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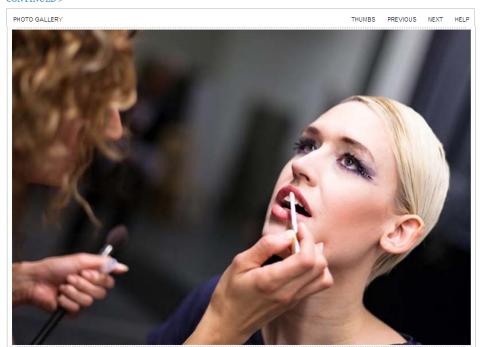
Boston Fashion Week Kicks Off With Roaming Models, Eclectic Clothes

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"This is an incubator for culture in Boston," said Boldfacers.com founder and editor in chief Lisa Pierpont of the Beehive, the South End restaurant-bar-live music club that played host to a Fashion Week kick-off party Thursday night. "And fashion is something we're passionate about, so it made sense for us to partner with them."

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Naz Kupelian Salon did makeup for the evening's models, provided by Shag Salon Photo: Aviran Levy for BizBash

Boldfacers.com and the Beehive joined forces with Shag Salon, Naz Kupelian Salon, and Beacon Hill clothing retailer Uncle Pete's to celebrate Boston Fashion Week a day before its official launch with a cocktail party and informal fashion show for 400 guests.

Image Unlimited produced the event with the Beehive and also promoted it with a heavy focus on the web and social networking, drawing a youngish crowd interested in fashion. Models—provided by and styled by Shag—wore edgy clothing from Beacon Hill boutique Uncle Pete's and dramatic makeup by Naz Kupelian Salon. A traditional runway was nixed

in favor of having the models wander among the guests, who were sipping cocktails and sampling passed bites from the Beehive.

The non-traditional vibe was indicative of Boston Fashion Week itself, which highlights local designers in a variety of city and suburban locales at runway shows, presentations, parties, and exhibits. The night also celebrated the Boston Fashion Trail, a group of local restaurants, spas, and retailers offering special deals and incentives to draw in fashion-week consumers and draw further focus to the shows.

Jazz music from the Amy Bowles Trio and on-theme cocktails like the Stiletto and the En Vogue being served at the bar kept the evening going.

-Erin L. Souza

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FASHION WEEK KICK-OFF

Catering, Venue The Beehive Entertainment Amy Bowles Trio Makeup Naz Kupelian Salon Models Shag PR Image Unlimited Communications LTD