

The Jax USA Pageant Post

Volume 1, No. 2

Northeast Florida's Premier Local Miss USA Preliminary

March - June 2011

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MISS JACKSONVILLE USA PAGEANT RESULTS IN TWO NEW JACKSONVILLE TITLEHOLDERS



MARISSA DANISH crowned Miss Jacksonville USA 2012

Eleven stunning and amazing contestants vied for the titles of Miss Jacksonville USA 2012 and Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2012 on Sunday, March 6th, 2011, at 4:00 PM at the Ritz Theatre & Museum. The competition was sponsored and presented by the North Florida Scholarship Organization, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3), tax exempt, scholarship organization. This competition was an official preliminary pageant to the Miss Florida USA and Miss Florida Teen USA competitions. This event marked ten years of USA pageantry for this local Jacksonville pageant, the longest running preliminary competition under the Miss Florida USA umbrella. The Judges consisted of: Angi Boselli, Wayne Bailey, Sandra Lane, Stefanie Smith Bulinski, and Jessica Minch.

The pageant had a fun Hollywood/Red-Carpet type theme, entitled "Glitz, Glamour, & Gowns." The contestants walked the red-carpet, complete with paparazzi, and strutted their stuff to the tune of "She's a Lady" from the movie Miss Congeniality. The opening number included the 11 participants, dancers from the Scott Jones School of Dance, and the outgoing titleholders, Sarah Sykes (Miss Jacksonville USA 2011) and MiKyle Crockett (Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2011). During the previous year, Miss Crockett went on to win the title of Miss Florida Teen USA 2011 and will be competing for the Miss Teen USA crown in late July.

The Miss & Teen contestants competed in the categories of Interview, Swimsuit, and Evening Gown competitions. The event was highlighted with performances to include a song from former Miss Florida 2005 Mari Wilensky (who also served as the evening's emcee), a dance solo by the outgoing Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2011, MiKyle Crockett, and an eye-catching series of upbeat dances from the Scott Jones School of Dance performing group. Even the pageant's co-director, Kevin Sanders, lent his vocal talents to the show while waiting on the scores to come in. Sarah Sykes and MiKyle Crockett also shared heart-felt farewell speeches with the audience. Another enjoyable moment during the competition was when Ciara Sanders (Jacksonville USA Little Sister & Miss Florida Teen USA's Little Sister) helped crown her real-life little sister, Kayden Sanders, as the Jacksonville USA Little Sister for the 2011-2012 pageant season.

All contestants, regardless of the results, won various gifts/prizes. The new Miss Jacksonville USA 2012 received a significant prize package valued at over \$4,000.00, which included her new crown, banner, trophy, flowers, entry to the state pageant, as well as a \$500.00 scholarship, and unbelievable prizes. Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2012 also did well receiving a prize package also valued over \$4,000.00, in which she also received a crown, banner, trophy, flowers, entry to the state pageant, a \$200.00 scholarship, and a long-list of gifts as well.

At the end of the competition, the pageant's various award winners were as follows: Miss Photogenic – Ashley McKenzie; Teen Photogenic – Erika Cunningham; Miss - Pageantry Spirit Award – Marissa Danish; Teen - Pageantry Spirit Award – Tyrah Walker; Director's Award – Erika Cunningham. In the TEEN category, the results were: 1st Runner Up - Elise Lobb, and the new Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2012 is Emily Cunard! In the MISS category, the results were: 2nd Runner Up - Erin Winters; 1st Runner Up - Emily Nelson; and the new Miss Jacksonville USA 2012 is Marissa Danish!



EMILY CUNARD crowned Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2012

The new Miss Jacksonville USA 2012, Marissa Danish, (from the Arlington area) is a Sophomore at Florida State College of Jacksonville, seeking a Major in Psychology and a Minor in Dance. She is currently a receptionist at Plaza Surgery, but plans to become a Psychologist. She enjoys volunteering, dancing, and being a part of the "Roar" cheerleading squad for the Jacksonville Jaguars. Marissa brings awareness to the extraordinary needs of children and their families through her involvement with the Children of Pediatric Hospital. Marissa is the daughter of Celeste Wilkie and Peter Danish. She was proud to be sponsored by Dr. Hagan and the National Hernia Network for this pageant. Marissa will represent the Jacksonville area at the Miss Florida USA Pageant in July.

The new Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2012, Emily Cunard, (from Jacksonville Beach) is a Junior at Providence High School. She is active at her school being a part of the Anchor Club, the Jr. Ladies Devotional, and the Varsity Cheerleading squad. Emily is also involved in the "Hands On Jacksonville Youth" Leadership Council. Her past awards include First Place in National Christian Athlete's Competition Cheerleading, Superlative Award for Most School Spirit, 1st Place Academics Award, and the Competition Dance Team for Nancy Dance. She is the daughter of Mark and Betty Jo Cunard. Emily will represent the Jacksonville area at the Miss Florida Teen USA Pageant in October. If she wins the state competition – that would be one Jacksonville titleholder crowning the next Jacksonville titleholder at state!

