

The Mid-Atlantic Charity Foundation Presents

Mrs. Maryland America Pageant 2017

Mrs. Maryland

America

2016

Chelsea Mitchell



Mrs. America features the most accomplished married women of America. Mrs. America remains the foremost competition for married women. The renowned competition is devoted to emphasizing that America's 65 million married women are extraordinarily beautiful, poised, articulate and versatile. Each year, Mrs. America and the state titleholders make personal appearances during their reign, speaking to and for our country's greatest natural resource, and most important constituency—it's married women.



Pageant Program

Saturday May 20, 2017

1:30 p.m.

National Anthem

Opening Number

Introductions of the Evening—Emcee

Chit Chat Session —Emcee and Contestants

My Year Looking Back—Mrs. Maryland 2016—Chelsea Mitchell

Meet our Judges

Entertainment

Swimsuit Competition—Starring our Ravishing Contestants

Bay Watch Beach Beauties - Sponsored by Venus Swimwear

INTERMISSION

Fashion Number— Delegates

Entertainment

Evening Gown Competition—Contestants

Entertainment

Final Interview- Contestants- Emcee

Final Walk - Mrs. Maryland 2016—Chelsea Mitchell

Director's Thank You's to our Sponsors

Final Number- All Cast

Special Awards

Crowning of Mrs. Maryland America 2017

Photos of Winners and Judges

After party at Champions Billiards and Sports cafe, 5205 Buckystown Pike



Director's Letter

As Executive Producer and Directors for the Mrs. Maryland America Pageant, we wish to thank so many key individuals and former Mrs. Maryland Titleholders, who have tirelessly served to ensure the success of our Pageant.

To our beautiful and gracious 2016 Titleholder: Chelsea Mitchell – What an amazing job you have done as Mrs. Maryland. You continually went the extra mile. Sharing your intelligence, humor, integrity and pure heart was a gift to all of us. You were always ready to step up and make appearances, representing the best of the Married American Woman. Thank you for having a fabulous attitude while following through with all your duties. Your commitment to the Mrs. Maryland America family was evident as you gathered



sponsors and mentored this year's contestants through to the end. You continually gave us your elegance, time, resources and heart while promoting the Pageant and many other worthy causes. Congratulations for becoming our national Mrs. America 1st Runner up. You deserve every bit of recognition and acclaim you receive. Thank you for being authentically you at all times. May all your dreams and wishes come true as you raise your lovely family and make an impact on the World. We all love you, Chelsea.

Thank you to all of our esteemed Judges, Auditors, Pageant Staff and Coordinators for giving your time selflessly.

To the Families of our Delegates: We all appreciate your support and love. Letting your wife shine for all to see can be intimidating and it takes a confident man to enable the process. Children, we hope that you have had fun reflecting on how important your Mom is to you and those around her...And how much she loves you. We know we are not perfect and we thank you for loving us anyway.

And finally, to our lovely contestants: You are all more than qualified to take home the crown tonight. The choice is going to be very difficult for the judges. You have reached out to so many and created a ripple effect of good works that will affect generations. Thank you for your flexibility, your enthusiasm, and being strong role models for our communities.

God Bless you and God Bless America!

With affection to all,
Laurett, Laura, & Drew



Our Mrs. Maryland Family



Chelsea Mitchell



Su Joing Sollers



Zereana Jess Huff



Heather Ziehl



Teresa Scanlon



April Proudfoot



Raquel Thomas



Carrie Yorkis



Siobhan Davenport
2008



Adrienne Carver
2007



Patty Markos
2006



Laura Price
2005



Nikki Karl
2004



Heather Ablondi
2003



Dawn Jones
2002



Jimalatice Thomas
2001



Penny Richardson
2000



Donna Kramer
1998

Executive Producer & Director



LAURETT ELLSWORTH ARENZ has been directing and producing the Mrs. Maryland America Pageant since 2004. She is tremendously grateful for the enthusiastic support she receives from the former Mrs. Maryland Titleholders. Lairett is especially grateful for the hard work of the Pageant team: Laura Price, the Pageant Director, and our Pageant Producer, Drew Vanlandingham.

Lairett's past titles include Mrs. America 2002 and Mrs. Virginia America 2001. She was also crowned Mrs. Virginia and Mrs. United States in 1997.

