

Miss Polish America 2025 Connecticut Pageant

The Official Miss Polish America® CT Pageant Program



EMILY RENG

Miss Polish America 2024

SATURDAY, MAY 24th, 2025 6 O'clock
BALTIC GRAND BALLROOM
237 NEW BRITAIN ROAD, BERLIN, CT



Miss Polish America®'25

Pageant Gala & Dinner

*Come Celebrate the Most Beautiful
Polish-American Women in CT!
Competition includes: Cocktail Dress,
Swimwear, Evening Gown & Q/A.*

**24TH MAY
6PM-11PM**

Baltic
BANQUET FACILITY & RESTAURANT

TICKETS \$ 75

*VIP TICKETS \$100 with priority
seating available. Purchase
Tickets at MAX-MART in New
Britain, CT. Table Reservation:
860 883-2277 or 860 883-2278*

*Please become our
Sponsor or Partner!*

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www.misspolishamerica.org

A Message From...

Bogumiła Gładysz

Co-Founder - Miss Polish America Organization

Witam Państwa na kolejnej Gali Miss Polish America® 2025 czyli Wybory Najpiękniejszej Polki W Connecticut!



Dziękuję bardzo dla wszystkich kandydatek, rodziców, sponsorów, partnerów medialnych i organizacyjnych, dla wszystkich szanownych gości, jurorów, artystów, całemu personelowi i obsłudze sali bankietowej Restauracji Baltic, właścicielom i całej ekipie wspomagającej przy dzisiejszej edycji konkursu dzięki, którym tu właśnie się dzisiaj spotkaliśmy.

Dziękuję serdecznie tym wszystkim, którzy zaangażowali się w pomoc przy organizacji, dziękujemy pani Izabeli Dawidziuk za jej prace z kandydatkami i naukę choreografii, dziękujemy prowadzącym konkurs pani Mai Laska Graham i Eddie Zavaski Jr.

Dziękujemy dla naszej pięknej Miss Polish America CT, Julii Karwackiej, która w dzisiejszy wieczór ukoronuje nowo wybrana Miss Polish America na rok 2025/26.

Julia jest bardzo ambitna młoda kobieta, która przez swoją determinację i ciężką pracę pragnie ukończyć studia na Suffolk University i zostać politykiem.

W tym roku Julia rozpocznie pracę w Washington DC aby tam nabrać doświadczenia i nauczyć się pracy związanej z polityką Stanów Zjednoczonych. Jesteśmy bardzo dumni z naszych młodych kobiet, które w tym roku zdecydowały się aby wziąć udział w konkursie i zaprezentowanie swoich możliwości, talentów, swoich osiągnięć edukacyjnych i przede wszystkim podkreślenie swojej dumy z bycia Polką w Ameryce!

Dziękujemy Zespołowi Piotr Olejniczak Kameleon i Mr. Sax za ich występ i oprawę muzyczną. Podziękowania dla inżynierów od dźwięku i oświetlenia, John Gładysz i Scott Greczkowski oraz wszystkich, którzy pomagali przy dekoracji sceny i sali. W tym roku obchodzimy 30 lecie konkursów piękności w CT, zapoczątkowanych w New Britain przez grupę entuzjastów gdzie na początku byliśmy zaangażowani w roli sponsorów imprezy a od 2003 roku po podpisaniu licencji konkursy były produkowane pod naszą dyktando. Dziś zaprosiliśmy osoby, które wzięły udział w naszych edycjach konkursu Miss Polonia CT, i które zaprezentują się przed Państwem na scenie do wspólnej historycznej fotografii.

Dziękujemy wszystkim naszym sponsorom dzięki, którym możemy ufundować nagrody dla naszych finalistek. Specjalne podziękowanie dla firmy From The Heart Home Care LLC. z Berlina oraz Tomasso Brothers Inc. z New Britain za ufundowanie głównych nagród.

