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# St. Louis JRP Acting Student Living the Dream



Ben G.

**Ben may only be seven years old, but he has grown well beyond his years in his acting career!** After winning **Child Actor of the Year** honors at the January 2010 iPOP! Convention... he and his father were able to move out to L.A. in July of last year to jump start his career in major markets since he is a "career level" kid!

Here are just a few things that Ben has done since February of this year: he appeared in *Big Love* and *Parenthood*.

He will be starring in a short SAG film titled *Family Watch*, with Nicole Steinwedell from the TV series *The Unit* and the movie *He's Just Not That Into You*.

He landed a small role in a new pilot series *The Wedding Band* with Brian Austin Green of *Desperate Housewives*.

He shot a promo for Russell Brand and James Marsden's new animated movie, *HOP*. It came out in April, just in time for Easter.

Ben shot a theme song for a pilot, *Today's Tiaras* about the Disney princesses. Ben played Snow White's sneezy brother.

Last but not least.... He was on an episode of *Criminal Minds* with Kelly Williams, called *He Needs Me* which aired April 6th. You can see a clip of him on CBS's website. Just search for the episode.

He and dad will come back to St. Louis when pilot season slows down. We will keep you posted on his progress. Check out Facebook for the latest updates! Address shown below.

Look for us on Facebook at JRP St. Louis and Images Agency!

# Young Actors Working Locally in Film and on Stage



Zach L.

This JRP student has been very busy right here in St. Louis! Zach is cast in a short romantic comedy called *Frostbitten* and in the short film *Hidden Treasure*. He was cast as a Russian boy named "Nikolai" in State Of Mind Productions' Feature Film *Fear*. Zach had already been in the movie in a non-speaking role, and the director liked him so much that he brought him back and wrote the Russian boy role especially for him. He is the lead in *Happy Birthday, Mom* with director Chris Pickup. Zach plays "Lucius," a boy abused by his father. He is in the film *The Last Days of Shaniko*. This film has been selected for 4 film festivals so far, and has won awards in the first two. Zach plays "Young Zo." Zach has also been cast in two roles in the DWard Media Film Production, that will be shot in St. Louis. This film will be entered in several film festivals and will be sent to 6000 Lutheran churches.

Photo from *Happy Birthday, Mom*

Zach's accomplishments on stage include: being in the chorus and playing the cameraman in the Kirkwood Youth Theatre production of "Hairspray" and was in the cast of "Oliver." He is currently rehearsing for "Romeo and Juliet" at his school.

Award-winning Director, Luiz Magana, picked Zach to play the victim in his Public Service Announcement about hate crimes. The announcement will run regionally this year, possibly nationally.

Zach was signed by a Chicago talent agency, Baker and Rowley, for representation in Chicago. Such a busy guy! We can't wait to see what else he does!! Congrats Zach!!



Movie Poster



Kylie C.

Kylie C's film, *Poke*, will be shown in its first film festival in St. Louis at the Webster Film Fest on Saturday, April 30th at 7:30 p.m. She has a lead role, so she is in the majority of the film. This is the one where she plays the annoying girl scout selling cookies. One of the scenes is in a real funeral home with her poking the dead person's cheek to see if they will move. She had to dress and act pretty geeky in most of the scenes, so it is a very humorous role. It is similar to a *Little Miss Sunshine* type role. Josh Mullins, the producer said what nailed the audition for her is that she came in looking "natural" (no make-up and not over dressed as if headed to a pageant) and that she auditioned without her mom sitting right there in the room. It is being submitted for several film festivals in the US. She had a blast filming. It was a solid 5 day shoot for her, long days, and she loved every minute of it and was sad when it ended. We can't wait to see the film!!

Kylie also was filmed in a zombie movie *Generation of Genocide*. She also appeared in *Scraps* and *World Hunger* in 2010 so hopefully it will be out on DVD this year. We are so proud of you Kylie!

## TV Extra...to Video Game Character... to Local Film Star



**Clark P.**

Clark is a past iPOP! contestant representing us and has been a very busy guy. Clark appeared as an extra on *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Parks & Recreation*, *The Mentalist*, and *Big Love*. He did a video game shoot called "Home Front" that he absolutely loved. He is actually in the game itself. He said the producer kept applauding Clark for "nailing it the first time." The game came out in March.

Clark and his mom got invited by a Casting Director to be on the Royal Caribbean Allure (never been out to sea... brand new experience) as an extra in an Adam Sandler movie, due out in November, called *Jack and Jill*. Katie Holmes, Al Pacino, & Regis are all there too. All expenses paid for 12 days, plus he gets paid. On top of that, they asked his mom to be an extra and get paid since she had to be there anyway. NICE GIG!!