Lairett is author of the best-selling and award winning book, *The RAFT Strategy: How to Build Your Tax Free Nest Egg Without Risk* which is used in the Retirement Planning company she owns with her husband David. Together they host a weekly Financial Services program: Heroes Talk Radio, Freedom Financial Network, which airs Nationally. The Arenz' also own and operate HERO'S Strategies Inc., a Financial Services and coaching company based in Germantown, Maryland. Lairett and Dave

are the proud parents of 7 and grandparents of 15.

As a Certified Life Coach and former Mrs. America, Lairett loves to help and watch others achieve their goals to realize their potential. "I am always inspired by the Mrs. Maryland contestants and Queens because they live lives of integrity, serve their communities, and stand as stellar role-models." She says, "Thank you for promoting the magic of the Mrs. Maryland America crown and the gift of your friendship. I feel blessed to be a part of your lives."



DREW VANLANDINGHAM is a Native of Arkansas. He is the Owner of The Vanlandingham Design Studio in Baltimore, MD. Being a performer on the Classical Professional stage he holds degrees in Vocal Performance-Opera, Counseling, Floral, and Master's Degrees in Floral and Vocal Performance from The Peabody Conservatory of Music. Mr. Vanlandingham began his Career at the age of 16. Mr. Vanlandingham has performed his two career roles Nationally and Internationally. One Career is that of a Counter Tenor/Baritone and the other being a Celebrity Event Designer. He has performed some of his greatest roles Musically in *Le Nozze Di Figaro*, *Tales of Hoffman*, *Big River*, and *The Music Man* just to name a few. His Role as an Event Designer has been published in All Local Publications as well as featured on all Maryland/DC Television, TLCs "Say Yes to the Dress", and "Curvy Brides". His Client List go all the way from The Baltimore Ravens, Fashion Designer Steve Madden, Under Amours own Kevin Plank to many more. Mr. Vanlandingham's work has been published in several Local Publications and in 2009 being named Event Planner of the Year by Unforgettable Weddings.

Mr. Vanlandingham has had the honor of speaking for the Association of Bridal Consultants in 2011, Virginia Bridal Consultants in 2012, NACE National Design Experience in 2014, Speaking Privately all over the US for "Devils and the Details" in 2015 to present and many more. He is in the process of growing his career national with TV, Books, and producing more and more events all over. You can find him designing away in his Baltimore Studio preparing to do more great things with finding new trends and working with color for a fabulous Soiree.



Mistress & Master of Ceremonies



David J. Arenz is a nationally recognized expert on retirement income planning, and co-host of HERO'S Talk Radio along with his Wife, Laurrett Ellsworth Arenz. Dave is known for his objectivity, transparency, and honesty. He is rigorously independent, representing only the major insurance and financial companies that meet his uncompromisingly high standards. Dave was recently named one of the top financial coaches in the US; judged on production, community involvement, an ability to connect with clients, a passion for working with seniors. Dave has been a part of pageants almost as long as his wife has. By default, he holds the titles of 'Mr. Virginia America 2001' and 'Mr. America 2002'. This is the second time he has hosted the Mrs. Maryland Pageant since Laurrett took over as Executive Director in 2004. He is honored to help showcase the beautiful and accomplished delegates of 2017.



Su Joing Sollers, a bi-racial Korean and African American beauty queen and Mrs. Maryland 2015 was born in El Paso, Texas September 12, 1977. She grew up as an Army brat and graduated as a Junior from Killeen High School in 1995, then enlisted in the US Air Force and served our country as a Services Airman from 1995 to 1999, during that time she won numerous awards; Airman of the Quarter, Airman of the Group, Airman of the Year and most notably the Air Force Achievement Medal. While serving in the Air Force she entered and won her very first beauty pageant and held the title Miss Teen Omaha 1996. She attended Bellevue University in Nebraska and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. She went back to the same university and graduated with a Masters in Business Administration. While studying, she entered and won Miss Nebraska USA 2001 and represented Nebraska at the annually televised Miss USA Pageant in 2001. Sollers has been in the banking industry for fourteen years as a commercial banker and works for BB&T Bank as a Vice President, Small Business Team Leader where she is a player and coach to a team of bankers. Sollers was married on December 31, 2014 to a United States Air Force Veteran Royce Sollers Jr where they have two children India and Ava. In her spare time you can find her teaching financial literacy classes, fine dining, gardening, spending time with her family, researching her latest interest and being an enthusiastic Beachbody Coach to help others achieve their own fitness goals.

