



Hi!
Society

By **MONET LU**

Make-up solutions for all occasions

ANYONE who's ever been a bride, a bridesmaid, mother of the bride, a debutante, or someone who has dolled up for a special occasion share an unguarded secret about getting ready for a major event: It pays to hire a professional hair and make-up stylist!

Allow me to count the reasons. For one, who needs the added stress? On your special day, do you really want to be dealing with blending colors and uncooperative hair when there's family and friends who need entertaining?

Two, hiring a stylist comes with all the special effects. If you have chosen wisely, the stylist will come with all the cutting edge tools to glam you up.

I always come over-prepared with luggage containing all the materials I will need for a makeover. As professional make-up artists, we make sure to stock



The natural look

up on brands and colors that are in vogue as well as classic shades that never go out of style.

Finally, a professional stylist can execute a glamor look you want. But I have to qualify that this depends highly on how clearly you have communicated your vision to the stylist.

This is why I always recommend a consultation session before the special day.

There are clients whose minds are set on a certain look without taking into consideration what the stylist has to work with.

I personally believe achieving the best look is always a collaboration between the client and the stylist. Most of the time, the heavy

weight rests on the stylist because, after all, we are the professionals and we know what works based on experience.

My advice to clients, don't be afraid to express your vision. It's your big moment! Be bold, be clear, but don't forget to be kind as well. A pleasant rapport with your stylist will make things run smoother and faster.

Convenience is a major reason to hire a stylist. I always offer my clients the option to either go on location (to do the style service where the event is going to be) or it can also be in-salon, at any of my salon branches.

There's a surcharge for on-location service but for the convenience of our busy clients, I think the price is very reasonable.

Confidence is another important reason to hire a professional stylist for your special occasion.

We can recommend make-up and hair styles that will best suit your face shape, your skin tone, and your personality.

I've personally been applying Velvet Spray Air-brush Make-Up on my latest clients to rave reviews! This is spray-on high-definition make-up that provides impressive coverage and flawless results.

The Velvet Spray also has staying power, more than regular brush-on make-up. The price for this make-up application is more than regular make-up but also quite reasonable for the quality you get.

In terms of choosing a make-up style, well, the



Timeless up do

trends vary. For brides, I'm a big fan of natural-looking make-up. This doesn't mean "everyday" or "washed out" makeup. I define natural-looking make-up as a look that emphasizes natural features and skin glow. When done properly, the facial complexion radiates with the clever use of neutral tones. It's ethereal and elegant and timeless.

It's advisable to plan ahead when booking a stylist. You need to know you can talk the stylist about your vision and that the stylist, in turn, has the range and experience to pull it off.

At Monet Salon, we reward clients who plan ahead. If you book us for bridal make-up service three months in advance, we are offering a special discount.

Please visit www.monetsalon.com for more about our services, or call (213) 216-4923.

The author is a Marikina-born, award-winning celebrity beauty stylist with his own chain of salons across Southern California and Las Vegas, Nevada. Ultimately, Monet is known as an all-around artiste who produces sold-out fashion and awards shows, as well as unforgettable marketing campaigns. Monet is also the founder of the revolutionary all-natural beauty products available at www.skinbymonet.com. He supports many humanitarian efforts to include projects in his native Marikina, The Bantay Bata Foundation, and many more. To contact Monet, please visit www.monetsalon.com for more information.

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PNB-RCI announces new lower remittance fees

IN response to the tough challenges of the current economic climate, PNB-RCI is announcing its new lower remittance fees effective July 15, 2009. For as low as \$2.98, Fil-Americans can send money to their loved ones back home. In keeping with the tradition of PNB's *Lingkod Pangkapatid*, PNB-RCI has decided to lower its fees to make sending money to the Philippines affordable, even to those who have temporarily lost their jobs.

The move to lower remittance rates is in direct response to the challenges of the present time. Fully aware that the rate of unemployment is still on the rise while the prices of goods and services continue to spiral in the current economic downturn that has many feeling the pinch or even reeling from the setback, PNB-RCI is taking the initiative to make it more affordable for kababayans to remit money back home to their loved ones in any season for any and all reasons. With this move, PNB-RCI further confirms its commitment to serve the community by responding quickly and decisively to its needs. The fee structure makes PNB-RCI's remittance services one of the more competitive ones in the industry.

With this offer, a regular customer who is a non-GFC (Global Filipino Card) member as well as a GFC member can begin sending up to \$100 for only \$2.98 per remittance as credit to a PNB deposit or GFC account. But membership does have its privileges and this will be apparent as the remittance amounts increase. When the amount goes up to \$200 and above, the privileges of GFC members begin to kick in with deeper discounted service fees. Imagine remitting up to \$1000 for only a \$6 service fee if you are a GFC member.

Fees for dollar-to-dollar remittances have also gone down. Now, one can send dollar-to-dollar remittances up to \$1000 for as low as \$10, \$2 lower than that of competitors. Other dollar-to-dollar fees also dropped by \$5.

For complete details of the remittance service fees, please call 1-800-PNB-8788, visit www.pnbroci.com or come to the nearest PNB-RCI branch. We ask you to give us the opportunity to earn your trust and confidence as our customer for life.

(Advertising Supplement)

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