Miss Georgia State University

2014 SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

Starring Miss Georgia State University 2013

EMILY DIAMOND

Saturday, February 1

At 7 p.m.

Student Center Ballroom

photo by Breeanne Clowdus
Tonight’s Program

The Opening
   Crazy in Love, Emeli Sandé
   Emily Diamond, Miss GSU 2013 & Contestants

Mistress of Ceremonies
   Carly Mathis, Miss Georgia 2013

Introduction Of Judges, Auditors And Field Director

Lifestyle And Fitness In Swimwear Competition ~ Blue
   Rum n’ Coca Cola (Shake It Up Well), Tim Tim

Talent Competition ~ White

Onstage Questions ~ Blue
   Unconditionally, Katy Perry

Evening Wear ~ White
   Georgia on My Mind, Michael Bublé

INTERMISSION

Performance ~ Emily Diamond, Miss Gsu 2013
   I Want You Back, The Jackson 5

Introduction Of Visiting Representatives

Lifestyle And Fitness In Swimwear Competition ~ White
   Rum n’ Coca Cola (Shake It Up Well), Tim Tim

Talent Competition ~ Blue

Onstage Questions ~ White
   Unconditionally, Katy Perry

Evening Wear ~ Blue
   Georgia on My Mind, Michael Bublé

Farewell – Emily Diamond, Miss GSU 2013

Performance – Carly Mathis, Miss Georgia 2013

Finale – Story of My Life, One Direction

Awards And Finalists

Crowning Of Miss GSU 2014
A year ago I entered my first ever pageant and was crowned Miss Georgia State University 2013. Though unexpected, being a part of the pageant system is an experience that has changed my life, largely due to the interactions I’ve had with others.

During the Miss Georgia State University pageant process, I was surrounded with some of the most wonderful women Georgia State has to offer and over the course of a few weeks, we were a team. For most of us, it was our first pageant experience, but for some, they were seasoned professionals and together we created a truly wonderful experience. I wouldn’t have made it through the process if it wasn’t for a few of my fellow contestants and for that, I say thank you.

When I was announced Miss Georgia State University, I was nauseas and then confused. I remember not knowing when to get up from being crowned and had absolutely no clue what to do afterwards (apparently you’re supposed to wave). I can remember the first night coming home, already receiving emails and appointment requests, and I began to panic. What did I get myself into? After a few breaths and the purchase of a day planner, I decided to do the only thing I could, my best. Luckily, when you win a prelim to the Miss Georgia Pageant, you come with a team equipped to help you, mine being the Miss Georgia State University Board. In a very short amount of time, I had to compete with the big dogs and they were there with me the entire way, going dress shopping, scheduling mock interviews, and just checking up on me personally. Honestly, I need to say a very specific thank you to those involved in my Miss Georgia prep. It took a lot of time and energy to prepare everything and I hope I made you proud.

Pageants are not what the stereotypes lead us to believe. Contrary to the “beauty queen” image, these women are extremely intelligent, ambitious, and compassionate. Just like the women of Miss Georgia State University, the women of Miss Georgia became my biggest supporters. During the extremely emotional week of Miss Georgia, I was able to bond with women I would not have been able to meet otherwise. Contrary to the “beauty pageant” stereotype, it is a job interview, not a celebration of how well you can walk in heels. In order to compete, you must train, mentally and physically, and honestly, it is absolutely exhausting. The Miss America Organization provides exceptional women with extraordinary opportunities and I am proud to be a part of it. Thank you to my fellow queens, the Miss Georgia Pageant, and the Miss America system for changing my life.

This past year, I have unexpectedly lived as a pageant queen. Though I once thought the title was all frills, I have now developed a respect and understanding of why some women stay in the pageant system their whole lives, to become the best version of themselves they can be. Someone once said to me, “You are two crowns away from being Miss America”, and in response my Dad said, “And I’m two crowns away from being Miss America’s Dad”. This simple response defines what this year has been for me. Though I did not win Miss America, I had a group of people behind me that believed I could do anything I wanted to. My family, friends, and the Miss Georgia State University Board never once doubted me and for this alone, I am eternally grateful.

Thank you for believing in me, and to the new Miss Georgia State University, may 2014 be your best year yet!

