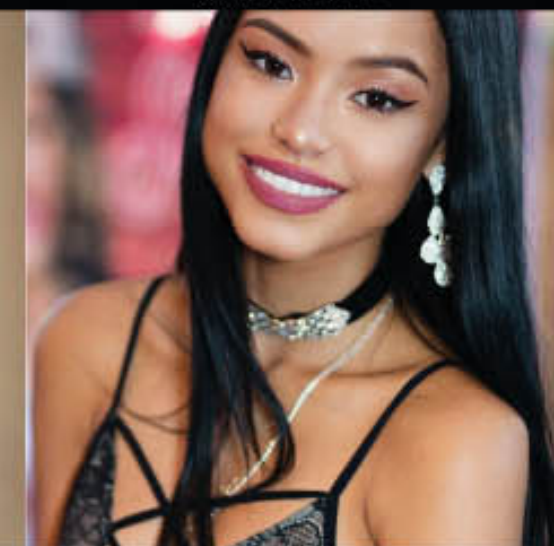
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The Catwalk

FASHION SHOW

By: Georgina Smith

Set in the grand ballroom of Club Marconi, seven talented designers showcased their innovative new creations at the "Catwalk" Fashion show featuring local models and the Miss Earth Australia 2017 candidates.

Amongst flashing lights, media coverage and music - a number of gorgeous models along with the Miss Earth Australia 2017 national finalists rocked the runway in an array of avant-garde clothing by any standard. This year, they invited Filipina actress Marlann Flores as a showstopper and she definitely brought the house down in her incredible finale dress.

The fashion show supported and showcased a greater number of up and coming fashion designers and all proceeds from the night went to raising funds for the Miss Earth Australia 2017 candidates. Congratulations to Vicky-Yen Chew and Marites Novis for organizing such an incredible and entertaining event.





MISS EARTH AUSTRALIA

FASHION SPECTACULAR

By Jill Antonio

The outstanding management behind national beauty pageant Miss Earth Australia hosted a glamorous Fashion Spectacular at the stunning Sydney Harbour restaurant and bar, The Port, in late July.

Lights dimmed, and the fancy affair kicked off with a tantalizing solo Bollywood performance by a beautiful woman in a stunningly sparkling sari - dancing in the very center of the stunning restaurant-turned-runway.

Pews of well-dressed guests assembled excitedly on either side of the elevated platform, ready for the fashion showcase to come.

Miss Earth Australia is a renowned national beauty pageant whose organizers and contestants are strong advocates for the promotion of environmental awareness and green living.

The winner of Miss Earth Australia 2017 will be the 13th "beauty for a cause" candidate sent on to participate in international beauty pageant Miss Earth International - now one of the world's top three international beauty pageants.

The atmosphere in The Port for the Fashion Spectacular was electric. Models bustled backstage with nervous excitement before awaiting their name introductions and strutting down the runway to the latest in pop music.

With up to 20 female models and an equal number of strapping male models walking the makeshift runway, the evening

was an ongoing display of varied fashion and style - before the formal introduction of the Miss Earth Australia candidates themselves.

The preliminary models represented ranged from young adults, to mature aged, hailed from multi-cultural ethnicities, and flaunted body shapes of different beautiful styles and sizes: slim, curvy, athletic, and petite. The overall message of the display was in support of healthy body image, confidence in one's own skin - and undeniable beauty.

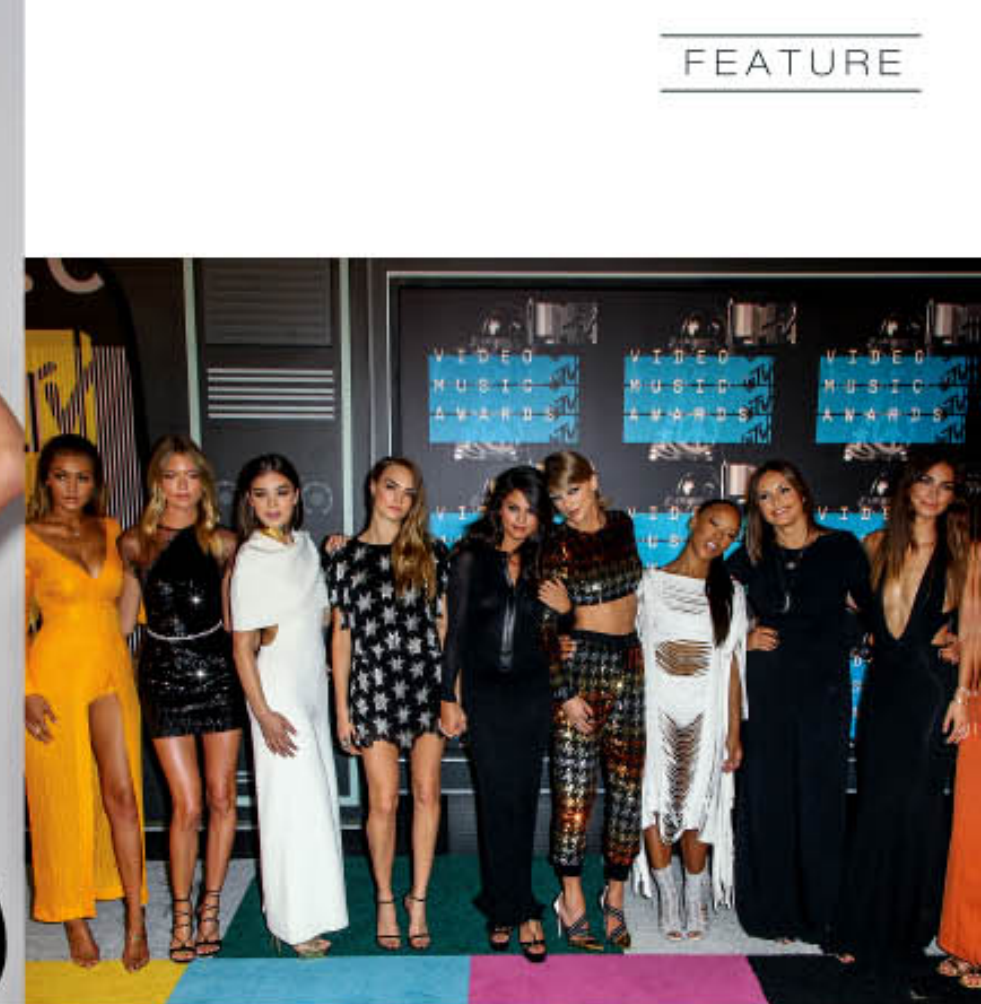
The first round of models were introduced in their most impressive casual and street wear - a stark contrast from the alluringly sexy evening gown segment that followed. The models then wowed the crowd in tasteful winter-wear, which was fitting for the Australian July season.

