BREAKING BORDERS

A Celebration of West Virginia Models and Human Beauty





- A SDS Modeling Company, LLC Publication

"This publication will feature passionate Appalachian Models in a series of works that will show an array of styles, experiences, and aspirations. I hope you take their experiences, stories, and images as a positive representation of the culture, strength, and beauty that surrounds West Virginia (WV).

SDS wants to "break the borders" of the negative stereotypes and tropes of Greater Appalachia. This State has a proud history of immigration, diversity, arts, culture, and the great outdoors. I hope we can artistically evoke the emotions and experiences of these WV Models. Everyone involved in this project dedicated their time and work in portraying WV, and It's people beautifully.

I want the viewers of this publication to experience appreciation for art, modeling, and human beauty."

- Christopher Sayre, Owner SDS Modeling Company, LLC

Here's to breaking the borders.

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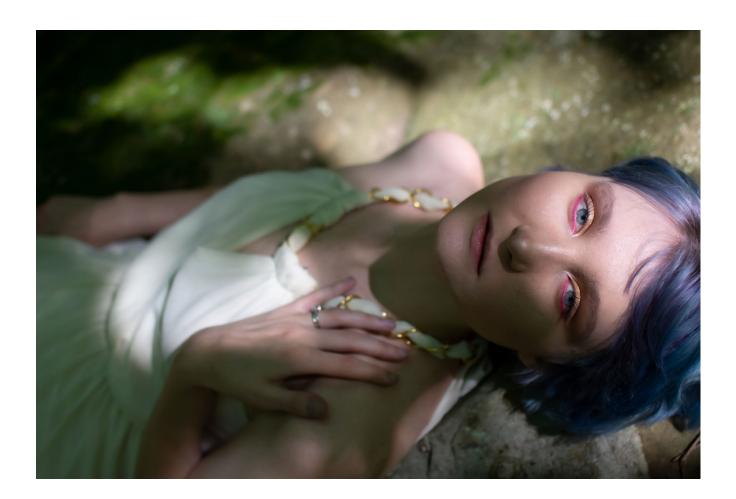


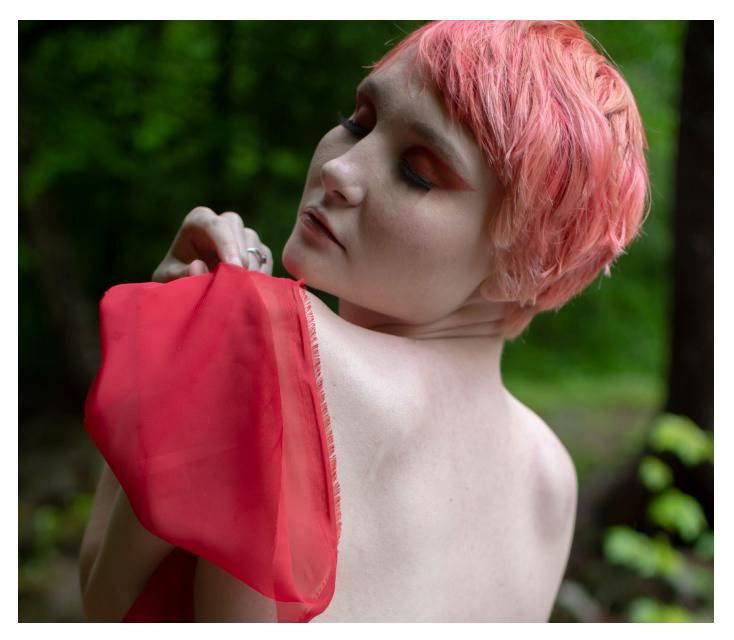


KAITLIN PICKENS

Kaitlin grew up in the small town of Nitro, WV, located in the heart of the "Chemical Valley." In the town's peak in the late 1950s and early 1960s, it was the leading producer of chemicals in the world. During World War 1, The Nitro Plant manufactured explosives, including "nitro-powder" to support the war. In the height of its manufacturing, Nitro became known for a distinctive chemical smell.

It's no secret that West Virginia has suffered from chemical spills and pollution. However, this hasn't stopped Kait from coveting the beauty that seeded, West Virginia. She enjoys hiking, exploring, and spending time in Nature. Kait stated that Nature has been the biggest inspiration throughout her life, whether it was for a photoshoot or for falling in love. In this shoot, you'll follow Kait through some romantic locations that have inspired creativity and love.