Pageant Coordinator



LAURA EVERNGAM PRICE has been married for 24 years to her husband Richard. They are the proud parents of two boys, Nicholas, a senior at William & Mary, and Justin, a sophomore at Elon University. Together they own a family business - Ship and Print Place, which is where she creates the Mrs. Maryland program book, in addition to many other types of print design. Laura entered the political arena in 2010, running for and winning a seat on the Talbot County Council and re-election in 2014. She credits her pageant background and experience in helping achieve this position. Laura's former titles include Mrs. Delaware United States 2007, America's Fit Mrs. 2006 and Mrs. Maryland America 2005. She also was a featured dancer in the movie, "The Wedding Crashers." Laura is also a former national level Figure Skater and soloist with the Ice Capades. She is an avid Ravens fan and also loves to vacation in the Caribbean, dance, and spend time jet-skiing on the Tred Avon river with her family.

Judges



Ann Podaras is Mrs. DC America 2017 First Runner Up, a graduate of Chiang Mai University in Journalism major from Thailand and a graduate of Trinity Washington University in Washington, D.C. with a Master Degree in Business Administration. Currently, Ann is a Management Services Specialist at Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Fort Belvoir, VA. She is also a blogger for Ann's *Theek (Thai+ Greek) Kitchen* where she shares her American-Thai-Greek cooking recipes and her cultural writings through foods she makes. Ann is married to a handsome Greek American husband named Mark. They have two beautiful American *Theek* children and live in Potomac, Maryland.



Dr. Politimi Mantzouranis, DDS is a graduate of the University of Maryland Dental School. While at the University of Maryland, she was a member of Psi Omega Gamma Phi Delta and was 1 of 2 students chosen out of 115 students for the Fixed Restorative Clerkship in her senior year. Upon graduation, Dr. Mantzouranis was chosen for a general practice residence at Providence Hospital Center in Washington, DC. Residents are chosen from the top 10% of all graduating classes. In 1983, she set up practice in Frederick, Maryland. In addition to working in private practice, Dr. Mantzouranis, DDS also taught in the Fixed Restorative Department at the U of MD Dental School. She is also a past member of the ADA, MSDA, and in 1986 served as treasurer of the Frederick County Dental Society. She was also one of the first female members of the Frederick Jaycees and is also a former girl scout co-leader. Currently, Dr. Mantzouranis is an active member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and in 2002, the AACD chose her to serve as a scout for the ADA New York Dental Meeting. As one of 35 scouts out of 2000 members, her role was to evaluate the material, content, and presentations to decide if the speaker would add value to the AACD meeting. Dr. Mantzouranis is very active contributor to Humane Society International, World Wild life Fund, and Mercy for Animals. She regularly volunteers at Poplar Spring animal Sanctuary.



Letricia Loftin Russell is an award-winning gospel radio personality, and can be heard throughout the U.S. on her national syndicated radio show. Loftin is penning a children's book series that inspires girls, and presents seminars teaching modeling, etiquette and personal development. Pageantry is in her DNA as she serves as a pageant mom, coach, judge and director. Loftin is the Co-Director of the Miss Maryland, Virginia and DC American Teenager Pageants; and blessed to launch and direct Cynthia Bailey's Miss Renaissance Pageant; even making a cameo appearance on the television show, "Real Housewives of Atlanta". Loftin deems her greatest gift to be her family - her husband, Arthur Russell, III, and three daughters, Brianna (22), Brooklyne (21), and Braxton (18) -- her greatest achievement. Hands down!

Judges



Jared Green is a graduate of the University of Virginia where he majored in Anthropology and played football. Upon graduating, he entered the NFL as an undrafted free-agent and signed with the Carolina Panthers in 2012. He also played for the Dallas Cowboys and the Oakland Raiders in 2013 and 2014 before retiring to make a greater impact on high profile, high performing, professionals through speaking and character coaching. Jared Green is also the son of NFL Hall of Fame defensive back Darrell Green. Jared is the Founder and CEO of 365 Life where he life coaches, conducts one-on-one life assessments, and speaks across the world.



