



SENIOR

P H O T O G R A P H Y

Includes tips on what to wear and how to prepare for your session!



ABOUT OUR COMPANY

Oh! Hello, there! I'm Linda DeColumna, a former high schooler. I know, I know. Pretty much everyone on the planet is a former high schooler, but I figured I'd just remind anyone reading this "about me" section that I, too, have walked those long, school halls. While my days of passing periods are long over, I look back on my high school experience and remember all those aced papers and tests (OK, some I may have bombed...) and memorable times in after school ensembles and activities. High school can be hard, no doubt, but there are lots of good memories to be had, as well.

Enough about my high school experience, though. Let's swivel and talk about what I do today. I'm still involved in the high school world, but in a different way: through photography. Yep. I've been photographing high school students for their senior portraits for going on 15 years, now. And you wanna know what? I absolutely love every second of it! I love the process from start to finish. From meeting the students I photograph and learning about their passions and interests -- and hearing about their future plans and aspirations -- to helping them plan their outfits, props and backdrops for their senior portraits, I'm there every step of the way. I like to consider myself somewhat of a mentor in that regard, but maybe that's me pushing it a little bit. ;)

Speaking of styling, I love to take a super customized approach to all my senior portrait photography. After all, this is about YOU. This is going to be AWESOME. And every image will reflect your tastes, your interests and your personality. Whether you're still in the process of hunting for the perfect senior portrait photographer or you're dead set on having me photograph you, I'd love to introduce myself and learn more about you.

WHAT TO EXPECT



BEFORE THE SESSION

We'll have a pre-session phone consultation to go over outfits and locations to figure out the flow of your session. We want to be completely prepared so that everything will run smoothly. I'll also check in via text or email occasionally as the date approaches. If there are weather concerns, we will talk about that, as well and schedule a backup date, just in case.

AFTER THE SESSION

I'll cull and edit through your photos, then we can set up an ordering session for the following week. This is when you will order your prints and products. I'll email you and your parents more information on how that works after the session.

DURING THE SESSION

I'll have you do several poses in various forms - sitting, standing, squatting, lying down, leaning, etc. I may have you do these poses multiple times. This isn't because you're doing anything wrong, it's just to ensure that I get the perfect shot and that it looks how I envision it in my head. If there is a pose you're uncomfortable in or it doesn't feel like you, let me know and we can switch it up!

CHOOSING THE PERFECT OUTFIT



I've always believed that clothing is an extension of your personality. For those who say, "Who needs clothes to express themselves?" I reply back with, "Who doesn't?!" Fashion is fun. Your body is the canvas, the clothes are your medium and the finished product as you stand in front of the mirror is your masterpiece.

That said, figuring out what to wear to your senior portrait session requires some major thought. After all, those pictures are immortalized forever and ever. Not only that, but your peers will see them and I can pretty much promise you that your parents and grandparents will have a copy of your senior portrait in their house somewhere.

Here are five tips to consider when choosing your session day outfits!

1. Don't stray far from your personal style. Make sure the outfits you wear are something you'd wear in your everyday life.
2. Accessorize. For men that includes cuff links, hats, belt buckles, shoes and scarves. For women that means jewelry, bags, sunglasses, shoes and belts.
3. Give your outfits a test run. Snap photographs of yourself wearing the outfits, move around in them and make sure they're comfortable and flattering.
4. If you're looking for outfit inspiration, check out what your favorite celebrities are wearing, hit social media (Pinterest and Instagram are great) and flip through your favorite magazines.



CHOOSING THE PERFECT LOCATION

When it comes to selecting locations, you don't have to worry about a thing! I have a whole list of locations to choose from and we'll talk details once you book. Meanwhile, it's a good idea to get the gears turning. Think about what kind of a vibe you want for your pictures. Is it earthy? Urban? Academic? Look through magazines and different websites of fashions that you like and let me know what kind of images you're drawn to. Scroll through my blog and see which locations you like from the sessions I've photographed. You can even compile a moodboard on Pinterest. This will give me an excellent vision of how you want your photos to be.

Choosing your location goes hand in hand with your outfit choices. You want to be sure that your outfit doesn't clash with your location, or that it doesn't blend too much. This is where my expertise comes in. I can look at your outfits and help you decide on a location that will look best and encompasses the overall look you want to go for.

Also, be on the lookout for great locations next time you're out and about. Whether you're hanging out with friends or driving to school, you never know when inspiration is going to hit. Take a photo of the location and send it to me and we can discuss our options.

If you're in a sport, don't forget that your school is a great location for these types of photos. Ask your coach if we can get permission to take photos on the field/court and what times work best for this.

PREPARING FOR YOUR SESSION

Follow these tips and you'll be completely ready for your session.

- 1** Choose two to three outfits to wear during your session and lay them out so they are ready to go. Make sure they are clean and wrinkle-free.
- 2** Don't forget to pack any accessories you'll want for each outfit – jewelry, scarves, headbands, etc. Bring matching socks/tights, and shoes for each outfit if one pair won't go along with all of them.
- 3** If you plan on bringing any props – your ballet shoes, favorite book, softball gear, etc. – go ahead and lay that out as well. If you are going to bring your car to the session and want it to be in photos with you, be sure to wash it the night before/day of your session.
- 4** Get your hair cut about one to two weeks prior to your session. Don't drastically change it from your normal style in case you don't like it. Have the hair stylist show you some easy styles you can do during outfit changes to switch it up a bit.



- 5** If you wake up the morning of, and acne has appeared on your face – don't pick at it and make it worse while trying to get rid of it. Apply some makeup over the area (not too heavy) and leave it at that. We offer basic retouching, which includes blemish removal; so don't even worry about it.
- 6** Get a manicure the day before or day of your session to ensure your nails look their best. Don't forget that the color needs to match all of your outfits.
- 7** Practice a nice natural smile and cute poses in a mirror or send us over some things we can talk to you about that will help you relax – your favorite movie, your boyfriend, etc.
- 8** If you are doing a session with your BFF or BF, don't forget to coordinate an outfit with them so you guys don't clash.



CHOOSE YOUR COLLECTION

TO SAVE ON PRINTS & PRODUCTS!

We offer three different collections to suit various needs. If you can't find a collection that quite fits what you're looking for, ask us about our custom package options! We also have a list of a la carte items that you can add on to your collection.





F R E Q U E N T L Y A S K E D Q U E S T I O N S

What happens if I get sick or it rains?

No worries, kid. I've got your back! We can always reschedule your senior session if the weather's not cooperating or if you catch a cold.

How long does it take to get my photos back?

You'll have proofs within three weeks of your session. Once you place your order, you'll have everything on your doorstep within a month!

What kinds of products do you offer?

I provide all sorts of products. Your parents are probably interested in the gift prints, albums and gallery wraps. You may be more interested in graduation invites and wallet prints.

How many outfit changes and props can I have?

I place no restrictions on outfit changes or your number of props. Just keep in mind that the time you spend changing or setting up is part of your session time.

Can I order extra wallets?

You can order as many wallets as your heart desires. They come in sets of 8 and start at \$49 per set.

A young woman with long, straight blonde hair is sitting on a skateboard on a concrete sidewalk. She is wearing a white t-shirt with a brown graphic of a mushroom and a long-sleeved brown top underneath. She is also wearing dark grey jeans and black sneakers with white laces. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a house with a brown roof and white siding, and a clear blue sky.

Portraits by Linda

989-345-1978

linda@portraitsbylindaonline.com

portraitsbylindaonline.com