Written by Claire Perkins
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The Face of Foothills 2011 Model Search Web contest is in full-swing, and the votes are coming in in the hundreds of thousands! The winner will receive tons of exposure and more than \$10,000 in prizes when the confetti falls this November.

This year, Arizona Foothills and Westcor upped the ante and introduced a new aspect to the contest- Casting Call Finalists- who were chosen at three of the Westcor Casting Calls as the judge's favorite. These three have the luxury of bypassing the first four rounds of voting. The remaining Semi-Finalists chosen for Face of Foothills will be narrowed to 12 models throughout the various voting rounds, and will then compete against these three in the Finalist Face-Off, a five-day voting extravaganza to determine the final ten models.

llana, Tess and Lauren were chosen at the Scottsdale Fashion Square, Chandler Fashion Center and Kierland Commons Casting Calls, respectively, as our Casting Call Finalists. Read a little about the three who wooed our judges and are currently closest to the Face of Foothills Crown.



Ilana T., 16, Scottsdale, AZ

What made you decide to enter the Face of Foothills Model Search?

After getting an email from Scottsdale Fashion Square about the Face of Foothills Model Search, I knew it would be truly great for me. When I read the requirements on the website, I was shocked that no one had to be a certain gender, age, or height. Not being as tall as a runway model, it's given myself the opportunity for a chance to achieve something I've always wanted to do. I wanted to enter because I read the magazine and love how classy and elite it is while covering all of Arizona's finest things it has to offer. This will be a great experience for me and will be a big door opener. I would love to look back when I am older and say that Arizona Foothills Magazine saw something in me that helped me in my career!

What is your history in modeling?

Although I have done a few photo shoots, I am new to this industry and have not had much experience in modeling.

What do you have coming up this year?

In the next few months, I'm going to be continuing acting classes, going to a concert, and spending time relaxing with my family and friends before junior year starts. I also want to travel as much as possible even if it's just small road trips.

What are your hobbies?

One of my favorite hobbies is to go shopping. I definitely have a passion for fashion! Fashion is a big part in my life and is something that I'm going to be involved in after high school. I love finding old music to listen to from the 60's, 70's, and 80's. I danced for eleven years and although I am currently not dancing, it is still a hobby I enjoy. At school, one can always find me reading a new book. In school, I am in Yearbook; and because of this club, I've learned and have come to love photography, writing, and graphic design. I also enjoy traveling and cruising around town, seeing what the world has to offer.

Why do you think you're the best choice for the 2011 Face of Foothills?

I think I'm the best choice for the 2011 Face of Foothills because I have a lot of personality and I believe I'm a good candidate for someone my age. I want to show that even though I am young, I can pursue what I want to do just like anyone else. No matter what a person's age is, they can always follow their dreams and are NEVER too young to accomplish it!

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Tess S., 17, Scottsdale, AZ

What made you decide to enter the Face of Foothills Model Search?

I entered in the Face of Foothills Model Search because I feel like its a very well-run and nonjudgmental competition, based on more personality than looks.

What is your history in modeling?

I am currently modeling for The Agency Arizona and have been since February of 2009, but I graduated and plan to move to New York City. I signed with MMG in March and am anxious for the jobs it'll bring me.

What do you have coming up this year?

My plans for the rest of 2010 are to graduate high school, take a few summer trips, move to New York City and attend school in the city. In 2011 I just hope to continue my career goals and stay motivated for what is to come.

What are your hobbies?

A few hobbies I enjoy are traveling, shopping, playing the piano, yoga, running, and cooking.

Why do you think you're the best choice for the 2011 Face of Foothills?

I think I would be the best choice for the 2011 Face of Foothills because I feel my natural look and motivation would help continue the goals set by Arizona Foothills Magazine.



Lauren M., 20, Coolidge, AZ

What made you decide to enter the Face of Foothills Model Search?

For the past two years I have been actively pursuing a career in modeling throughout the Valley. So when I saw there was an opportunity to model for Foothills magazine I was very excited.

What is your history in modeling?

I have been working with Young Agency as well as AZ Model Management, as well as a lot of independent work. I have done several fashion shows, including some for Apple Bottom Jeans, Phoenix Fashion Week, Face in the Mirror, Crave and many local boutiques. I placed 2nd runner up in the Miss AZ USA pageant, I have done print work for local businesses like dental offices, boutiques, and many photographers. I have also participated in several Phoenix Super Shoots.

What do you have coming up this year?

This Month I will be featured in Arizona Bridal Magazine. I will once again be competing for a title in the Miss USA Pageant preliminaries and I also may have the possibility of going to NYC for a modeling session.

What are your hobbies?

I love to perform in Musical Theater, sing and dance- I was even able to sing for President Bush once! I love fashion and everything about it. I also enjoy boating, wake-boarding and anything in the water. This is not necessarily a hobby, but I enjoy working with the elderly. Volunteering & working with many nursing homes and senior centers. They are a blast to be around and there is so much to learn from them.

Why do you think you're the best choice for the 2011 Face of Foothills?

Get to Know the Face of Foothills Casting Call Finalists

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I am a AZ Native and in my early 20's, which is just the right age where there are so many paths in front of me. Tthe world and Arizona have many opportunities waiting for me to explore.... that is the Face of 2011. A young Arizona girl with the future as bright as the Arizona sun.... In fact, It's so bright I am going to need to wear sunglasses!