



Miss America On-Line Lottery

On Monday, September 24, the 2008 Miss America contestants participated in an on-line lottery to select their competition group and contestant number. The groups will compete as follows:

<u>MU GROUP</u>	<u>ALPHA GROUP</u>	<u>SIGMA GROUP</u>
MON (AM)-INTERVIEW	MON(PM)-INTERVIEW	TUES(AM)-INTERVIEW
TUES-On Stage Question	TUES-Talent	TUES-Swimsuit/ Evening Wear
WED-Swimsuit/ Evening Wear	WED-On Stage Question	WED-Talent
THUR-Talent	THUR-Swimsuit/ Evening Wear	THUR-On Stage Question

Amanda chose the 13th position in the Mu group. Lucky number 13! The finals of Miss America will be televised on TLC network on January 26, 2008.

Other Miss America Dates:

Miss America Cruise—Oct 29 to Nov 2
Los Angeles Filming—Nov 5-15

Awards Update

Many of the awards that Miss Louisiana receives are items that she uses during her year of service. The goods that sponsors donate to our organization are very welcomed and needed. PLEASE patronize these businesses whenever possible and remember to thank them for their support. The following businesses have donated goods and services to Amanda this month:

Broadway Royalty, Westlake, Louisiana
Fairy LaBrie, Owner—Basket of Crown Goodies

Joy's Rag Doll, Lake Charles, Louisiana
Regan and Sandra Thrasher, Owners—\$100 Gift Certificate.

Choices, Monroe, Louisiana
Iris, Owner—\$700 gift certificate

"Adventures with Amanda"

Submitted by: Lynn Copeland

Whew, where did August go?

Amanda had an appearance at the Governor's Mansion for 'Lighten Up Louisiana' on the August 23rd. Since I had just left my baby on the 19th at LSU I made sure I made that trip with her. We went a day early so we could visit with Jeremy and our dear girl, Jamie. The four of us had a great time.

Then, on Thursday night after we left the Governor's mansion we headed down I-10 for Lake Charles for the 'Keep America Beautiful' luncheon on Friday. On the way there we had to stop around Lafayette for a snack, because the lettuce and noodles from the Governor's mansion were not lasting long, remember this was 'Lighten Up Louisiana'!!!!!!!!!!!!!! While there, a little girl at the register asked Amanda if she was a model and I told her that she was Miss Louisiana. Her response..."Are you for REAL? You GO GIRL!!!!" We had a big laugh about that. Don Humble had arranged for a room at L'Auberge du Lac Resort and Casino where the luncheon was going to be held. Thanks, Don---it was awesome!!!!!!!!!! It was complete with a Lazy River which we of course took advantage of early Friday morning.

Now for the big news!!!!!!!!!!!!--the CRUISE. We had the most fabulous time ever. The Bon Voyage party on Sunday night was wonderful and Amanda was beautiful as always. The next morning we got up early to go have beignets at Cafe du Monde. The cruise left at 4:00 that afternoon, we of course boarded around 1:00. Words cannot really describe the amount of fun we had. By the end of the trip we had made quite a stir--in a good way :-). You all would be so proud of the way Amanda represented our organization. I think that she made such a positive image of 'beauty pageant girls' as a whole because of the way she conducted herself. We made so many friends with the people of Angel Ministries as well as GT Trends, a travel agency that had done the 'Cruise for a Cause', and many others, too. We toured the Mayan ruins and snorkeled on our excursions. There will be people all over the U.S. the night of the 26th tuning in to watch our Miss Louisiana as she is crowned Miss America 2008.

***Miss Louisiana's Outstanding Teen
Takes Florida by Storm***

Mary Jane Hobgood, our very own MLOT, went to Florida to make a statement! And boy did she ever shine. She competed against 51 talented, intelligent and beautiful teens from across the country for the title of Miss America's Outstanding Teen 2008 this past August. There were about 25 supporters from Louisiana there to cheer Mary Jane on as she garnered a preliminary talent award, and on finals night was named third runner up to Caitlin Brunell of Virginia, Miss America's Outstanding Teen 2008.

We are VERY proud of Mary Jane!! As a result of her hard work and dedication to preparation, she left Orlando with \$10,500.00 in educational assistance. Way to go Mary Jane!!!!

Local Pageant Particulars

Miss St. Tammany—Miss division is open state wide, Teen division is closed to residents of St. Tammany Parish. All pageant information is available on their website

<http://www.miss-st-tammany-prelim.com/>

Miss Slidell—Miss Slidell has a great Myspace page which contains all pertinent information related to their pageant activities. Planning is still underway. There will be a Miss and Teen division and both are closed to residents of St. Tammany Parish. Check out their info and Myspace page at: <http://www.myspace.com/missslidell>

Miss Lafayette—This year the Miss and Teen divisions are open state wide. A new web site is under development. Watch for details!

