

## Miss Cardinal Country Title Holders



2012 ~ Melissa Cox  
Miss Kentucky Non-Finalist Talent Winner



2013 ~ Sara Cocanougher



2014 ~ Hannah Estes  
Miss Kentucky Non-Finalist Talent Award



2015 ~ Kyle Hornback  
Miss Kentucky Top 10



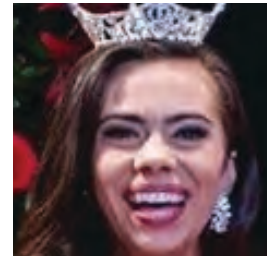
2016 ~ Sidney Cobb  
Miss Kentucky Top 10 People's Choice Finalist



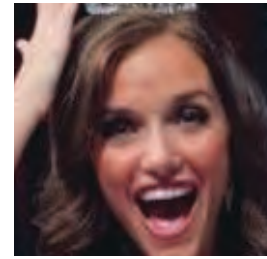
2017 ~ MacKenzie Hammond



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

## Miss Minerva Teen



2023 ~ MaKenzie Kelley



2024 ~ Taylor Brundidge  
Miss Kentucky Top 12 Peoples Choice Award

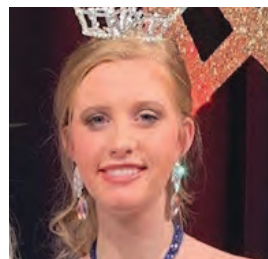


2022 ~ Payton Schindler  
Miss Kentucky Teen Top 10



2024 ~ Madeline Furgerson

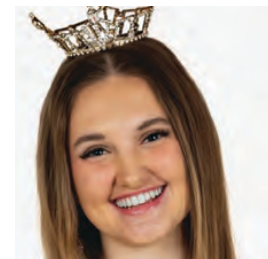
## Miss Cardinal Country Teen



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



2024 ~ Leah Niemann  
Miss Kentucky Top 12

# Miss UofL Pageant

Sponsored by Delta Zeta Sorority

## 2025 Miss University of Louisville Pageant

February 16, 2025



**Madeline Furgerson**

Miss Minerva Teen  
2024

**Leah Niemann**

Miss Cardinal Country  
2024

**Olivia Andrews**

Miss University of Louisville  
2024

**Taylor Brundidge**

Miss Cardinal Country  
2024





## Miss University of Louisville Title Holders

### 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.



**American Heart Association.**  
In 2023 Miss America and Miss America's Scholarship Foundation, announced a 3-year commitment supporting American Heart Association's women's initiative, Go Red for Women® raising awareness of women's heart health and bringing fitness initiatives back to the national competition stage.

### The 2025 Miss University of Louisville Scholarship Awards

The Beta Gamma chapter is proud to announce that we will again award this year \$2600 in scholarship money to the top three contestants (\$750 each). In addition, this year we will also present a \$250 cash scholarship to the winner of the 2025 Community Service Award in addition to \$100 presented to the winner of the Peoples Choice Award Winner.

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 26th Delta Zeta Auction will be held in April, 2025. 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.



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



2023 ~ Ankita Nair  
Miss Kentucky Quality of  
Life Finalist, Miss Kentucky  
Non-Finalist Interview  
Award



2022 & 2024 ~ Olivia Andrews  
2024 - Miss Kentucky Top 12,  
Preliminary Talent Award  
2022 - Top Twelve - Miss  
Kentucky, Newcomer Award





## 2025 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

**(\$1,000 and Above)**

Club Programming Committee Grant - UofL  
Delta Zeta Sorority - Beta Gamma Chapter  
Margaritaville University

### Event Sponsors

**(\$500 to \$999)**

Delta Zeta Alumnae Chapter  
Dr. Mary Jo Ratliff, MD  
Good Molecules Skin Care  
Miss Priss - Lexington

### Platinum Sponsors

**(\$250-\$499)**

Faye & Dr. Billy Andrews Scholarship  
Jennifer Arington  
Avanti Skin Care  
Barrett Dental Care  
Carol Hebel  
Omagi Spa and Salon  
Larry Pemble  
Susan's Florist  
Jeanine Triplett

### Diamond Sponsors

**(\$100 to \$249)**

Chipotle  
El Tarasco  
DripBar - Bowling Green  
Loren Hebel  
Kentucky Derby Festival  
Katie Rixman  
Allison Strickland  
Sungeros Coffee  
Kim Turner

