

*Miss Hendersonville Scholarship Pageant, Inc.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 1, 2010

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Here They Are...Miss Hendersonville & Hendersonville's Outstanding Teen Contestants

(Hendersonville, NC) "The Nicest Kids In Town" will hit the stage of Flat Rock Playhouse this Saturday when nine young ladies will compete for the titles of Miss Hendersonville 2010 and Hendersonville's Outstanding Teen 2010. Music from the Broadway hit "Hairspray" will be featured at the event, which will be held Saturday, February 6, at 7 p.m. at Flat Rock Playhouse.

Guest entertainers include the reigning Miss Hendersonville, Ciara Newman, and the reigning Hendersonville's Outstanding Teen, Katie Holbert, as well as eight young girls participating in the Hendersonville Princess program, a mentoring opportunity for girls between the ages of 6-12. The current Miss North Carolina, Katherine Southard, who just returned from competition in the 2010 Miss America Pageant in Las Vegas, is also scheduled to appear, as is Katherine Puryear, the reigning Miss North Carolina's Outstanding Teen. Puryear was third runner-up in last summer's Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageant.

Gretchen Wallace Dawson, Miss Hendersonville 2005, will serve as the mistress of ceremonies for the evening, and special entertainment will be provided by Taylor Fitch, Miss America's Outstanding Teen 2008, and Ty Marion, a professional dancer and 2007 graduate of East Henderson High School.

The Miss Hendersonville contestants are:

Stacey Gresock – a student at Western Carolina University; talent – lyrical dance; platform – Children's Miracle Network.

Brittney Holder – a student at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville; talent – lyrical dance; platform – Depression Awareness.

Kristen Morgan – a student at East Carolina University; talent – lyrical dance; platform – Learning Disabilities.

Briana Revis – a student at East Henderson High School; talent – violin; platform – Eating Disorder Awareness.

Kayla Yingst – a student at Brevard College; talent – jump rope; platform – American Heart Association.

The contestants for Hendersonville's Outstanding Teen are:

Rachel Barker – a student at East Henderson High School; talent – vocal; platform – Children's Miracle Network.

Courtney Laughter – a student at West Henderson High School; talent – tap dance; platform – Accessibility for Disabled Americans.

Elizabeth Owen – a student at North Henderson High School; talent – tap dance; platform – Humane Society.

Jessie Tucker – a student at East Henderson High School; talent – violin; platform – American Red Cross.

The new Miss Hendersonville will earn a \$1,000 college scholarship and numerous prizes from local businesses. Preliminary winners in swimsuit and talent will also earn college scholarships, as well as the winners of community service, congeniality, and scholastic awards.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and are available from any of the contestants, at Elite Repeats Boutique (behind Applebee's) and at Signature Salon (on Copper Penny Drive).

The new Miss Hendersonville and the new Hendersonville's Outstanding Teen will each represent the area in the 2010 Miss North Carolina and Miss North Carolina's Outstanding Teen Pageants, held in Raleigh in June. They will also earn various prizes from local businesses, including free hair and nail care for a year, portrait sittings, make-up and skin care, wardrobe assistance, jewelry, and gifts from numerous area merchants. The new titleholders will serve as ambassadors at area events and work closely with the Henderson County Chamber of Commerce to promote the Shop & Dine Henderson County program while also promoting their personal community service platforms.

Nominees for the 2010 Cathy Ervin Overstreet Woman of Achievement Award will be introduced during the show Saturday, and a \$250 contribution will be made to a local charity of the winner's choice. Pageant officials will also announce the newest inductees in the Miss Hendersonville Pageant Hall of Fame, which was created in 2006 to recognize volunteers who have had a major impact on the organization.

The Miss America Organization is the world's largest provider of scholarship money for women, awarding more than \$40 million in scholarships each year. In addition, contestants at all levels are required to adopt a cause, or platform, and to serve their communities on behalf of these and other causes. Miss America contestants and volunteers complete more than 500,000 hours of community service each year, making it one of the strongest service organizations in the nation.

The mission of the Miss America's Outstanding Teen organization is to promote scholastic achievement, creative accomplishment, healthy living and community involvement for America's teens. Miss America's Outstanding Teen is a scholarship based program. Through the

efforts of thousands of volunteers across the country, the organization offers accomplished teens the opportunity to win college scholarship funds.

The Miss Hendersonville Scholarship Pageant, Inc. is an official preliminary to the Miss North Carolina Pageant. More information is available at www.misshendersonvillepageant.com.

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PHOTOS ATTACHED OF CONTESTANTS, TITLEHOLDERS & SPECIAL GUESTS