

Beauty tips for women of color

DISCOVERING
BEAUTY



MARY ANNE
TOCCALINO

While doing research recently, I noticed that women of color struggle to find beauty products to meet their needs.

Women of color are the women of the world: Native American, Hispanic, Asian, Indian, African and Middle Eastern. And these women are world and wise and living right here. It's time to address these women and their needs.

Naturally, skin pigmentation plays a large role in determining which shades of color you select for your face. But that's not the whole picture.

Evenness of skin color and the structure of facial features must also be taken in consideration. In fact, close attention should be paid to unifying skin tone, downplaying overly prominent features and bringing focus to the upper part of the face. Here are my tips by facial feature.

Accent your eyes, but avoid light, powdery colors. They look like flour on darker skin. Focus on working with shades of dark brown, prune, burgundy and dark gold (not yellow). Use a small dot of iridescent highlighter under the arch brow and at the center of the lid. Just avoid stroking iridescent color over the entire eyelid. To give your eyes evening glamour, softly brush colorless loose translucent powder over the lid. Then line the eye area with black kohl. This will punch up the eye for an exotic evening look.

If you have a large or broad nose, you don't want to make this the focal point of your face. To create an illusion of a smaller nose, shade the sides and tip with a darker base make-up. Avoid a shiny nose by using an oil-free base and always, always, powder. Carry a compact of translucent powder with you for touching up, especially at night.

The touch of color you add to your cheeks is very important. It will give your face a focus. Stay away from bright orange tones, which don't look natural or healthy, and opt for shades of red, pink, fuchsia or burgundy. Accent or highlight these shades with a true gold to illuminate the face.

Dark skin rarely has a unified tone and often lacks brightness. A base will battle both these conditions. Select one shade lighter than your normal skin tone and another base that's a tone darker for shading.

Dark skin, because of its oil content, tends to reject make-up, so get a longer lasting effect by avoiding oil-based products. They slide right off the skin. I suggest trying Maybelline Non Stop All Day Wear Make Up or L'oreal Quickstick Oil Free Instant Foundation. They carry neutral colors that compliment a darker skin tone.

A word to the wise, when choosing foundations, concealers and primers, be sure they match closely with your complexion. Otherwise, you may end up with an ash, masked appearance.

Emphasize your brows, but never use a black pencil alone. Like I've said before, hair always has more than one shade. Use a mixture such as gray and black depending on your hair color.

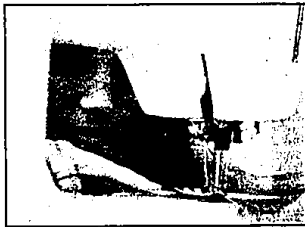
Always apply base first, and then powder, to prime the lips for rich colors like Tony & Tina Mood Balance Lipstick in Tender and Cover Girl CG Smoothies Lipliner in Berry Fab.

For a softer glossier lip try M.A.C. Baby Lipgloss. It's semi-sheer with just a hint of color. Also, M.A.C. pencil in Cork is a must-have in the tool kit. It can be used with an array of lipstick colors.

Iman, an accomplished model and actress, assembled a team of experts to create a line of make-up. Not only does it carry her signature name but it also contains colors of strong rich pigments for women of color. The line can be found at Sephora stores, which are located at the Somerset Collection in Troy and Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

Women of color have some of the most beautiful features in the world. So it shouldn't be a struggle to accent them and show them off with all the right colors. Go on and be beautiful.

If you have a question for Mary Anne, call her at (248) 203-0477. Tocciano is a professional makeup artist and skin care consultant operating at RED the Salon, 470 Old North Woodward, Suite 200 in Birmingham. The founder and owner of Tocciano Cosmetics, she studied at Joe Blasco's School of Cosmetics in Hollywood where her training included work in special effects for film and print.



BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER
nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

Ellen Hollman, a senior at Troy High School, wants her prom dress to look like the Donatella Versace gown that actress Charlize Theron wore to this year's Golden Globe awards.

She also likes singer-actress Jennifer Lopez's gowns by the same high-profile designer.

But like most teens - not to mention the majority of women - Hollman can't fathom buying a Versace. Not because such high style transcends the boundaries of mainstream teenhood. Teen's exposure to the world of designer fashion today rivals that of adult women. Not surprising, given both groups live in a culture that's obsessed with the world of fashion and what Hollywood stars are wearing.

Besides magazines, MTV fashion segments and other celebrity-focused entertainment mediums, the Internet feeds teen's sophisticated fashion tastes. The only thing between them and a Versace - again, like the rest of us - is price.

The solution for Hollman and other fashion-savvy young women: Sew their own dress.

"This entire gown cost just \$78," says Hollman, 18, of the Versace-inspired dress she sketched and sewed herself in a fashion design - formerly home economics - class at Troy High School.

Hollman and her classmates Jamie Bogdansk, 18, and Sandra Sarmiento, 16, had never sewed before, but when their dresses are done, will enter a prom dress contest sponsored by Haberman Fabrics in Royal Oak. The contest benefits Mothers Against Drunk Driving by allowing the public to cast votes in exchange for \$1 donations to the organization. The winner will receive a prize worth \$700.

While store owner Toby Haberman knows the contest is a way to get more young women interested in sewing, she also has her finger on teens' changing attitude towards fashion and self-expression.

"There's no difference between adults and kids when it comes to fashion today. That's the effect of contemporary fashion times. Teens are caught up in the fashion movement just like everybody else," she says. "And, what's gone is that 'Oh, you made that yourself?' There's no derogatory connotation about making your own clothing today."

