

Former Beverly Hills hair stylist Rachel Austin-Choissey joins Maneta Beauty Boutique

Maneta Beauty Boutique proudly welcomes hair stylist Rachel Austin-Choissey to its talented staff.

Rachel has over 24 years experience in the industry as a hair and make up artist. She has worked in Beverly Hills at the renowned hair styling boutique Jon Peters and has studied with Robert Cromians, educator and stage stylist of Paul Mitchell Inc. Actress Farrah Fawcett has been among her cliental. Rachael has worked with model and talent agencies in Las Vegas and has been the senior stylist for the Miss Universe Pageant. Rachel continues to pursue advancing education traveling from New York to LA for the latest styling techniques and product knowledge. Her expertise includes the "Brazilian Hair Straightening System," as well as many of the latest techniques with hair extension, making her one of the countries top experts in her field. She was an educator for Goldwell for three years, and is now a specialist with an emphasis on her hairloc extension technique, using only the finest quality of European and Russian hair. She is currently doing the hair styling on a video and album cover for a country rock singer. Her diversity and wealth of knowledge enables her to give her clients the very best.

Rachel is new to the area, but not to the business. She still travels to Las Vegas every other week. She loves Maneta's personal and warm environment. She is like a family member to her clientele

To make an appointment, please call Maneta Salon at 858-794-7870. Maneta is located at 2148 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar.

—Advertising submission



Rachel Austin-Choissey

San Diego Unified School District develops 12th grade curriculum called Personal Financial Literacy . . . The Game of Life

In a world where your credit score may be more important to your future than your academic transcripts, it is critical for students to increase their financial IQ's. They cannot afford to learn the lessons of personal financial literacy the hard way. The consequences are too great.

— John J. Hargrove, retired U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge, Southern District of California

The data is bleak! The line is blurred between needs and wants. In these times of economic crisis, including mortgage meltdowns and credit card overhang, it seems that debt is the norm. Today, Americans carry \$2.56 trillion in consumer debt according to the Federal Reserve Board. By contrast, the nation's savings rate, which exceeded 8 percent of disposable income in 1968, stood at 0.4 percent at the end of the first quarter of this year, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The San Diego Unified School District has recognized this social and economic crisis by developing a 12th grade curriculum called Personal Financial Literacy . . . The Game of Life.

Included as a supplemental curriculum, it will be introduced in the 2008-09 school year and integrated within all 12th grade economics classes.

"San Diego Unified is dedicated to quality teaching and learning in our classrooms and to developing life skills" states Superintendent Dr. Terry Grier. "Teaching students the importance of learning how to manage their money is paramount to helping them succeed in a complex world. I thank our talented teachers and the San Diego business community for their three-year commitment and collaboration to helping create this unique, dynamic curriculum." (Dr. Grier is presenting an overview of this curriculum at

a national conference in October, for urban superintendents.)

The genesis of this effort began with the convening of a Personal Financial Literacy Task Force by the district's Community Relations Department in October of 2005, at Madison High School. Attendees included principals, vice principals, representatives from the district's Office of College, Career & Technical Education Department, and 12th grade economics teachers from across the district who were concerned that students did not know how to manage their personal finances. Soon after, others joined the effort including the then, presiding bankruptcy judge for San Diego, and local financial institutions including: San Diego National Bank, Union Bank of California, California Coast Credit Union, and Washington Mutual. Although the task force reviewed Personal Financial Literacy teaching materials being used across the country, no single curriculum resonated with the teachers.

Consequently, it was decided that the district would develop its own. With the guidance of Mike Little, a teacher at the Kearny High School of International Business, and two Hoover High School teachers, lessons were written, field tested and then rewritten to incorporate teacher feedback. This process of feedback and rewrites involved pilot classrooms across the district over a three-year period.

Teachers will receive staff development training for the new curriculum through Kirk Ankeney, the district's curriculum leader for history/social studies, on Tuesday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m. aboard the USS Midway. For more information about this project, please contact Kristy Gregg at (619) 744-2184 or e-mail kgregg@sdbn.com Kirk Ankeney, Curriculum leader, Social Studies at (619) 725-7253 or e-mail kankeney@sandi.net.

Grauer School 2008 graduates accepted at 82 percent of all colleges applied to

The Grauer School recently announced that the 16-student graduating class of 2008 was offered \$1.3 million in academic scholarships from prestigious educational institutions for collegiate studies. These offers equate to an unprecedented \$81,000 in unsolicited merit scholarships offer per student, approximately five to ten times the expected range for top performing college preparatory schools. 82 percent of all Grauer School student college applications were accepted. (Grauer students typically apply to competitive colleges with 15-50 percent admissions rates).

Among those colleges the students received acceptance to are: University of Massachusetts at Amherst, University of California at Berkeley, Boston University, Cornell University, Emerson, Emory University, George Washington University, Marymount College, University of Minnesota, University of California at Davis, Michigan State University, University of Notre Dame, Tulane University and University of California at San Diego

According to Head of School, Dr. Stuart Grauer, "This is jaw-dropping data. In a year where nationwide, college acceptance rates are reaching all-time lows, The Grauer School acceptances are surging: a powerful validation of our work. The difference is not just in their grade scores, but more so in their sense of purpose and authentic humanitarianism developed through the school's expeditionary learning approach. This is also a confirmation of much research on the power of small school (less and 200 students) college preparation. After 18 years, we have a rapidly growing number of top college admissions directors taking notice—our student profiles really get noticed." Ben Coates, visiting Admissions Officer from Willamette University put it simply, stating, "These are the nicest students I've ever presented to."

The Grauer School, founded in 1991, is a grades 6-12 private, college preparatory day school. The school is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the preeminent accreditation organization in the western United States. To learn more about The Grauer School experience, please visit www.grauerschool.com, call 760-944-6777, or attend the Nov. 2 Open House from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



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