Dziękujemy dla rodziny Dorothy Korziński i jej firmy Ravishing Decor za ufundowanie sumy na Bilet Lotniczy do Polski dla naszej nowej zwyciężczyni konkursu. Dziękujemy wszystkim innym sponsorom, którzy za każdym razem wspierają konkursy dla Polko Amerykańskich kobiet. Są wśród nich sponsorzy, którzy od 30 lat

popierają Polonijne wydarzenia a w szczególności konkurs Miss Polish America! Są to nasi wspaniali Patroni: Rodzina: Rafalowskich, Borkowskich & Małkowskich, Pawlak, Blaszkowski, Nalazek, Cieplinski i inni.

Dziękujemy im bardzo za wsparcie i pomoc finansowa. Dziękujemy innym rodzinom jak również Łoży Sędziowskiej, która będzie miała trudną pracę wyboru tej najpiękniejszej i najbardziej kwalifikującej się reprezentantki Polonii w Stanie Connecticut! Nasze finalistki będą miały opcję wzięcia udziału w konkursie Narodowym a później możliwość wyjazdu na konkurs do Polski lub wzięcia udziału w konkursach takich jak, Miss USA czy Miss America! Polki podbijają świat! Zostają adwokatami, lekarzami, agentami FBI, aktorkami, modelkami, profesjonalistkami w każdej dziedzinie. Dla Polek w Ameryce "Sky is the limit"! ONE są nie tylko mądre, ambitne, wykształcone, utalentowane ale bardzo odważne, pewne siebie i chcą sięgać jak najwyżej!

Dzisiaj przedstawimy Państwu grupę młodych ale bardzo poważnie traktujących życie kobiet. Przywitacie je serdecznie wielkimi brawami i oklaskami dużo miłości i szacunku bo aby wystąpić przed publicznością w wieku 17 czy 18 lat to wielka odwaga i należą im się za to wielkie brawa!

Jako organizatorka, pragnę przedstawić Państwu wspaniałą grupę młodych kobiet, które dzięki kilkutygodniowym przygotowaniom do konkursu na pewno zawiązały wspólne kontakty i być może nawet przyjaźnie, które mogą przetrwać długie lata. Dziewczęta przyjechały z 9 różnych miast w CT a ich rodziny pochodzą z przeróżnych części Polski. Natomiast tu dzisiaj one wszystkie czują się Polkami, koleżankami i jako zgrany zespół siostr, który potrafi stanąć do rywalizacji o tytuł i koronę ale na pewno z wielką radością powitają jedną wybraną przez Jury jako ich reprezentantkę. Podczas tegorocznego konkursu z wszystkich finalistek zostanie

wybrana zwyciężczyni Miss Polish America 2025 CT jak również 4 Vice Miss! Będą również przyznane tytuły komplementarne jak również Państwo będą mogli wybrać swoją własną faworytkę, Miss Publiczności!

Ankiety z fotografiami i nazwiskami kandydatek będą dostępne dla każdego z gości. Prosimy wybrać tą, która według Państwa zasługuje na ten prestiżowy tytuł i koronę! Życzymy miłego wieczoru, wielu wspaniałych wrażeń jak również wyboru najpiękniejszej Polki w Connecticut, która godnie będzie reprezentowała nasz stan w innych konkursach, przeróżnych imprezach okolicznościowych, występach, festiwalach jak również podczas wielkiej Parady im. Generała Kazimierza Pułaskiego w Nowym Jorku w niedzielę, 5 października, 2025! Wszystkim kandydatkom życzymy powodzenia! Good Luck to All the Contestants!

Serdecznie dziękuję całej Polonii za wsparcie a dla nowo wybranej Miss Polish America 2025 CT życzymy samych sukcesów oraz aby nigdy nie zapomniała pięknej mowy i języka Polskiego, aby odwiedzała nasz kraj i sławiła dobre imię Polski i Ameryki!

Życzymy wielu sukcesów dla wszystkich laureatek dzisiejszego konkursu i jesteśmy bardzo dumni z każdej z WAS! Do zobaczenia na przyszły rok!

