

**20th Annual CHS Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Pageant 2022,
April 23 in West, TX**

Congratulations Destiny Hollingsworth, crowned the 2022 Czech Heritage Society Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen, and her Little Czech-Slovak Sister Glorianna (Natalie) Hollingsworth.

Destiny won the Private Interview and Talent Awards. Destiny will compete in the Miss Czech-Slovak US Pageant in Wilber, NE in August 2023. Winnings included crowns, sashes, cash scholarships, numerous gifts, gift cards, various CHS Chapter gifts, Pivovar Waco Czech Crystal and Slovacek's of West gifts.

Congratulations Jillian Sexton, 1st Runner-Up CHS Queen and Little Czech-Slovak Sister Cora Mechell. Jillian won the On-Stage Interview and Kroj Awards.

McLennan-Hill CHS hosted the pageant at the Knights of Columbus Hall in West, TX.

These young ladies competed in Private Interviews, On-Stage Interviews, Talent, and Kroj modeling. Madison Murphy, CHS Miss Texas Czech-Slovak 2021-2022 and Rachel Alexander, Texas Little Czech-Slovak Sister assisted with all events and presented their farewell speeches. Miss Madison will compete in the National pageant this fall in Wilber, NE. Lauren Gerik, Miss Czech-Slovak US 2021-2022 and Sarah Alexander, Texas Little Czech-Slovak Sister 2020 also assisted with the pageant. Visiting queens included: Cecilia Minchow, Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen 2021-2022 singing; and Addie Hejl, Miss Czech-Slovak US 2nd Runner-up 2021-2022 with her accordion music.

Thank you to our judges: Ashley Sulak Hermes, Lavaca County CHS; Kyle Stuckly, Ellis County CHS; Zuzana Garcia, TCU Professor, Slovakian Born/Czech (non CHS member).

Thank you's include: emcees Tom and Phyllis (Stryk) Teykl, Fayette CHS; auditor/tally judges Marie (Klmitchek) Dulak, Brazos Valley CHS, and Cindy Gentry, Harris County CHS; stage backdrop Danny Hughes and Pam Kreneks, Wharton CHS; McLennan-Hill CHS members assisting/donations of florals, plants, and decor. Also featured were accordion music by Addie Hejl, Miss Czech-Slovak US 2nd Runner-up 2021-2022 and singing by Cecilia Minchow, Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen 2021-2022.

Greetings, Welcomes, Invocation and Presentations included: Opening/Pledge of Allegiance by John Blaha, President McLennan-Hill CHS; US National Anthem, Cecilia Minchow, Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen; Czech & Slovak National Anthems by Destiny & Glorianna (Natalie) Hollingsworth; Invocation by Deacon Terry Timmons, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Abbott; Tommy Muska, Mayor of West with Kylee Schroeder Howard, Miss West 2021-2022; David Kolar, Westfest President with John Hurtick; Wilburn Willis, SPJST Vice President Lodge 54; Steven Beseda, CEO Pivovar Waco Restaurant, Brewery, Hotel; and Texas Gavel/Certificate 'Doc' Charles Anderson, Republican Texas House of Representatives.

Events included: Junior Historian Dancers; Parade of Kroje; Queen Display Boards; slideshow of past queen pageants, CHS Youth & Family Days, and Westfest; Kathy Podsednik's display of CHS Lifetime Achievement Award with 20 years of memorabilia; accordion music by Alvin Moravec and John Sulak; Silent Auction; TCHCC, chapter booths;

History of West Museum displays and other events were enjoyed by all. A delicious meal was served along with many Czech pastries and desserts.

CHS of Texas State meeting followed the pageant which included Wilburn Willis' SPJST check presentation for the Cesky Hlas publication and Lifetime Achievement engraved glass award presentation to Kathy Podsednik.

I am so very proud of these young ladies continuing to honor their Czech and Slovak heritage. So very excited to be the CHS Texas Pageant Director and serve on the Miss Czech-Slovak National Board.

Thank you,

Kathy Podsednik