

DEBRA GANO

Title: CEO & President of BYOU “Be Your Own You” and Award-Winning Author of the Heartlight Girls Series

Websites: www.DebraGano.com, www.BeYourOwnYou.com, www.HeartlightGirls.com

Medium Bio:

Debra Gano is the CEO & President of BYOU ‘*Be Your Own You*’ LLC, a girls self-esteem apparel and educational company, and the best-selling author of the *Heartlight Girls* series. As a passionate advocate for women’s & girls empowerment, she is a sought-after national speaker and self-esteem expert for television, radio, and print media. Her book, *Beauty’s Secret, A Girl’s Discovery of Inner Beauty*, is the recipient of multiple national awards, including Gold Winner of the Mom’s Choice Award and Children’s Fiction First Place in the USA Book News *National Best Books* Awards. Her work has been endorsed by many best-selling empowerment authors including Jack Canfield and Marianne Williamson, girls’ organizations such as the Girl Scouts and Smart-Girl, Inc., educators, counselors, corporations, and parents and girls alike.

Debra is a graduate of the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business with an extensive 20-year history in the fashion industry. She may be best known, however, for her work as an international model/actress featured in print, film, television, and runways around the world, working with some of Hollywood’s top actors and premier fashion designers worldwide. After a series of life-changing incidences, including a near-fatal car accident, Debra’s perspective shifted from one of superficial external-focus to a deeper inner awareness that "it's what's inside that counts." Driven with a passion to share this and empower others, and as a single mother of a one-year old girl, Debra abandoned her ‘glamour’ career to dedicate her life to teaching and coaching others to live authentically in their most empowered sense of self. As founder of Heartlight Girls and co-founder of BYOU ‘Be Your Own You’ (and still a single mom), Debra leads by example and is an inspiration to all.