Bogumiła M. Gładysz

Polish American Pageants LLC.
Managing Member
Co-Founder of Miss Polish America®
misspolishamerica@gmail.com
www.misspolishamerica.org



MISS POLISH
AMERICA

WELCOME TO MISS POLISH AMERICA® 2025

BALTIC, MAY 24TH, 2025



Farewell Miss Polish America 2023-2024

Julia Karwacki



Julia Karwacki is a Political Science and Economics student at Suffolk University with a strong commitment to public service and leadership. She holds executive board positions in student government and the Journey Leadership Program, actively shaping her university community. Currently, she serves as a legislative intern for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and previously interned for Connecticut Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz. This summer, she will take a major step toward her political aspirations by interning for Congressman Jim Himes (CT-04) on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Deeply proud of her Polish heritage, Julia values the culture and language that have shaped her identity. She plans to pursue a career as a corporate lawyer and one day run for public office, aiming to represent and uplift the Polish-American community through her service and political work. As she concludes her reign as Miss Polish America 2023/2024, Julia is grateful for the opportunity to represent her heritage on a national stage and extends her warmest wishes to the new titleholder.

Julia Karwacki jest studentką nauk politycznych i ekonomii na Suffolk University, z silnym zaangażowaniem w służbę publiczną i przywództwo. Pełni funkcje w zarządzie samorządu studenckiego oraz w Journey Leadership Program, aktywnie wpływając na życie swojej uczelni. Obecnie odbywa staż legislacyjny w Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a wcześniej pracowała jako stażystka u wicegubernatora Connecticut, Susan Bysiewicz. Tego lata zrobi ważny krok w kierunku swojej politycznej kariery, odbywając staż u kongresmena Jima Himesa (CT-04) na Kapitolu w Waszyngtonie. Głęboko związana ze swoim polskim dziedzictwem, ceni kulturę i język, które ukształtowały jej tożsamość. Julia planuje rozwijać swoją karierę jako prawniczka korporacyjna, a w przyszłości rozważa kandydowanie na urząd publiczny, aby reprezentować i wspierać społeczność polsko-amerykańską poprzez swoją pracę i zaangażowanie polityczne. Kończąc swoją kadencję jako Miss Polish America 2023/2024, Julia z wdzięcznością żegna się z tytułem i życzy powodzenia nowej laureatce.





Edward J. Zavaski, Jr.

Co-Host

Edward J. Zavaski, Jr. was born in Hartford, CT and is the son of the late Frances and Edward Zavaski, Sr. Eddie (as he is affectionately known) was raised in Rocky Hill, CT. and graduated from Rocky Hill High School in 1972. Eddie has one sister, Mary Ann Moon who resides in Myrtle Beach with her husband Neal. He furthered his education and attended Nichols College in Massachusetts. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1976, majoring in Economics & Finance. After graduation he began a career in the insurance industry.

Ed began as a sales representative for Metropolitan Life in Middletown, CT. He was promoted to a sales manager position in 1979 and then after served as a field training consultant for Met Life throughout New England, before being moved to a district/branch manager in Meriden, CT in 1983. In 1984 his Meriden operation was recognized as the "Branch Office of the Year" for New England. A very proud accomplishment after taking over an almost bankrupt operation.

After moving on, in 1993 Eddie began working for the Nationwide Insurance Company. He helped introduce their "Community Agency" concept across Middlesex County. He also taught for the Nationwide Insurance Training Center out in Columbus, OH from 2002 through 2010. His agency achieved numerous "Champion Awards" for their Sales production, and in 2007 achieved Nationwide's prestigious President's award. In 2017 Ed's agency was purchased by the Stamford Insurance Group (SIG) and he was made Director of Sales. In 2021, SIG was purchased by the Relation Insurance Company out of Walnut Creek, CA and today, he is a Senior Risk Advisor. This year marks Eddie's 49th year in the insurance industry!

Mr. Zavaski has resided in Wallingford now for the past 39 years and has become very active in the greater Wallingford community. He has been involved with the Wallingford Rotary Club for the past 27 years, served on the board of directors for the Midstate Chamber of Commerce, served as Commissioner for the Wallingford Economic Development Commission and a board member for the outreach program called "Hubcap." Over the years, Ed has been a part of the SS Peter & Paul RC Church as well. Founded by Poles in 1924, he has been a part of the Men's Club for over 35 years.

