

Cover Story



Krista Harris' success in beauty pageants has helped her to become more confident, but her new smile has made her glow. See Krista's story on page 4.

Aesthetic dentistry by Dr. Joe Willardsen, a graduate of Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. His expertise in marketing and aesthetic dentistry has allowed him to maintain a successful cosmetic and neuromuscular practice in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Aesthetic restorations by Chris Walley, an Elite Ceramist at Arrowhead Dental Laboratory, Sandy, Utah. Cover photo: Dirk Douglass Photography, Salt Lake City, Utah (dirkdouglass.com).



Dr. Willardsen



Chris Walley

Contents • Spring 2008

- 6  **EDITOR'S COMMENTARY**
Innovation-Rich,
Comprehensive Dentistry
Dick Barnes, D.D.S.
- 8  **IMPLANT EZ**
Endo vs. Implants:
No Competition
Jon Julian, D.D.S.
- 14  **LAB PERSPECTIVE**
Are You Still Educating Your Patients?
Chris Stevens, D.D.S.
- 18  **SECRETS OF SUCCESS**
One Dentist's Philosophy
of No-Prep Veneers
Patricia Takacs, D.M.D.
- 20  **INSIGHTS**
Fear
Tawana Coleman
- 24  **HOT PRODUCTS**
The Smile Game
Alan DeAngelo, D.D.S.

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Stealing the Show with Her Smile

Her triumphs in the pageant arena made her more confident, but her new smile has made her glow.

Krista Harris didn't always consider herself a beauty queen. In fact, discouragement often reigned in her teenage years. Overweight, dyslexic, and self-conscious about her smile, Krista had her share of problems. The loss of her adoptive father didn't exactly give her the best outlook on life. But Krista began to experience some small successes—the publishing of a poem, experiences as a volunteer for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, and winning the Miss Nevada America Teen pageant in 2004.

Krista's success led to more confidence-building triumphs in other pageants. The larger pageants also put her in front of many civic groups as she made appearances at special

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occasions throughout the state. She began to choreograph dances for children's pageants with a focus on promoting self-confidence. She believed that each child she coached should know that it's not about the crown on your head, but the crown around your heart.

A year ago, Krista realized that she still lacked confidence in one thing—her smile. "My smile wasn't even close to perfect," said Krista. "I decided to see about getting it fixed. I had recently lost about 50 pounds and I was ready to take the next self-improvement step. I wanted a future in modeling and pageantry, so my smile is key!"

There was just one problem. Krista was terrified of needles. "Being in the dentist chair was extremely uncomfortable for me because of all the tools they come toward your mouth with," said Krista. "After being frustrated by many dentists I was ready to throw in the towel. But then I was referred to Dr. Joe Willardsen. Dr. Willardsen and his staff created a relaxed environment for me. They helped calm my nerves so I could sit still for the procedure. My experience was delightful from start to finish."

Krista can remember the first day she approached Dr. Willardsen. "First, his friendly staff helped me with all the

paperwork," said Krista, "and then introduced me to Dr. Willardsen. He sat down and talked with my mother and me and asked why I was there to see him. I was shocked! He was the first dentist who actually asked me why I wanted a smile makeover. After much explanation on why I was ready to make the change, we began the process."

"First, Dr. Willardsen took a mold of my teeth. Then I patiently waited to view what my new smile would look like. I was excited to go in for the appointment where Dr. Willardsen put on my temporary teeth."

Krista was in love with the vast improvement her temporaries made to her smile, so you can imagine how excited she was the day she went into get her permanent teeth. "My new smile has made such a huge difference in my life," said Krista. "I absolutely love my new smile! Dr. Willardsen is amazing, and I would recommend him and his staff to anyone. I even switched dentists for good to his office."

"My new smile has definitely affected the way others respond," said Krista. "People just can't stop raving about how gorgeous my teeth look. So naturally, I smile all the time. My smile makeover is definitely the best thing I ever did. My whole attitude has changed. I am so much happier now."



Before



After

Krista is the reigning Miss Nevada Galaxy 2008 and will represent the state at the international pageant in Orlando, Florida. In addition to pageants, Krista enjoys dancing, surfing, riding ATVs, shopping, scrapbooking, and just being herself. ■