

Miss California

Thank you for considering a partnership with the Miss California Organization and the Scholarship Associates Educational Foundation.

The women who participate in our program are true representations of the American woman. The American ideal of beauty includes dignity, courage, intelligence, talent and kindness. The Miss California Organization energizes these qualities, empowering women with the drive and values necessary to fuel positive growth.

The Miss California Organization fosters opportunities including access to higher education, broader knowledge of the world, and enriching personal experiences. We maintain a strong volunteer organization devoted to providing scholarship assistance and creating an atmosphere with its roots in strong values. We serve our participants and encourage them to serve the world.

We are proud to call Central California the home of our competition and proud to associate ourselves with the very people, like you, who make California and America prosper. The Miss California Scholarship Organization is a volunteer based 501(c)(4) non-profit organization which was founded in 1924. As the Official State Final to Miss America, the Miss California Organization has awarded more than \$6 million in cash and academic scholarships since the competition made its home in Fresno in 1990.

Embracing an ideal of beauty that includes dignity, courage, intelligence, creative talent and kindness, the successful contestants demonstrate a genuine commitment to serving others. Every year the Miss California's Outstanding Teen and Miss California contestants make significant contributions to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals by raising funds and spreading awareness throughout the state. Additionally, each promotes her personal platform of service statewide. To learn more, visit MissCalifornia.org.

About the 2019 Miss California and Miss California's Outstanding Teen Competition:

The Miss California Competition will take place in Fresno, CA at the Saroyan Theater the week of June 27th – June 29th. The Miss California Outstanding Teen Finals will commence on June 28th, 2019 at 7 pm and the Miss California State Finals will commence at 5 pm. This year's winner will be crowned by Miss California 2018, MacKenzie Freed. The Miss California State Final competition will be broadcast live to more than 20 million viewers statewide and live-streamed throughout the world. To learn more about this year's events and state finalists, visit misscalifornia.org.

During the week the Miss California Organization will be sponsoring a Prince and Princess Camp, which is a non-competitive program designed to develop self confidence and esteem in our young men and women aged 5-12. Also available will be the Miss California Academy which is a week-long conference designed to help develop skills for competition and life with experts from every field. For more information on these programs, please visit MissCalifornia.org.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Patricia (Northrup) Murray – CEO

I am often asked what is my story and why I am involved with the Miss California Organization.

Why?

I wanted to be a pilot. Asked for flying lessons before I even wanted to drive....why? No career pilots in my family. The truth is my grandpa was obsessed with airplanes and worked for Aerospace in El Segundo. I used to sit and eat bologna sandwiches with him at the end of the runways and watch the airplanes land at LAX and I LOVED it. In high school, I wanted to go to the Air Force Academy but was told by a career counselor that it was “not for girls like me”. I was already on track to be a debutante in my community so when I saw a pageant flyer on another counselor’s desk, I thought....maybe this is for girls like me!

Entered a teen pageant in Los Angeles and cleaned up....it seemed easy. Went to the California finals and without even trying was the first runner up of 138 girls. Devastated. What could I have done if I had tried?? My sisters got me a paperweight that Christmas that said, “I am number 3 and I don’t try at all.” It was a mantra for my life up to that point. Everything came easy and I was always in the top without trying but I learned that summer that to be the top, I had to try. That haunting experience changed my life and I would never be number 3 again without trying.

I went to Cal Poly in Aero Engineering because I was not going to the Air Force Academy to design the airplanes that I loved. It was then I realized my love of math and science did not equate for a love of engineering. Talked to one of my teen judges who also worked with the Miss America Program. I knew I wanted to go to flight school at the price tag of 30K and he told me Miss America gave out millions in scholarships to women and the California winner received \$10,000! So I started my Miss America journey. I did the talent of “engineering” by producing a show, set and performed inside and took it all the way to Miss America in 1992. At the end of my year, I had earned 25K and was able to head off to flight school and realize my dream of becoming a commercial airline pilot. During flight school in Florida, I had the opportunity to interview with the California Air National Guard near my home here in Southern California.

Next thing I know I am flying for the Air Force and American Airlines and living my life dreams thanks to the Miss America Program. Why do I credit Miss California? For several reasons: my girl’s skills had dropped dramatically after 5 years of engineering and the program really put me back in touch with that side of my persona, the interview training in second to none, and of course the scholarship money. Being in touch with our femininity not only empowers a woman at her core, it is an asset to own that in this modern world. As for interview skills; when else in life do you get to meet hundreds and hundreds of strangers and learn to converse with them, interact with them and be an ambassador to something you believe in? Finally, they made possible for me in 1 short year, the funds I needed

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to attend flight school....no one else was offering me that opportunity.