Eddie's late parents instilled in him the importance of giving back to his community, culture, and heritage. He has been involved with the Polish Nat'l Alliance (PNA) organization since 1986. He has served as President of the Wallingford Lodge since 2013. Through that period, the club has gone through a complete revitalization. Today the PNA Park has a beautiful new club room & bar, a wonderful outdoor pavilion, and a fabulous hall for members and guests to enjoy. The PNA Park is embraced by the entire Wallingford community. Eddie also serves as President of the PNA's District II which represents the State of CT. In August of 2023 at the PNA's Quadrennial Convention in Chicago, Mr. Zavaski was elected by the delegates from across America to be a National Board of Director. Most recently in October of 2023, he was honored as "Man of the Year" by the Polish American Business & Professional Assoc., Inc. of the ST of CT.

Most important to Eddie is his family. He has three (3) children, Rachel, Michael, and Steven. They were educated in the Wallingford school system and are graduates of Sheehan High School. Today, Rachel resides in Cincinnati, with her husband Dan, and two (2) children Julianna & Noah. Dr. Michael resides in Longmeadow, MA with his wife, Alexandra and son, Theodore and three (3) daughters Anna, Eleanor, and Josephine. Youngest son Steven resides in Boston, MA. Eddie is so very proud of his three (3) children and their outstanding accomplishments.

Eddie is also a professional musician and has been playing the accordion professionally for 55 years now. He is PROUD of the fact that he worked in his late father's Polka band for over eleven (11) years. Recording record albums, playing on cruise ships, and touring throughout the northeastern United States. This wonderful experience allowed him to not only to carry on his Polish heritage but gave him the ability to afford a college education. In 2002 his late dad, Eddie Zavaski, Sr. was inducted into the Polka Music Hall of Fame in Chicago.



Maja Laska-Graham

Co-Host

Maja Laska-Graham was born in Poland and spent her early childhood surrounded by the rich traditions of her homeland. At the age of 11, she and her family made the life-changing move to the United States, settling in Connecticut. Though the transition was not without its challenges, Maja quickly found a sense of belonging within Connecticut's vibrant Polish-American community—a connection that has remained a defining part of her life.

Maja is the daughter of Halina and Robert, who continue to instill in her the importance of honoring and preserving Polish traditions. She shares a close bond with her younger brother Kacper, a mechanical engineer living outside of Boston. Growing up, the siblings were inseparable, and their connection remains just as strong today.

Maja attended Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford, CT, and went on to earn both her Bachelor's and Master's in Accounting and Business Administration from Quinnipiac University. While pursuing her education, Maja remained active in the Polish-American community, participating in cultural events and strengthening the very ties that gave her a sense of home.

Professionally, Maja began her career in public accounting, working as a CFO Consultant and outsourced Controller. Today, she serves as an Accountant at Quinnipiac University, where she combines her love of finance and service. She is also the Treasurer of the Polish National Alliance Lodge 513 and runs a side business in outsourced controllership and finance, offering expertise to a variety of clients.

Maja is deeply engaged in civic and cultural life, serving on the board of the Polish National Alliance and participating in the Polish American Congress of Connecticut. She volunteers with numerous local organizations and has proudly held the title at Miss Polonia, later continuing her involvement as an advocate for the pageant. She was also a debutant at the Polish Debutant Ball, a milestone that deepened her connection to her heritage. Over the years, Maja has remained committed to both traditions, often serving as Master of Ceremony for these prestigious events—a role she has held multiple times with pride.

A proud resident of Connecticut, Maja has been with her husband for 13 years, and they have been married for two. Together, they enjoy exploring the outdoors, and she especially cherishes time spent hiking with her dog. Maja is an avid reader, volunteer, and event coordinator, and she finds joy in running state wide 5K races.

Above all, Maja hopes her legacy will reflect her commitment to uplifting Polish heritage, giving back to the community, and using her skills to create meaningful impact.

Judges

Peter Delfino

Mr. Peter Delfino, Owner and Stylist at Mr. Joseph's Hair Salon and Spa in New Britain, has been a longtime friend and supporter of the Polish-American community. He proudly serves as the official hair and makeup glam squad for the Miss Polish America Pageant system.