Victory Ram is a 15-year pageant veteran who has captured numerous awards, including interview, talent, spokesmodel, and acting awards, in addition to state and national titles across various systems. Passionate about pageantry and what it can do for young women, Victory has helped to prepare her clients for over 135 title and award wins through her company, Be Victorious Prep. In addition, her clients have gone on to compete international events, like the World Championships of Performing Arts, bringing home gold medals and honorable mentions in the modeling, acting, and talent competitions. Victory has served as the Director of Education at the Barbizon School of Modeling. Using her experience in the pageant and talent worlds, Victory shares her expertise with her students to help prepare them for success. She also has

experience all across the entertainment industry, having been a promotional model for Almay Cosmetics, featured in the movie "Step Up", within the pages of *I Am Modern* magazine, and on the cover of *Supermodels Unlimited Magazine*. She is also a certified makeup artist with MAC makeup and she owns The Bravado Boutique. You can also catch her on various episodes of local TV, as she was the host for *School Court TV* on Fox Baltimore and has been on HBO's VEEP. Expanding her horizons, in 2015, she launched the International Empowerment Academy and became the proud author of "Why People Fail and How You Can Learn to Succeed." Most recently, she became the Director of the Baltimore Small Business Meetup Group. Victory is currently the Business Director of the Miss Baltimore, Miss Annapolis, and Miss Anne Arundel County Scholarship Pageants. She also serves as an advisor for the Miss Eastern Shore and Miss Ocean City Scholarship Pageants and for the Miss Globe United States Pageant, where she serves as the Assistant National Director. With a Bachelors degree in Political Science and a Masters in Communications and Public Relations, Victory is leading the pageant and personal development industries, by helping others **'be victorious'** in ALL that they do.



Mrs. Maryland 2016 Farewell

Friends, Family, Supporters, and Delegates,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to walk in my purpose, to help others, to educate youth, to program in the community, and to work with such professional, supportive sponsors. This year was made possible entirely by you, and I will be forever grateful for the memories and blessings it has provided my family. The generosity and loyalty that I have come to know through your kindness has made a mark on my heart and changed our lives forever.



When I took the stage last June, I did so as a military wife and mother of three. I leave the stage this year as an author, advocate, youth soccer coach/ coordinator, public speaker, model, photographer, and public relations representative. The confidence and strength that I have come to know through the relationships I have made, have shaped my life and molded my future. The Mrs. Maryland America Pageant showed me the power that each of our lives holds, and how easy it is to make a difference.

Although my journey as Mrs. Maryland America 2016 and Runner Up Mrs. America 2016 ends here, the skills that I have learned and the lives that I will change will continue to multiply. I thank you all for the opportunity to serve you and your families. May God bless your life, as you have blessed mine.

With Deep Admiration & Gratitude,

Chelsea Leann Mitchell

2016 Achievements

Mrs. Maryland America 2016
Mrs. Maryland Fitness 2016
Runner Up Mrs. America 2016
Most Whimsical Costume 2016 (nationals- Sponsored by Katya Avdeev)
Event: Soup Kitchen East Baltimore
Coat Drive- Weinburg Housing and Resource Center
200+ Book Drive- MD Book Bank
Hugs Not Harm Event With Anne Arundel County Police
Tanyard Tots Soccer League
Tot Trot- Fundraiser for Flood Victims
Gluten Free Bake Sale- Fundraiser for Flood Victims
First Support Group Facilitator for Celiac Disease Foundation in MD
Living Legacy 5K to Support Organ/ Tissue Donation
Walk For Alzheimer's Cure
Model in Fashion Show- Beyond The Little Black Dress
Catalog Model- Aid Through Trade
300+ Plush Animals Donation Drive for Baltimore Washington Medical Center, Pediatric Units
Children's Book Author- Silly Sally and the Emergency