Miss Southwest Louisiana—A one day event on December 2 in DeQuincy, LA (near Lake Charles). Miss and Teen division are closed to Calcasieu, Cameron, Allen, Beauregard, Vernon and Jeff Davis Parishes. Email or call the director, Pam Courmier if you need more information.

swlaamericaprelim@yahoo.com

Phone: 337.884.9701

Visit us on the web at www.misslouisiana.org

**Local Preliminary Winners
As Of 9/24/07**

Miss Holiday In Dixie
Ravayna Tracey

Holiday in Dixie's
Outstanding Teen
Kasey Brister

Miss Dixie Gem Peach
Lauren Lyles

Miss LA Watermelon Festival
Aaron Beeson

La Watermelon Festivals'
Outstanding Teen
Bailey Purvis

Miss ArkLaMiss Fair
Lauren Abshier

ArkLaMiss Fair's
Outstanding Teen
Lindsay Abshier

Upcoming Preliminaries

Miss St. Tammany
October 13, 2007

Miss Shreveport
October 27, 2007

Miss ULM
November 1, 2007

Miss Slidell
November 17, 2007

Miss Southwest Louisiana
December 2, 2007

Miss Louisiana Tech
December 6, 2007

Fleur de Lis Update

There will be some changes in the Fleur de Lis Princess Program for this pageant year. A new addition to the program is the chairman, Crystal Aaron. Next year look for the following changes:

A new, specially designed crown featuring the Fleur de Lis

Different age range for participants...5 to 10 years of age with birthdates between 12/31/97 and 12/31/02

Fun new activities for FDL Princesses during pageant week

Remember, each Miss and Teen contestant must have a minimum of one FDL Princess

NATIONAL SWEETHEART

Jennifer Soileau, who placed first runner up at Miss Louisiana 2007, represented our great state at the National Sweetheart Pageant over Labor Day weekend. We are very proud of Jennifer and congratulate her on being named the overall swimsuit winner, tying for the overall interview award, and being named 2nd Runner Up. Way to go Jen!!!



CMN UPDATE

The Miss America Organization issued a statement recently that there will be a cap placed on the amount of fundraising required of local contestants during any one "pageant season" on the local level. Once a contestant has entered four local preliminaries and successfully raised the minimum \$100.00 for those locals (\$400 total), they are no longer required to raise the \$100 for any subsequent local pageant entries.

The requirement for State pageant fundraising remains unchanged.

Pageant Grants Available

There are four pageant grants available to NEW preliminaries, courtesy of Miss America. The grants are for \$500 each, and must be used as scholarship awards. A new local preliminary can award the total amount to the winner or award it to winner and runners up. To receive the pageant grant, you must start a new preliminary, with a new director and hold the pageant within the 2007 calendar year. If you would like more information, please email us!

A Note from Amanda...

Hello Everyone! This month has been very very busy with speaking engagements, preparation and even a cruise to Mexico. The month started off with a visit to the Children's Hospital in New Orleans. I was able to visit just about every child in the entire hospital. They were all full of joy and glad to see a smiling face. After that, I was off to Mexico with my partner in crime Mrs, Lynn Copeland. We had the time of our lives! I saw the Mayan ruins in Progreso and went snorkeling in Cozumel. But most importantly I had the opportunity to represent Angel Ministries Cruise for a Cause on this trip. When I returned to Monroe, I began to immediately set my sights on Miss America. The contestant lottery went very well. I am in the Mu group slot number 13. Thirteen has always been a lucky number for me! Miss America is in about 3 months and my preparation has been kicked into high gear as well as a schedule that is completely booked for the next

FROM THE ED... Hello Everyone, The Miss America competition will be held in Las Vegas beginning with preliminaries on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 and final competition being held on Saturday, January 26, 2008. Once again competitions will be held in the Planet Hollywood Resort Theatre. If you wish to reserve a room, please contact me and I will email you the form.

TICKET & BADGE INFORMATION Tickets may be purchased with the Louisiana delegation if you would like or you may order from Ticketmaster which will go on sale beginning December 8, 2007. In the notice I received from Miss America tickets will be issued on a lottery basis. Season ticket (all four nights) purchasers will be given priority seating and a discounted package price. Those purchasing a single night seat will be assigned seats only after all season seats have been assigned.

Each night after competition there will be visitation for friends and family to visit with their state contestant. You must have a photo identification badge to be admitted into rehearsals and visitation each night. Badges can only be ordered through the state delegation and this includes parents and any family who may want to obtain a badge for visitation. Badges are required for any one age 6 and above. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult with a photo ID at all times.

If you have attended Miss America Nationals in Las Vegas and previously had a badge they have your photo on file. If you have not attended and do not have a photo on file you will need to submit a passport photo to me with your order as all badges require a photo ID. **I cannot urge you enough** to submit this photo with your order and obtain your badge before you arrive in Las Vegas. Besides the increased cost of the badge the wait is often over an hour to have your photo made in Las Vegas to obtain your badge. If you obtain your badge in Las Vegas I must personally go to the Miss America information desk with you and sign for you to obtain a badge. If I am in a meeting sometimes this gets to be difficult to coordinate because the office is open to take photos and print badges at limited times. As soon as I arrive in Las Vegas I will pick up all of the badges at the Miss America desk and coordinate getting them to you. They will not release the badges to individuals only to the State Executive Director. We will receive the Miss America tickets in mid December and I will get them to you before you go to Las Vegas.

Ticket Prices: Season seats – (all 4 nights) – \$ 225.00 per ticket

Single night tickets – Tuesday only - \$ 75.00 Wednesday only - \$ 75.00 Thursday only - \$ 75.00 Saturday only - \$ 125.00

Visitation Badge Prices: Badges ordered with delegation - \$ 30.00, Badges obtained in Las Vegas for any reason

\$ 50.00 (this includes new and replacements)

If you have any questions please give me a call. I will send information to you as it is received from Miss America. If you know of anyone who would like to receive information about Miss America and ticket information please send me their email address. I hope that everyone can join us in Las Vegas as we watch our own, Amanda Joseph crowned as Miss America 2008.

Dewana Little, Executive Director

Email: redbug@bayou.com (318) 376-2441 –cell (318) 428-3237 – office (318) 325-4121