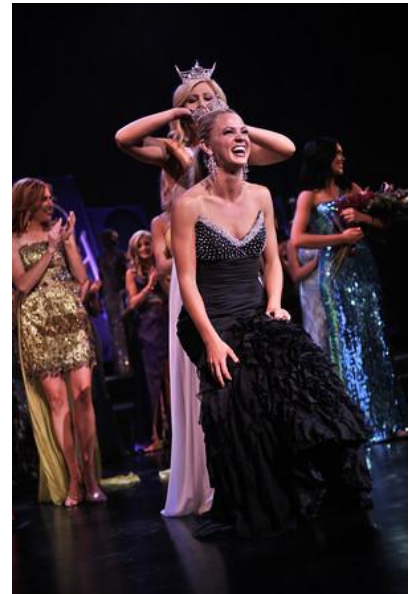




THE MISS UTAH ORGANIZATION PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Celebrating 75 Years 1936 - 2011

MISS UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY, DANICA OLSEN, CROWNED MISS UTAH 2011



Salt Lake City, Utah – June 25, 2011: Danica Olsen (Miss Utah Valley University), from Tooele, was crowned Miss Utah 2011 tonight at Capitol Theater in Salt Lake City. Danica was crowned by Miss Utah 2010, Christina Lowe, who was also Miss Utah Valley University before winning the state title as Miss Utah County. Danica's triumphant walk across the stage was just the beginning of a journey that will take her to every corner of the state and across the nation during her year of service as Miss Utah 2011. She will travel several thousand miles each month speaking to audiences about her platform, "Prescription Drug Addiction Awareness", serving as an ambassador for the Children's Miracle Network and acting as the official spokesperson for the Child Protection Registry, an organization dedicated to protecting Utah families from adult-oriented solicitations.

Danica is a junior at Utah Valley University. Her scholastic ambition is to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Speech Communication and she ultimately hopes to work as an interpersonal communications presenter and college dance coach. Along with the title of Miss Utah 2011, Danica won a \$10,000 scholarship to continue her education, a new car from Murdock Motors and housing for a year. For the talent portion of competition, Danica danced to *Come Fly With Me*.

The first runner-up was Miss Pioneer Valley, McKenna Wheeler, who earned a \$3,000 scholarship. Her contemporary dance won a preliminary talent award earlier in the week and her personal platform is "Girls Inc."

Second runner-up honors and a \$1,500 scholarship were awarded to Miss Davis County, Ciera Pekarcik who won a preliminary award for swimsuit earlier in the week. Her talent was a pop vocal and her personal platform is "Define Yourself through Service".

Third runner-up was Miss Draper, Shelby Dixon, earning an \$800 scholarship. Fourth runner-up was Miss Rocky Mountain, Hannah Christensen, earning a \$600 scholarship. Fourth runner-up was Miss Rocky Mountain, Hannah Christensen, earning a \$600 scholarship. The five semi-finalists rounding out the top ten and earning a \$600 scholarship were Miss Legacy, Rebeca Belo; Miss Spanish Fork, Rebecca Johnson; Miss Farmington, Arielle Simpson; Miss Washington County, Samantha Cummings; and Miss Castle Valley, Starlee Holman.



The Glenn Harman Instrumental Music Awards went to Miss Spanish Fork, Rebecca Johnson and Miss Orem, Bridget Kries who also won the People’s Choice Award.

The Academic Excellence Award went to Miss Draper, Shelby Dixon and the Miracle Maker Award (sponsored by the Children’s Miracle Network, the national platform of the Miss America Organization) was given to Miss Davis County, Ciera Pekarcik. Miss Iron County, Aimee Peterson, was given the Miss America Community Service Award and Miss Eagle Mountain, Hartley Lojik was named Miss Congeniality.



The Miss Utah Organization is an affiliate of the Miss America Scholarship Pageant, the world’s largest provider of scholarship assistance for young women and one of the nation’s leading achievement programs.

For up-to-date competition news and information, visit www.missutahpageant.org.

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