

ZARA HAS ARRIVED | Just in time for fall, a breath of fresh air has blown into Tampa's fashion scene. Zara, a Spanish retailer that sells *Vogue*-worthy styles at less snobby prices, is finally open at International Plaza. The store is stocked with silky floral tops that flow off the shoulders and military jackets inspired by the Napoleon era. Zara brings Tampa one step closer to a true metropolitan shopping market. Shall we hold our breath for H&M? — blogs.tampabay.com/deals



LIVING

{YOUR MANUAL FOR LIFE}

Local fashionista gets some 'Ink'

By Jay Cridlin
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Bebe Ziegler says the hardest thing about being a fashion designer in Tampa Bay is the lack of celebrity clients.

She won't have that problem anymore.

Ziegler, creator of the Ice It by Bebe Z line of crystal- and rhinestone-studded womenswear — her sparkly Bucs and Lightning tanks and tees are popular around town — was in Vegas this week to unveil a line of apparel based on tattoo designs by the artists on TLC's *Miami Ink* and *L.A. Ink*.

Ziegler, 40, wants to do for *Ink* stars Kat Von D, Ami James, Chris Nunez and Hannah Aitchison what fashion designer Christian Audigier did for tattoo artist Don Ed Hardy — namely, turn their designs into high-end pieces that anyone can wear. See her designs at iceitby-bebez.com.

We asked the Brandon resident to give us the low-down on her new *Ink*-inspired line.

How do you turn a tattoo into a shirt?

I have a graphic artist that I work with, side-by-side, and I tell him the elements I want to make it look right. We mix Swarovski crystals with regular crystals with studs, so when you're walking, it creates an illusion that the piece of art on your shirt is flowing.

Have you ever met the people who have these tattoos?

No, but I've met Chris Garver and Chris Nunez. And I did go to L.A. last Thursday; I met the whole production crew. Sometime in October, I'm going to be getting my first tattoo. We're going to see if Kat or Hannah's going to do it. I (asked) the producers there if we could do a show based around Ice It, but we'll definitely be on the show.

What tattoo are you going to get?

Since I'm Japanese, I'm going to go ahead and stick with kanji symbols. I want to keep faith, strength, family, loyalty and prosperity. But I'm going to do ice, which is a kanji symbol that's my trademark, like Tommy Hilfinger's flag. I'm going to do one down my foot, and I'm scared to death, because everybody keeps telling me that hurts. I used to be a foot model, so I'm really nervous.



Handout photo

Bebe Ziegler shows off a top inspired by a tat by *Miami Ink*'s Chris Garver.

ST. PETE'S FRIENDLIEST VIXEN

By Dalia Colón
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Not to brag, but Shawna Broyles has 13,131 friends on MySpace. At least, that was the count last week. It'll likely go up by the time you finish reading this.

In honor of the social-networking site's fifth birthday this summer, we asked MySpace which St. Pete residents have the most MySpace friends. There are a few celebs with more connections than Broyles, such as Bubba the Love Sponge (see box). But Broyles is among the "regular" people with the most friends.

Broyles, 21, of St. Petersburg, spends about 30 minutes a day on MySpace to advance her career as a model and wrestling ring girl. Most people call her by her screen name, Vyper, which she uses professionally. Since joining MySpace in 2005, she's become a devotee, making it her primary e-mail system and shunning newer networking sites like Facebook and Twitter.

Broyles chatted with *tbt** about the impact MySpace has had on her life.

MySpace says you have some 13,000 friends. What does that mean to you?

Basically, that's my fans. I have a pretty good fan base for someone that's never been on TV and never done anything big like that yet. But it means a lot 'cause it means that people know who I am, and they want to be a friend and they want to be a fan.

Do you seek out friends?

Mostly I wait for people to come to me. I did request a lot of the actual WWE (and) TNA (World Wrestling Entertainment and Total Nonstop Action) guys, 'cause, of course, they're not going to go around requesting people.

Who's your most famous friend?

I guess I'd have to say Gregory Helms. He's "The Hurricane" from WWE.

Have you discovered music on MySpace?

When I walk out for my wrestling, I actually use a song that I heard on MySpace. It's the Finger Eleven song that just came out. It's *Paralyzer*.

What's your first MySpace memory?

I was looking online to find pen pals and to write to people in different countries, and MySpace was one of the places that showed up. I clicked on it and I signed up, and then I just ignored it for a while. Then it started saying that I had all these friend requests, so I went on it and it was so easy to work with. It was fun, and I found a lot of old friends.



Courtesy of Shawna Broyles

We can't imagine why Shawna Broyles, a.k.a. Vyper, has thousands of friends on MySpace.

What's been the most touching connection that came from your use of MySpace?

One day I opened up my mailbox and I found an old friend I used to play with when I was 5 years old. ... I hadn't spoken to her since I was 5, so it was just amazing that she remembered me and she found me on there. We talk all the time now.

How do you view the time you spend on MySpace? Some say it's a waste of time.

For people to say it's a waste of time, they obviously don't need to network and they don't need to find people, because if they did, they would go to MySpace.

What do you think MySpace will look like in five years?

I think that it'll probably have more features, like maybe more slide shows or something. I'm sure whatever Tom (president Tom Anderson) does is going to be amazing.

Do you think it's here to stay?

Definitely.

Popularity contest

Which St. Pete screen names have more MySpace friends than Broyles? Here's the official tally as of last week.

- 1. Jim Rose Circus** myspace.com/jimrosecircus 30,293
- 2. King CJ** myspace.com/lipshill 24,286
- 3. Bubba the Love Sponge** myspace.com/btIs 18,269
- 4. Ruby Luster** myspace.com/rubyluster 14,094
- 5. Shawna Broyles** myspace.com/vyper 13,131