For more information on this competition, its prize package, the titleholders, anticipated events, its 10 year history, and any other details throughout the year, as well as for more information on the pageant, the scholarship organization, or how to attend or be involved in this exciting competition next time, contact the NFSO, Inc., and its directors, Kevin & Cammie Sanders, at (904) 384-3578, or visit the website at www.JacksonvillePageants.com.

**IMPORTANT
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MISS FLORIDA USA YOU TUBE CHANNEL:
www.YouTube.com/user/TelAir



“HOLLYWOOD STYLE!” - This photo was taken prior to the start of the 2012 Miss & Teen Jacksonville USA Pageant on March 6th, 2011 (photo by Sam Rooks, Retina Photography). The contestants were ready for their opening number in brightly colored cocktail dresses. They are posing with Miss Florida Teen USA 2011, MiKyle Crockett, and Miss Jacksonville USA 2011, Sarah Sykes. Also pictured are Ciara Sanders, Miss Florida Teen USA’s Little Sister, and the dancers from the Scott Jones School of Dance.



EVERYONE LOOKS LIKE A WINNER: At the conclusion of the pageant, numerous awards were presented to many contestants. Pictured above from left to right are: MiKyle Crockett, Miss Jax Teen USA/Miss FL Teen USA 2011; Marina Petrova - Miss Contestant; Ashley Nealis - Miss Contestant; Ashley McKenzie - Miss Contestant and Miss Photogenic Winner; Ashley Conley - Miss Contestant; Erin Winters - Miss 2nd Runner Up; Emily Nelson - Miss 1st Runner Up; Marissa Danish - Miss Jacksonville USA 2012 and Pageantry Spirit Award Winner; Emily Cunard - Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2012; Elise Lobb - Teen 1st Runner Up; Erika Cunningham - Teen Photogenic Winner; Tyrah Walker - Teen Contestant and Pageantry Spirit Award Winner; Sarah Sykes - Miss Jacksonville USA 2011 (photo by Sam Rooks, Retina Photography).



MISS JACKSONVILLE USA & MISS JACKSONVILLE TEEN USA PAGEANTS

c/o North Florida Scholarship Organization, Inc.

Preliminary Directors: Kevin & Cammie Sanders
Pageant Office: 817 Willow Branch Avenue
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Email: MissJacksonville@bellsouth.net

Website: www.JacksonvillePageants.com

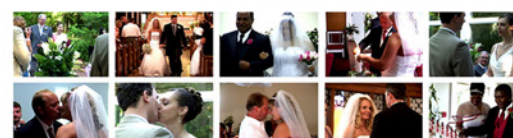
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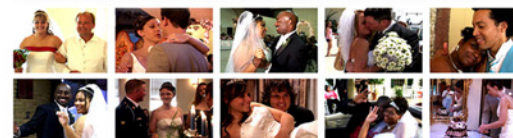
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Jax USA Enjoys The Day At The Gator Bowl Parade

Titleholders Sarah Sykes, Miss Jax USA 2011, and MiKyle Crockett, Miss Florida Teen USA 2011, participated in the annual Gator Bowl Parade, held each year in Jacksonville, Florida on New Year's Eve (12/31/10). They waved to the crowds, passed out candies, and wished everyone Happy New Year as they rode around in the beautiful corvettes provided by the Jacksonville Corvette Club (thanks Ron, Elmer, and the group!). Joining Sarah was her Jax USA Little Sister, Ciara Sanders, who was participating in her very first parade as a pageant titleholder. Sarah showed Ciara the ropes about waving and smiling! Ciara was not a fan of the very loud sounds and booms coming from the pirate boat float, but fortunately Sarah was there to comfort her. Sarah and MiKyle made the rounds prior to the pageant and took lots of fun photos with all of the parade participants, including numerous Morocco Shriners and R2D2! Photos of the event can be found at: <http://www.jacksonvillepageants.com/2010-2011-USA-Appearances/2010-Appearance-Photos-Page-24-Gator-Bowl.htm>. Also, a video of all Gator Bowl festivities can be found at the Jax USA YouTube Channel!



So.... What Do You Get If You Are A Jacksonville USA Titleholder?

