

Auditors

Dominique Charles
Justin H. Thomas

Photographers

Joe's Photography, Joseph Stevenson
Shutter Fever Photography, Malcolm D. Jordan
R. Dione Foto, Rhonisha D. Franklin

Special Thanks

Isaac W. K. Thweatt
Patricia C. Rabb, American University
Lindsay Struder, American University

Videographer

J & R Productions, Joel E. Harris

Volunteers

Cecilia Daizovi, Contestant Coordinator & Mock Interview
James Lindsay, Judges Chair
Orlando Xavier Hixon
Tonya Thomas, Social Media, PR, Graphic Design, Mentoring
Miss District of Columbia Board
Miss District of Columbia Executive Board
Monique Marwani, Contestant Coordinator
William Bryant Miles, Program Director

Credits

Art Direction/Layout/Photo Editing: Visual Solutions Unlimited
Nilah's Photos in Program: Randoff Images LLC, Rodney Rice Jr.
Nilah's Headshot: Imagine Photography, Kea Taylor
Printing: Tristar Litho
Farewell Video Production: Visual Solutions Unlimited



2901 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20008
804.536.2249

www.missdc.org/outstanding-teen

a non-profit charitable 501 (c)(3) organization

Miss America's Outstanding Teen 2018 Competition

July 25-27, 2017

Rosen Centre Hotel

9840 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

For tickets and more information, maoteen.org



Miss District of Columbia's
OUTSTANDING TEEN

Nilah Pettus
DCOT 2016

Katzen Arts Center
at American University
4400 Wisconsin Ave NW
Washington, DC 20016

Saturday, April 15, 2015
4PM | Reception to Follow

The Miss District of Columbia's Outstanding Teen Organization

The mission of the Miss District of Columbia's Outstanding Teen Organization is to cultivate and encourage excellence in today's young women.

Founded in 2005, Miss America's Outstanding Teen, Inc. has become one of the top scholarship providers for teen girls in the United States! All of our participants, on the local, state, and national levels, have been the recipients of valuable scholarship assistance upon graduation from high school. In just a few short years, we have made available almost \$4,000,000 in cash and in-kind scholarships. We believe that education is key to a person's success and we are proud to be able to assist so many outstanding teens with their college expenses.

Miss America's Outstanding Teen, Inc. has been organized to encourage positive achievement by helping to nurture and build the scholastic achievement, creative accomplishment, healthy living, and community involvement of our nation's youth.

The Miss America's Outstanding Teen Organization has also established community-based initiatives and mentoring programs aimed at helping our nation's youth build character and gain the skills necessary for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adult volunteers, community and business leaders, as well as participants from the national competition, the Organization continues to implement programs aimed at helping young people develop strong values, leadership skills, social conscience, self-worth and conviction about their own potential.

The Organization's mentoring and community-base initiatives are available to all young people (male and female) between the ages of 13 and 17. The Miss America's Outstanding Teen Organization has been awarding scholarships to individuals on the basis of academic merit and civic and social achievement.



Brandon has been named one of the Envest Foundation's "Top 40 Under 40" and is also the recipient of the Citizen's Bank Good Citizen's Award. Brandon received his undergraduate degree from Howard University and his law degree from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Brandon resides in Maryland with his wife and daughter.



Walter Montaño

Walter Montano has worked with the Boston University in Washington Program for 15, serving both as an administrator and faculty member. He currently teaches the program's Presidency & Foreign Policy course as well as its Washington Experience internship course. A historian, writer and long-time resident of the D.C. area, Walter has also worked as a writer/editor and/or consultant for nonprofit think tanks, the federal government and defense-related firms. He served six years in the U.S. Marine Corps, earned his undergraduate degree in History at UCLA and completed his graduate work at American University in Washington, D.C. This southern California native devotes his time to his BU career, his writing/research on the Richard Nixon-Gerald Ford administrations, his son Alessandro (12) and running/biking on the many trails around the D.C. area.



