

## Miss Cardinal Country Title Holders



2012 ~ Melissa Cox  
Miss Kentucky Non-Finalist  
Talent Winner



2013 ~ Sarah Cocanougher



2014 ~ Hannah Estes  
Miss Kentucky Non-Finalist  
Talent Award



2015 ~ Kyle Hornback  
Miss Kentucky Top 10



2016 ~ Sidney Cobb  
Miss Kentucky Top 10  
People's Choice Finalist



2017 ~ MacKenzie Hammond



2018 ~ Noelle Thompson  
Miss Kentucky Top 10  
Prelim Talent Award Winner



2019 ~ Aimee Turner  
4th Runner-Up, Miss America  
Community Service Award  
Preliminary Talent Winner



2020 ~ Stevie Griffin  
Spirit of Miss Kentucky Award



2022 ~ Ashley-Shae Benton  
Miss Kentucky Non-Finalist  
Interview Award



2023 ~ MaKenzie Kelley

## Miss Cardinal Country Teen



2019 ~ Allyson Willis  
Miss Kentucky Non-Finalist  
Participation Award



2022 ~ Kaci Mundorf  
Miss Kentucky Teen Top 10



2023 ~ Reese Anderson  
Miss Kentucky Teen Quality  
of Life Finalist



2022 ~ Payton Schindler  
Miss Kentucky Teen Top 10

## Miss Minerva Teen



2024 Miss University of Louisville Pageant  
February 4, 2024



**Reese Anderson**  
Miss Cardinal Country Teen 2023

**MaKenzie Kelley**  
Miss Cardinal Country 2023

**Ankita Nair**  
Miss University of Louisville 2023





## DELTA ZETA SORORITY HISTORY

Delta Zeta Sorority, founded on October 24, 1902, at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, provides an enduring sisterhood based on a heritage of core values, academic excellence, leadership development, and service to others. Delta Zeta was founded by six young college women; Alfa Lloyd, Anne Simmons, Anna Keen, Mary Collins, Mabelle Minton, and Julia Bishop. Miami is called the "Mother of Fraternities" as Sigma Chi, Phi Kappa Tau, Phi Delta Theta and Beta Theta Pi fraternities were also founded in Oxford, in addition to Delta Zeta.

Delta Zeta was founded on September 1st, 1928 at the University of Louisville. Charter Members of the Beta Gamma Chapter: Linda Boyd, Elizabeth Freeman, Katherine Lewis, Dorothy Marattay, Elise Postdam, Winona Albrecht, Naomi Sengel, Ester Ritter, Jean Allen, Edna Scott Johnson, Elinor Parker, Dorothy Whitlatch, Agnes Mead, Eleanor Holmes, Margarite Threlkel and Jean Wood. Since the time of our founding at U of L, Delta Zeta has been one of the strongest sororities at the university winning awards, year after year, for outstanding leadership on campus.

Delta Zetas have been involved in all campus organizations during our long history on U of L's campus. From serving from the Vice-President of the Student Government Association to members of the Lady Bird's Dance Team...DZs have made their mark on U of L's campus.



The 24th Delta Zeta Auction will be held in April, 2024. This is Delta Zeta's largest fundraising event and provides funding for the Miss University of Louisville Scholarship pageant. The event also provides funds for Delta Zeta's national philanthropy of speech and hearing, the Painted Turtle Camp in addition to the Delta Zeta Foundation.

### The 2024 Miss University of Louisville Scholarship Awards

The Beta Gamma chapter is proud to announce that we will again award this year \$1500 in scholarship money to the top two contestants (\$750 each). In addition, this year we will also present a \$250 cash scholarship to the winner of the 2023 Community Service Award, the Best Evening Gown Winners in addition to \$100 presented to the winner of the Peoples Choice Award Winner.