Peter began competing as a hairstylist at just 16 years old and has since won multiple national competitions across the United States for both men's and women's styling. In 1984, he won the overall championship for both men and women and was named USA Champion. He was later nominated as a national guest artist, worked as a demonstrator, and contributed to the industry by creating new styles and teaching cutting-edge techniques.

As a judge, Peter has evaluated numerous national and state-level competitions. His expertise extends beyond hairstyling to assessing the complete overall look—considering hair, wardrobe, presentation, and the final impression on stage.



Debbie Mallick Manente



Please welcome our next judge, Debbie Mallick Manente.

Debbie began her pageant journey in 1988 and has earned numerous awards and titles throughout her career. She placed in the Top Ten in both the Miss Connecticut America and Miss Connecticut USA systems and proudly represented Connecticut at the International Oktoberfest Pageant in 1996, where she brought home the Interview Award. In addition, she is a two-time state titleholder—Mrs. Connecticut United States 2016 and Mrs. Connecticut International 2019—and is a current board member for Miss Volunteer Connecticut.

A passionate mentor in the industry, she has worn many hats and offered her expertise as a coach, business manager, and mentor in the Miss Connecticut America system. She also served as a certified judge for several years. From there, she went on to produce the Mrs. Connecticut America Pageant for nine years, guiding contestants with a blend of grace, insight, and professionalism.

A lifelong performer, Debbie was an "A Sharp" singer and entertainer at Walt Disney World, performed with the Connecticut U.S.O., modeled with the Maria Greco Agency in New York City, and danced as a New England Patriots Cheerleader—"The Patriettes." She has also taken the stage as a stand-up comedian in New York City, performing at the iconic Gotham Comedy Club and West Side Café.

Outside of pageantry, Debbie is the Director of Career Services and Workforce Development at Western Connecticut State University, where she has helped thousands of students and alumni connect with meaningful careers since 2007. She collaborates with employers nationwide and is a certified résumé writer, interview coach, college professor, image and etiquette consultant, and professional speaker. She has written over 4,000 résumés and cover letters and delivers workshops on career readiness and personal branding. Debbie also serves as a valued member of the Governor's Workforce Council, where she contributes to statewide workforce initiatives and policy development.

Her earlier career includes 12 years in broadcasting, working as a reporter, anchor, editor, voiceover artist, and freelance producer. She continues to give back as a volunteer reader for CHRIS Radio, serving the blind community.

Debbie is a graduate of Central Connecticut State University and Cambridge College, and she is currently pursuing her M.B.A. in Leadership at Western Connecticut State University.

She has volunteered for over 100 causes and has single-handedly raised more than \$55,000 for nonprofits such as New Englanders Helping Our Veterans, The Duncan Tree Foundation, and cancer research initiatives. She is a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and a direct French descendant of many Daughters of the King.

Please welcome Debbie Mallick Manente.

Judges

Kevin Scarpatti



Kevin Scarpatti has served as the 50th Mayor of Meriden, CT since December 2015, becoming the city's youngest mayor at age 26. Now in his fifth term, he remains unaffiliated with any political party. Kevin began his public service on the Meriden Board of Education in 2009 at age 20, helping launch a \$220 million renovation of the city's high schools—a project completed during his mayoral tenure in 2017. He later served on the City Council, where he chaired the Public Safety Committee and championed initiatives like police body-worn cameras and community trust in law enforcement.

A lifelong Meriden resident, Kevin is active in numerous civic organizations including MidState Medical Center, Knights of Columbus, Meriden Elks Lodge 35, and the Wallingford Polish National Alliance Lodge 513, which honored him with the "Friend of the Polish Community Award" in 2019. He and his wife Shelby continue to support the PNA through committee work and volunteering.

In addition to his role as mayor, Kevin is the Director of Sales at Thompson Brands, a Meriden-based chocolate manufacturer. He previously worked as Athletic Director at the Meriden YMCA and taught physical education at local Catholic schools from 2012 to 2017.