My year as Miss California taught me lessons that I would use during my career as a combat aviator. During the Miss America week, I was obsessed with Miss South Carolina because she was a medical doctor. I wanted the niche of the “brainy” contestant. She completely threw off my game and in the end, she was not even in the top 5. During that week, Bob Arnheim, CEO of the Miss California program, told me, “Run your own race, let Miss South Carolina chase you.” As I ventured into unknown territory in my life (being a female Aircraft Commander of a crew of men, running a flying squadron made up of the same) this advice always served me well. I did everything in my power to listen to my own heart and follow my own moral compass. Even if the crowd was going one way, I fought the impulse to follow just for the sake of belonging. I created personal tests that endeavors people and projects had to pass in order to be invited into my way of thinking and I did it all while preserving my unique gender specific attributes.

I began to also learn that beauty was so subjective. I never felt beautiful despite what everyone had always told me. Do any of us think we are beautiful? If we are self-aware, I think it is always a question mark. Miss California taught me that beauty is what you present; putting your soul and your confidence on the outside. It has magnetic effects when it is sincere and without effect. People can see through those who wear it like armor but those that wear it as their aura, draw in the masses and are truly beautiful. That is a power that a woman can take anywhere. I get up and look in the mirror and decide each day to run my own race, make unpopular decisions (that I know are right) boldly and without fear, never looking over my shoulder. Miss California gave me that intangible gift in addition to everything else that I have stored in my head and heart.



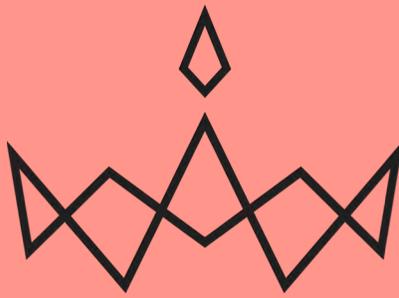
So giving back is easy. This desire to make & keep this program great is easy. Yes, it takes so much time from my family but my 6-year-old is constantly seeing her mom change the world around her for the better and sees her leading the charge for something much greater than herself. The volunteers of this program taught me this; they taught me that it is a worthwhile sacrifice and I hope that I can pass that mantle down to the young ladies and volunteers that I serve and the children that I love.

If you are nodding your head, please take a moment and sponsor our program, participate, volunteer or compete. You will be filled with the satisfaction of knowing you truly have made a difference to so many and in your own way, changed our collective world for the better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Murray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia Murray
CEO Miss California Organization



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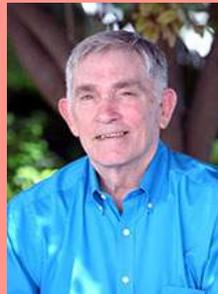
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MISS CALIFORNIA BROADCAST TO HIGHLIGHT WHAT FRESNO HAS TO OFFER



Miss California contestants pose at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo African Adventure Exhibit. Image via Miss California

Published On June 26, 2017 - 6:17 PM

Written By Gabriel Dillard

Media Highlight from 2017

Fresno will be front and center this weekend as Nexstar Broadcasting prepares its first-ever statewide broadcast of the Miss California coronation event.

The July 1 broadcast will air from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. on the KSEE 47 CBS affiliate and other stations throughout California, said Matthew Rosenfeld, vice president and general manager for Nexstar, who also oversees the KSEE 24 NBC station.

It will feature the crowning of the next Miss California, who will go on to compete in the Miss America pageant.

The competition officially begins Tuesday at the William Saroyan Theatre and continues through Thursday, concluding with the Friday coronation of Miss California Teen and Miss California on Saturday.

Rosenfeld said he was inspired to broadcast the event after previously serving as a judge for the event, which awards hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships to the contestants.

"It produces really impressive young ladies — smart, driven, polished young women who are really impressive," Rosenfeld said. "And it's not just beauty."

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The pageant will also air on television stations in San Francisco, San Diego, Bakersfield, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Pismo Beach and Palm Springs — potentially reaching up to 4.1 million homes, Rosenfeld said.

Beginning last week, contestants took part in an itinerary of trips to Fresno City Hall, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo, Fresno Rotary Club, the California Armenian Home and other local spots. Rosenfeld said those visits will also be shown as part of the television broadcast.

“Viewers are going to see a 3-hour commercial for everything awesome about living in Fresno,” Rosenfeld said.

Rosenfeld said his team is partnering with Reggie Rush of Live Light, Inc. of Fresno to produce the show inside the William Saroyan Theatre.

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