Forever proud to be a Panther,

Emily Diamond
Miss Georgia State University 2013
Miss Georgia State 2014

Mistress of Ceremonies

Ms. Carly Mathis  
Miss Georgia 2013

Carly Mathis was selected as Miss Georgia in June, 2013 and represented the state in the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City, NJ in September. At Miss America, Carly was one of 7 Quality of Life Finalists, recognizing outstanding community service; won the preliminary competition in Lifestyle and Fitness in Swimsuit; and was a Top 10 Finalist for Miss America 2014 in the nationally-televised pageant finals on ABC.

Carly is a native of Leesburg, Georgia and now resides in Atlanta. She is the daughter of Billy and Wendy Mathis of Leesburg. Carly is a 2013 graduate of the University of Georgia’s Grady School of Journalism, where she majored in Digital and Broadcast News and minored in Communication Studies. Carly plans to attend law school and become a legal or political correspondent for a major broadcast network.

As Miss Georgia, Carly will take her years of advocacy for the American Heart Association and Project S.A.V.E statewide, promoting heart health and heart safety. She has experienced first-hand the devastation that heart disease and stroke can have on a family. Prior to winning the Miss Georgia title, Carly lobbied to make CPR training and AED defibrillators available in every high school in the state. Her goal became a reality this year with the passage of Georgia’s “CPR in Schools” Bill. Governor Deal signed the bill into law in May 2013, establishing the requirement that every Georgia student be trained in CPR before graduation. She has also participated in the AHA’s “Go Red for Women” campaign to eradicate heart disease as the number one cause of death in American women.

Miss Georgia Field Director

Mr. Jim Montgomery

Jim Montgomery has over 29 years in various phases of pageantry and has been affiliated with the Miss America Organization for the past 19 years. As a Field Director for the Miss Georgia Organization, he is responsible for pageant administration for several pageants throughout the state. He was an inaugural member of the Board of Directors for the Miss Teen Georgia America Pageant, now known as Miss Georgia’s Outstanding Teen, and has served on the Board of Directors for the Miss Macon Scholarship Pageant, a Miss Georgia preliminary. Jim is an approved Miss America preliminary judge and has judged numerous local, regional, and state pageants, including serving on the state panel in South Carolina that selected Rachel Wyatt, Miss America’s Outstanding Teen 2013.

Jim is an accomplished tap and jazz dancer, having toured and performed as a principal dancer with the former Earle Davis Dance Company of Miami, FL. He has served as resident choreographer and dance instructor for several teen performing arts centers, including the Teen Performing Arts Club (TPAC) in Macon, which he co-established. As a singer/songwriter, he has performed lead vocals and written music for the Ultimate Choice, a former local gospel-recording group. Jim also has several television credits, including appearing as a principal dancer at Super Bowl XXIII.

A native of Miami, Florida, Jim has resided in Macon for the past 24 years. He holds an Educational Specialist degree in Education Administration and Supervision and is employed as a school administrator.
Contestants

Miss Georgia State 2014

ADJOA DANSO
Blue 2
Talent: Flag Routine
Hometown: Snellville, Georgia
Major: English

NICOLE MOTAHARI
Blue 1
Talent: Violin
Hometown: Sandy Springs, Georgia
Major: Biology and English

JADA CURTIS
Blue 6
Talent: Monologue
Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia
Major: Psychology

SHAYLA FARMER
Blue 5
Talent: Visual Art
Hometown: Houston, Texas
Major: Finance

KATELYN RAWLS
Blue 4
Talent: Baton Twirling
Hometown: Wellington, Florida
Major: Pre-Med

KATHERINE HUNT
Blue 3
Talent: Visual Art
Hometown: Marietta, Georgia
Major: Political Science, Pre-Law

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Hometown: Marietta, Georgia
Major: Political Science, Pre-Law
TIARA LAMM
Blue 7
Talent: Vocal
Hometown: Raeford, North Carolina
Major: Broadcast Journalism

WHITLEY FOWLER
Blue 8
Talent: Monologue
Hometown: Griffin, Georgia
Major: Film and Video

AUDREY HUGHES
White 1
Talent: Spoken Word
Hometown: Stone Mountain, Georgia
Major: Biology

CORIN GUNN
Blue 9
Talent: Vocal
Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia
Major: Biology

TARRY MEADOWS
White 2
Talent: Dance
Hometown: West Point, Georgia
Major: Managerial Sciences

BRIANA DONALDSON
White 3
Talent: Vocal
Hometown: Orlando, Florida
Major: Marketing and Hospitality Administration
ANiya Moore
White 5
Talent: Vocal
Hometown: Swainsboro, Georgia
Major: Sociology

