Lisa Lampanelli Is ’Blown Away’ on Celebrity Apprentice

May 7, 2012 By POZ Staff

By Lauren Tuck (Editorial Assistant, POZ)

This week, the remaining five contestants on *The Celebrity Apprentice* were brought to the Hearst Tower and told that they would be designing a four page print advertising campaign for Farouk Systems’ new CHI touch screen hair dryer, and that the ad would (maybe) appear in Elle magazine. I’m not really sure why a hair dryer needs a touch screen because there are only three settings--High, Low or Cool--but, regardless, it is always entertaining watching the celebrities at work.

Lisa Lampanelli couldn’t have been happier after Dayana Mendoza’s departure last week, and she jumped right into the task as project manager with the only person left on her team (she slowly terrorized and eliminated the rest of them): Clay Aiken. Their concept for the campaign was to depict that all girls, whether a tomboy, beauty queen or librarian, use hair-care products. Isn’t it ironic that Lisa actually could have used Miss Universe’s fashion and beauty expertise for this challenge? During L.L.’s critique (Lisa Lampanelli’s new self-anointed nickname--Doesn’t she know that LL Cool J already has the rights to that one), the thing that Trump criticized her for was her lack of style, something that Dayana has in spades.

Meanwhile, across the hall at Team Unanimous, Aubrey O'Day once again asserted that she is the driving force and creative mind behind every smart decision made on her team, even when she isn't in charge. Their theme drew on zen, yoga and Aubrey (because it's *All About Aubrey*). Arsenio Hall needs to step up and play just as dirty as the has-been pop princess or else he doesn't stand a chance of winning in the finale.

I thought Team Forte would lose this one because Mr. Farouk Shami, the owner of the company the ads were being created for, was totally taken by O'Day and her bright red hair (which, despite her claims otherwise, is definitely not natural). But Donald Trump surprised me by declaring Lisa and Clay the winners of this wacky challenge. Therefore, Lisa as project manager was awarded $100,000 for her charity: Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC). In total, L.L. has secured $120,000 for the New York City-based HIV/AIDS organization. Back in the boardroom, The Real Housewife of New Jersey Teresa Giudice didn't stand a chance going up against O'Day and was fired.

For the second surprise of the night, Trump called in last cycle's winner and the runner-up--country music singer-songwriter John Rich and actress Marlee Matlin--to interview the final four and then eliminate two of them.

As soon as Aubrey said, “I’m involved with a lot of charities. I have worked with battered women’s shelters, I’ve worked with refugee camps, I’ve worked with children with AIDS in Africa, I’ve worked with Nelson Mandela, I’ve worked with the Dalai Lama, I’ve worked with Fidel Castro...” I thought she was a goner. I mean *Fidel Castro*! Seriously? But, Lisa’s uncontrollable emotions and loud mouth eventually got the best of her, and she was sent packing. Lisa is so loud in fact that Marlee Matlin remarked, “Even being death I could hear her.” Well, you win some, you lose some. Then the show faded to black before the third castoff of the night was announced.

Unfortunately, only one member of Team HIV/AIDS is left. Tune in next week to see if Arsenio can beat out Aubrey O’Day and Clay Aiken to win $250,000 for the Magic Johnson AIDS Foundation.

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