

For Immediate Release

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DOUGLAS EDUCATION CENTER GRADUATE MAKES THE CUT, OPENS UP HIS OWN SALON IN MON VALLEY SHOPPING CENTER

MONESSEN, PA., AUGUST 12, 2010 – Explosive growth in the cosmetology field heralds a new age of opportunity for young people who are creative, expressive, caring and eager to make their mark on the world. Every semester, The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center launches the careers of highly-skilled and talented graduates – many of whom have worked for some of the most prominent and dynamic salons in the region including Philip Pelusi, Stephen Szabo Salon, and Geno Levi Salon just to name a few.

When James Young first stepped through the doors of The Cosmetology Academy in fall of 2003 – part of the first class to attend The Cosmetology Academy - he didn't see these big salon names in the limelight. He dreamed of his own name across the storefront of his very own salon. On July 20, 2010 the first snippet of hair fell to the floor in Young's new salon – J's Way Hair Salon – located in the Mon Valley Shopping Center, Monessen, PA 15062.

In his earlier years, Young had begun to make a name for himself in the Mon Valley region by cutting hair for his friends and family. Soon, Young had a long list of clientele and a core group of influential people that pushed him to pursue his talents with clippers and a pair of sheers. "I had a full-time job at the time, but I loved cutting hair on the side. And I was good at it. Soon my friends and family seeded the idea to attend cosmetology school in order to get my full cosmetology license."

Young had determination, and a plan for his future began to form. "When I found The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center it was the perfect fit. It's located right here in the Mon Valley - just where I wanted to be." Young's clientele began to expand further while he was a student at DEC.

Avenues began to open for Young in the fields of educator, salon owner, professional product representative, and freelance stylist. "The Cosmetology Academy's imparts more than hair, skin care and body care techniques to its students. Its unique salon-ready environment puts students behind the chair, behind the retail counter – and in the owner's shoes, too – in direct contact with clients, for direct practical experience," Young noted. "It's not just cut, curl and style. You learn presentation skills, and how to succeed in the marketplace."

Young learned additional business techniques by researching how other salons performed. "I worked for Vonda Frezzell of Sanctified Scissors in Monessen and Spa Uptown in Pittsburgh. The late Ms Antonio Lawson of Monessen was very influential too me as well as Yvonne Epps of Natural Motions Salon By

Epps in Donora and Vonda Frezzell. I was hungry for education, and wanted to stay abreast of the latest trends in the industry.”

J’s Way Hair Salon opened its doors in late July 2010. “If it wasn’t for my family and friends – throughout the whole valley – who supported me, and my education at The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center, I’d be further from my dream.”

In the future, Young would like to franchise his new business and open up his own cosmetology school, among an array of other ventures. He has currently hired two graduates from The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center to be employees at J’s Way Hair Salon, both of which will begin work later in the month.

The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center utilizes the #1 provider for cosmetology learning solutions, Milady. Students train in an upscale salon environment and also benefit from an in-house clinic open to students, staff, and the public where students can perfect their techniques.

For more information about The Cosmetology Academy at Douglas Education Center please visit www.dec.edu.

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ABOUT DOUGLAS EDUCATION CENTER

Established in 1904, Douglas Education Center (DEC) is the premier creative 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, graphic design, cosmetology, medical and business. DEC instructors are industry professionals who have actual working knowledge and experience in the programs in which they teach.

ABOUT 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 open to students, staff, and the public where they can perform their techniques. Cosmetology programs include: Master Cosmetology Program, General Cosmetology Program, Cosmetology Teacher Program, Esthetician Program and Esthetics and Nail Technology.