

Educator Portraits

Manon Pilon

My Background

At 15 years old, my mother asked me to find myself a summer job. My dream was to work in a field of beauty, regardless of the position - as long as it was in the cosmetic or beauty industry. I searched for an opportunity at the government placement for students and the agent that I met said "Can you be an esthetician? And pretend to be older than 15 years old? I have a job for you in an esthetic salon and you would fit perfectly." It was called Esthetic Marie-Eve! I said "Yes". I didn't even know what an esthetician meant, but he told me it was in a shopping mall near my house and I knew of that unique place where I saw ladies in uniforms that looked like nurses to me. I was very excited!

Motivation

I get my motivation through a satisfied client, the more they are happy, the more I want to do for them. If I can help someone and in return I get a thank you, this continuous positive feedback keeps me very happy.

My Advice

I would only say whatever you desire, you can have. Keep your courage, work hard and you will succeed. Don't wait for someone else to teach you. Get the information yourself, keep learning and educating yourself, you will go far!

I'm Happiest When

Everyone around me is happy! My family, customers, their customers and everyone that I meet.



Pat Lam



My Background

I left my job at York University and joined my husband, an Oriental Medical Practitioner in his busy practice 26 years ago when his patients started to ask him for help with their skins and as the skin care practice flourished, we began to distribute European skin care products. The final outcome was the establishment of the Lam School of Advanced Esthetics to meet the needs of the growing industry.

The State of The Industry

What upsets me about our profession is that too many schools are more focused on quick turnover of students and not providing good basic training. In fact, many of them offer advanced training before even learning the basics! How can one obtain advanced training if the basics are not covered? Distributors of skin care products and equipment are notorious in offering advanced training to individuals who never even attend any formal training and they continue to do so.

In The Morning

I do some form of exercise - stretch, cardio or weight training - every day. If I don't, I feel lethargic and tired throughout the day. I encourage everyone

to do the same because you feel so energetic all day.

Passions

I love this industry because it incorporates so many aspects, health, nutrition, wellness and bordering on the medical arena. Most of us stay in the industry because we feel a deep sense of satisfaction with results of our work. My family also brings me great joy. I am happiest when the whole Lam family can get together especially with my two young adorable grandsons!