## Miss University of Louisville Title Holders



2008 ~ Ashley Miller  
Miss Kentucky Top 10



2009 ~ April Reinle



2010 ~ Melanie Brison  
Miss Kentucky  
Miss Congeniality



2011 ~ Olivia Henken  
Miss Kentucky Top 10



2012 ~ Claire Butler  
Miss Kentucky Top 10



2013 ~ Amelia Gandara  
Miss Kentucky Talent Winner  
& Miss Kentucky Top 10



2014 ~ Megan Devine



2015 ~ Natalie Johnson  
Miss Kentucky Fitness Winner



2016 ~ Taylor Parks  
Miss Kentucky Top 10



2017 ~ Meredith Ellis



2018 ~ Taylor Young  
Recipient - Miss Ky  
BeMediaspa Rule Your  
World Scholarship



2019 ~ Cameron Wilson



2020 ~ McKenna Thibodeaux  
Top Twelve - Miss Kentucky



2022 ~ Olivia Andrews  
Top Twelve - Miss Kentucky



2023 ~ Ankita Nair  
Miss Kentucky Quality of Life  
Finalist



## 2024 Miss University of Louisville Scholarship Pageant Sponsors

On behalf of the Miss University of Louisville Scholarship pageant, we would like to thank the following supporters. Without their help and support, this pageant would not have been possible.

### Program Sponsors (\$500 and above)

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Ellen Bergum  
Kaitlyn Black  
Megan Bottorf  
McKenna Brown  
The Honorable Judge Stephanie Burke

The Honorable Judge Anne Haynie  
Madelyn Heinrich  
Riley Hemmer  
Jordan Herzog  
Lou Holm  
Emma Hogan  
House of K (Lilli Dillingham)  
Cailey Koerner  
Emily Krall  
Micaela Kramer  
Cecilia Infussi  
Mia Langford  
Dan Lavrich (Trudy Lavrich)  
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Melanie Wiseheart, 2010 Miss U of L  
Mary Jo Weisinger  
Trudy Wheeler  
Olivia Whitehead  
Kaylee Whitsell/Chris Whitsell (Kaylee Whitsell)

## WELCOME TO THE 2024 MISS UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

In 2008, the Beta Gamma chapter of the Delta Zeta Sorority at the University of Louisville announced the sponsorship and re-establishment the tradition of crowning a Miss University of Louisville. This tradition was once part of the university and from our research, the last pageant was held in 1967. In addition, during our research we also learned that the 1952 Miss Kentucky, Joy Williams, was a member of the Beta Gamma chapter of Delta Zeta and a graduate of the University of Louisville!

Tonight, you will meet several remarkable young women who will be competing for the Miss University of Louisville and Miss Cardinal Country titles and also the Miss Cardinal Country Teen and Miss Minerva Teen titles. These intelligent, poised, articulate, talented and beautiful young women are very impressive. We are pleased and honored to be able to provide the opportunity for you to meet and get to know each one. We know that you will be as impressed with each one as we have.

Delta Zeta's core values of scholarship and service are shared by each of the contestants. Each one is a bright young woman who has made a difference in her community by her many hours of service to many worthwhile causes and organizations. We applaud all of the contestants for their dedication to making a difference.

We thank you for being a part of the 2024 Miss U of L pageant!

Sincerely,

The Miss U of L Committee



Joy Williams, 1952 Miss Kentucky  
Beta Gamma/Delta Zeta Alumnae  
Graduate of the University of Louisville

## The 2024 Miss University of Louisville Scholarship Pageant Program



### Our Emcees for the Evening are...

Aimee Turner – 2022 Miss Kentucky Volunteer  
Ashley Shae Benton – 2022 Miss Cardinal Country

### 2024 Miss University of Louisville/Miss Cardinal Country

#### Miss Cardinal Country Teen

#### Parade of Contestants

#### The On-Stage Question Competition – All Contestants

#### Introduction of Judges

#### Teen and Miss Lifestyle & Wellness

#### Featured Performance – Mallory Hudson – 2023 Miss Kentucky

#### Miss Talent Competition - Contestants #1 - #5

Intermission - Please Vote for the PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD During This time by visiting  
<https://www.missuoflpageant.com/peopleschoice>