Jessica Rafalowski Viggiano

Jessica Rafalowski Viggiano is an international model, second-generation businesswoman, wife, and mother of two girls. She gained recognition in the international modeling scene with features in magazines like Maxim, FHM, and GQ, and she walked the runway for numerous high-fashion brands.

In addition to her modeling career, she works in the aerospace manufacturing industry alongside her brother Jack, as they represent the new generation of leaders in the business their parents founded nearly 40 years ago.

In 2008, she won the title of Miss Florida USA on her first attempt and placed in the Top 10 in the nationally televised Miss USA competition.

Jessica is also a fitness professional and co-founded a wellness business, Trilogy Health, with her husband Greg in 2019. Her passions are faith, family, and fitness, and she considers her greatest gifts in life to be her husband and two daughters.



Judges

Kevin Brignole



Kevin Brignole is an attorney at Brignole, Bush & Lewis in Hartford CT. Attorney Brignole graduated from Central Connecticut State University in New Britain CT. Kevin went on to earn his law degree at Roger Williams School of Law in Bristol, RI in 2013.

For the past 12 years, Kevin has been representing individuals who have been injured by motor vehicle accidents, dog attacks, slip and falls, sexual assaults and other complex catastrophic injuries. Kevin has been named a Rising Star by Super Lawyers since 2018. Additionally, Kevin was named to the Top 40 under 40 for Civil Plaintiff Attorneys by the National Trial Lawyers Association since 2019.

Attorney Brignole has tried numerous cases to verdict and obtained millions of dollars on behalf of his clients. Kevin is licensed to practice law in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Cherie Halleran

Cherie Halleran of Farmington is a retired Residential and Commercial Interior Designer and former owner of La Petite Armoire, a ladies' boutique.

Cherie has been involved in pageantry since the age of 16, beginning with the original Miss America Organization as Miss Enfield 1965, where she was honored with the title of Miss Congeniality—a distinction she also received at the Miss Connecticut 1965 pageant.

Over the years, she has remained active in the pageant community, serving as a judge for numerous competitions, including Miss Polonia 2019, held here at the Kensington Palace.

Her most recent adventure was as a contestant in the 2023 Miss Senior Florida pageant. She also had the joy of performing on stage aboard a Celebrity Cruise Line voyage to Europe.

Ms. Halleran believes that the pageant experience instills lifelong confidence in young women. She extends her warmest wishes and best of luck to all contestants!



Paul Yarema

Business Owner and Artist, Paul Yarema holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Western Connecticut State University, with studies in Music Education (K-12), Liberal Arts, and Psychology. He also earned a Master of Arts degree in Voice and Composition from the prestigious Eastman School of Music.

Throughout his career, Paul has performed with many well-known musicians, including Billy Joel, Bruce Springsteen, and others. He has been a judge for the past 15 years at Western Connecticut State University's annual WestConn Idol competition and has performed numerous times at the college.

In recognition of his extensive contributions to both teaching and performing, Paul was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award two years ago. He continues to perform at venues across Connecticut and New York.



MISS POLISH AMERICA® 2025 CT PAGEANT PROGRAM
Pre-Show Opening Act by Miss Polish America® 2025 CT
Contestants presentation in a 1920's Flapper Dress Attire

