



# SIMONE NARISSA

## HAIRSTYLIST

"I REALLY LOVE THE SOCIAL ASPECT OF HAIRDRESSING. I AM A LITTLE BIT OF AN INTROVERT, BUT BEING AT WORK HELPS ME COME OUT OF MY SHELL."

As a hairstylist, Simone feels like an artist when she is playing with colors and cutting hair. She loves forming relationships with her clients and is grateful for the opportunities this career has brought her.

### WHAT IS YOUR UNIQUE GENIUS?

"I can reading between the lines. I help clients figure out what they want and what they don't want so they can leave happy."

### HOW DID YOU BECOME INTERESTED IN THIS CAREER?

"When I graduated high school, I went to art school. I had a natural talent and that's what everybody told me to do. I started my second year and realized that I didn't feel stable in that decision—I'm not a competitive person and it didn't feel right to me anymore. The next thing I knew, I left and enrolled myself in beauty school."

**"I had always done my friend's hair in high school. I styled my own hair for prom and it felt like my creative outlet."**

### IN WHAT WAYS IS YOUR CAREER A PERFECT FIT FOR YOU?

"It felt like the most stable option to have a creative outlet, to socialize, and to have an exciting career where every day is different, but still have a paycheck at the end of the day."

### WHAT DOES A DAY IN THE LIFE LOOK LIKE?

"I come into work and see anywhere between five and ten clients a day. I have my regulars, but I never know who I'm going to have in my chair. It keeps life really exciting. I get to do all different kinds of projects, whether it's haircuts or styling or color—it's pretty awesome."

### WHAT SKILLS DOES IT TAKE TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN YOUR JOB?

"The biggest thing that came with me into the beauty industry from art school was my knowledge of color theory. If I had known then how much it would help me in my career as a hair colorist, I don't think I would have believed it. Every day I use that knowledge and I feel like I understand color theory so deeply."

### WHAT DO YOU WISH YOU KNEW WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER?

"Not every career is traditional and not everybody needs to go to college. Even though I went to college and I loved it, I found a much better fit for me in trade school. I wish people were a little more open about the options you have."

### WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF ON YOUR JOURNEY?

"I am most proud of everywhere my career has taken me. When I first started Beauty School, I really just wanted to be comfortable. But this industry has taken me so many places. I started a podcast for other stylists in the industry and I've connected with some really incredible people. These are things that I never imagined were true—everything is available to you in this industry."

**"I definitely had moments where I doubted my capabilities, but never once doubted my decision."**

### WHAT IS THE COOLEST PART OF YOUR JOB? WHAT IS THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF YOUR JOB?

"The coolest part about being a hairstylist is that I get to talk to all different kinds of clients from all different walks of life. I get to learn all about their different professions and their lives. I really love learning about other industries and other careers because all I've ever known is styling hair and it opens my eyes to what's out there in the world."

The most challenging aspect of my job is not being able to take a break during a busy day. Sometimes you just want to sit down. Sometimes you need a bathroom break and sometimes you just need to eat your lunch."

### WHAT IS THE ONE THING THAT PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOUR FIELD/JOB?

"One thing that most people don't know about hairdressers is that we're actually really smart. You have to know a lot of chemistry and you have to know a lot of color theory in order to be good and successful."

You also have to have a really good business mind and you have to understand what makes a good business and what creates good customer service."

### WHAT WAS A DEFINING MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE?

"I was working on a client of mine who I've been doing for a few years. She's a 17 year old girl and I didn't do anything different, but she's in her senior year of high school and getting ready to go off to college. She wanted to go blond for her senior photos. At the end of the service, she started crying happy tears because she loved the way she looked. To be able to give that to a 17 year old girl was an amazing feeling."