Chelsea Mitchell - Year in Review



Mrs. Maryland America 2016

Mrs. Maryland Fitness 2016

Runner Up Mrs. America 2016

Most Whimsical Costume 2016

Chelsea Mitchell

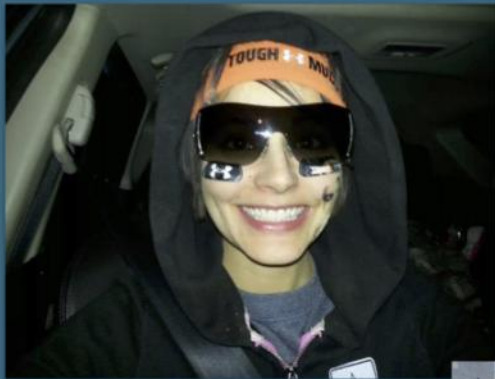
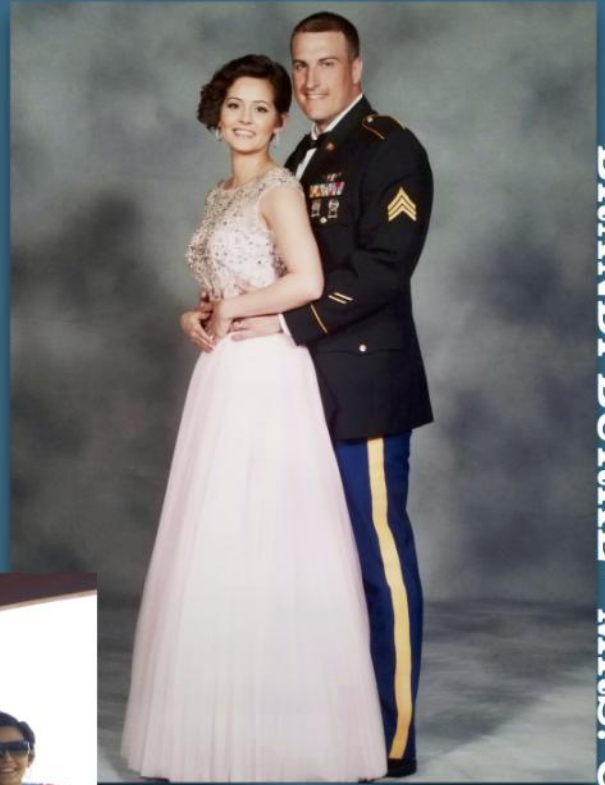


Brandi Burke — Mrs. Chesapeake Bay



"THIS IS A WONDERFUL TIME TO BE ALIVE ... WE'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO STAND FOR SOMETHING ... AND WE HAVE GOOD REASON TO BE HOPEFUL AND OPTIMISTIC." - RONALD REAGAN

BRANDI BURKE - MRS. CHESAPEAKE BAY



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Cassidy Papadopoulos — Mrs. MD State Capital

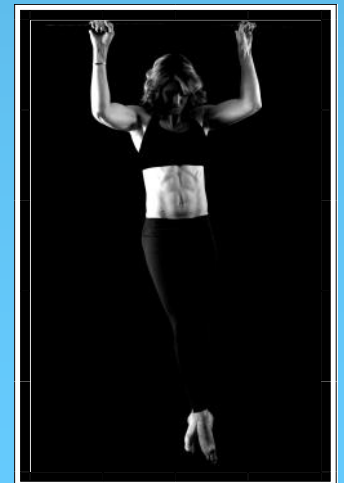


Cassidy Patton Papadopoulos

Mrs. Maryland State Capital



Family isn't defined by whose blood you carry. It is defined by whom you love and who loves you in return. I am grateful each and every day for the unwavering support and love from my family and friends.



*"A strong woman looks a challenge in the eye and gives it a wink."
- Gina Carey*

ChiQuita Battle—Mrs. Bethesda



Mrs. Bethesda ChiQuita Battle



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Danielle Balkin—Mrs. Frederick



DANIELLE

M A R I E *Balkin*

*Thank you
to my family
and friends for their
unconditional love
and support on this
amazing journey.*

