October, 2018 Girlfriend, National

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Girls who are killing it

These **babes** are giving us serious inspo

t's easy to ditch your dreams in favour of a career or hobby that your 'rents consider more stable, but these three girls are following their dreams and kicking serious butt in the process. They're proof you've just gotta go for it, gurl.

Arctic adventurer

At 17, Jade Hameister is the youngest person to complete the polar hat-trick. Jade skied the North Pole, completed the 550km crossing of Greenland and made an unassisted expedition from the Antarctic coast to the South Pole. This girl is determined!

Adventure has always been a really big part of our family, and when I was growing up Dad was climbing mountains so I was always hearing stories and it was nothing out of the ordinary. Polar expeditions started when I met this Icelandic lady called Vila on a trip that my family and I did to Everest Base Camp when I was 12 and my brother was 10. She'd done the South Pole solo so I spent a bit of time with her and I heard some of her stories. I think that planted something in my head and made me want to do something similar.

What did you learn about yourself during these

I learnt a lot about how I deal with tough situations and how I cope with pain and I think it was just about learning how to suffer. I think a lot of people my age don't know how to suffer and I think it's really important and something really special to have.



Focus on the possibilities of your actions and not how you appear. I think especially as a young girl and being surrounded by social media, we're constantly told to 'dress this way, look this way, be this way and it's not about that. It's a better way to live if you focus on what you can do and making a difference rather than how you appear.

The deal with Mum and Dad is to finish school. I'm in Year 11 and I want to focus on doing well in the last two years of school. Afterwards I just think I'll keep travelling and exploring.

My Polar Dream by Jade Hameister is published by Macmillan Australia, RRP \$29.99.

Innovative artist

Paria Mahboobi is the 20-year-old artist behind the Instagram account Labyrinth of Collages. Paria's fans include Kate Bosworth and Kiernan Shipka, who all double-tap her latest creations on the reg.

What made you start your insta account?

At the time, when I was 16, we were kind of exploring feminism and female empowerment and I was always seeing people posting really cool art online. And because I was making collages, I thought I should post whatever I wanted online and see if people liked it. It grew into a bigger account and it's been awesome.

You're currently studying a Bachelor of Media and Communications at uni. Has the success of Labyrinth of Collages changed what you want to do in the future? I get asked about that a lot, actually. My friends and my parents will ask me, 'What do you want to do with this whole





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women because that's what I'm trying to do now. Once a month I donate proceeds to Time's Up or Kind Campaign.

How do you fit it in with studying?

Honestly, I don't even know! I'm very sleep deprived. Every time I'm on uni break I devote all my time to the collages and then when I'm studying I'm very picky with the projects that I do and it's mostly just doing collages for fun and posting them on Instagram.

How does it feel to have such high-profile fans like Rosie Huntington-Whiteley?
I let myself freak out for five minutes when they first follow me and then after a while I remind myself it's still a social media platform, and they can press unfollow at any time. So I try not to let any of that get to me.

What inspires you when making your collages?

Women who are independent, unapologetic and strong. If I see a campaign where the woman feels confident and looks like she's having fun or the clothes are really cool, that's what attracts me.

What advice would you have for girls who want to pursue a creative career?

I think you just have to be really sure that that's what you want, and then be dedicated to it and work consistently to get to wherever you want to be.