

**For Immediate Release:**

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**THE COSMETOLOGY ACADEMY AT DEC BRINGS HOME FIRST PLACE  
IN PABCA 'TOTAL LOOK' COMPETITION**

**MONESSEN, PA, OCTOBER 24, 2011** – Students from The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center (DEC) demonstrated their creative and professional abilities in the Pennsylvania Barber and Cosmetology Association (PABCA) 'Total Look' Student Team Competition in Williamsport this past weekend. The Cosmetology Academy announced today that its six-member team took home first in all categories.

Competitors were to use hair, make-up, nails and wardrobe as a presentation of "street fashion glamour" inspiring looks from the streets of New York, London, Paris and Milan. "At The Cosmetology Academy we teach our students that every detail matters," said Gary Nestor, Director of Cosmetology Education. "Competitions are an important part of The Cosmetology Academy experience because they allow our students to use their creativity, polish their skills, and showcase their talent in a setting outside of school."

Students who competed in the competition include Billie Jo Szabo (nail design), Rachel Cornett (make-up), Tonia Lawson (ladies hair design), Tracy Braum (men's cutting), Angelina Morgan (female model) and Josh Sapp (male model). "We are taught to make heads turn, and that's exactly what we aimed for. It took a collaborative effort from all of us, but we pulled it off, and we all couldn't be more thrilled," exclaimed winning student Tonia Lawson.

In addition to receiving first place in every category of the competition, the team brought home the 'Best Dressed Couple' award. The wardrobe was designed and fabricated by Nestor, and the overall look was influenced by the 1950s "Rockabilly" style with a modern twist.

This is The Cosmetology Academy's second consecutive win of the PABCA 'Total Look' Student Team Competition. The Cosmetology Academy has won 4 out of 5 times in the last 5 years.

For more information about The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center, please visit [www.dec.edu](http://www.dec.edu) or follow us on Facebook.

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**DOUGLAS EDUCATION CENTER**

Established in 1904, Douglas Education Center (DEC) is a premier career institution located in Monessen, PA. DEC creates an educational atmosphere that not only fosters the highest standards of excellence in all students, but also helps these students develop an awareness of social responsibility and ethical behavior. DEC offers programs in special make-up effects, digital film, illustration, fantasy art, graphic design, cosmetology, medical and business. Most DEC instructors are industry professionals who have actual working knowledge and experience in the program in which they teach.

**THE COSMETOLOGY ACADEMY**

The Cosmetology Academy utilizes the #1 provider for cosmetology learning solutions, Milady. Students train in an upscale salon environment and also benefit from an in-house clinic. The clinic is open to students, staff, and the public and allows the students to put their education to practical use. Cosmetology programs include: Cosmetology Program, Cosmetology Teacher / Salon Manager Program, Esthetics Program, Esthetician and Nail Technologist Program.