

NOW

A black and white portrait of a woman with dark hair pulled back, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. She is wearing a patterned, possibly silk, garment with a grid-like design. Her hands are resting near her neck. The background is softly blurred, showing vertical lines that could be window blinds or a curtain.

BELLA M. JACINTO
MOTIVATED,
PASSIONATE,
& *READY TO TAKE*
ON THE WORLD

APRIL 2018

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

NOW Magazine strives to narrate the harmony between life, fashion, and beauty. It aims to be a source of authenticity in hopes of inspiring and connecting with our readers. This issue revolves around the theme *UNDER CONSTRUCTION*. Inside this issue we cover three sub themes: *vulnerability, growth, and focus*. We want to showcase the process of rising up after overcoming obstacles. This is an inside look into the lives of the current **NOW** generation as they talk about their struggles, successes, and personal growth.



Isabella M. Jacinto

NOW

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

ISABELLA M. JACINTO *Creative Director & Photographer*

TOM HUYNH *Photographer*

LYNN ARQUIZA *Photographer*

ISABELLE BARLAAN *Model*

BELLA M. JACINTO *Model*

KYLE LAUTAN *Model*

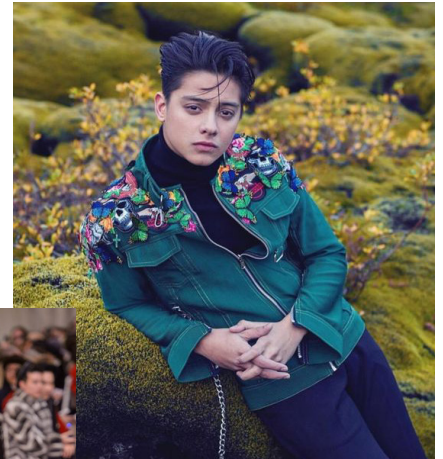
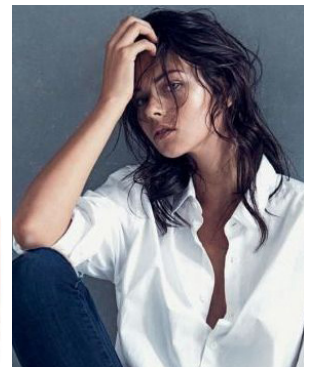
BIANCA MARTEJA *Model*

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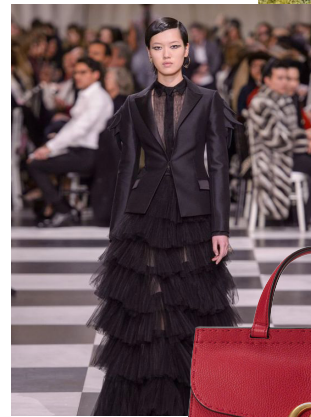
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04 BEAUTY FEATURE

The only real competition we should be worried about is *ourselves*. Isabelle Barlaan shares her change in personal mindset in *Vulnerability*.



On the Cover



FASHION FEATURES

05 *Under Construction.*

Bella M. Jacinto opens up about her ever changing relationship with herself. She reveals her true thoughts about how she's constructed and portrays her multiple identities.



07 Kyle Loutan shares his journey of self-growth throughout college before he ventures out into the “real world” post graduation. Read *Growth*.

09 In *Focus*, Bianca Marteja reveals her secret to her unbreakable focus and how that has played a part in her success in life.

MVMT

#JOINTHEMVMT



SUNSET-38MM
BOULEVARD COLLECTION



VULNERABILITY

“Not everyone will like me for who I am, and that’s the scary part.”

-Isabelle Barlaan

“Since I’ve entered college, my mindset is always to impress, and continue to challenge myself. The only competition I see is me. I am only here to better myself. When I become vulnerable in these situations, I am not phased nor intimidated to show you who I truly am. I am constantly putting myself out there, meeting new people, facing different challenges, and learning new things about myself.”



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



When I first entered college, I was lost. I didn't know who I was, what I wanted to be in life, why I was even going to school, if I wanted to be at Dominican... I was questioning myself and my decisions. I wasn't sure of anything at that point in my life and it was hard. I would hear my friends be so sure of their decisions and their future career paths, and I would get upset at myself for not knowing what I wanted to do or to be. Then I came across more modeling opportunities, which played a large part in who I am today.