At the 2012 Miss & Teen Jacksonville USA Pageant, the newly crowned titleholders were in store for a fantastic prize package, donated by the incredible sponsors of the pageant. Here is what both Miss Jax USA 2012 and Miss Jax Teen USA 2012 received this year:

MISS JACKSONVILLE USA 2012

Crown, Banner, Crown Pin, Crown Case, Trophy, \$500.00 Scholarship (based annually upon participation, see applicable scholarship rules), Entry into the next Miss Florida USA Pageant, \$350.00 Gift Certificate from Regalia Magnificent Apparel and earrings, \$350.00 Gift Certificate from La Casa Hermosa and earrings, Gold, Diamond, and Sapphire Ladies Tennis Bracelet from A-Coin & Stamp Gallery (value \$500), Gift Basket from Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery of skin care products and certificate for microdermabrasion treatment (value \$450.00), \$225.00 Full Scholarship toward Modeling Classes at Sessions Modeling Studio, \$150.00 Gift Certificate from C & D Pageantry & Jewelry, Cathy Wilensky, toward a Swimsuit, and a crown ring, Coaching Package from Exquisite Coaching by Kim, Arnold, and Megan including pageant and fitness training, \$30.00 Gift Certificate toward a Full Body Spray Tan from Tan Like A Celebrity, \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Mary Kay Cosmetics, from Patty Jones, and Certificate for Free Facial, \$25.00 Gift Certificate from French Novelty, \$25.00 Gift Certificate from Pastiche Restaurant, Gift Basket from Colie's Shop (valued at \$150.00), One Year Subscription to Pageantry Magazine

MISS JACKSONVILLE TEEN USA 2012

Crown, Banner, Crown Pin, Crown Case, Trophy, \$200.00 Scholarship (based annually upon participation, see applicable scholarship rules), Entry into the next Miss Florida Teen USA Pageant, \$350.00 Gift Certificate from Regalia Magnificent Apparel and earrings, \$350.00 Gift Certificate from La Casa Hermosa and earrings, Gold, Diamond, and Ruby Ladies Tennis Bracelet from A-Coin & Stamp Gallery (value \$500), Gift Basket from Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery of skin care products and certificate for microdermabrasion treatment (value \$450.00), \$225.00 Full Scholarship toward Modeling Classes at Sessions Modeling Studio, \$150.00 Gift Certificate from C & D Pageantry & Jewelry, Cathy Wilensky, toward a Swimsuit, and a crown ring, Coaching Package from Exquisite Coaching by Kim, Arnold, and Megan including pageant and fitness training, \$30.00 Gift Certificate toward a Full Body Spray Tan from Tan Like A Celebrity, \$25.00 Gift Certificate for Mary Kay Cosmetics, from Patty Jones, and Certificate for Free Facial, \$25.00 Gift Certificate from French Novelty, \$25.00 Gift Certificate from Pastiche Restaurant, Gift Basket from Colie's Shop (valued at \$150.00), One Year Subscription to Pageantry Magazine.

The other finalists that placed were awarded trophies and scholarships as well. All contestants received a gift certificate for Mary Kay Cosmetics, a gift certificate toward modeling classes at Sessions Modeling Studio, a participation trophy, and a copy of Pageantry Magazine, Spring 2011 Edition. Don't miss out on competing in our competition next year. You too could go home with incredible prizes like these!



Jacksonville USA Little Sister Gets A Promotion!

At the 2011 Miss Jacksonville USA Pageant, held April 11th, 2010, Ciara Sanders gained the title of Jacksonville USA Little Sister, and served as the little sister during the year to Sarah Sykes (Miss Jax USA 2011) and MiKyle Crockett (Miss Jax Teen USA 2011). They all had fun at various appearances and activities during the year and Ciara really enjoyed getting to know Sarah and MiKyle as the special friends and role models that they are. Ciara cheered for both Sarah and MiKyle (by yelling at the TV) in their respective state pageants and wished them the best. She was very excited when MiKyle went on to win the state title and became Miss Florida Teen USA 2011! Little did she know, that meant a special surprise was in store for her.

In January 2011, a special reception was held at Elizabeth's Tea Room, and all area titleholders, little sisters, and pageant fans were invited. The tea room was a perfect setting for such a quaint event for Ciara, where she got to have tea, finger sandwiches, cookies, and play dress-up like a princess. During the course of the reception, Ciara's big sis, MiKyle, brought out a beautiful banner which read: Miss Florida Teen USA Little Sister! Ciara was delighted to have MiKyle place the new banner on her and give her this promotion! The entire event was covered by Grant Gravitt, the "Big Kahuna" at Tel-Air and a Director of the Miss Florida USA Pageant and Miss Florida Teen USA Pageant. The adorable video footage of this event is posted to the Jax USA YouTube Channel - and we hope you will check it out! Thanks Grant and MiKyle for making this such a memorable day for Ciara!

