

SPOTLIGHT

ATC Success Stories

Denton's Advanced Technology Complex is proud to Spotlight former student and Cosmetology graduate, Leigh McPherson – Licensed Cosmetologist and local business owner. Leigh owns and manages the Leigh Jacobs Salon in Crossroads, TX. As a Licensed Cosmetologist, Leigh specializes in cut, color, hair extensions & makeup application. She uses these skills not only in her salon, but also at on-location events & weddings.



Leigh always knew she wanted to be a stylist. It was her passion, and it showed from an early age. "I would style and cut my Barbie's hair." At the age of 7, she sketched what her future salon would look like.

As a student from Pilot Point High School, Leigh entered the ATC's Cosmetology program and discovered that the passion she had displayed as a child was intensified. "I loved being in class and learning, and would show up early or stay late, whenever possible." She just wanted to be immersed in the program and quickly confirmed that the field of Cosmetology was her chosen career path.



Leigh loved all of the Cosmetology teachers at the ATC, but her teacher Brenda Buster holds a special place in her heart. "I love the compassion

that Ms. Buster showed to me while I attended the ATC. I could tell that she wanted me to succeed." With Ms. Buster's guidance and Leigh's passion and talent, she went on to win 1st Place in State for Haircutting at the SkillsUSA Leadership Competition and graduated as the Valedictorian of the ATC Cosmetology Class of 2010.



While still attending the ATC, Leigh worked as an apprentice at the Von Anthony Salon in Frisco, TX. She was the first student allowed to apprentice in this upscale salon. She did such an amazing job that this high-end salon has opened its doors to other ATC students and graduates to apprentice. After her apprenticeship ended, Leigh became a self-employed stylist and rented a booth in a salon for about three years. During this time, she felt it was important to build up a strong clientele in preparation for her next career goal – her own salon.



December 5, 2015, will mark the one year anniversary since the Leigh Jacobs Salon opened. There are currently four other stylists employed at this charming and inviting salon. "I wanted to give the salon a warm, upscale feeling," and from the moment you walk into the salon, this feeling is evident. Since opening, the Leigh Jacobs Salon has had over 2,000 clients step through the front door. Leigh is proud that customer service is considered top priority. "Sometimes a client just needs someone to talk to," and Leigh makes a conscious effort to make an emotional connection with each one of her clients. "I want each person to leave my salon feeling better than when they arrived."



If Leigh could give any advice to current ATC students, it would be that "No matter how big your dream is, you can do it. It is all a mind-set that you have to have. You have to set strong goals!"

Leigh's passion, motivation, determination and hard work have led to great achievements, and the ATC is proud to Spotlight the success of students like this. What a fantastic example of the ATC helping students achieve their dreams and goals! The ATC is proud of you, Leigh McPherson!

Leigh Jacobs Salon
11350 US HWY 380, Suite 150
Crossroads, TX



{Photographs by ATC Advanced Commercial Photography students Alec Bui (DHS) and Cameron Nestor (GHS)}

