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## **ISTITUTO MARANGONI MIAMI ANNOUNCES KAROLINA KURKOVA AS THE NEWEST MEMBER OF ITS ADVISORY BOARD**

Karolina Kurkova joins Istituto Marangoni Miami's esteemed Advisory Board, bringing over 25 years of experience as a supermodel and entrepreneur, further strengthening the school's global influence in the fashion industry with her valuable insights.

**MIAMI, FL, Sept 10, 2024**—**Istituto Marangoni Miami** is thrilled to announce the appointment of renowned supermodel and entrepreneur **Karolina Kurkova** to its prestigious Advisory Board. A trailblazer in the fashion industry for over two decades, Kurkova brings a unique perspective to the school, bridging her extensive career with a passion for shaping the next generation of fashion innovators.

"I am deeply honored to have been invited to join the Advisory Board of Istituto Marangoni Miami," shared Kurkova. "This opportunity is particularly meaningful to me as it represents a new chapter in my career, allowing me to give back to the fashion community in a unique way. I am excited to work closely with the talented students and faculty, offering guidance, mentorship, and insights from my extensive experience in the industry."

Kurkova's illustrious career began at just 15, quickly skyrocketing her to international fame as one of the most recognizable faces in the fashion world. From gracing the covers of major fashion magazines like *Vogue*, *Harper's Bazaar*, and *Elle*, to walking the runways for top designers such as Alexander McQueen, Valentino, Chanel, and Balenciaga, her influence extends far beyond the catwalk. Her transition into a successful entrepreneur and philanthropist underscores her multifaceted contribution to the industry.

In addition to her work as a model, Kurkova's ventures into sustainable fashion and mentorship have cemented her as a forward-thinking leader. Her innovative approach to fashion, combined with her advocacy for sustainability and wellness, aligns perfectly with Istituto Marangoni Miami's commitment to staying ahead of industry trends and preparing its students for dynamic careers in fashion.

“We’re very excited to have Karolina Kurkova as the newest addition to our Advisory Board,” said **Hakan Baykam**, CEO and President of Istituto Marangoni Miami. “With her impressive career and unique take on the fashion world, she’ll bring a fresh perspective that’s sure to inspire our students and open up exciting new opportunities for them.”

As a new member of the Advisory Board, Kurkova will play an integral role in shaping the school’s academic and creative vision, expressing her interest in being involved with various aspects of the students’ journeys while at IMM such as coaching them in design and photography, and judging semester finals. Her appointment underscores Istituto Marangoni Miami’s dedication to offering students access to real-world expertise and leading industry figures, further establishing the The Miami School of Fashion & Design as a top destination for aspiring fashion professionals.

“I believe this is a truly exciting time to be in Miami, especially for students pursuing their studies here,” expressed Kurkova. “Having started in the fashion business at a young age, I understand the challenges and rewards of this journey, and I look forward to supporting and inspiring the next generation of fashion innovators.”

#### ***About Istituto Marangoni Miami:***

Istituto Marangoni Miami is profoundly impacting the city it now calls home, laying the foundations to position Miami as a strong global fashion hub. Originally established in Milan and with campuses worldwide, IMM nurtures the next generation of designers and industry creatives by mixing its Italian ethos, rooted in the constant pursuit of excellence in craftsmanship, with the dynamic environment Miami can offer, with talents joining the school’s faculty and student body from all over the globe. Guided by distinguished instructors who are active fashion industry members, students are encouraged to explore their creative and entrepreneurial paths, with a strong emphasis on sustainability and collaboration.

#### ***About Karolina Kurkova:***

Karolina Kurkova has made an indelible mark on the fashion industry, evolving from a supermodel to a versatile force in the creative world. Originally rising to fame as a Victoria’s Secret Angel in 2000, she has graced countless runways for top designers like Chanel, Versace, and Valentino, as well as appearing on the covers of Vogue, Harper’s Bazaar, and Elle. Beyond modeling, Kurkova has expanded her career into acting, with roles in films such as *G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra*, and launched her own wellness-focused brand, Gryph & IvyRose, which emphasizes natural and sustainable products for families. A strong advocate for wellness and sustainability, she has worked with organizations like Feeding America, Amfar, and Playing for Change with a purpose of a forward-thinking approach.