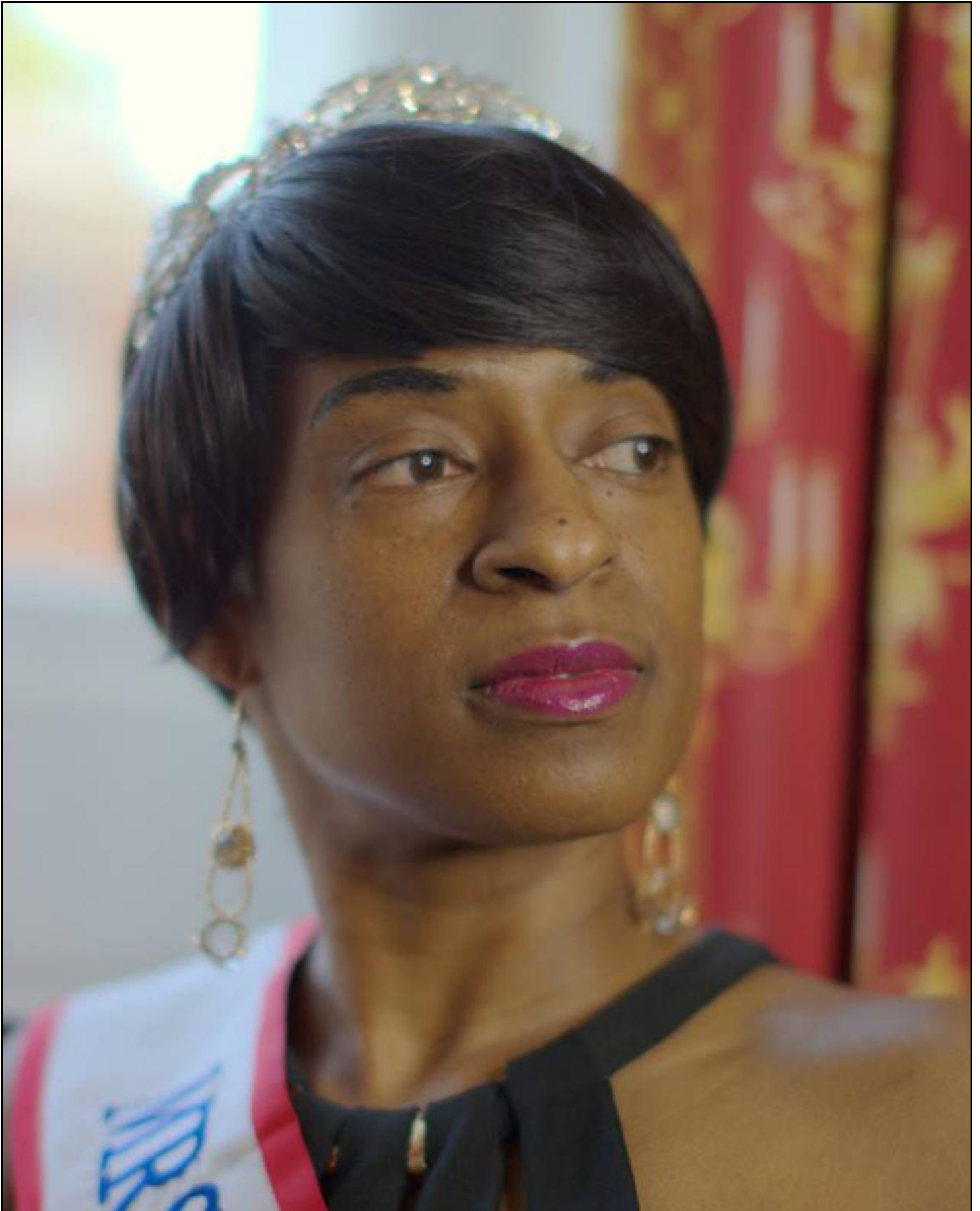


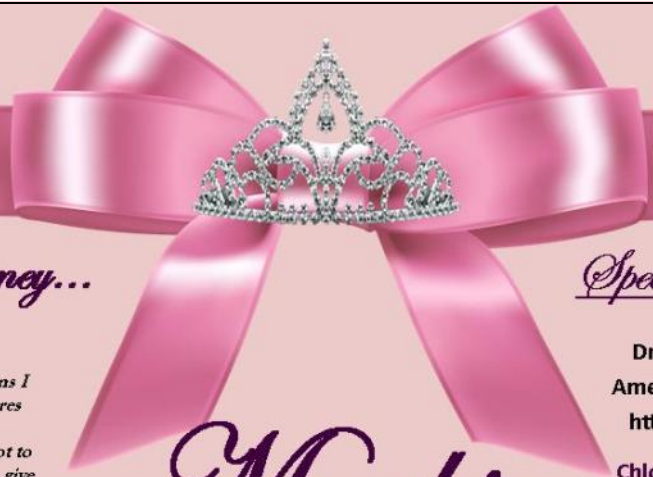
MRS. FREDERICK

A M E R I C A

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Demetria Jefferys—Mrs. Upper Marlboro





