

Andrea's words to live by.....Ageless,



ANDREA PATRICK FORTE  
PHOTO: BILL STREICHER  
MAKEUP: SUE MARTIN

# So, you want to be a model?

Of course, you do...that's probably one of the reasons you picked up this magazine.

By Andrea Patrick Forte.

Well, I have been asked to write this column to answer some of the questions you might have to help get you started. Or some of those questions you have always wanted to ask, but didn't know where to get the answers. Now there's Andrea to the rescue...**"Dear Andrea"** actually, a regular advice column to help our SU readers get the most out of learning the *"ins and outs"* of the modeling industry and really learning what it is that made you make the decision to enter the field of modeling in the first place.

In this ongoing column, we will not only look at ways to assist you with key elements, but also the basics of modeling such as:

- Types of Modeling
- Finding an Agent
- Creating a Portfolio
- Choosing a Photographer

We will also address important modeling tips that every model should be prepared to know prior to an audition, photo shoot or meeting.

You see, I get asked these types of questions on a day to day basis. I work with aspiring models and established models in the industry with my national model and talent agency, Patrick Talent Agency. I started my agency fourteen and a half years ago because I wanted to be able to offer a service to clients but also to be able to advise and counsel models and talent. I receive the most pride from my job when I am able to assist one of my models in helping them to achieve one of their goals and I get to share in their excitement. I guess you could say I enjoy when people succeed and I love it when I might be there in the beginning of someone's career, or throughout their career giving them guidance. I am a passionate person by nature and I like surrounding myself with positive people. You know, good energy is contagious! I try to instill that with everyone I come in contact with. Whether it is a client, model, co-worker or friend, I think your outlook on life will truly take on so many life meanings for you. Which brings me to models having a good attitude in this business.

My theory is that everyone is beautiful and I can see and find beauty in just about everyone and everything. I call it my **"Beautiful Thought Theory"**. If

*you think beautiful...you are beautiful!* In the world of modeling, however, you need to be realistic. If you are 5'2", you will never be a high-fashion runway model. There are very strict requirements for modeling agencies with height and age, especially in the fashion division of an agency that if you do not fit the criteria, you need to move on to another area of modeling. There are many other areas of modeling that you can pursue. However, this does not mean that you can't wake up every morning feeling beautiful and going into that casting with your **"BTT"**. Pass it on. **Beautiful Thought Theory**. I do this with a smile when I meet people. You cannot imagine how many people never smile! When you walk into any interview or casting, please smile and say hello to everyone. This lets them know that you are a confident person. And, a confident person is a beautiful person. Confidence comes through in your photo shoots. You should always walk into a photographer's shoot with a professional attitude. Modeling is a business. The most beautiful model in the world will run out of work if he or she constantly wastes people's time by being late, not showing up, or by not being prepared to work. Always present yourself in a professional manner whether it is your first photo shoot or your hundredth shoot. During your shoot, be yourself and be confident! Your inner and outer beauty will shine through. **Remember...BTT.**

So, all you models out there...here are

## Andrea's anecdotes

Time to stop believing the hype and get back to **TRUE BEAUTY.**

**Confidence** is the name of the game in the business of modeling.

**"Opportunities** are usually disguised as **hard work**, so most people don't recognize them." - *Ann Landers*

And, I want you you to defy...

**Stereotypes - Expectations - Boundaries - The Odds - Doubt**  
**DEFY ANYTHING THAT HOLDS YOU BACK**

Remember, I want your questions. So, write me! I want to talk to you. I can't wait! I am so proud to be affiliated with such a prestigious publication and delighted to offer to other models what I have learned as a way of giving back to an industry that has been so good to me. **E-mail me anything related to modeling that you would like to ask me to: [andrea@patricktalent.com](mailto:andrea@patricktalent.com).**

Andrea Patrick Forte is the CEO and owner of Patrick Talent Agency - a national leading provider of television show hosts, models, spokesmodels, and top entertainment. Cover Magazine model, Hollywood actress and a former finalist in the Miss America and Miss USA pageants, Andrea has proven that having a dream and working hard to achieve it shows that dreams really can come true. For further information, visit: [www.patricktalent.com](http://www.patricktalent.com).