Diana Kyu Yacob

Diana Kyu Yacob is a researcher, financial behaviorist, and motivational speaker. She is a D.C. Metropolitan native who completed her B.S in Family Studies from the University of Maryland and later her M.S in family financial planning from Kansas State University. With her passion to serve, Diana moved to Guatemala to learn Spanish and came back with a new skill to help more people.

Part of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's financial coaching program, Diana was the first financial coach for the DMV area. She's presented on numerous platforms including CBS radio, FDIC's Financial Education summit, Society for Financial Education and Professional Development's Financial Literacy Leadership Conference, and presented research findings at the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning and Education Symposium (AFCPE).

Diana is an accredited financial counselor and financial fitness coach through AFCPE serving both English and Spanish speakers. She teaches personal finance at George Mason University and has contracts with other higher educational institutions through her business DianaKyu, which offers personal financial consulting services to individuals and groups. She is currently a 3rd year doctoral student researching behavioral finances and plans to continue her work in the field of personal finance.

Scholastic Achievement Judges

Nicoisa Jones

Director of College Success,
Cesar Chavez Public Charter Schools for Public Policy

Alexis C. Logan, Esq.,

Texhoma Land Consultants

Judges



Stacy E. Lee (Head Judge)

"Stacy E. Lee, a native of Richmond, Virginia, is an associate attorney with Harrell & Chambliss LLP. Stacy focuses her practice in the areas of civil and criminal litigation. Prior to joining Harrell & Chambliss, Ms. Lee practiced criminal law both in private practice and as a Public Defender for the City of Richmond, Virginia.

Stacy serves as President-Elect of the Old Dominion Bar Association, and participates in many civic and community organizations, including the College of William & Mary Richmond Alumni Chapter and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Stacy serves as the Teen Director for the Miss Chesterfield Pageant in Virginia. Since Stacy began her involvement with Miss Chesterfield, she enjoys watching the young girls find and embrace their inner and outer beauty. As a mentor to the young ladies, Stacy's motto in life is Knock, Knock Again, Knock Harder, Knock Until A Door Opens."



Elizabeth Kane

Elizabeth is a Senior Interior Designer for Kelley Proxmire. Her designs are inspired by simple and sophisticated elegance, and she has a true appreciation of antique rugs and art. She previously worked for Debbie Blair at The Kellogg Collection, Gil Walsh in West Palm Beach, and America's Top Lifestyle Expert, Mar Jennings. She earned her BBA in International Business from The George Washington University, received her graduate education in Interior Architecture and Design in the MFA program at The George Washington University, and is an extension student in the Visual Arts Graduate Certificate program at Harvard University.



Brandon Slade

As Vice President of Business and Legal Affairs at National Geographic, Brandon Slade is responsible for the negotiation of Nat Geo's flagship television programs. Prior to joining the National Geographic team, Brandon has represented major media companies and independent producers, with aggregate transactions exceeding \$500 million.

Brandon has been a longtime advocate for disadvantaged groups. He currently serves on the board of directors of Whine and Cheese, a non-profit organization focused on supporting the personal and professional lives of women, as well as M.A.N.U.P., a Washington, DC-based charity that supports socially and economically-underprivileged teens. Brandon regularly mentors law students in the areas of entertainment law and as part of Brandon's commitment to the success of small business owners, he conducts workshops on topics pertinent to launching and growing a business on behalf of Montgomery County Maryland's Economic Development Division of Small and Minority Business Empowerment.

