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Art student wins \$50,000-salary position through SpinSix contest

Phoenix Business Journal - by [Patrick O'Grady](#)

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Ashley Scott has made entering contests almost an occupation, and winning one landed her a job at a Phoenix-area Internet marketing firm.

Scott won **SpinSix** Strategic Marketing Design's first "win a job" contest and will get a \$50,000 annual salary as a full-time graphic designer working on Web

projects for various clients.

"I usually enter as many contests as I can, and when I saw it was for a job, that clinched it," said the 20-year-old senior at the Art Institute of Phoenix. She will work part time at SpinSix until she graduates, then move up to full time in January.

Anthony Helmstetter, a partner at the Scottsdale firm of about 25 employees, said the company wanted to try something different to find a designer.

"Looking at resumes and searching job boards is very difficult for a very subjective skill set," he said.

The company had applicants develop graphics and work around the same theme. Helmstetter said the company was surprised by the quality that came through in the more than 100 submissions, and was equally impressed with the drive and ambition many of the applicants showed.

Scott said she learned of SpinSix's contest though her grandfather, who discovered it through a decidedly old-fashioned medium: a newspaper.

The contest isn't the first Scott has won in graphic design. She received a \$30,000 scholarship to the Art Institute through another contest, plus a \$3,000 scholarship for a poster design competition at the school.

The contest results have encouraged SpinSix to try it again. The firm will launch another one in the next few weeks, looking for a senior application developer. Helmstetter said they're looking for someone who can write code and be creative.

"We're curious to see that person who has a slightly different mind-set," he said.

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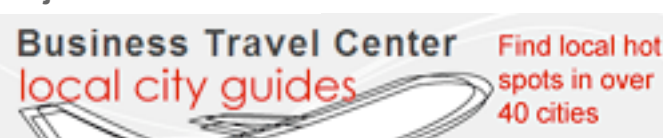
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