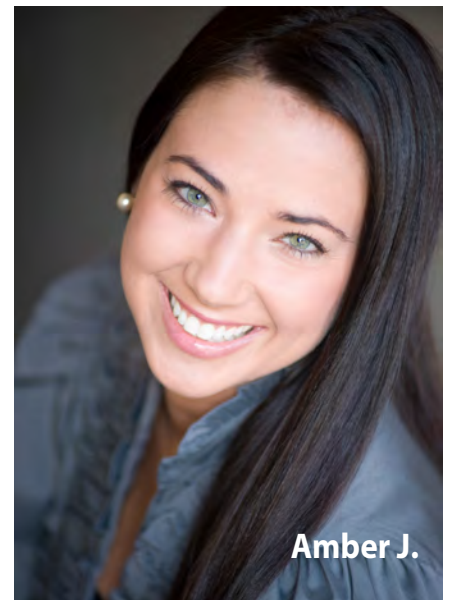
He shot a short movie called *Spoiled* about eight-year-old Teddy, played by Clark, who is spoiled, self-centered and bratty. With failing grades and a bad attitude, his mother takes his prize possession - his video game. Stealing it back brings the wrath of Mom and she forces Teddy to donate his game to a US soldier in Afghanistan. The soldier and Teddy begin a correspondence that ultimately brings Mom and Teddy to a new understanding. This short film is currently being submitted in many different film festivals. Looking forward to seeing this!

Clark is wrapping up filming his zombie movie *The Year After Infection*. He has the lead role in this film which is shot in Missouri on the weekends. Clark is doing a great job. Mom is super proud. They cater to Clark... pull him around on a sled, gather around the table and listen to him ramble on and on, buying him gifts.... Mom says... "Come back down to Earth, Clark! At home you are just a boy." We are glad he is enjoying himself! Congrats Clark!

## 2010 iPOP! Actor of the Year is Hollywood Bound

This JRP St. Louis Graduate and iPOP! January 2010 **Actor of the Year** has several exciting things going on for her out in L.A. She arrived in L.A. in the middle of February after her contract as a morning news show reporter with a local Kansas City TV station was over. She has dreams of hosting a TV show so she was called to L.A. for an entertainment hosting interview/audition! She put herself on tape and found out her materials/DVD were sent to the TV Guide Channel.

She is with hosting manager Marki Costello with CMEG Los Angeles. She's also signed with Lewis & Beal Talent. She's preparing to audition for the ABC show *Wipeout!* as a host. In an email, Amber says..."I've been able to meet and learn hosting techniques from hosts with TV Guide, The Travel Channel, and Freemantle Media (*X-Factor*, *American Idol*, etc.)." She is "learning a lot about the business, how auditions are scheduled, how managers work, etc. It's almost like having an 'inside look' about how things are done! It's a whole different world, but one in which I know I belong. It's all about finding my way. Be sure to give everyone my best. More to come soon!"



**Amber J.**

## Screen Actor Guild Award Winner & JRP St. Louis Graduate



**Edin Gali**

Born in Bosnia, at the age of seven, Edin moved to Germany where he performed in theater as a young child. As a teenager he and his family arrived in the St Louis, Missouri where he attended Mehlville Senior High School, and continued to study Acting under Sharon Pfitzinger, JRP-Images Agency. Upon graduating from high school he drove cross country to Los Angeles to realize his dream of becoming a Film and Television Actor. Since arriving in Hollywood, Edin has appeared in major commercial campaigns (Maxwell House Coffee, Dr. Pepper, Wrigley's... just to name a few), Independent Films, and is a recurring Guest-star on the AMC Emmy Award winning TV Show, *Mad Men*, playing the character of Kurt Smith.

Edin just wrapped up two feature films; *Cornered* and *Must Love Horses* and is currently filming a movie with Nicole Kidman and Clive Owen called *Hemingway and Gellhorn*. A drama centered on the romance between Ernest Hemingway and WWII correspondent Martha Gellhorn, Hemingway's inspiration for "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and the only woman who ever asked for a divorce from the writer. Congrats on all of your hard work!! We can't wait to see all of your films Edin!! See Edin at YouTube - Images Agency Channel.

## Almost Famous Cover Girl to Hollywood

This JRP Graduate and past "Almost Famous Cover Girl" ... got cast in a movie called *Ask Me No Questions*. The part is great, she plays the daughter of a Navy Seal turned assassin and she, her Mom, and brother get kidnapped. The Director saw her in "West Side Story" and that is how she got the part. The script has been rated very high. Will probably take a year or so till it is released.

She got into a public, fabulous middle school in Sherman Oaks, which receives tons of money from wealthy "industry people" and for free takes dance, singing and acting every day! Not to mention it is a great academic school.

She began guitar lessons with great working musicians, and dances hip-hop at Millennium, with Alyson Stoner (*Camp Rock* and *Cheaper by the Dozen*) and Lindsey Taylor (*17 Again*) as instructors.

Nicole is part of a showcase where she sings an old school song on stage in front of lots of music people (producers, directors, etc.). It is part of a fund-raiser that has good attendance from the industry and it is June 5th at the LA Convention Center. She auditioned for this several weeks ago. She is singing "Don't Stop Believing" by Journey. She can win money, but exposure and experience is really what she is after.