Program Order

National Anthem Julia Braxton, MDCOTeen 2010
Opening Number Miss DCOTeen 2016 & Contestants
Introduction of Mistress of Ceremonies
Vocal Performance Cierra Jackson, Miss DC 2016
Princess Crowning 2017 MDCOTeen Princesses

Introduction of Judges
Introduction of Auditors
Lifestyle & Fitness Competition

Performance Princess Mhoon Dance Institute
Performance Nilah Pettus, MDCOTeen 2016
Talent Competition

INTERMISSION

Performance Princess Mhoon Dance Institute
Evening Wear & Onstage Question
Remarks, Executive Director ... Crystal L. Bailey
Final Walk Nilah Pettus, MDCOTeen 2016
Awards and Crowning





MISS DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S
TEEN 2016
 OUTSTANDING
A Year in Pictures
 SCHOLARSHIP. SUCCESS. STYLE. SERVICE.

Mistress of Cermonies *Julia Braxton*



Miss District of Columbia's Outstanding Teen 2010
Miss Greater Prince William County 2017

Julia Braxton is currently Miss Greater Prince William County 2017 and previously held the title of Miss District of Columbia's Outstanding Teen 2010. She is a vocalist who graduated from the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in the class of 2012 and will be graduating from the University of Virginia this Spring with a Bachelor's degree in History and a Master's degree in Teaching. While a student at UVA, she Julia founded her own a cappella group with a mission to raise money for the UVA Children's Hospital, a Children's Miracle Network Hospitals affiliate. She is a member of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority where she worked to support "Girls on the Run", a nonprofit organization focused on building strong and healthy girls. Julia recently accepted a position to teach for Fairfax County Public Schools this fall and she looks forward to teaching high school students how to understand and participate in History and Government. This June, Julia will be competing for the title of Miss Virginia. She is excited and honored to join the pool of talented and lovely ladies, and invites all to cheer her on in Roanoke.



Performance Princess Mhoon Dance Institute

The Princess Mhoon Dance Institute is an acclaimed dance studio located in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area. Having served thousands of families through our in-studio and off-site programs, we believe that dance is a catalyst for personal, professional, and artistic development. Through the leadership and training of Director & Choreographer Princess Mhoon, many students have realized professional careers on Broadway, the Concert Stage, and in Hollywood while others have developed self esteem and skills that translate their training from the studio, to the stage, to the real world. PMDI's impact has expanded to reach the White House. In February 2016 the Institute was invited to perform as part of a Celebration of African American Women in Dance by hosted by Michelle Obama.

Miss District of Columbia's OUTSTANDING TEEN 2017 Princesses

Princess Camp is the fastest growing mentoring program in the nation!

This program is designed for girls, ages 5 to 12, who are looking to improve upon skills that promote self-confidence and poise and find mentoring from today's young teen leaders.

- Team up with a Miss America's Outstanding Teen contestant and learn her secrets to success!
- Enjoy the spotlight as you take the stage in a high energy production number during the national pageant! The Princesses will have their own production number during the national Preliminary Show.
- Learn from a variety of experts and authors as we take you through courses designed just for you!
- Spend time with Miss America and Miss America's Outstanding Teen!
- Walk the Pink Carpet as MAOTeen Celebrities!
- A badge and season ticket to the show is included for the princess.
- Princess Crown and Sash Included. Ticket to Medieval Times for the Princess. **event is optional**
- Program Book.

Details

Dates: July 24-29, 2017
Location: Rosen Centre Hotel
Age: 5-12

Don't miss out! We're limiting the number of Princesses we can accept!

For more information
maoteen.org/princess-camp/



Ava Francis
Perrywood Elementary
School, 1st Grade



Lila Shruefer
Primary Day School
Pre-Kindergarten

A Farewell from *Nilah Pettus*



It has been an honor to serve as Miss District of Columbia's Outstanding Teen 2016. Recognizing God and my parents for supporting me throughout this year of service. Dad and Mom, I LOVE YOU! To my brothers, Khalil and Jamaal and my BFF (BEST LITTLE SISTER EVER), Laila, I am so blessed to have you. Being Miss District of Columbia's Outstanding Teen has been a life changing experience. I entered the pageant at the age of 15 and had no idea the transformation I would undergo. I learned that being a role model for today's youth in the District of Columbia required a higher level of maturity, focus and dedication. I learned that communication, especially through social media, has lasting impacts. My public speaking, interview and stage presence skills were greatly enhanced.