FEMALE BEAUTY IN NATURE

There's so much to say about females and Nature. Whether it's the "Mother Earth" aspect or the fact some philosophers believe women are more connected to Nature than men. Some people believe that Nature is a direct representation of the female body - from her beauty to her cycles.

For others – it's the juxtaposition of something rough, worn, active, moving, and old like West Virginia against something new, smooth, anonymous, timid, nude, attractive, and humanly like the female body. Almost anyone can connect to the emotional tug-pull relationship that the female form in Nature creates.



















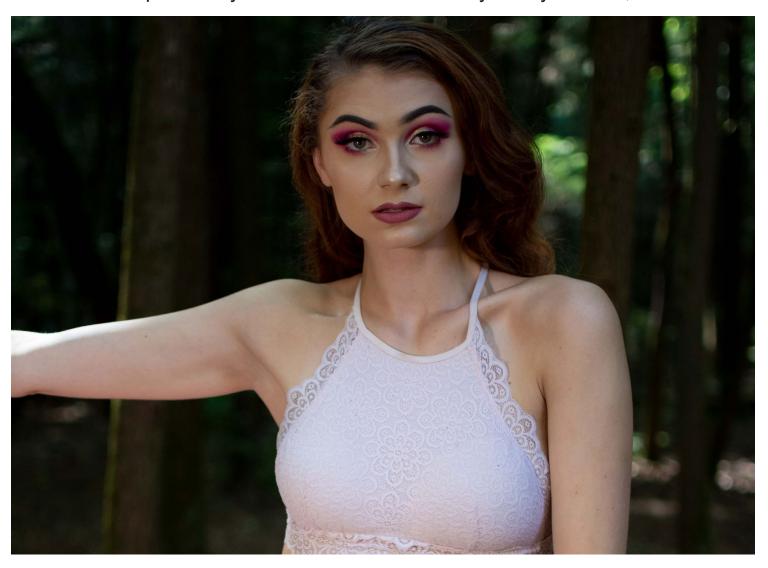


KAYLEE TATE

Highly inspired by fashion, beauty, and modeling, Kaylee is a published WV model who loves the outdoors and exploration.

Kaylee grew up in Charleston, WV, which is the most populous city in the Mountain State. Charleston's history goes back to the 18th century, from early salt productions, the Civil War, to World War II. Charleston has held a pivotal role in America's history for over a century. Charleston prides itself on being an epicenter of art and culture in West Virginia. With the art influences surrounding the Greater Charleston area, it makes sense that Kaylee would fall in love with fashion and modeling.

"I really love using Nature as a background to pose in and seeing how I can incorporate myself in that natural scenery." -Kaylee Tate, SDS Model





FASHION, BEAUTY AND NATURE

Kaylee enjoys seeing herself as a prop to explore juxtapositions in fashion, beauty, and Nature. She uses poses, unique outfits, and makeup to create an image that has both a visceral and visual impact.

Follow along with Kaylee - as she leads us through woods and creeks to shine a light on fashion, beauty, Nature, and how they all collide.

















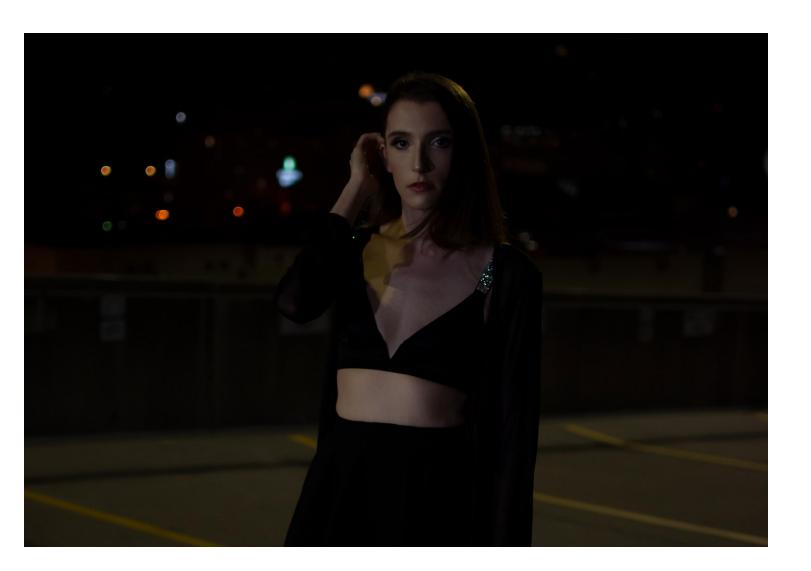




SHERIDAN TUCCI

Sheridan is a WV Model and YouTuber. Sheridan has experienced an array of experiences in body image. Whether it's through her YouTube channel or modeling, Sheridan has set out on a path of rising above negative self-esteem and setting a positive mind-set about how she sees herself and her work.

