

# ANYBODY CAN BE A MODEL.

By Amelia Krueger, Sam Saliba, Kate Muldoon, and Emily Bell



While sitting on top of an old freezer in a basement hardware closet, Sophia Miranda '21 is obsessed with a hard boiled egg. This is in the midst of a photoshoot conducted by The Pack. She will not rest until the egg is in her photos. Finally, the egg ends up perched on a fire extinguisher hiding behind her. Now, the shoot may begin.

As Miranda poses, she lights up the room and makes it a place full of possibility. She has no modeling experience, yet she is able to turn regular space into a work of art. "I think that you don't have to be a model

to model," Miranda said. "Just put on what makes you feel confident, go to a fun location, and just do whatever makes you feel happy."

In reality, there's no actual criteria for beauty. It's all subjective. With that mindset, The Pack decided to take five regular people and show how they can project their inner beauty outward. We gathered them in a basement, and set out to show how modeling knows no bounds.

"Looks have become such an important factor of status in society," Alana Saliba '23, one of our models, said. "They've become a ranking for how important you are, or how

much you're worth."

Saliba knows that beauty is not shallow and can be expressed however she chooses.

"If you can't get past the way I look on the outside, then why should I waste my time teaching you how I look on the inside? I think I'm pretty, as it goes," she said.

There is no one specific type of model. While Miranda is bubbly and her happiness is infectious, Matisse Kellner '21 brought a down to earth sensibility while getting her make-up done. She had a stark personality difference from Sophia and still brought her own unique energy to her photoshoot.

Kellner gazed dramatically across the

kitchen in order to pull together the atmosphere of her photos. Her pose was relaxed and dreamy, as if she was a natural.

Even though these people are more than capable of modeling, there is still a stigma around doing it professionally. "There's still a ways to go," Kellner said. She is looking forward to more inclusivity and diversity throughout the modeling industry. "It's still tricky for a lot of the outliers and groups of people to get jobs."

While it may be hard to enter the industry, our photoshoot mostly highlighted people who have the potential to model, but are inexperienced.

Michael Ryterski '21 is not a model, but his confidence in himself shows through everything he does, including posing for a photoshoot. Even though Ryterski could totally be a model, he is apprehensive about the industry.

"I've just always had it in my head that it's a negative environment, just because it's purely based off of looks and not personality or talent," Ryterski said.

Throughout history, society's perception of the ideal person has often been constructed around appearance. Standards have changed, but there's still an air of negativity around using models from diverse backgrounds.

"Body positivity, at this point, has become a cliché, but it's important," Saliba said. "It's real. It's a part of our lives. I mean, we have to live in the bodies we have every single day. People can't be held back by the idea that they're not attractive enough."

"I know it's cliché, but everyone is so beautiful in their own way," Miranda said. "If everybody looked the same it would be so boring." Using real people as models and inspiration could break the harmful stigma of the perfect look.

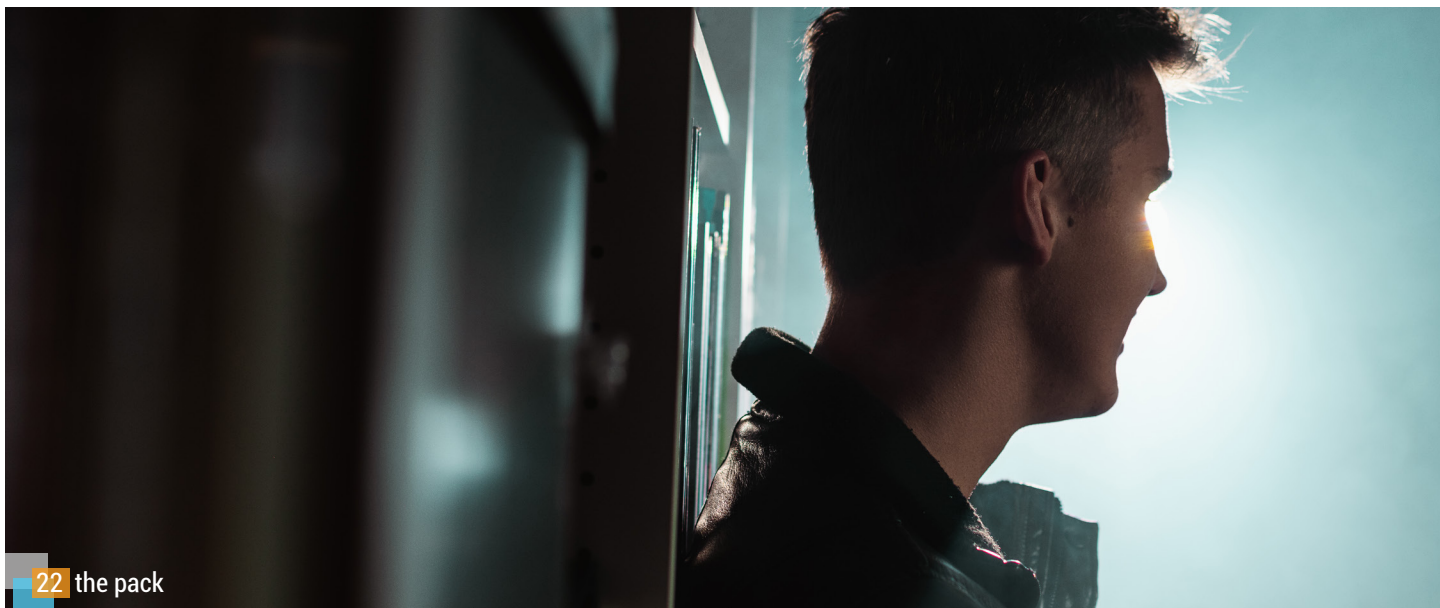
"Everybody has insecurities, so the best thing we can do is embrace them and love ourselves and love each other," Saliba said.



Alana Saliba '23 asserts, "Body positivity, at this point has become a cliché, but it's important. It's real. It's a part of our lives. I mean, we have to live in the bodies we have every single day. If we're not happy in our own skin, you can't be happy in the life you're living and the world around you."



Adams Cadichon '20 has been an athlete all of his life. Modeling has never so much as crossed his mind. "I had never thought about modeling at all," Cadichon said.



**"I've thought about modeling. I've thought about it just because it's a good way to make connections in the media industry which is something I want to go into later, so I feel like that would be a great gateway to get into the industry later."**

**-Michael Ryterski '21**