

Georgetown kids take the modelling world by storm

By Kathryn Boyle
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The lives of six-year-old Liam Stakiewicz and seven-year-old Elle Ramsay are unlike those of their classmates.

The pair are models and in the last few years, have had major success with brands like Hudson's Bay and Spin Master Toys.

Liam entered the modelling world at the age of 18 months, when his father, Mariusz, wanted him to come out of his shell and build his confidence.

Stacey, Elle's mother, wanted the same for her daughter, bringing Elle into the modelling world at just three months old.

I modelled growing up and I was really shy and I found it brought out a bit of personality in me, Stacey said.

I thought with me being shy, she'd probably be shy too, and she's completely not shy.

Elle is currently modelling with Anita Norris Management, based in London, and Liam is working out of Camera Kids, based in Toronto.

The parents didn't know each other until just last summer when the kids did a shoot in Toronto.

(Liam) has gone out and done a ton of work, (Elle) has gone out and done a ton of work and then we're on set one day together and we just get to talking, Stacey said. The two then realized they were both from Georgetown and only five minutes away from each other.

They played at the same park when they were little, Mariusz said. And now they're doing big time shoots for international companies.

It's a small world, Stacey said. You never meet anyone from Georgetown.

Both kids have gone out and done modelling work with other children, but according to Stacey and Mariusz, the chemistry isn't the same.

The chemistry just started instantly, Mariusz said.

They just took to each other, Stacey added. Sometimes you shoot with a kid who will take forever to get a good shot. With them, it was five minutes and they were just joking and playing.

Since their first shoot, the pair have been called back for more campaigns.

There's a pride seeing them on set, Stacey said. They're well behaved, and their actions speak for themselves when they get called back. When a company isn't happy, you don't get called back. But they consistently get called back.

It shows they're doing something right and there's a comfort about them.

Liam landed a big job at just two years old, a success Mariusz was surprised and delighted to see.

His first big one was at about two years old, and he did a massive international campaign for President's Choice across Canada and parts of the U.S. too, Mariusz said, explaining Liam was featured at all the President's Choice banking kiosks and in the company's flyers.

Although busy with modelling, Elle's first priority is competitive dance, and hopes to be a veterinarian when she grows up.

Dance is her first thing, just because it is competitive and there's a



Seven-year-old Elle Ramsay and six-year-old Liam Stakiewicz are the best of friends and often model together for big companies like Hudson's Bay.

Submitted photo

commitment. But most of the jobs are during the day, and dance is at night, so we can balance it all, Stacey said.

Liam is busy with karate classes on weeknights and is looking forward to being a fireman and a karate actor.

Both parents hoped their children would be successful, but never thought they would be.

I didn't think he would be this

ahead at six years old, Mariusz said.

It is just mind-boggling for me to be six years old and have huge companies inquiring and asking about Liam.

My ultimate goal was to get him on television and commercial because financially, it does well for them. His school will be paid for by the time he finishes high school, because he's doing so well.

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