#### Talent Competition - Miss Contestants #6 - #7 and Teen Contestants #8 - #11

#### Featured Performance - MaKenzie Kelley, 2023 Miss Cardinal Country

#### Introduction of Honored Guests – Recognition of Sponsors

#### Teen Evening Gown Competition

#### Miss Evening Gown Competition

#### Featured Performance – Ankita Nair – 2023 Miss University of Louisville

#### Farewell to our 2023 Miss University of Louisville Title Holders

#### Crowning the 2024 Miss University of Louisville Title Holders

## 2024 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE JUDGES

### **Dr. Dereck Barr-Pulliam**

Dr. Dereck Barr-Pulliam is an Assistant Professor of Accountancy. He is Certified Public Accountant (TN-Inactive) and a Certified Internal Auditor and holds a Bachelor's, Masters, and Ph.D., all in accounting, from the University of Mississippi. Though he's an accountant, he has a passion for music, evidenced by also holding a Bachelor of Music degree. He has extensive professional work experience in auditing and traveled the globe in roles with Deloitte and the FedEx corporate headquarters. He began his academic career in 2014 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and began teaching auditing at the undergraduate and graduate levels at the University of Louisville in 2019. He is an active researcher and studies how individuals solve complex problems in auditing and accounting-adjacent settings. His research has been published in top-tier journals, and he is a member of the editorial boards for several journals. However, his passion is service. He serves on various committees, boards, and task forces at UofL and within the American Accounting Association, the AICPA, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and other national and international professional organizations. In his free time, he enjoys music, spending time with his husband and daughter, and cheering on UofL and Ole Miss sports teams, particularly women's basketball and football. He judged his first pageant in 2010 (the Miss University pageant) and is excited to join this esteemed panel of judges.

### **Anna Hibbs**

Anna Hibbs graduated from UofL in 2008 with a Bachelor's of Interior Architecture and Minor in Marketing. While in college, she held many roles including two-term president of Delta Zeta, founder and President of the Interior Design Student Organization, Student Orientation Staff employee and Panhellenic member. She was honored to receive significant awards throughout her college career as well: Greek Woman of the Year, U of L Homecoming Court, Greek Goddess, Sigma Chi Regional Sweetheart and Pi Kappa Alpha Dream Girl.

She thrives in the chaos of life after college with amazing husband Johnathan, two beautiful children: Izzy (6) and Harrison (3), and a German

Shepherd puppy named Jake. She loves her job at Heaven Hill Brands where she has worked for the last 11 years on fun yet challenging projects including the development of new Bourbon and Whiskey brands, the renovation and expansion of the Heaven Hill Bourbon Experience, and now is the project manager of the \$200 million new distillery build in Bardstown.

Although she has not been in a pageant herself, she helped create this Miss University of Louisville Pageant with lifelong friends and sisters, Jeanine Triplett and Trudy Wheeler. She is humbled to join the crew again this year as a judge and wishes all the contestants the best of luck!

### **Miranda Hulsey**

Miranda Hulsey is a University of Louisville graduate. While earning a biology degree, she was a student-athlete on the women's rowing team. Right out of the gates after graduation, she began working as a Quality Control chemist for a pharmaceutical company.

However, her true talents and passion lie within other areas, and she quickly gravitated towards them. Her passion for being involved in her community led her to Today's Woman magazine where she was a contributing editor and spokesperson for nearly a decade. Her love of sharing information with elegance and enthusiasm flourished with her work with at Today's Publications and during her reign as Mrs. Indiana United States in 2013, and she continues to work as an actor, model, host, and speaker. Wearing all of these different, yet very complementary hats, has developed her into a true public relations and marketing professional. She runs her own advertising agency, Magnolia Media, named after the trees she loved and grew up surrounded by at her childhood home.

Miranda loves, works, and lives with her husband and children here in the beautiful city of Louisville where she was born and raised. With their children being young athletes, an on-the-go lifestyle is one they're accustomed to, but one where teaching that giving back and caring for others is a top priority, and the commuting time to talk about that is readily available whether it's during a drive to a riding lesson, horse show, basketball, or

soccer practice with their daughter or track & field practices and meets for their boys.

### **Kate Scinta**

Kate Scinta originally hails from New England. She received an undergraduate degree in Speech Education from Emerson College in Boston, Ma, and a Master's Degree in English from The Bread Loaf School of English - Middlebury College, Vermont. Kate served as the Upper School Drama Director and Speech Team Coach as well as Arts Chair at Kentucky Country Day School for much of her career. In addition, she worked as an adjunct instructor at Emerson, U of L, and IU Southeast. Kate continues to pursue her love of Theatre as an active member of The Woman's Club of Louisville's "Leading Lady Productions." Pre-Covid, she acted and directed for Eve Theater. In addition to acting and/or directing with the WCL Kate enjoys private Speech and Monologue coaching, but she delights in what she now considers to be her most important role, grandmother!

