



# LIKE DAUGHTER, LIKE MOTHER

**Michelle Nicolini** Learns Beauty Secrets from Her Famous Daughter, **Jill**



Makeup by Diane Pottinger   Hairstyling by Valerie Valez   Photography by TurnLooseTheArt.com

Usually daughters learn from **their mothers**, but for this mother and her famous daughter, when it comes to **cosmetic surgery** it was the **other way around**

BY JACKIE TELLER

**D**o mothers always influence their daughters' decisions in important matters...such as getting plastic surgery? In our society, getting Mom's OK, or at least her input, is very common...but sometimes it's the other way around, as Donna Halperin discovered when she interviewed Jill and Michelle Nicolini. Michelle is the mom of Jill, a model and actress and, more recently, entertainment anchor and traffic reporter for the PIX Morning News—Channel 11.

Jill Nicolini, who labels herself an overachiever, has always been admired for her beauty. Because she's in the public eye, she has undergone several major cosmetic enhancements in the past 10 years. Jill is a native Long Islander, born in Farmingville in 1978. The youngest of three children, Jill was a born entertainer.

Jill says, "I used to put on talent shows for my family and embarrassingly admit to making many dance/singing videos in my bedroom on an old video camera that I bought off QVC! Also, I have a video of myself at the age of 14, pretending to be a news anchor, and tapes of me pretending to be a radio DJ! I guess I always knew what I wanted to do! It amazes me that I have worked so hard and took all these steps in following my goals. I am so thankful and feel blessed that I have been able to live out my dreams!"

And if you think Jill has gotten where she is today on beauty alone, you are sooo wrong. Jill came very close to becoming a doctor. With her academic accolades, she could have been anything she wanted.

"I attended Stonybrook University for a year and a half—my goal was to become a doctor. My *true* goal was to be an actress or do something performance/TV-wise, but I knew I had to get a degree and use my brain. Not that pursuing a career in TV didn't require a brain, but I looked at it this way: *The chances of my making*

"The breast implants were Saturday afternoon, and I was already working on Sunday"



*it in show business are slim to none!* I needed a back-up, a different career and degree. Medicine seemed like the perfect fit. I excelled in and loved biology and chemistry and loved helping people. I also loved watching medical shows and, to be honest, loved watching surgeries. I just had a passion to see it all!

“But after my first year, I got a job at WBLI radio, working in promotions, and then soon I was on air. So I decided, hey...I love this! I can talk to people and communicate with them and get paid for this?! LOL!

“So I switched majors to Communication Arts, got an associate’s degree from Suffolk Community College in Television/Radio Broadcasting (and I was just honored as the 2009 Alumni of the Year at the Sheraton Hotel on Long Island in May), then I continued for my master’s degree from NYIT in New York City. I graduated summa cum laude.”

With all of Jill’s achievements, she always finds something to improve upon. Take her unbelievable body. She wanted to find a Long Island doctor so she could have easy access from her home for all of her cosmetic enhancement desires. Jill was lucky enough to find Dr. Gregory Diehl, who has been the sculptor for Jill’s incredible body and that of her mom, Michelle. At only 19 years old, Jill had liposuction to have excess fat removed from her inner and outer thighs as well as her abdomen.

Did Michelle think that Jill had her liposuction too young? Michelle says, “I always trusted my daughter’s decisions and wanted her to be happy and comfortable with herself. I am always here for my daughter, but ultimately, she makes her own decisions. It was convincing enough for me to follow not too long after, and I was hooked.”

In a reverse follow-the-leader, with the daughter taking the first steps, Michelle Nicolini was so impressed with Jill’s results that she wanted to make some improvements of her own. Michelle, who is also a very attractive woman, decided it was time for her, too, to start feeling better about her body. Now age 52, Michelle has been a smoker since the age of 12 and was unhappy with her body sagging as a result of excessive tanning and smoking. Michelle has had liposuction on her abdomen, hips, and thighs, as well as a facelift. Her secret to keeping her legs

and breasts so attractive is that she often wears a bra and pantyhose to sleep. She feels this keeps her legs tight and prevents her breasts from sagging.

Jill's next cosmetic enhancement was breast implants. She had small breasts and was very self-conscious. After she got her implants, Jill posed for three different issues of *Playboy* Magazine. You would think that would not be the choice for a young girl wanting to break into broadcast journalism. But don't say that to Jill. She insists, "I wouldn't change a thing. I always wanted to pose in *Playboy*, and I feel lucky and proud that I was chosen to pose. Every part of my past has created who I am, and now I'm working at PIX."

Does Jill believe that all her cosmetic enhancements have helped her with her career? To some degree, yes. Without them, would she have gotten chosen to pose in *Playboy*? Probably not. Does it help that she is absolutely gorgeous? I have to believe that it does get you through the door. Today people have the opportunity to change everything about their appearance that they are not happy with, providing they can afford it. One must also have the available time for recovery. Everyone heals within different time frames, so understand that you will be out of commission for anywhere from a few days to possibly a few weeks.

According to Jill, her individual post-operative experiences have not been too difficult. When Jill was in college and received her breast implants, her recovery time was only about two days. "The breast implants were Saturday afternoon, and I was already going to work on Sunday," exclaims Jill. In terms of liposuction, Jill and her mother both agree that it's important to maintain the results of the surgery with exercise and nutrition. Jill works out about three times a week. She goes straight to the Harvard Club at 10:00 AM after news reporting and works with trainer Mark Rodino, who is the athletic manager of the club, to stay in shape. Michelle works out at home and does a lot of walking.

Jill is also a big advocate of a line from a Tim McGraw song, "Live like you were dying." Jill was intelligent enough to realize that these surgeries might make her more successful in addition to feeling more confident about her appearance. She certainly has been offered many opportunities throughout her career. She has worked as a dancer for the NY Dragons and an arena announcer for the NY Islanders and has also had roles in television shows, including HBO's *Sex and the City* and NBC's *Law & Order*. Jill also starred in the 2003 Fox reality television program *Married by America*, which she won! Next for Jill is a movie with Tom Berenger, Busta Rhymes, and Armand Assante, in which she plays a reporter. It's called *Order of Redemption* and will be in theaters soon.

Especially for women and their children growing up in affluent areas of Long Island, it's becoming increasingly popular to undergo some kind of cosmetic enhancement. Many people advocate that these surgeries leave them feeling more content with their body image.

**IMAGE**