Actually, the reverse is true. For young women, creating their own garments is a form of creative expression, a way to realize individuality through fashion.

"It's a part of a trend to develop their own identities," says Jackie Epker, Troy High School's fashion

Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. By fax, (248) 644-1314. E-mail, nstafford@oe.homecomm.net. Deadline for publication is two weeks in advance.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

SPRING CARNIVAL

Get into the swing of spring with a Spring Carnival presented by Pugh Shows through April 22 at the Livonia Mall. Hours vary. Call ahead for a schedule at (248) 478-1160.

MOTHER'S DAY ESSAY CONTEST

Art Van Furniture stores sponsors a Mother's Day essay contest. Children, age 7-14, are invited to write a brief essay (100 words or less) on "Why I Love My Mother," including a special story, memory or occasion. Essays will be judged in two categories, age 7-10 and age 11-14. Entry deadline is May 6. All stores, including Livonia, Novi, Royal Oak, Southfield, Waterford and Westland, are participating.

GLASS EXHIBIT

Native West, 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, hosts Etchings in Glass, a glass exhibit to mark Michigan Glass Month, through April 30. Opening reception is noon-4 p.m. For exhibit hours and other information, call (734) 455-8838.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

PROJECT HEALTHY LIVING

United Health Organization sponsors free and low-cost health screening tests and services at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield through April 18, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., for test fees and additional information, call the mall's customer service line at (248) 353-4111.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

JEWELRY SHOW

View John Atencio's jewelry collection at Jacobson's in Rochester Hills, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Fine Jewelry. For more information, call (248) 651-8000.

In their own style

Fashionable teens sew prom dresses even Hollywood actresses would die for



STAFF PHOTO BY JENNY ZOLENTEY

Sew expressive: Troy High School senior Jamie Bogdansk (above) works on her prom dress with fashion design instructor Jackie Epker. Dondoro High School sophomore Gabe Poshadlo (left) models her finished prom dress, a pale green taffeta skirt and strapless top with embroidery and beading.

design instructor. Teens still flock to clothing labels and follow the fashion trends of their peers, but not every teenage girl embraces that, says Epker. "I think there are a lot of kids that get lost in that. This is a chance to personalize their clothing a bit more. It's an attempt to become their own person, and it's a safe place to do it. They can't get into trouble doing this and their families are supportive."

Sewing their own clothing also gets teens a piece of Hollywood high style at a price mom and dad can afford.

Gown-style prom dresses run upwards of \$120, and the total cost for prom night can be quite high when shoes, jewelry, accessories and salon services are included.

Besides, a handmade dress can't be copied, and teenage girls, like adult women, worry about being duplicated, especially come prom night.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

DAUM CRYSTAL EVENT

French crystal maker Daum visits Studio 330, 6566 Telegraph Road in the Bloomfield Plaza in Bloomfield Township. Watch pieces as they are removed from their molds and view unique pieces shipped to the United States for the event, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For details, call (248) 551-5533 or visit www.studio330.com.

KENNETH COLE SHOES SHOW

Jacobson's hosts Kenneth Cole's collection of men's shoes through April 27, 4-8 p.m., Men's Shoes. Thursday, April 19 at Rochester Hills store; Friday, April 20 at Birmingham store; and Friday, April 27 at Livonia store. Call (248) 651-6000 for more information.

ISTYLE MAGAZINE VISITS

Neiman Marcus, the Somerset Collection in Troy, hosts a "Getting Gorgeous" event with a guest appearance by Hal Rubenstein, iStyle magazine features editor, 6:30-8:30 p.m., third floor. For information, call (248) 643-3300.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

BEAUTY EVENT

Ruby's Balm in The Boardwalk on Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield presents former model Susan Griffin and her Astara Conscious Skin Care line and Daniel John Pry, skin care consultant and clinical instructor. They will discuss the importance of good nutrition and exercise and the developments in skin care technology through April 21, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday and 1-5 p.m. Saturday. For details, call (248) 626-7829.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

KEY UNDER APPEARANCE

Meet designer Key Under and see her collection for spring at Neiman Marcus, the Somerset Collection

in Troy, 11:30 a.m., Galleria, second floor. For more information, call (248) 643-3300.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

LOUIS FERAUD COLLECTION

Jacobson's in downtown Birmingham hosts Louis Feraud's latest collection, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., International Designer department. For more information, call (248) 644-6900.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

ESCALA FOR FALL

Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, presents the Escala Fall 2001 Trunk Show with informal modeling 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and a designer representative on hand to work with guests through April 27. Designer Sportswear, second floor. To make a personal appointment, call (248) 614-9341.

FENG SHUI EVENT

Feng Shui consultant Lynn Meadows leads a seminar for guests at Art Van Furniture, 5053 Dixie Highway in Waterford, 6:30 p.m. Refreshments included. Reservations are suggested for this complimentary event. Call (248) 674-4731.

JEWELRY TRUNK SHOW

Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, presents the Garth Florn Trunk Show of jewelry through April 27. Fine Jewelry, first floor. Call (248) 643-9000 ext. 215.

FRIDAY APRIL 27

FIT CLINIC

Women's Health Boutique, 31209 Plymouth Road in Livonia, hosts a bra fit clinic and the designer of the new Aviana plus size bra with refreshments and drawing, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Call (734) 782-9324.

DEBRA DEROG TRUNK SHOW

Fibres, 270 West Maple in downtown Birmingham, welcomes designer Debra DeRog and her spring trunk show through April 29, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Call (248) 723-2880.