

HCC Cosmetology Student Takes First Place in State Competition

Freeport – Highland Community College Cosmetology student Renee Kok of Freeport, with her model Kristina Hicks of Rock City, entered the annual Illinois Association of Cosmetology Schools Student Competition and Career Fair. The event was held on Sunday, November 9th at the Tinley Park Conference Center in Tinley Park, Illinois.

Renee chose to enter the Avant-Garde Make-Up competition in which contestants chose a theme and performed the complete make-up application within 60 minutes. This is a look that is out of the norm, being anything from edgy, fantasy, futuristic or just plain fun. Renee's work and attention to detail brought home a first place award for Highland. She was presented with a trophy and a \$1000.00 scholarship for advanced training at the Westmore Academy of Cosmetic Arts in Burbank, California. Westmore Academy was founded by Marvin Westmore, who is and has been a make-up artist to the stars for many years and holds the honor of being one of the most distinguished make-up artists of all time.

Also entering competition was student Kayla Iserman of Dakota, with model Kristina Hicks of Rock City. Kayla chose to enter the category of Color to the Extreme. In this contest the student chooses a predominate color and uses that color throughout the entire look, including costume, hair, nails and make-up. The hair and make-up for the look had to be completed during the 60 minute competition time. The theme must be followed throughout and can originate from reality to fantasy.

Over 100 students from around the state competed in five categories: Long Hair, Color to the Extreme – Total Fashion, Club Mix/Avant-Garde – Total Fashion, Makeup, and Nails.

For more information regarding Highland Community College Cosmetology and Nail Technology programs contact Cathie Schmerse at 815-599-3544, or visit www.highlandcosmo.com.