### **Alex Thompson**

T. Alexander Thompson (Alex) is a native of Nashville, Tennessee. He holds a Cum Laude Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Western Kentucky University, and an insurance degree from the Insurance Institute of America. Alex is employed at State Farm Insurance as a Special Investigation Fraud Analyst. While a student at Western, he was a cheerleader, a member of the University's gymnastic troupe, and a WKU Spirit Master, an elite group of highly selected student ambassadors and university hosts. Alex is a certified Miss America pageant judge and has been a pageant coach for various titleholders across the state in the America, Kentucky Outstanding Teen, and USA systems. He has served as a judge in multiple Miss America preliminaries, Jr. Miss Organization, and Kentucky County Fair circuit. While he enjoys the world of pageantry, he is also an athlete. Alex is the 2nd baseman for the championship winning Louisville-Derby City Devils men's competitive softball team. He also has his own YouTube channel called "The Travel Adventures of Alex & Tim", which chronicles his family's travel all over the world with his own unique brand of humor and perspective.



## 2024 Miss University of Louisville Community Service Award

At the core of the Miss America Organization is community service. At each level, the national, state and local, Miss America contestants perform thousands of hours of community service throughout the nation. Since community service is also at the core of the values of Delta Zeta Sorority as well, we announced the establishment of the Miss U of L Community Service Award in 2009. Again this year, our contestants will be evaluated on their community service and they must demonstrate that they have fulfilled a legitimate need in their community through the creation, development and/or participation in a community service project. One award of a \$250 cash scholarship will be presented to the contestant who the judges feel has excelled in this area.



We are proud of Ankita, MaKenzie and Reese in terms of how they represented the Miss University of Louisville this past year throughout the City of Louisville and the U of L community with their community service projects!

## Ankita Nair

### 2023 Miss University of Louisville

*"Winning Miss UofL still feels like a surreal dream come true. It was my first ever pageant and I couldn't have asked for a better experience. I got to honor my heritage by wearing an Indian dress on stage as my evening gown. I got to play a piano piece that really challenged me and talk about preventative healthcare in Kentucky (an issue near and dear to my heart). Along the way, I found a new support system and friends who I am so grateful for including Olivia and Ashley-Shae (our previous Miss UofL titleholders, Kenzie (Miss Cardinal Country) and Reese (Miss Cardinal Country's Teen). I can't thank Jeanine, Meredith, Jo, and the rest of the Miss UofL leadership enough for everything they did to help us succeed from booking our local experiences, helping us prep for Miss KY with mock interviews and cheering us on in Bowling Green. Their support helped Reese and I become quality of life finalists and helped me earn an interview award at Miss Kentucky. During my reign as Miss UofL, I attended over 30 local events including art shows, the state fair, public health screenings, Derby events, UofL student group events, and made community appearances with Miss Kentucky herself and my Miss Kentucky sisters. I am a better pianist, communicator, medical student, Kentuckian and friend thanks to Miss Kentucky. Being able to represent the University of Louisville name is an experience I'll always be grateful for."*



## MaKenzie Kelley

### 2023 Miss Cardinal Country

*"The day I won Miss Cardinal Country was so surreal. It was an incredible day and went on to be a fantastic year. The experiences and memories I have made will last a lifetime; from fundraisers to volunteering, dinners, events, and more. Through the Miss UofL pageant, I was able to express myself in ways I haven't done in years. I haven't sung in front of a crowd, alone, since I was 11, out of fear, and being able to perform for not only you but also at Miss Kentucky renewed my love for singing. I also showcased my other passion for dance through my Social Impact Initiative, Dream Dance Do. I was able to go into our local communities and share my love of dance with the youth and help them find a new avenue of expression, which was the goal. To the Miss UofL committee, I am so grateful for this opportunity and so thankful for your help in my journey as Miss Cardinal Country. I give the most enormous thanks to my team, my parents, my sisters, Erin LX, Katrina Myricks, and everyone else who helped and guided me through this process, leading to Miss Kentucky. No amount of help was too small; the time you poured into me will forever be appreciated. Miss Cardinal Country 2023, signing out."*

