



## SENIOR PORTRAIT SESSION DETAILS

### **WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?** (Also see our tips guide below)

When planning a portrait session, keep in mind the colors and style of the room where the photograph will be displayed. You can bring in colors that will coordinate with your decor. Safe colors (when going neutral) include white, cream and khaki.

For outdoor sessions neutral colors work well as well as warm tones; brown, dusty reds, sage green, etc. Whites are best for storytelling and the dreamy "glow" effects.

### **Glasses**

If you wear glasses all the time, you should plan to wear them in your session, so you look like your usual self. However, they can reflect a glare from light inside the studio or outdoors, which may result in costly re-touch fees. Certain prescriptions can also make the size or shape of your eyes appear distorted.

*Here's what we suggest:* You can wear your frames without the lenses—either have your optometrist take the lenses out for the day (do not drive a car like this!) or borrow a sample pair of frames. If wearing frames without lenses is not an option for you, we can try to adjust lighting to minimize glare. Finally, we can do hand retouching if glare does appear on your final prints (there is an extra charge for this).

### **TIPS FOR A HIGH QUALITY PORTRAIT SESSION**

The most important thing to remember is to be sure to get a lot of rest and drink plenty of water. Your skin will glow if it is well hydrated and you will feel good as well as look refreshed! Below are some other helpful tips to help make your portrait session a great success!

#### **CLOTHING**

- We recommend that you bring at least 2-4 of your favorite outfits!
- Bring a solid dark shirt for your yearbook photograph. It is a good idea to select a shirt that has some detail in the neckline.
- You may choose to bring one casual outfit and something dressy.
- Solid colors work best keeping the attention to the face.
- Soft medium tones (dark red, forest or olive green, indigo blue, plum) and neutrals (white/ivory, black, gray, khaki, beige or brown) work great for outdoor portraits.
- Darker colors tend to be more slimming, and lighter colors tend to highlight. Very bright colors or patterns can work for the "High-Key" (all white) background.
- Avoid sleeveless or short sleeve shirts if you are concerned with how the arms photograph. (These can make your arms look heavier!).
- Don't forget to bring appropriate shoes and socks (or hose) for each outfit. Select your shoes carefully and be sure they are clean. Casual outfits in denim or khaki even look great when you are barefoot! High heels are always fun!
- Accessorize! Bring along a hat, scarf or sunglasses. Also remember other accessories, such as ties, belts, jewelry, or hair items. Iron or press clothing and put on hangers if appropriate. Bring a jacket or two! A jacket over a shirt allows for a quick change of clothing.
- Choose clothing tastefully. Bathing suits, belly rings, crop tops, tank tops, low-cut shirts and suggestive clothing are not recommended. Wear clothes that enhance your figure, not too tight, not too loose. Stay away from clothing with loud prints or with printed words.

## HAIR AND MAKEUP

- Your hair and makeup should be done before you arrive at your session, but bring along some supplies in case you need a quick touch-up.
- Soft, blended eye makeup and a medium shade lipstick photograph better than dramatic or dark makeup. Keep makeup handy for a quick touch up before pictures. This is especially helpful if the portrait session is outdoors or at several locations.
- Even if you don't normally wear makeup, some liquid foundation is recommended, and facial powder is essential! Stay away from makeup with glitter—especially body glitter.
- If you are doing high contrast black-and-white, darker makeup is appropriate.
- Don't forget your fingernails and toenails! You don't need an all-out manicure, but make sure you don't have chipped or worn nail polish.
- Guys should bring a comb or brush and some hair gel. Avoid wearing a baseball cap to the studio!
- Also for the guys, if you shave, do it a little while before your session to ensure a close shave and no razor burn.
- If you get a haircut, do it one week before your session. This is not the time to try a new haircut or style!
- Wear your hair the same way you usually wear it, whether casually, or for special occasions.
- Girls look great with their hair down around chin or shoulders, but if you wear it pulled back, do not do it too tight.

## PROPS

Don't forget your hobby... a guitar, your laptop, artist supplies, uniform or varsity jacket, sports items or other memorable items. We can even use your car, motorcycle or other fun item to create unique portraits that express your personality- just let us know about any unusual props you may have (animals, etc.), so we can plan ahead for your session!