

Miss Minnesota

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Miss Minnesota Scholarship Competition to be held June 23, 2023 at Treasure Island Resort & Casino

More than 20 women from across the state to compete for educational scholarships, the prestigious title of Miss Minnesota 2023 and the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to compete at Miss America

(Welch, Minn.) February 10, 2023 - The Miss Minnesota Organization is pleased to announce Treasure Island Resort & Casino as the new home of the Miss Minnesota Scholarship Competition, which will take place Friday, June 23, 2023.

More than 20 locally crowned titleholders, ages 18-28, will arrive at Treasure Island on Sunday, June 18 and participate in a week of rehearsals, dinners, and celebration, culminating with the Friday competition. The newly crowned Miss Minnesota will compete at the Miss America competition later this year.

“On behalf of the Miss Minnesota Organization, we are excited to have this partnership and sponsor with Treasure Island Resort & Casino and the Prairie Island Indian Community,” said Kathy Shellum, Executive Director of the Miss Minnesota Organization. “Both Miss Minnesota and Treasure Island are thrilled to promote the young women and their community service initiatives along with emphasis on furthering their education. We look forward to a long and exciting relationship in calling Treasure Island ‘home.’”

Friday’s competition will welcome special guest, BeBe Shopp, Miss Minnesota and Miss America 1948, who will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of her crowning. Minnesota has had three Miss Americas: BeBe Shopp (1948), Dorothy Benham (1977) and Gretchen Carlson (1989).

Rachel Evangelisto made history in 2022 as the first Indigenous woman to win the Miss Minnesota competition. Evangelisto was recently accepted into law school to obtain her Juris Doctorate in Native American Law through the Native American Law & Sovereignty Institute at Mitchell Hamline School of Law as a Native Justice Fellow. Evangelisto hopes to be a legal force and

advocate for Indigenous youth and families under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) while bringing Indigenous Representation to the legal field in Minnesota.

"As the first Indigenous woman in this role, I am thrilled to see a new strengthened relationship between Prairie Island Indian Community and the Miss Minnesota Organization," said Evangelisto. "Both the Community and the Organization are strong, creative, and resilient in the face of adversity, and I can't wait to crown the 87th Miss Minnesota at Treasure Island."

Tickets for the 2023 pageant will go on sale in late April via Ticketmaster. The link to purchase tickets will be available on the Miss Minnesota website: www.missminnesota.org.

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About Miss Minnesota

The Miss Minnesota Scholarship Organization is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization which awards educational scholarships to outstanding young women to help them academically and professionally. The Miss Minnesota Scholarship Organization is an official preliminary of the Miss America Competition, the nation's leading achievement program and the world's largest provider of scholarship assistance to young women.

About Treasure Island Resort & Casino

The Prairie Island Indian Community owns and operates Treasure Island Resort & Casino, Mount Frontenac Golf Course and Dakota Station. Treasure Island Resort & Casino is the only casino in southern Minnesota located on the Mississippi River. The property features more than 1,800 slot, video poker and video keno machines, 44 table games, a poker room and a 500-seat high stakes bingo hall. Treasure Island's 788-room hotel is the second largest hotel in Minnesota and the property features over 50,000 square feet of meeting and event space. Additional amenities include The Lagoon indoor water park, Wave Spa, Island Xtreme Bowl, Cyber Quest arcade, Kids Quest child care, various restaurants including fine dining at Tado Steakhouse, a 16,000-seat outdoor amphitheater, a 2,800-seat indoor event and convention center, a 137-slip marina, a 95-site RV park and a 100-passenger yacht. Treasure Island is a proud supporter of local businesses and has continually made a positive impact on the community. Since 1984, Treasure Island Resort & Casino and the Prairie Island Indian Community together have contributed \$25 million to hundreds of non-profit and civic organizations throughout the region. Along with being a consistent contributor to the local economy, Treasure Island is the largest employer in Goodhue County.