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## PRESS RELEASE

DATE: 23/09/21

**TITLE: Ex North Kent College Student to appear on BBC Three as Krystal Versace on Season 3 of RuPaul's Drag Race**

CONTENT: Luke Fenn, past Level 2 Technical Certificate in Makeup Artistry student, has been selected to appear on Season 3 of RuPaul's Drag Race UK. Luke studied at the Tonbridge Campus from 2018 – 2019 and his hard work alongside his passion for make-up has enabled him to go from to strength since graduating from North Kent College.

Competing as Krystal Versace against eleven other queens, Luke will battle in a series of weekly challenges for the title of 'The UK's Next Drag Superstar'. The candidates are judged by RuPaul himself as well as a line-up of extra-special guest judges including the likes of Emma Bunton, Alesha Dixon, Leigh-Anne Pinnoch and more.

Luke said "My time at college allowed me to choose what path I wanted to follow and at first that was makeup artistry. During my course at the Tonbridge Campus I discovered more about that path and from there I found drag and knew that being in front of the lights was where I belonged and not behind the scenes. I was also never interested in doing hair in college, however Tanisha, my tutor, helped me and had patience with me, and now it's one of my strongest skills and I make all my own wigs and style all my hair! I pride myself on working hard and going straight for what I want and making it happen. I followed my own beat of the drum and here I am!"

Tanisha Church, Luke's tutor, commented 'Luke was a student who had an obvious passion and skill for make-up. He always took the time to create beautiful pieces of art. He uses the face as a blank canvas and applies his technique to create something original and technically sound. The passion for drag was discussed and made clear from day one, and all skills learnt have supported the journey well. Luke lacked hair skill when training with me, and this was something we worked hard with, to build confidence on, and it is clear that hard work has paid off with his own application of making and styling the wigs he wears as Krystal. I am very proud of the hard work and progress Luke has made. We can educate and develop confidence and skill here at college, but it's what you choose to do with that, that defines your future. I continue to look forward to watching the progress Luke will make in

his career, and look forward to cheering from the side with his appearance on Drag Race UK.'

We cannot wait to see Krystal Versace, bring the fierce to season 3 of Drag Race UK! We look forward to cheering Luke on and watching all his future success. Good luck from North Kent College.

**ENDS.**

For further information, please contact Claire Shearwood Burton 01322 629582

**NOTES TO EDITORS:** Our Autumn Open Days are fast approaching! The events provide a great opportunity to find out more about the various academic options we provide at North Kent College, as well as a chance to see the excellent facilities we have to offer. Our open days will take place at our Dartford Campus on 19th October, our Gravesend Campus on 21st October and our Tonbridge Campus on 2nd November.

**PHOTO (L to R):** Krystal Versace

#### **About North Kent College**

North Kent College offer an extensive range of Further Education, Higher Education, Access to Higher Education, Apprenticeships, Part-time courses and Training for Businesses. We provide young people with the next step after their GCSEs as an alternative to A Levels and a route to University or a career. We also have opportunities for people who are looking at studying at an undergraduate level, or who want to change career path or up-skill for career progression.

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