She has been a finalist for many projects... including lead singer for kid rock band, Rockaholics, Kidz Bop, Kid Judge for pilot for *American Idol*... kids judging adults etc. Acting is her best talent but that is where you have the most competition, and getting commercials is the first step and those auditioning do not need to dance, sing or learn a lot of lines... so everybody and their brother submits.

Crazy industry and everyone says if you stick with it....you will be successful.



**Nicole W.**

## JPR Grad Guest Stars on General Hospital

Dingani is a regular guest star on General Hospital. He says "I'm beginning to fall in love with that set... now all I need to do is get a series regular spot and life will be grand!"

His new media web series *Asylum* is doing very well. The L.A. Web Festival just took place last month, and Dingani won for "**Outstanding Lead Male in a Drama Series.**" Also, *Asylum* is headed to France for the Marseille Film Festival! It's an all expense paid trip and he is going. *Asylum* is 1 of only 9 shows selected from the 121 shows at the L.A. Web Festival to attend. *Asylum*, along with the other 8 chosen, will for the first time ever, be officially announced at the Cannes Film Festival in May.

Right now Dingani just finished a pilot for a web series called *Relapse*, and its in production deals with BLIP TV. He is working on a play which opens in May at STAGE 52 in L.A. He is also working on a play which opens in Missouri in July, and is currently shooting two other Indie films. So, life has been very busy. Other than that, he has been attending lots of casting director workshops, lots of agent workshops, and auditioning. Just trying to keep himself in front of the people who make the decisions.

Dingani told Sharon Pfitzinger "You and Images Agency was where it all began for me. I am positive that without coming to St Louis, from Jefferson City, I would have never pursued this career path. Thank you, and love ya." We love you too! Good luck with your Festivals!



Dingani Beza

## Extra in the Upcoming Film *Contagion*

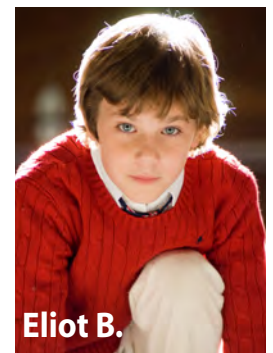


Ashton U.

The great news just keeps rolling in! JRP St. Louis student Ashton has landed a role as an extra in the upcoming film *Contagion* starring Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow, Laurence Fishburne, & Kate Winslet. Ashton's mom, Leanne, tells us that filming started in October. In fact, Ashton's already shot one scene at the Shedd Aquarium (which is such a neat place) and he'll go back and shoot 2 additional scenes when they're ready. Leanne said, "**It really helps getting into big movies when you're able to say you've gone to John Robert Powers.**" Thanks so much for having Ashton as a part of your JRP and Images family."

## Past iPOP! Winner in Comedy Horror Film

Another big winner from iPOP! LA 2010 is making his way in Hollywood. Eliot will be appearing in the Comedy Horror film *Detention* which began filming in September. Dane Cook is also in *Detention*, where Eliot plays the youngster in the flashbacks of one of the older characters. His proud mama sent us a great email letting us know. Jean says that Eliot had his own trailer on the set and he's had a blast learning about the special effects and working with the stunt men. The movie has been submitted in several different film festivals and was featured in the South by Southwest Film Festival in March. We're so proud of you Eliot! We are so excited to see you on the big screen!



Eliot B.

# Actors and Models Doing Great in St. Louis



Erik recently completed a film called "Out of Focus" for a Webster Univ. student and has also been cast in a small role for another film by them.



Mitchell a past iPOPer! took the Edison Theatre Stage at Washington University as the lead, Jonas, in Metro Theater Company's, "The Giver." It opened to the public on January 7th, 2011 through the 23rd.



Max a JRP student, auditioned for a short film at Webster University and he got the part! He's so excited! Filming started the last week in February.



Nathan a past iPOPer! shot a film at Webster University titled *Reaching Out*. He is the main character, a shy young boy, which doesn't fit Nathan's personality at all!



Cheers Mojda, Matt, Shale'ya, and Linda on your Sav-A-Lot Modeling Job



Congrats Chris on CarX Commercial!



Awesome Work!!!... Jessica, Michelle & Doug on your Commercial for Amco Ranger!



Congrats Andrea, Amanda, & Madeline on Modeling for the TJ Max Fashion Show on KTVI-TV



Applauses for Beth & Linda on your Southeast Cancer Center Commercial!



Great Job!!!... Beth, Dwyane, Michelle H., Carey, Michelle W., Matt & Duane on your "No Fluff" Commercials with Channel 4 News! These commercials aired during the March Madness College Basketball Tournament.



Congrats to Adam, Elena, Kyle, Ashtin, Shelby, Alex, and Jennifer on your Walmart PictureMe Modeling Photo Shoot

**This is a very small sample of our talent who is making it happen! Check us out on Facebook!**