Jenny Wrighting House

Bradley Oster

### Rose Sponsorship

**(\$50 to \$99)**

About the Town Productions  
Melanie Brison  
Judge Stephanie Pearce Burke  
Becky Warner Crone  
Brian Dose  
Ellie Drinkwater  
Mandy Ellinger  
Fairways and Floridays, LLC  
Tara Garris  
Cathy Giangarra  
Abbie Gilbert  
GDI Company  
Brian Hammonds  
Regan Hartman  
Judge Anne Haynie  
JKJ Properties  
Jennifer Keane  
Chris Williams Kerry Ford  
Kimberly LaFollette  
Elizabeth Maglinger  
Catherine Middleton  
Kristen Oster  
Stephanie Penn  
Byrd Saylor  
Trudy Wheeler  
Christopher Whitsell  
University Club of Louisville  
Carissa Hutchinson  
Regan Ruggiero  
Pi Kappa Alpha  
Nikki Cunningham Everman  
Highnote Printing

## WELCOME TO THE 2025 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!

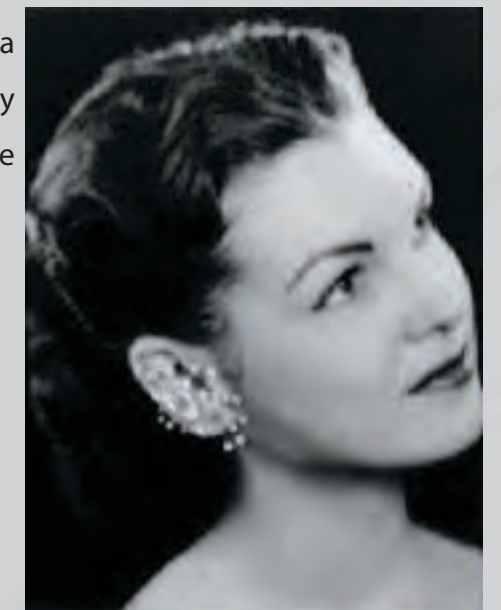
Tonight, you will meet several remarkable young women who will be competing for the Miss University of Louisville, Miss Cardinal Country titles and Miss Derby City also the Miss Cardinal Country Teen. These intelligent, poised, articulate, talented and beautiful young women are very impressive. We are 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 2025 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 2025 Miss University of Louisville Scholarship Pageant Program



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

Aimee Turner – 2022 Miss Kentucky Volunteer  
Ankita Nair – 2023 Miss University of Louisville

### Introducing 2024 Title Holders

### Parade of Contestants

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

### Introduction of Judges

### Teen and Miss Lifestyle & Wellness

### Featured Performance – Olivia Andrews, 2024 Miss University of Louisville

### Miss Talent Competition - Contestants #1-#10

### Intermission - Please Vote for the people's choice award during this time by visiting

<https://www.missuoflpageant.com/peopleschoice>

### Talent Competition - Miss Contestants #11-14 and Teen Contestants

### Featured Performance - Elizabeth King, 2025 Miss Danville

### Introduction of Honored Guests – Recognition of Sponsors

### Teen Evening Gown Competition

### Miss Evening Gown Competition

### Featured Performance – Chapel Tinus, 2024 Miss Kentucky

### Farewell to our 2024 Miss University of Louisville Title Holders

### Crowning the 2025 Miss University of Louisville Title Holders

## 2025 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE JUDGES



### Donna Caudill

Donna Caudill is a renowned dancer, instructor, choreographer and entrepreneur with a passion for sharing the joy of dance and art. As a 5-time World Champion dancer at the master level, Donna has achieved unparalleled success in her field. With over 30 years of dance training and education, including ballroom, country, swing, tap, jazz and ballet, Donna has developed a unique teaching style that emphasizes technique, creativity, and fun.

Donna's impressive credentials also include certifications as a dance judge and educator. She has taught at the University of Louisville, The Greater Louisville YMCA, private events and workshops, performed nationally and internationally, inspiring countless students and audiences with her love of dance.

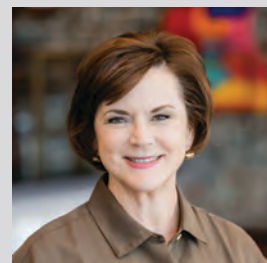
Through her teaching, performing, and business ventures, Donna Caudill continues to spread the joy of dance and inspire others to pursue their passions.

