



beyond

## THE EVER HUMBLE ALYSSA

James Silaban

Alyssa could not be happier to have made it to second runner up for STAR TEEN 2008. She humbly admits that the winners and first runners up deserve their achievement because they are so talented. "I never thought I'd be the second runner up because I just take things lightly," she admits.

But one thing she does not take lightly, is her new position. Alyssa is aware that she is now in the limelight and this means she needs to be a good role model for other teens. How would she like to use her influence? Well, Alyssa wants to encourage teenagers to care about the environment.

"Reduce plastic bag usage, and if you drink mineral water, keep the bottle for further use," she gives as simple advice. She's even planning to write a book about caring for the environment.

Alyssa also wants to help autistic children. She had the chance to work with autistic kids before and in the future, she wants to open a non-profit musical therapy clinic. Not an easy task, which is why she is planning to study at the University of Pennsylvania and double major in business and music therapy. "If you want to open an institution, you have to know how to run it," she explains with confidence.

Looks like second runner up at STAR TEEN 2008 is really just the start for Alyssa. This smart and motivated girl is clearly going places! Good luck Alyssa!



## THE SURPRISED ANDREAS

James Silaban

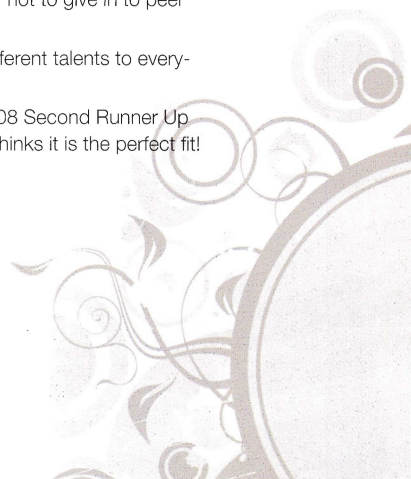
Andreas, who is currently studying at the University of Indonesia majoring in civil engineering, admits he never really thought he would be second runner up. To his surprise, but not anyone else's, Andreas passed stage after stage and decided to make the most of the situation and enjoy it. Of course, there were some new things that threw him for a loop at first.

"Learning to walk properly can be troublesome," he explains talking about the catwalk and choreography practice. "And I have never worn make up before," he adds with a laugh.

But modeling and makeup were just the beginning of the valuable lessons learned for Andreas. Andreas also learned to accept people who are different than he is. He realizes now that everyone has different talents and thinks teens should just to be themselves and try not to give in to peer pressure.

"It all dawned on me that God is fair. He gives different talents to everyone," says Andreas.

We agree Andreas! Even though STAR TEEN 2008 Second Runner Up might have been a bit of a surprise to you, HET thinks it is the perfect fit!





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