## Reese Anderson

### 2023 Miss Cardinal Country Teen

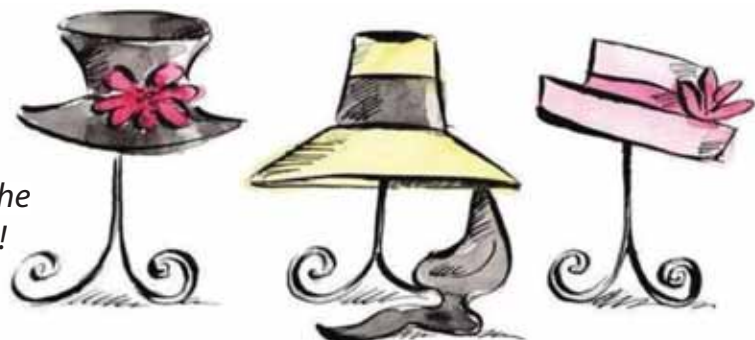
*"I am elated to have been crowned Miss Cardinal Country's Teen 2023 as my first preliminary title in the Miss America Organization. As I reflect on this past year, my mind is flooded with priceless opportunities of a year filled with new friendships, incredible leadership and scholarship opportunities and the personal discovery of an inner strength and confidence that I will carry with me forever. I have learned to trust my instincts and celebrate my authentic self during my reign. My goal was to serve this organization well. It has been an absolute honor."*

*The Miss Cardinal Country's Teen year has also been one of successful partnerships and hopeful recognitions. At Miss Kentucky's Teen I was a finalist for the Quality-of-Life Award, recognized for outstanding service in my community. In addition to a crown and title, most importantly, I was awarded a front row seat to learn of the incredible community service initiatives implemented by sister queens throughout our Kentucky community. As someone who strives to normalize teen volunteerism, I have been in awe of the impact of fellow teens throughout the Miss America organization. I am honored to be associated with fellow teen sister queens that advocate for empowerment and awareness for others who need a voice. I will be forever grateful to have served as your 2023 Miss Cardinal Country's Teen."*



### HATS OFF BY HELEN

Special thanks to  
Hats Off By Helen for providing the  
fascinators for our contestants!  
[www.hatsoffbyhelen.com](http://www.hatsoffbyhelen.com)





## Our 2024 Contestants are listed in Performance Order...

### Miss Contestants



#### 1. Taylor Henry

**Platform:** Healing Beyond the Scars: Suicide Prevention

**Major:** Interior Design

**Talent:** Vocal Performance "Hurt"



#### 5. Jimi Porter

**Platform:** Free From Hunger

**Major:** Master of Science in Business Analytics

**Talent:** Electric Guitar "Take Me Away"



#### 2. Jasmine Fondrisi

**Platform:** InCLOUsivity

**Major:** Television Broadcasting

**Talent:** Vocal Performance "It's All Coming Back To Me Now"



#### 6. Becca Counts

**Platform:** Kindness and Mindfulness

**Major:** School of Dentistry

**Talent:** Tumbling "Choose Your Fighter"



#### 3. Taylor Brundidge

**Platform:** A Home For Everyone

**Major:** Business Administration

**Talent:** Dance "Perfect Love"



#### 7. Olivia Andrews

**Platform:** Advocate for Gun Control Laws

**Major:** Music Education

**Talent:** Vocal Performance of Leonard Bernstein's "Glitter and Be Gay"



#### 4. Hannah Neal

**Platform:** Not Just A Number: CSI

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering

**Talent:** Baton Twirling "Hunger Games"

### Teen Contestants



#### 8. Audrey Walters

**Platform:** Home Away From Home

**Education:** Anchorage High School

**Talent:** Vocal Performance "They Just Keep Moving The Line"



#### 9. Lucy Bea Ryan

**Platform:** Foster Children Mental Health Support

**Education:** Assumption High School

**Talent:** Vocal Performance "Right Hand Man"



#### 10. Leah Niemann

**Platform:** Kentuckians Utilizing and Repurposing Attire & Textiles Environmentally (KURATE)

**Education:** duPont Manual High School

**Talent:** Baton Twirling "Twirling Just For Kicks"



#### 11. Ella Kate Brown

**Platform:** Mission for Nutrition: Soaring to New Heights on Your Mission to Healthy Living

**Education:** Assumption High School

**Talent:** Monologue "Emily's Soliloquy"

## 2024 MISS UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Pageant Chairs

Jeanine Triplett  
Meredith Cooksey McCorkel  
Lilli Dillingham  
Rowen Dziubek

### Committee Members

Ashley Shae-Benton  
Ankita Nair  
MaKenzie Kelley  
Reese Anderson

### Committee Chairs

Contestant Liaison  
Jovondra Coffey

Judges Book  
Reagan Ruggerio  
Caley Wade

Judges Coordinator  
Craig Harrington

Front of House Production  
Bailey Fisher

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**President, Delta Zeta Collegiate Chapter**  
Lilli Dillingham

**College Chapter Director**  
Emma Sears

## SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING

- C & H Audio Visual Services
- The Miss Kentucky Scholarship Organization