### Gianvanna Combs



My name is Gianvanna Combs, but many just call me Gia. I am a graduate of UofL and will be receiving my Master's degree from the Kent School of Social Work in May. I am an employee of the University, serving as the Assistant Director of Donor Relations & Alumni Engagement for the Health Sciences Center Campus. Helping bring gifts and more opportunities to our UofL students. am a former member of the Kentucky Derby Festival Royal Court, as a 2020 princess and the 2020-2021 Queen. I have participated in pageants on and off since I was young, competing in systems such as the Miss America Organization, Miss Universe Organization, Amerifest, and Cosmos just to name a few. I was honored to have won the Miss Kentucky Cosmos United States title in March of 2023, Miss Cosmos United States in August of 2023 and I placed 1st runner up at Miss Cosmos International. I am also excited to be representing Kentucky in the upcoming, 2025 Universe United Miss pageant. Thank you all so much for having me and

### Virginia Gilbert Loftin



Virginia Gilbert Loftin is a Birmingham native and journalism graduate of the University of Alabama, she spent her early career as a newspaper reporter and editor, then pivoted to a long career in higher education fundraising and external relations.

She served as president of the Delta Zeta Sorority Foundation from 2014-2018, was a Foundation trustee for 11 years, and co-chaired the national sorority's "Walk truly" fundraising campaign from 2016-2018. She chaired the building committee and fundraising effort for the \$17 million, 40,000-square-foot Delta Zeta house at the University of Alabama and continues to serve as an advisor to the chapter and a mentor to young alumnae.

Virginia and her husband, attorney Robert Lee Loftin III, have had a long association with the Miss Alabama program, including hosting an annual scholarship for the most innovative community service platform. Virginia has served as a judge for Miss Alabama preliminaries and high school competitions.

### Dr. Javan Reed



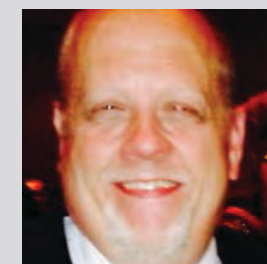
Dr. Javan Reed is the Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs at Simmons College of Kentucky. Additionally, he is the founder of Fashion Forward Inc., a world-renowned fashion house. Under the self-titled brand, Javan Reed, he has produced over 10 couture collections. His designs have been featured on runways nationally and internationally.

He is an adept community collaborator, educator, and skilled visual artist. He holds degrees from Edward Waters University and Nova Southeastern University and PhD in Urban Higher Education at Jackson State University. Javan is a much sought-after speaker, workshop facilitator, host, certified judge with Miss America Pageant and presenter.

Javan is an ardent HBCU supporter and advocate for marginalized students. His work with the Federally sponsored "Second Chance Pell" program, a program that affords incarcerated individuals a real chance at educational rehabilitation, is to be lauded and celebrated.

He is passionate about helping people find healthy perceptions of themselves so that they can create better social, economic, and educational opportunities for themselves and the community that supports them.

### Craig Harrington



Craig Harrington has been involved with the Miss UofL Pageant as a planning committee member and mock interview coordinator since it was re-established in 2008. He judged our pageant in 2014 and is now a certified judge for the Miss Kentucky system. He graduated from UofL with a B.A. in Political Science and Communications and earned a Master's Degree in International Affairs from George Washington University. Craig is a Senior Quality Control Analyst with the U.S. Army Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, KY, and owns and operates A.C.T. F.A.S.T. Self-Defense for Women.





## 2025 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 provided by the Louisville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Zeta Sorority will be presented to the contestant who the judges feel has excelled in this area.

We are proud of Olivia, Taylor, Leah, Madeline 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!



## Olivia Andrews

### 2024 Miss University of Louisville

"Olivia Andrews is excited to compete as Miss Nelson County, 2025 alongside her new UofL sisters at the Miss Kentucky Competition this summer. Olivia is currently a masters student at the University of Louisville and student teaching with the Floyd Central Choirs. Her Community Service Initiative, *Maestra: Empowering Women to Step Up to the Podium*, is honored in her daily life as a director, and she is excited to launch conducting programs across Kentuckiana to enhance student leadership in music. Olivia would like to thank Jeanine Triplett, the Delta Zeta Sorority, Claudette Patton, Debbie Robbins, and her Miss Kentucky sisters for a successful year as Miss University of Louisville. Whether she is conducting a choir several states away, or recruiting young women into the Miss America Opportunity, Olivia forever carries Miss UofL pride in her heart.

## Taylor Brundidge

### 2024 Miss Cardinal Country

This past year as Miss Cardinal Country has been an incredible journey of growth, learning, and unforgettable experiences. Being part of the Miss Kentucky Organization has opened doors to so many opportunities, and I've been blessed to connect with amazing people who have truly shaped my year. I am so thankful for the love and support from my family, friends, and my Miss Kentucky sisters, whose encouragement has meant the world to me. A special thank you to Olivia, Miss UofL, who has been an incredible mentor and friend. Her wisdom, guidance, and support through my first year have been invaluable. Competing at Miss Kentucky for the first time was nothing short of incredible. Making the top 12 was an achievement I will always cherish. Every step of the way, from preparing for the competition to being on that stage, was a testament to the power of community and hard work.