Opening & Pageant Music

By DJ John & Scott

Welcome & Intro

Maja Laska-Graham & Eddy Zavaski

Special Performance by

Duo Kameleon & Mr. Sax

COCKTAIL DRESS PRESENTATION

Miss Polish America® 2025 CT Contestants

Entertainment

Performance by Kameleon & Mr. Sax

LIFE STYLE & FITNESS IN SWIMSUIT

Miss Polish America® 2025 CT Contestants

Special Guest Performance

Mr. Kevin Scarpati + Duo

PRESENCE & POISE IN EVENING GOWN

Miss Polish America® 2025 CT Contestants

ON STAGE INTERVIEW – FINALIST SELECTION

Intermission

Presentation of Star Sponsors, Best Dressed Winners &

Former Beauty Queens with Sashes

Intro of Miss Polish America® 2022/23 CT Julia Karwacki taking final walk

AWARDS PRESENTATION-CORONATION-PHOTOS



MISS POLISH AMERICA® 2025 CT PAGEANT

Staff Acknowledgements

Executive Directors

John B. Gladysz & Bogumila M. Gladysz

ENTERTAINMENT:	Miss Polish America 2025 Contestants
HOSTS:	Maja Laska-Graham & Eddie Zavaski Jr.
VOCAL & INSTRUMENTALISTS:	Duo Kameleon & Mr. Sax
SOUND & LIGHTING ENGINEERS:	John Gladysz & Scott Greczkowsk
CHOREOGRAPHY:	Izabela Dawidziuk
SPECIAL SOLOIST PERFORMANCE:	CLASSIC CARS: MARC, Berlin Local Artist aka Frank Sinatra

SELECTING COMMITTEE:

1. Peter Delfino – Owner/Stylist at Mr. Joseph’s Hair & Spa
2. Debbie Menente – Director of Career Service at WCSU, Fr. Mrs. CT
3. Kevin Scarpatti – Hon. Mayor of Meriden, Member of the PNA
4. Mrs. Jessica Rafalowski-Viggiano – Model, Owner of Trilogy Fitness
5. Kevin Brignole – Attorney at Law – Brignole, Bush & Lewis
6. Cherie Halleran – Interior Designer, Miss Congeniality at Miss CT USA
7. Mr. Paul Yarema – Artist, Business Owner

TABULATORS: Mr. Adam Baranski & Ms. Elzbieta Lechowicz

JURY ASSISTANT: Marlena Sawicka

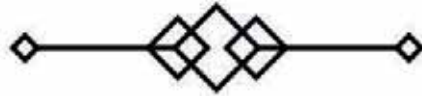
VIDEO PRODUCTION:	Rich Contrastano - NUTMEG TV
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY:	Mike Chaiken - CtFashionMag.com
Sylvia & Wojciech Baldowski, Berlin, CT	Bobby Guliani, NY & NJ
BALLROOM CENTERPIECES:	BASIA'S FLOWER STUDIO - NEWINGTON
STAGE DESIGN & DECORATIONS:	Anna Lobeski - DREAM DECOR
CONTESTANTS FLOWERS:	Anna Zagrobelny - AZ FLORAL
FR. BEAUTY QUEENS FLOWERS:	Nick Erlacher - NB & BERLIN FLOWER SHOP
DESSERTS AFTER DINNER:	Justyna Dick - ZUZA'S MINI CAKES
CONTESTANTS CHAPERONE:	MARLENA, TOSIA & BOGUSIA
HAIR & MAKE UP ARTISTS	Inna Suddenko & MR. JOSEPH'S HAIR & SPA
TICKETS:	NINA P. & FRAN P.
PROGRAM BOOK DESIGN:	MAJA LASKA GRAHAM
SECURITY:	ADAM P. & VINCE P.
PROGRAM BOOK PRINT:	SERVICE PRESS - NEWINGTON

Thank you to all volunteers who contributed to this program and whose names were unavailable at the time of printing. We appreciate your help!

Thank you to BALTIC Banquet & Facility manager Ela & the Karwowski Family for their support of Miss Polish America® CT 2025 Pageant! Thank you for allowing us to conduct many castings, orientation seminars and rehearsals where you always offered great hospitality!

Dziękujemy za gościnność i wspaniałe poczęstunki! Jesteście prawdziwym Polskim Domem!

1920'S FASHION



1. Who helped to popularize the little black dress?
a.) Coco Chanel b.) Jeanne Lanvin c.) Astrid Berges
2. What was the name of the short hairstyle favored by women?
a.) Beehive b.) The Victory Roll **c.) Bob**
3. What nickname was given to stylish, modern young women in the 1920s?
a.) Flappers b.) Jazz Girls c.) Swingers
4. Why did the sale of stockings boom in 1920s?
a.) Rising hemlines b.) Freedom of movement c.) Easier to dance in
5. What are "Oxford bags" – a popular men's fashion in the 1920s?
a.) Two-tone Shoes **b.) Baggy Trousers** c.) Flat Caps
6. Associated with gangsters, what style of hat was popular in the 1920s?
a.) Fedoras b.) Top Hat c.) Bowler
7. A close-fitting, bell-shaped women's hats were known as what?
a.) Cloche Hat b.) Bowler Hat c.) Beret
8. Which synthetic fabric replaced silk in the 1920s?
a.) Nylon b.) Polyester **c.) Rayon**
9. Men's "plus-four" pants were popular with which sport?
a.) Tennis b.) Soccer **c.) Golf**
10. What 1920s men's fashion trend included super-sized shoulder pads, sprawling lapels and peg leg pants?
a.) Dandy Style **b.) Zoot Suits** c.) Edwardian Fashion