At first I saw modeling as an escape. A way to be someone else. Someone that had a sure job and purpose, which was to bring to life someone else's vision or concept. I found myself comfortable taking on different personas to achieve the job. I would not only change my physical appearance, I would change my mindset, attitude, and behavior. I was able to become the character they needed me to be. And after awhile, I became comfortable

(and good) at being someone else's puppet. People started to praise my versatility and my ability to change my "look" so well. Modeling became my shelter from the insecurity of not knowing who I was, but like all things, it didn't last forever. As school started to pick up, I lost time for modeling opportunities, and sooner or later, I had to face myself.

Who was I? What did I stand for? What were my goals in life? These were questions I could no longer outrun. I had to take time to find myself. For a while I kept to myself. Even when I was with friends, I did more listening and observing of others. I tried to pick out things I was interested in, what I agreed or disagreed with. I started journaling, listening to music, selecting who and what I surrounded myself with. I started to assemble a world of things that would influence me for the better. And that active effort started to pay off. I met people that have become my source of happiness and inspiration. I have a better idea of what I want to do with

my future career. And I can confidently talk about what I want in life and what goals and dreams I want to achieve.

I am still trying to figure out who I am and what I stand for, but I know that the person I am today, is not who I will be in five or so years. I know that along the way, I will come across experiences that will change who I am. The insecurity of not knowing is something that I've learned to control. I now try and use it as motivation to find out more about myself. I've learned to be more receptive to change and learn to grow with it instead of trying to stop it. Even though modeling started off with a different purpose in my life, it has taught me so much about myself. It has taught me to be confident, it helped me discover my love for the fashion industry, for photography, makeup and styling, and more. While I'm glad I have a better idea now, I don't think I will ever be completely sure of myself. I will always be looking for more ways to improve and reconstruct myself.

Growth

“BE THE TYPE OF ENERGY THAT ADDS VALUE AND POSITIVITY TO THE SPACES AND LIVES AROUND YOU.”

Kyle Loutan, BA in Business Administration, Concentration in Marketing. Minor in Leadership and Minor in Psychology. Wow. It feels good to hear that...

When I first came to Dominican, I came in as Undeclared. I wasn't sure what I wanted to pursue and I took that first semester to explore my options. When spring semester came around, I ended up choosing Occupational Therapy. In my mind I chose OT because I wanted to help people and make a positive impact in people's life. Unfortunately, there was something about my decision that I never was really sure about... I ended up switching into Business and concentrating in marketing, and I can say that this is the major that I am meant to be in.

Throughout my time in college aside from my academics, I also rekindled my love for basketball and dance. I have been playing basketball almost my entire life. And I knew that coming into college I wanted to continue to play. And I did. Although, I wasn't on the Dominican team, I joined the recreational team and I ended up playing with some of my best friends. And I was able to rekindle my love for dance and the arts through the Filipino club on campus, Kapamilya, because

I had the opportunity to take on leadership roles as a dance choreographer and teacher in Kapamilya's events such as Friendship Games and PCN.

Of course as I encountered all of these experiences, I was challenged to balance my academics, extracurricular activities, and whatever else life threw at me. I have learned so much about myself and about the people around me that I never would have known if it wasn't for the experiences we've shared. I am truly thankful for everyone that I have met here. To everyone that has supported me throughout my journey here at Dominican, thank you. I did it! Now I can say “Dominican University of California Alumni, Class of 2018.”



Photography by Lynn Arquiza
Model: Kyle Lautan



Photography by Isabella M. Jacinto
Model: Bianca Marteja

FOCUS

“To me, focus relates to ideas of mindfulness and being grounded. Focus means being physically and mentally present in whatever situation you’re experiencing. In photography, focus allows us to capture the perfect picture. It helps the viewer to understand how all of the components of the photograph interact and contribute to the bigger picture. In life, we need focus to do the same thing--to help us define all of the ways in which the elements of life interact and change us as people. Focus isn’t just necessary when dealing with work, it’s a lense in which we can wholeheartedly fulfill our responsibilities. Focus grounds me to the ‘here and now,’ allowing me to remain present in whatever life throws in my way.”



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