

JEANNI MULDER - SEA POINT, CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE

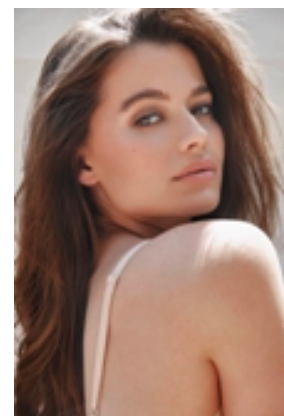
Name: Jeanni Mulder

Region: Sea Point, Cape Town, Western Cape.

Age: 24 (June 24, 1997)

Occupation:

After graduating high school, I started working full time as an international model. I signed with Boss Models at the age of 17 and with international agencies at 18. I am currently doing a TEFL course to help educate people around the world speak English.



Why did you decide to enter Miss South Africa 2021 and why do you deserve to win this title?

Because I want to offer all that I am to those around me. I want to take this opportunity to further the growth of the great woman that I am and provide hope and opportunities for the younger generation. I want to use my voice, my platform, my time and my skills to better the road that others have to walk on. To be Miss South Africa is an honour and a responsibility and I would use my voice to influence all South Africans.

Tell us about your biggest disappointment and how you bounced back from it.

Being in an industry that is purely based on your appearances can be crushing. I've struggled from depression and I still struggle from anxiety but I have told myself who I am and what I have to offer is enough.

What do you think is the biggest problem facing young people today?

Mental health.

Who are your role models?

My mom. She has taught me to fight hard, love deeply and never to be afraid of being passionate about what makes you happy.

Tell us a bit more about your family?

My mother, Brenda, is an admin/rental assistant at a property company. My stepfather, Ettiene, has his own construction company called Farao Construction. I have a brother Louis, who has a degree in IT. My stepbrother Albe passed away in October 2019 as a result of a car accident.

What do you do in your spare time?

I love to do anything artsy such as paint, make something clay-based etc. I also like to watch TV series and during the pandemic I learned how to play Texas Holdem Poker so I play quite often with family and friends.

What is your single biggest achievement?

Entering for Miss South Africa. Since I posted my entry video I told myself that whatever comes from this journey I will be content. The growth I've already seen in myself by just posting the video is so much more than I could've ever asked for. I just wish my younger self could see how far I've come, compared to the shy, insecure girl that I was growing up.

Why do you think beauty pageants are still relevant today?

They are a platform for women whose voices will be heard. It gives them the opportunity to make a change for those who feel like they will never be heard and I know we are improving, but there is still not enough of these platforms for women. Change has happened in the beauty pageant organisations where the "beauty" that they look for is on the inside.

What is your message to young girls and young women in South Africa?

Who you are and what you have to offer is enough. You are so powerful and you deserve to be heard. Find your why, because everything you need to achieve greatness is already inside of you.

What do you love about South Africa?

The easiest answer would be to say the diversity of our country, which is so beautiful. But what I love even more is the humanity of everyone from different cultures.

What is one thing you would like to change about South Africa?

Gender-based violence.

2020 and 2021 have been extraordinary years and difficult for people around the globe. Do you see any positives in what has happened in the past 18 months?

I believe that there is always a positive in every situation. Families have reconnected and become closer; we gained introspection and realised how much we have taken for granted in the past and we know we have a greater appreciation for things.

If you won the Miss South Africa crown and was able to meet one person, who would it be and why?

Oprah Winfrey as I feel like I could receive a lot of knowledge from her. What she has done by creating her Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa is incredible.

What is the one thing people would be surprised to know about you?

I am really good at poker.

What is the No 1 piece of advice that you would give to your younger self?

Everything you need to achieve greatness is already inside you so never let your circumstances control your future.

QUICKFIRE QUESTIONS

Describe yourself in three words:

Compassionate. Strong-willed. Genuine

What's the best advice you can give in exactly four words?

Always know your worth.

Who's your favourite designer and why?

Coco Chanel, she was a fashion designer as well as a business woman. I've always been a fan of her elegant, stylish styles which really complement yet empowers a woman.

You have to give up one of these? Handbags or shoes?

Handbags

What is one thing that we would not know about you just by looking at you?

I'm very goofy once you get to know me.

What would be your dream holiday?

Summer – Mauritius. Winter – Blue Lagoon, Iceland

If you could have any superhuman power, what would it be?

Teleportation.

What are you reading?

Rising Strong by Brene Brown

What music are you listening to?

Pop, alternative, '90s R&B, golden oldies.

What are your favourite TV shows?

Grace and Frankie, *Schitt's Creek*, *Vikings* and *How I Met Your Mother*.

What is your favourite meal?

I'm a foodie, so my favourite food depends on where I am. But I love sushi with fried tempura prawns.

Who is your local and international celeb crush?

Chad Le Clos and Margot Robbie.

Social media tags:

- Facebook: Jeanni Mulder
- Instagram: @jeanimulder
- Twitter: @jeannidmulder