Model and Miss Earth Australia candidate Riley Aston-Kampioti rendered onlookers an exquisite singing performance in her most angelic voice, sporting an amazingly elegant red and green gown that resembled a rose bush. Guests were also treated to other show-stopping singing performances between fashions segments.

The fantastic Fashion Spectacular event, featuring Miss Earth Australia Candidates paid homage to the heart of the Miss Earth cause, which is to promote outward beauty - while maintaining the inner awareness of significant environmental issues that affect citizens of all countries, all over the globe.

Sydney's best DJ's led the crowd into a dance party celebration to conclude the evening.





CHOOSING THE RIGHT GIRL SQUAD

By: Jenny Aluning

"The Girl Squad." Taylor Swift and her posse of ladies made the term famous but examples of the 'girl squad' has been around pop culture for a long time. Think: 'The Golden Girls', 'Mean Girls', 'Sex and the City' and you'll get an idea what the 'girl squad' is all about. It's your group of girlfriends who know your ins and outs, and seen your ups and downs. And because of that intimacy, choosing the right members for your girl squad is extremely important. Here are a few things to keep in mind.

1. They Build Up, Not Tear Down

True friends are supportive and encouraging but they are also on hand for some constructive criticism. Critique is not always a bad thing! Your friends have your well-being in mind and there will be times when they have to be honest. Whether it's about your new job, boyfriend or even just a dress you're planning on splurging on. To true friends, the only important criteria is: will you be happy? So, if your job, boyfriend or dress doesn't meet that criteria, they'll tell you. So, be open to hearing them. Your friends will rejoice with you in your successes and stand by you in your failures. If they're doing the other way around: let them go.

2. They Celebrate Differences

I have 2 best friends. I call them 'the sisters of my heart.' But we are as different as friends can ever be! On paper, the three of us shouldn't work, but we do. And have for the last 22 years! One of the biggest successes of our relationship is how, even though we three are so different, we accept our differences. And not only do we accept them, we learn from them. We've expanded each other's worlds because of our differing perspectives. And while that's sparked some lively debates, we've increased our understanding of each other. A successful girl squad will have ladies from different walks of life, bringing with them a myriad of experiences that can only serve to make each member a better person. Conformity can get boring, and damaging, real fast.

3. They Respect Your Family

Didn't expect this one, huh? Family dynamics are really tricky. Even the most

True friends are supportive and encouraging but they are also on hand for some constructive criticism. Critique is not always a bad thing!

seemingly stable of families can be complicated. But for better or worse, family makes up a lot of who you are. True friends will recognise this and will treat your family with respect. They'll support you through any troubles you have with your family, but they'll refrain from bad-mouthing them. Their job is to stand by you, not contribute to driving a wedge between you and your family.

4. Silence Is OK

A successful girl squad will compose of confident, secure, independent women. And it is because of those traits that members of your girl squad will not freak out if they don't hear from you for a bit, or you freak out if you don't hear from them! You all lead individual lives and those lives can be pretty demanding at times. Requesting constant contact and validation from others is the last thing anyone needs! True friends appreciate quality over quantity. An occasional, but fantastic 2-hour conversation is way better than a few hurried text messages every day.

And there you have it. A few important things to consider when putting together your girl squad. But, here's one last thing to remember....

5. It's OK To Say Goodbye

People and circumstances change. All our experiences adds layers to our personality and yes, sometimes this means who you were when you first joined your squad doesn't match your present self. I've lost touch with my girlfriends from high school, but that doesn't mean that I don't appreciate them and honestly, I still think of them fondly. They were a group of strong women who didn't care about what others thought of them. We were by no means, the 'cool group', but we earned the respect, not only of our peers, but of our teachers as well. Knowing that was so valuable and being friends with that group of ladies formed a lot of who I am now.

While I've directed this article to the ladies, these pieces of advice apply to you gentlemen as well. "Friends are the family we choose for ourselves." So, guys and gals...please choose wisely. Your future self will thank you.



1. Brice White looking totally dashing in his formal wear at Flair 2017.

2. Madison Croft looking stunning in blue at Flair 2017.

3. The gorgeous Flair 2017 judges with StarCentral's managing director Mike Ilagan.

4. Ultimate cover girl winner Brittnee Sheath in her captivating nature costume.

5. StarCentral Magazine's April 2017 covergirls Tamara, Dani and Anjelica.

6. StarCentral Magazine's male model winner Bay Duvaa in his sexy blue suit.

7. Marona Tanner looking absolutely gorgeous in her black dress at Flair 2017.



Julijana, Tamara, Anjelica and Dani



Bay Duvaa



Brittnee Sheath

"Meet the who's who in the social scene down under"



Marona Tanner



Flair 2017 judges



Brice Whyte



Madison Croft

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