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WORTH AVENUE

## Pets on parade: Owners follow furry friends' lead

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Debra Blevins' dog Johnny B. Good is all dressed up for the Pet Parade and Contest in Via Amore Saturday.

By Lulu Ramadan  
Daily News Staff Writer  
Mona Lisa, a white-and-black pig in a pink-and-white dress with bows, strutted down a green stage turning heads Saturday morning at the annual Worth Avenue [Pet Parade and Contest](#).

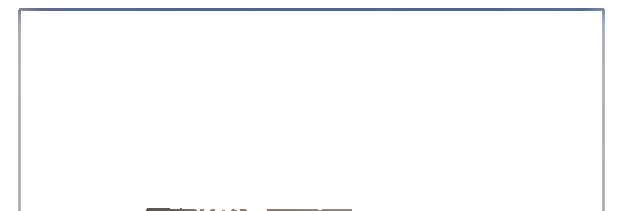
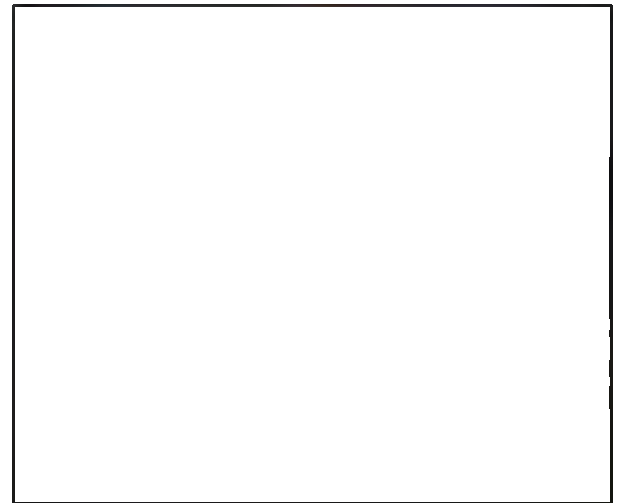
"She's the nicest pig you'll meet in Palm Beach," said Sherry Frankel, emcee of the 22nd annual Worth Avenue Association-sponsored event. About 50 people gathered at Via Amore to watch pets of all sizes flaunt it.

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More than 40 dogs came primped and groomed with their owners, some of whom were also in costume. The pets took the stage in a competition for "Ambassador of Palm Beach," "Most Creative" and "Most Adorable" in groups divided by weight.

Mona Lisa took the prize for "Most Adorable" in the large category.



The Worth Avenue Association puts on the free event each year. The panel of judges included designer Lon Sabella, pet promoter JoJo Harder, *Daily News* pet columnist Paulette Cooper Noble and Mayor Gail Coniglio.

Some pets came in costume, others came in high fashion. Winners in each category received gift bags with prizes from Worth Avenue merchants and restaurants.

The Ambassadors of Palm Beach titles went to Dolly, a 4-year-old therapy poodle in the large category, Jelly Bean, an English bulldog wearing a Minnie Mouse costume in the medium category, and Layla and Jasmine, two imperial shih tzus that also took the prize for "Most Creative" in last year's small pets categories.

Layla and Jasmine, ages 7 and 5 respectively, were real head-turners as they came dressed in matching leather dresses and blue-and-red wigs in a rock star theme.

"We come every year and just love it," said their owner Nanette DeRonda, a Boca Raton resident who made the costumes by hand and also dressed in black leather. "We'll have to outdo our costumes again next year."

Another eye-catcher was Karen Glassel of Lake Worth, who dressed as Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*, and her 2-year-old Yorkie Marco dressed as the Tin Man. They snatched up the prize for "Most Creative."

"I always dress up with my dog for Halloween," Glassel said. "It's the first time I've ever entered Marco in something like this, though. It's such a nice surprise to see him win."

## WINNERS

The pets were divided into categories based on weight. Here are the winners:

### Small category

Ambassador of Worth Avenue: Layla and Jasmine, imperial shih tzus

Runner Up: Hopie, Yorkshire Terrier

Most Creative: Marco, Yorkshire Terrier

Most Obedient: GG, Chinese Crested

Most Adorable: Kirby, pomeranian

### Medium category

Ambassador of Worth Avenue: Jelly Bean, English Bulldog

Runner Up: Maya, schnauzer

Most Creative: Miley and Pumpkin, schnauzers

Most Obedient: Coco, Yorkie-maltese mix

Most Adorable: Daisy, shih-poo

### Large category

Ambassador of Worth Avenue: Dolly, standard parti poodle

Runner Up: Adley, standard poodle

Most Creative: Johnny B. Goode, standard poodle

Most Obedient: Peyton, standard poodle

Most Adorable: Mona Lisa, pig



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