

## ENTERTAINMENT SUCCESS PROFILE



## Award-Winning 11 Year Old Actress Gracyn Shinyei Talks About Success

**Vancouver, BC** - Gracyn Shinyei is an 11 year old triple threat performer with multiple credits in event hosting and Film/TV. She started her acting path appearing in numerous US National commercials at age 4 then proceeded into film and TV projects. Steady TV work has her continuing her lead roles in the Hallmark front runner TV series: "When Calls the Heart" playing "Emily Montgomery" (currently in its 5<sup>th</sup> season) and Amazon's premiere series: "The Man in the High Castle" playing "Amy Smith" (currently in its 3<sup>rd</sup> season). Gracyn played the iconic evil younger version of "The Darkness" in "Supernatural" and has done a few Movies for TV on several networks. In 2013, 2014 and 2015 she has won the Joey Awards for TV series drama in a leading role.

We interviewed Gracyn to discover her showbiz tips and what keeps her going.

### **What made you decide on acting?**

My older brother had always took acting and he liked it. I tried it and I loved it.

### **Did you have any training or experience before your first role?**

No I didn't.

### **What is your acting specialty?**

I started when I was four years old with TV and voice-over. My first international TV commercial was a cookie commercial.

### **Who do you look to as a teacher or mentor in the showbiz industry?**

Even though he has no experience in the industry, it would be my Dad. He teaches me and has great tips for me.

### **What success tips would you offer a young person that would like to do what you are doing?**

Don't stress out about anything and stay calm. Be confident in what you're doing. Stay focused on what you're learning or doing like learning scripts and lines.

### **What is the hardest part of your acting?**

Learning lines. Somedays I get one day to learn a big page script. You need to know every word. Sometimes I have 3 days to memorize lines.

### **What other skills do you have to help you out in showbiz?**

Well, I'm a dancer and take tap, jazz, ballet, hip-hop, lyrical, acro, song & dance. I dance 6 days a week.

### **What's the easiest part of the business?**

Standing around waiting to rehearse and perform my lines.

### **What does success mean to you?**

You need to work really hard and be confident. Use all your power to get success.



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## **What Does Success Mean to Gracyn Shinyei?**

*"You need to work really hard and be confident. Use all your power to get success."*



### **How important is practice and training for you?**

It's very important because you get better and learn from your mistakes. If I mess up a line or a dance step I go over it until I get it right.

### **How do you handle stress on the TV or movie set?**

I sit down, think happy thoughts and focus on my breathing.

### **What things do you miss being in acting?**

I miss being with my friends, missing dance competitions, and I don't get to do activities like art and gym classes. I'm home schooled, so I usually do school work on the TV or movie set or before dance classes.

### **What things are you grateful for and appreciate everyday?**

A roof over my head, healthy food and my family.

### **What do you value most and want more than anything?**

To be happy because it makes things better and I feel good about myself.

### **Do you have a favorite quote or saying that you live by?**

Yes. A quote from Disney's movie Lilo & Stich. "Ohana means family, family means no one gets left behind or forgotten."

### **What motivates you to get up in the morning?**

I like to get up and get things done, do homework, clean my room, so I can have time for more fun!

Look for Gracyn in upcoming projects including a TV/ Live-Theatre release of a Halloween special where she sings, dances and acts opposite of her older brother/fellow actor Valin Shinyei followed by the lead role in a new cartoon series for preschoolers currently in preproduction.