Throughout my year, I had the privilege to develop and advocate for my initiative, "A Home for Everyone," a program I created to support the houseless community. This cause is so close to my heart, and I am proud to have brought awareness and support to those in need. Thank you to everyone who has been part of this journey. I am honored to forever be Miss Cardinal Country 2024.

## Leah Neimann

### 2024 Miss Cardinal Country Teen

Looking back on my reign as Miss Cardinal Country's Teen, I would not change a thing! Through the Miss UofL Organization, I had the privilege of working with so many amazing people who truly shaped my year. I am very thankful for all the experiences, events, friendships, and more I was provided and am excited for the next girl who will get this opportunity. I hope to have left a legacy as a sustainable fashion advocate which I will continue to build on through the Miss America Opportunity. I will never forget the countless people I was able to meet while spreading my Community Service Initiative throughout our Commonwealth. I am honored to have placed in the top 12 at Miss Kentucky's Teen this year. I owe a tremendous thank you to everyone who helped me along my journey and helped me to get there. This past year will always be one near and dear to my heart, I hope the 2025 Miss UofL queens love their year as much as I did!

## Madeline Furgerson

### 2024 Miss Minerva Teen

Being Miss Minerva Teen this past year has been an incredible journey of growth, service, and inspiration. I've had the honor of representing my community, building lifelong friendships, and using my platform to make a difference. This experience has shaped me in so many ways, and I'm grateful for every moment!







**Our 2025 Contestants are listed in performance order...**



**1. Taylor Henry**  
**Platform:** Healing Beyond the Scars: Suicide Prevention  
**Major:** Pre-Law and Sociology  
**Talent:** Vocal Performance "It's No Secret Anymore"



**6. Marciana Castillo**  
**Platform:** Vital Pathways to Healthcare  
**Major:** Doctor of Dental Medicine  
**Talent:** Instrumental and Vocal "Piano Man"



**11. Jillian Sarver**  
**Platform:** Veteran/Military Support  
**Major:** English and Psychology  
**Talent:** Monologue performance from DAGS, by Debra Oswald



**2. Ashley-Shae Benton**  
**Platform:** Heal with HEART  
**Major:** University of Louisville School of Medicine  
**Talent:** Stop the Bleed Demonstration



**7. Emmalee Sanders**  
**Platform:** Buddy with a Book  
**Major:** Cosmetology  
**Talent:** Vocal Performance "Angel of Music"



**12. Utsuka Giri**  
**Platform:** Love Your Roots  
**Major:** Public Health  
**Talent:** Dancing Bhangra



**3. Jessica Lanier**  
**Platform:** Knowing Your Voice  
**Major:** Political Science  
**Talent:** Vocal Performance "I Am Changing"



**8. Hannah Rager**  
**Platform:** Shatter the Silence  
**Major:** Marketing and Sports Administration  
**Talent:** Slam Poetry "Silent Cries or Life Beyond Labels"



**13. Shae'la Worsley**  
**Platform:** MindFit  
**Major:** Political Science and Public Policy  
**Talent:** Dancing "Everybody Wants to Rule the World"



**4. Patricia Keys**  
**Platform:** Be The Reason Someone Believes In Agriculture  
**Major:** Agriculture  
**Talent:** Monologue "First Responder in Overalls"



**9. Mia Langford**  
**Platform:** Advocating for the Arts  
**Major:** Art  
**Talent:** Speed Painting



**14. Chloe Ralson**  
**Platform:** Petals for a Purpose  
**Major:** Nursing  
**Talent:** Speed Painting



**5. Hannah Neal**  
**Platform:** Not Just a Number  
**Major:** Biomedical Engineering  
**Talent:** Baton Twirling "Can't Touch This"



**10. Jimi Porter**  
**Platform:** Free From Hunger  
**Major:** Masters of Science in Business Analytics  
**Talent:** HERStory - Why 5?

**2025 Miss University of Louisville Committee Members**

**Pageant Chairs:**

- Jeanine Triplett
- Jovondra Coffey
- Lilli Dillingham
- Rowen Dziubek

**Committee Members:**

- Olivia Andrews
- Ankita Nair

**Committee Chairs:**

- Judges Book
- Caley Wade

**Program and Judges Coordinator**

- Abigail Brown

**Social Media**

- Carissa Hutchinson

**Scholarships**

- Lilli Dillingham
- Bailey Fisher

**Promotions**

- Hannah Murphy

**Greek Life Involvement**

- Ceci Infussi
- Jordan Herzog

**Ticket Sales**

- Reagan Hartman

**President, Delta Zeta Collegiate Chapter**

- Bailey Fisher

**College Chapter Director**

- Emma Sears