This shoot explores the vulnerability and rawness that many models and creatives feel. Whether it's just from being on camera to overcoming deep body-image issues, modeling exposes females to a wide range of vulnerable experiences. To explore these thoughts, SDS thought Sheridan could provide the best experience in experiencing and overcoming them.





RISING ABOVE

Although this shoot explores elements of being alone, it is also a victory of overcoming them. Sheridan continually finds the confidence to overcome her insecurities and create images that inspire others.

So follow along on this shoot that explores vulnerability overcome by confidence.

















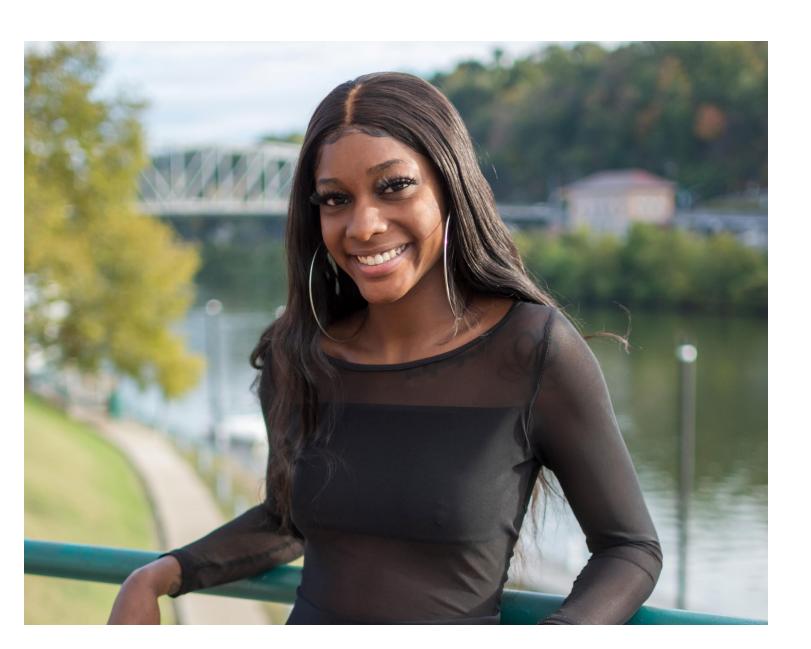




LAYLAYASEEN DIA

Inspired by the art and beauty found in modeling, Layla is another WV native and SDS Model. She uses artistry and modeling to "Unleash her inner Goddess."

Embracing your beauty is one step on a path to fully unleashing your inner Goddess. You can embrace your beauty in so many ways, but it starts the day you truly become and accept yourself. In efforts to embrace her beauty, Layla shot this series of photos that express her confidence, style, and beauty.





UNLEASHING YOUR INNER GODDESS

Femininity is often associated with being docile, subservient, powerless, helpless, soft. However, femininity doesn't make one week. It is strength shown through passion, intuition, beauty, and creativity. Embracing your inner Goddess allows for the expansion of the collective female experience. Breaking into your feminine power and embracing yourself is an essential step into "Unleashing your inner Goddess."

From confidence to style and poise, this series is Layla's step into unleashing her "Inner Goddess."













BRITTANY O'BRIEN

Brittany is a WV Model, mom, and tattoo enthusiast. As a mom, Brittany has faced the typical changes that the mother's body faces. Inspired to find acceptance of the beauty in herself and her shape, Britt modeled in this series of images to inspire herself and moms everywhere. This session combines her love for the outdoors and exploration, with her passion for the entire spectrum of human beauty.

We all wear masks as we move through life, often not revealing our most naked and authentic selves to our friends, family, and world. Brittany opens up to the world, with images that showcase the beauty in confidence and being true to ourselves.





BEYOND WHAT YOU SEE

It would be dishonest to say that nudity is sensual. However, sensuality isn't necessarily titillating or sexual. A sunrise can be sensual. A bouquet of roses can be sensual. A melting candle can be sensual. A sweetly written piece of music can be sensual. A poem can be sensual.