Treisha Jones
White 4
Talent: Vocal
Hometown: Queens, New York
Major: Journalism

Summer Johnson
White 6
Talent: Visual Art
Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia
Major: Studio Art

Di’nesha Rucker
White 8
Talent: Dance
Hometown: Gainesville, Georgia
Major: Political Science

Marlena Collins
White 7
Talent: Dance
Hometown: Edison, Georgia
Major: Hospitality

Alesa Barron
White 9
Talent: Vocal
Hometown: Grayson, Georgia
Major: Graphic Design
The Miss America Organization

The Miss America Organization is one of the nation’s leading achievement programs and the world’s largest provider of scholarship assistance for young women. Last year, the Miss America Organization and its state and local organizations made available more than $45 million in cash and scholarship assistance. This assistance is not just for the handful of young women who become Miss America, but is available to the over 12,000 young women who compete in the state and local competitions as well. Rich in history and social significance, the Miss America Organization is a not-for-profit organization that has maintained a tradition for many decades of empowering young women to achieve their personal and professional goals, while providing a forum in which to express their opinions, talent and intelligence. Scholarships have been the cornerstone of the Miss America program since 1945.

Source: www.missamerica.org

Scoring

The competitions include Onstage Question (5%), Lifestyle & Fitness in Swimwear (15%), Talent (35%) and Evening Wear (20%). Earlier, each contestant had a private 12-minute interview that will count for 25% of her score. In addition, the judges will evaluate the contestants’ overall performance in all phases of competition as well as their extemporaneous responses to the onstage questions and give an overall composite score. Judges will score each contestant on a scale of 1-10 in each phase of competition with the high and low score discarded in each category.

Emily Diamond performing Lifestyle and Fitness in Swimwear at Miss GSU Pageant 2013
Awards

Miss Georgia State University 2014
Official Miss America Crown and Sash
$1,000 Georgia State University Scholarship
$300 Book Scholarship for the
  University Bookstore
$250 Gift Certificate Applicable to State
  Competition or Custom Talent Ensemble
  Courtesy of Gregory Ellenburg
$50 Gift Certificate from Mere Cosmetics
A Portrait in Crown & Gown from
  Matt Boyd Photography
Starter Package Plus, GSU Student
  Recreation Center
One-Hour Massage from Good Earth Massage

1st Runner Up
$500 Georgia State University Scholarship

2nd Runner Up
$250 Georgia State University Scholarship

3rd Runner Up
$150 Georgia State University Scholarship

4th Runner Up
$100 Georgia State University Scholarship

INTERVIEW AWARD
$300 Georgia State University Scholarship

TALENT AWARD
$100 Georgia State University Scholarship

RECOGNITION WILL ALSO BE GIVEN
TO THE FOLLOWING:
Evening Wear Winner
Lifestyle & Fitness in Swimwear Winner
Miss Congeniality - One Winner in Each Group

Emily Diamond performing Talent
at Miss GSU Pageant 2013
Through the Years

1996 - Bridgett Traywick
1997 - Kristen Gillian
1998 - Amanda Allen
1999 - Kelly Wells
2000 - Andrea Phillips

2001 - Kayann Hayden
2002 - Gail Wheatley
2003 - Tiffany Davis
2004 - Katie Baughman
2005 - Carra Patterson

2006 - Ashley Gholamhosseini
2007 - Chantelle Wright
2008 - Casey Walker
2009 - Kristen Little
2010 - Cierra Gilchrist

2011 - Annie Wilson
2012 - Brittany Parks
2013 - Emily Diamond
Acknowledgements

Miss Georgia State University Board 2014
Sarah Wilcox  Jasmine Stewart  LaConya Cobb
Kiersten Smith  Phillip Smith  Jacquetta Moss
Ashley Gholamhosseini  Chinara Thomas  Jim Montgomery (Field Director)

Auditors
DeLea Kearse, Student*University Center
Phillip Smith, Student*University Center

Contestant Photography, Pageant Photography and Videography
Javier McIntosh, Suavi Media

Program Book Design
Michelle Parkos
Tricia Herndon

Facilities, Set-Up and Audiovisual
Student*University Center

Emily Diamond performing Eveningwear at Miss GSU Pageant 2013
Special Thanks to Good Earth Massage for their continued support of Miss GSU!

4028 Holcomb Bridge Road Norcross, GA 30092 (770) 840-7700 Suite 304 www.goodearthmassage.com

Thank you to the staff of GSU’s Recreational Services for helping Miss Georgia State University reach her fitness goals!

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Official Miss America Photographer

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