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For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11



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Loving Mother



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Pup Mum



Mrs. Upper Marlboro
2017



Demetria "Meechie" Jefferis, MBA

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Mrs. Upper Marlboro
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<https://m.facebook.com/mejeffer/meechiejefferis@gmail.com>



2017 Contestants



Brandi Burke
Chesapeake Bay



Cassidy Papadopoulos
Maryland State Capital



ChiQuita Battle
Bethesda



Danielle Balkin
Frederick



Demetika Jeffries
Upper Marlboro

2017 Contestants



Jaime Trevillian
Anne Arundel Co



Keisha Ruiz
Annapolis



Kennisha Firstly John
Howard Co



Lisa Albright
Eastern Shore



Marina Wornah
Frederick Co

Jaime Trevillian—Miss Anne Arundel County



Wife. Mother. Entrepreneur. Advocate.

Jaime Trevillian
Mrs. Anne Arundel County

I cannot express enough gratitude to all my family, friends and sponsors for your ongoing support and encouragement.



Thank you for believing in my dreams!



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Keisha Ruiz—Mrs. Annapolis



KEISHA RUIZ

MRS. ANNAPOLIS AMERICA 2017



My heartfelt thank you to every family member, friend and sponsor that contributed and supported me through this endeavor. I couldn't have done it without you!

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Kennisha Firstley John—Mrs. Howard County



Kennisha Firstley John

1987-2014



*Thank you to my husband, kids, family and friends.
I am grateful for your prayers, support, and love that never ends.*

Lisa Albright—Mrs. Eastern Shore



Dr. Lisa Albright

Mrs. Eastern Shore



National Eating Disorders Association



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Marina Wornah—Mrs. Frederick County



Marina Wornah



Mrs. Maryland America 2016

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Lauren

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& friend

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 17, 2017

Dear David,

Thank you for your steadfast devotion to ending the drug abuse epidemic that is ravaging communities across America. This battle is personal for far too many families, including yours.

I appreciate your input on selecting the next Director of National Drug Control Policy. We need strong leaders in place as we reinvigorate our national effort to stop drugs from pouring into our communities and help Americans in desperate need of treatment.

Your substantial personal efforts, which require you to take time away from your business and family, have been helpful in fighting our epidemic of illegal drugs, helping to ensure that families will no longer endure the tragedy of losing a loved one to drug abuse.

Thank you, again, for your support. I appreciate your valued offer to engage with me and my Cabinet as we move forward.

Sincerely,

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David Siegel

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A woman with long, wavy brown hair is smiling broadly, looking towards the camera. She is wearing a bright blue bikini consisting of a halter-neck top and matching bottoms. Her arms are raised, with her hands near her hair. She is wearing several blue beaded bracelets on her right wrist. The background is a bright, slightly blurred beach scene with rocks and a clear blue sky.

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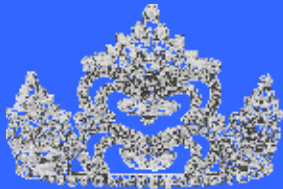


Charlita Woodruff-White is a native of Birmingham, AL. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Tuskegee University and a Master's degree in Applied Mathematics from Auburn University. She was an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Talladega College (Alabama) and a Mathematics Instructor at Alabama A&M University and. She now resides in Baltimore, MD where she is a Mathematics Lecturer at Morgan State University.

Charlita has competed and held various titles in collegiate pageants. She was a classically-trained pianist and competed in numerous local competitions. She is a certified pageant judge with the American Child Pageant Judge Association (ACPJA) for pageant programs in Maryland, Washington D.C., Virginia, Alabama, and Florida.

Charlita has been married to Julius White for almost 4 years. She enjoys photography and is a certified Scuba diver.

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