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# Madeleine West

**\* Street Kid \* TV Star \* Comedian \* MC \* Host \***

From an early age Madeleine has shown a flair for the arts, performing in front of family and friends at any given opportunity. Her talent for acting was rewarded in 1992 with entry into the NSW Talented Child Drama Ensemble, and has since been honed through years of study at such institutions as Swinburne University, Tamworth Conservatorium of Music and Riverina Drama Ensemble. She has also undertaken short courses at the highly esteemed NIDA, along with courses in Voice, Movement, Drama and Musical Theatre at various ensembles both in Victoria and interstate.

Madeleine began a University degree in Law, but her passion for performance would not be denied so she deferred her studies when she was offered a major role on Australia's longest-running series, Neighbours.

Playing the character Dionne Bliss, to an average of over a million viewers per night she has rapidly become a very well known face in some 60 countries, watched by over 120 million people every day. Madeleine has largely contributed to the huge popularity of a series that has been a part of Australian television for 20 years.

Another dimension to Madeleine's character is her natural flair for comedy. She has performed at comedy venues all over Melbourne, including a weekly live improvisation show. There have also been regular guest appearances on national television including Rove Live and more recently Madeleine appeared as a panelist on hugely popular comedy talk show The Panel. Currently in demand for live shows such as these, Madeleine shows no sign of slowing down.

In 2005 Madeleine hosted "The Cage" on the Triple M breakfast show in Brisbane.

## THE SPEAKER

At 16 Madeleine West left a shattered home to pursue her life dreams on her own, despite significant personal obstacles.

With enormous determination she was able to put herself through school achieving high enough marks to be accepted into Law at University.

After her performing career had taken off with her leading role in Neighbours, Madeleine was tragically hit by a bus which not only almost killed her but also nearly ended her performing career, something she had worked for so hard and so long to achieve.

It is amazing how many lifetimes can be crammed into just 24 years, but Madeleine West has experienced more in her time than many would even dare imagine. Despite personal tragedy and seemingly impossible odds, Madeleine is fulfilling her ambitions, and is living proof that regardless of the obstacles you face, by setting goals and having faith in yourself, anything is possible. As Madeleine says, *"If you dare to dream, no matter who you are, nothing can stop you...not even a bus!"*

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## CLIENT FEEDBACK

*“Fantastic presentation. Madeleine seemed to touch all the girls in one-way or another. She was open and honest with them. She incorporated both humour and sadness in recalling her childhood, whilst encouraging the girls to always strive for their goal and never let anything get in the way.”*

**Rosebud Youth Resource Centre**

*“The feedback that I have received from everyone who attended was sensational. This was an experiment for us and you have more than exceeded our expectations. I can't thank you enough for the wonderful energy and effort that you put into your presentation today.”*

**Mornington Peninsula Shire**

*“Madeleine is a talented and inspiring speaker with a great ability to capture her audience by using comedy coupled with seriousness which provided a fine balance of entertainment and motivation for our audience of staff and students. A professional in all ways, Madeleine was a pleasure to have as a guest.”*

**Laylor Secondary College**

*“Madeleine West was absolutely delightful to work with and a wonderful MC for the recent Hush Puppies Myer fashion parade in Melbourne. She put a lot of effort into researching the Hush Puppies brand and listening to our key objectives so that she reflected the brand perfectly on the day. Madeleine was lovely to deal with from start to finish. She was very funny and a real crowd pleaser (in front of an audience of general public), and I wouldn't hesitate to recommend her to anyone as an excellent MC or guest speaker.”*

**45 Degrees North**

*“Madeline worked brilliantly with John Blackman and of course for our evening celebrating the arts she was a perfect choice. Her speech certainly had people in the room silent and listening, which was one of the few times in the night they were quiet. A very outstanding individual and a great inspiration.”*

**Corporate Business Productions**

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**Corporate Business Productions**

*“Excellent. Warm, friendly, easy to approach, engaging, kept girls interested, honest , funny.”*

**Mornington Peninsular Shire Youth Services**

*“Madeline was delightful company and an excellent speaker who held the attention of some 300 residents for the duration of her speech. She had practical, realistic, and honest advice that really 'spoke' to our residents on a personal level. A number of residents directly expressed their pleasure and interest in hearing Madeline's story and advice, and indeed took a lot from it to implement in their own lives.”*

**Glenn College, LaTrobe University**