Total Correct: _____



CONTESTANT
#1



Nathalie Rzeczycka

Nathalie is a 17-year-old high school junior with a love for creativity and exploration. She enjoys painting, journaling, baking, and staying active. After high school, she plans to study a creative field in college. With dual citizenship, she hopes to stay involved in Polish-American organizations. She attended Polish school for 11 years and completed the matura, staying connected to her heritage.

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CONTESTANT
#2



Otylia Olechno

Olivia is a 17-year-old high school student. After graduating, she plans to attend university to study nursing. She is part of a Polish folk dance group and attends Polish High School in Derby. Olivia works with children as a teacher at Religion School. She also plays volleyball and is active in school clubs, serving as president of a community-focused club that supports new students. Staying connected to her Polish roots, she completed the matura and participated in studniówka.

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CONTESTANT
#3



Chanel Gawronski

Chanel is a 18-year-old high school student who plans to study business management in college. Creative and fashion-forward, she enjoys expressing herself through style and dance. Chanel is a dancer and a national-level hip-hop coach. She graduated from Polish school, where she loved learning the language and Polish history, and hopes to travel more in the future to explore new cultures.

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CONTESTANT
#4



Olivia Perkowski

Olivia is a 17-year-old high school student planning to attend Roger Williams University to study Pre-Med Biology and work toward a master's and Ph.D. to become a pathologist or histologist. She is part of a Polish folk dance group, Harcerstwo ZHP, and works as a swim and ski instructor. Polish was her first language, and she visits Poland annually while staying active in the Polish-American community through church and Polish school.

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CONTESTANT
#5



Victoria Barnat

Victoria is a 20-year-old Pre-Med student at Fordham University with dreams of becoming a doctor. Passionate about health, fitness, and nutrition, she enjoys hiking, yoga, and cooking nourishing meals. She's involved in her university's Science Club and finds balance through journaling and creative writing. Victoria also dreams of becoming a model to express her style and inspire others by sharing her wellness journey and passions.

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CONTESTANT
#6



Anna Babinska

Anna Babinska-Suchowolec is an 18-year-old student currently pursuing a degree in Psychological Science at Central Connecticut State University. After graduation, she hopes to become a school psychologist. Anna's parents are originally from Białystok and have ensured she speaks Polish fluently. In her free time, Anna enjoys reading and writing.

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CONTESTANT
#7



Milena Budny

Milena Budny is a 19-year-old Criminal Justice student at the University of Hartford. She's an outgoing and hardworking individual who loves meeting new people and is known for her great sense of humor. Milena enjoys spending quality time with her family and friends, who admire her vibrant personality. Her parents immigrated from Poland and settled in Connecticut after living in Rhode Island, where she now lives with her younger sister, Monika.

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CONTESTANT
#8



Lilly Laporte

Lilly is an 18-year-old freshman at Suffolk University studying Marketing, with plans to attend law school. A passionate runner, she spent four years on her high school track team. In her free time, she enjoys snowboarding, sailing, and going to the beach. Lilly stays connected to her Polish roots through church, family traditions, and community events.

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CONTESTANT
#9



Victoria Przestrzelski

Victoria is a 19-year-old college student currently in her second year, with plans to pursue a career in communications after graduation. Her main interests are fashion and fitness, and she hopes to blend both passions into her future career. Raised by her parents to embrace her Polish heritage, Victoria remains proud of her roots and continues to stay connected to Polish culture through family traditions and community involvement.

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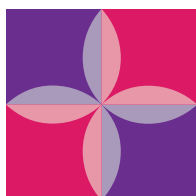
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