

March 9, 2009

Students set to compete for Miss ASU, Mr. Royal Gentleman titles on March 21

On March 21, five women and five men will take center stage to vie for the crown and title of Miss Albany State University and Mr. Royal Gentleman 2009-2010. For the first time, the Miss ASU Pageant and the Mr. Royal Gentleman Competition will be intertwined into one event.

The five young ladies vying for the title and crown of Miss ASU are Danielle Galloway, Essence Gant, Danielle Holmes, Olubunmi Ijose and Joleigh Sartiano. Their counterparts, who will compete for the title of Mr. Royal Gentleman, are Kendall Ingraham, Terrell James, Karl Neal, Joseph Sheffield and Richard Spikes.

Though the Miss ASU Pageant and the Mr. Royal Gentleman Competition will take place simultaneously, the categories will vary slightly for each.

The ladies will compete in seven categories, including opening act, swim attire, oratorical, business attire, talent, evening wear and on-stage interview. The men's competition will consist of five of the same categories, except for the opening act and talent categories.

Both groups will compete in several additional categories prior to the actual pageant, including scholastic achievement, pre-pageant/pre-competition evaluations, closed interviews and the voting process.

With "Black Reign" as its theme, the pageant/competition will consist of black as its main color scheme. For each category during the pageant/competition, the contestants will adhere to a wardrobe consisting mostly of the color black, except for the talent portion.

The theme is a continuation of color schemes implemented for the first time with last year's Miss ASU Pageant theme, "Living Life Like It's Golden," which consisted of an all-gold color scheme.

Combining the pageant and competition isn't the only change. For the first time, the pageant will be held on a Saturday instead of a Sunday.

Gwinetta L. Trice, director of Student Activities, said the day was changed to make it easier for contestants' friends and family to travel.

The pageant/competition will conclude the week-long process for the 10 contestants who will begin campaigning for student votes on March 15.

The Miss ASU Pageant and Mr. Royal Gentleman Competition will take place in ACAD auditorium at 2 p.m. March 21. The event is free and open to the public.