Miss District of Columbia's Outstanding Teen made me accountable for a platform to raise awareness and share the importance of Keeping it Moving: Fitness through Dance and Making Healthy Life Choices. I had the experience of a LIFETIME, meeting 50 other teens from across America that were smart and changing their communities. I will cherish the friendships I made and look forward to seeing my MAOT sisters in the future as we go onto college and becoming woman that will help change the world!

My perspective on the world of pageantry has broadened thanks to the Miss America Organization. I am so thankful for the scholarships that DCOT and MAOT have afforded me. There are so many people to thank for helping me on this journey. The many coaches: Ms. Julie, Ms. Chelsea, Ms. Jennifer, Ms. Robin, Mr. John, Mr. David, Ms. Sonya, Ms. Tricia, Ms. Crystal and a host of others. I truly appreciate all of the time spent with me via phone, Facetime, email and in-person to coach and mentor me. From my heart, I am so grateful and thankful for your sacrifice and time. To Miss District of Columbia 2016, Cierra Jackson, thank you for being there for me. I am grateful to have you and your family in my circle. Here's a big hug from DC to Georgia! To Ms. Sandra Fortune-Green and my Jones Haywood (JH) Dance School family, thank you for all the support, encouragement and donations. I plan to live up to the esteem alumni and JH legacy. I offer a big hug to Ms. Paula Brown for helping me with my talent choreography for MAOT.

To my Directors, Ms. Julie and Ms. Crystal thank you for your endless time and support. Ms. Julie, know that I truly appreciate all of your sacrifices and you giving me this amazing opportunity. You rock! Thank you to all of my sponsors, you played a significant part in my journey and year of service. I am beyond grateful. To my big sister, Cydney Hill (Miss DCOT 2014), you have been my role model since the age of 4. You encouraged me to pursue Miss DCOT. You believed in me and mentored me, even when I didn't always follow-thru. You are smart, beautiful, talented and the best big sister ever! To Ms. Tonya Thomas (aka Aunt Tonya), you sacrificed so much to support me. Without you, DCOT would not have been possible. You took care of me and LOVED me unconditionally. Despite my teenager moments, you didn't give up. I thank you for the early mornings and late nights. You are an angel from heaven Aunt Tonya.

To Miss DCOT 2017, may this experience change your life and help you grow in more ways than you can imagine. Enjoy the many appearances, friendships, mentors and travels that you will embark on representing the Nation's Capital! May God Bless You on your journey. Welcome to the MAOT sisterhood!



Miss District of Columbia's
OUTSTANDING TEEN 2017 *Contestants*
 Who will be next?



Micaela Leroux Burch
 Junior
 National Cathedral School

Brooke Miller
 Sophomore
 Georgetown Visitation
 Preparatory School

Allie Wolfe
 Junior
 St. John's College
 High School

Winners Package

- \$1000 Scholarship
- Gown from Regalia
- Hairstyling sessions Corps D'Elite
- Fitness Training by John A. Morris
- Roundtrip Package to MAOTeen Orlando, FL

2017-2018 Sponsors

American University
 Corps d'Elite
 RDione Photography
 Signature Gowns
 Regalia Gowns
 The Etiquette Institute of Washington
 Printer & Other Sponsors
 Flowers on 14th
 Visual Solutions Unlimited, Graphics

2016-2017 Sponsors

Hair Styling by Toni Lucas Stallings
 Imagine Photography, Kea Taylor
 Johannis Virgin Hair
 Make-up by Demetress Valentine
 Make-up by Kiko milano
 Make-up by Stephanie Fantroy
 Paula Brown Performing Arts Center
 Randoff Images LLC, Rodney Rice Jr.
 TriStar Litho Printing, Tim Ball
 Visual Solutions Unlimited, Graphics