The goal here is to inspire beauty, not to sexualize it. Beauty lives in kindness, curiosity, grace, and this set showcases the mysterious ways the body reflects such qualities. Ultimately everyone is beautiful.

Follow along as Brittany showcases her truth and her beauty in this series.













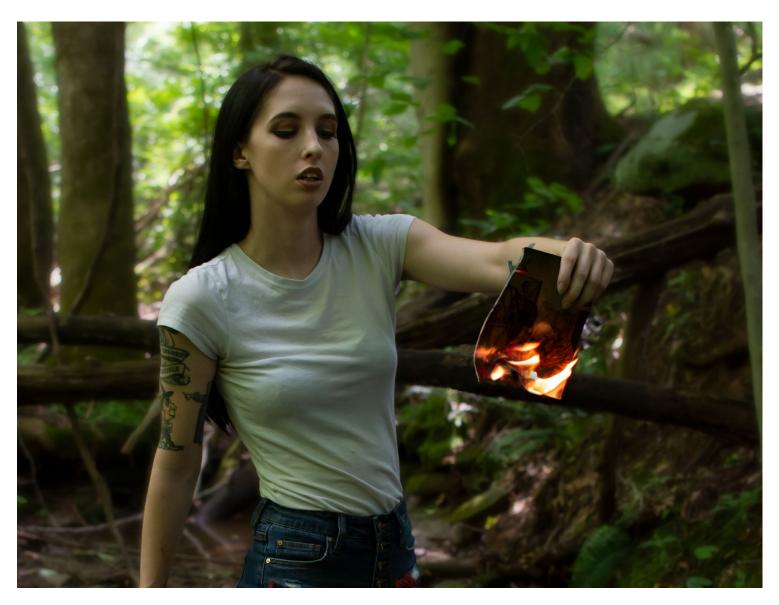


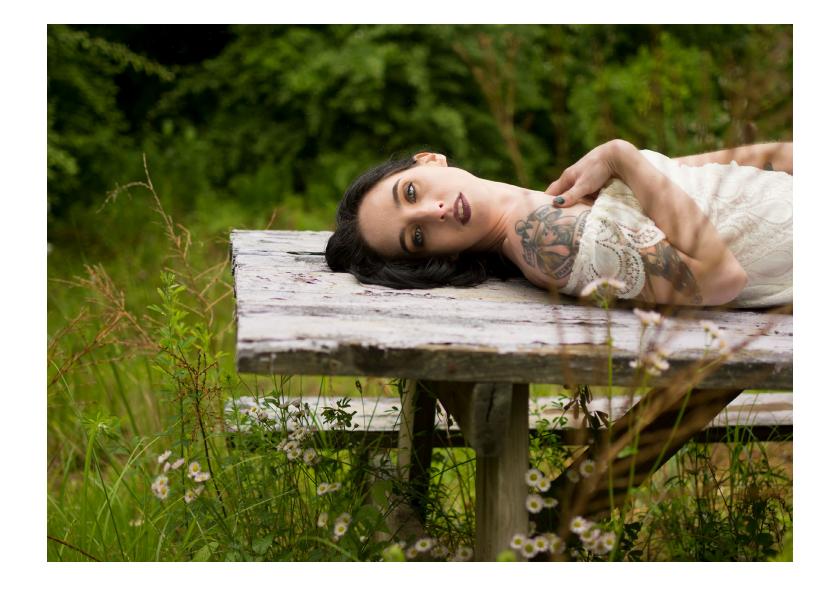


SAVANNAH LOVEJOY

Savannah is a WV model who grew up on a family farm where she developed a deep connection to nature and people. Deeply rooted in witchcraft, spirituality, and mythology, Savannah is influenced by stories of old, life, love, and passion.

Witchcraft has a deep connection to Appalachian history and culture. The craft Witches brought to the Appalachian region after the trials of the 15 - 17 hundreds, soon evolved into a necessary part of Appalachian culture. A simple search of "Witches in WV" gives root to folklore, magic, healing, and love that exists even today. Witches have inspired the nature, love, and culture of WV's past and present.





LOVE, NATURE AND SPELLS

Savannah experienced a phase of self-discovery that involved the end of a dictatorial relationship, and the love of her image. Often cast as an outsider for her abnormal views and experiences, Savannah uses photography to explore and express elements of herself that lie hidden under judgment. We combined her spiritual connections and physical encounters in a series of images that have a mystical and yet very exoteric feel.

This series of images blends the cultures of old and new, on a journey of self-discovery, nature, love, and passion.





