Watch the video:

http://www.youtube.com/user/MissJaxUSA#p/a/f/1/o_LSVlnbgvQ

How To Become A Jacksonville USA Titleholder

You too could become a future Miss Jacksonville USA or Miss Jacksonville Teen USA!

The first step is visiting the pageant's website at www.JacksonvillePageants.com to check out the eligibility requirements. Depending on when your birthday falls, if you are a single lady ages 14 - 18, you may qualify for the Teen pageant, and if you are between the ages of 18 - 27, you may qualify for the Miss Pageant. There is an entry or sponsorship fee to enter the pageant, which you may pay or have a sponsor to pay for you. You will need to submit a headshot photo and paperwork, so visit the website to obtain the list of requirements and to print up the forms you will need to get signed up. The sign up process is quite easy, so don't be intimidated.

You will need to be prepared to compete in three competitions: interview, swimsuit/fitness, and evening gown. Each category is judged equally by a well qualified panel of judges. There is usually a fun opening number at the beginning of the pageant for you to introduce yourself to the judges and the audience (which will be full of your cheering and supportive friends and family).

If you are too young to compete, you should sign up to be a Jacksonville USA Little Sister (info also on website)!



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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2012 JACKSONVILLE USA COMPETITION

** Photos by Sam Rooks, Retina Photography **



Contestants and dancers perform to "She's A Lady" in the opening number.



Everyone strikes a final pose right on cue!



Jacksonville Royalty, 2011 and 2012 Jax USA Titleholders



Marissa Danish crowned Miss Jacksonville USA 2012



Team Jacksonville USA



Emily Cunard crowned Miss Jacksonville Teen USA 2012



MiKyle and Sarah were fantastic titleholders in 2010-2011



Tyrah Walker is the Teen recipient of the Pageantry Spirit Award



Marissa Danish is the Miss recipient of the Pageantry Spirit Award



Our Finalists and Titleholders, What A Court of Beauties!



Our judging panel did a fine job and selected two wonderful ladies



Kevin and Cammie are proud directors and are looking forward to a great year with Emily and Marissa.



Ladies who have held titles in the USA pageant circuit. (There are 3 state titleholders in this picture.)



Parade of Contestants



Jax USA Little Sisters



Dancers From The Scott Jones School of Dance



MiKyle performs a dance!



Emcee Mari sings

Here's Some Pageant News For You!

Marissa Makes The "Roar" Squad



Marissa was selected to be a Jacksonville Jaguar "Roar" Cheerleader for the 2011-2012 season. She also served on the Roar squad last year as well! Congrats Marissa.



MiKyle's photo (right) is up on the Miss Teen USA website (photo by R. Fleming). If the voting period is not over yet, go to www.missuniverse.com/missteenusa, click on



"contestants" and then look for Florida! Give her five stars! And yes, that is MiKyle with Kim Kardashian (top left).



Kim was hosting an event in Orlando that MiKyle made an appearance at! See what MiKyle is up to on our website, under "MiKyle's Corner"!



Ashley Nealis was a great contestant in our recent 2012 Miss Jax USA Pageant. She went on to compete in the Miss Gainesville USA / Miss North Central FL USA Pageant, and placed First Runner Up! Way to go Miss Ashley (she is in the center of the photo).



Elise Lobb, who placed 1st Runner Up in our 2012 Jax Teen USA Pageant, has had her hands full with modeling opportunities.



In early March, Elise walked the runway at Miami Fashion Week. From the pictures above, she was workin' it! She has many impressive photo shoots as you can see



from all of these photos. Elise we wish you the best in all future pageants and modeling endeavors!



Ciara has her first photo shoot as Miss Florida Teen USA's Little Sister! Photos were taken by Rick Jones at Sessions Modeling Studio. (He is an awesome photographer!)



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IMPORTANT DATES

- April 17, 2011 - City of Jax Beach Parade, parade starts at 2PM
- May 14, 2011 - MiKyle's Graduation (Congratulations!)
- June 2, 3, 5, 2011 - Miss Florida USA - Pretaping Weekend
- June 4, 2011 - Miss Florida USA - Seminar
- June 2011 - Miss USA Pageant - televised LIVE on NBC from Las Vegas
- July 12 - 16, 2011 - MISS FLORIDA USA PAGEANT - Go Marissa!
- July 12 - 16, 2011 - Miss Teen USA Pageant - Best Wishes MiKyle!
- September 9 & 11, 2011 - Miss Florida Teen USA - Pretaping Weekend
- September 10, 2011 - Miss Florida Teen USA - Seminar
- October 7 - 9, 2011 - MISS FLORIDA TEEN USA PAGEANT - Go Emily!
- November 25, 2011 - "Cocktails 4 A Cause", University Club, tp benefit the NFSO

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