

Cheat Sheet – Miss America Organization/Foundation and Promotion of STEM Education.

Miss America will spend her year touring the country to encourage all young women to pursue a college education, and will focus on driving interest in the arts, as well as science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. The Miss America Organization will work with national and community partners to create an unconventional approach to driving young women's interest in STEM.

Our efforts coincide with the national momentum to teach STEM curricula outside traditional school settings, targeting female students who are currently under represented in STEM professions. Our hope is to help shift girls' attitudes about STEM and boost the percentage of women employed in STEM-related industries. It's not just the right thing to do, but it is also the smart thing to do for America's future and our economy.

Across the country, millions of little girls have the dream of becoming Miss America. According to the Department of Labor, women made up 46.7 percent of the work labor force in the United States last year. Some of our young dreamers have won the crown and gone on to become media stars and moguls, missionaries and mothers, news anchors and news makers, singers and scientists, lawyers, doctors, teachers and preachers -- none of them started with a crown. The Miss America Organization is so much more than a beauty pageant. It's a dream machine that is empowered by hard work and results -- just step inside and take it to the stars!

[Mallory Hagen's Speech Announcing the new support of STEM Education]

Miss America Foundation STEM Scholarship through the Miss America Foundation that will further cement our leadership in educational opportunities for young women.

We thought moving back to our Atlantic City roots in September would be the most exciting part for our 12,000 participants each year. What better way to commemorate our return than with what we do best – funding scholars – helping women secure countless professional opportunities that a STEM education ignites. When Miss America began, it was a bathing beauty contest to extend the life of summer past Labor Day. That was then. This is now. Today, Miss America is about service and scholarship.

I traveled 20,000 miles each month this year to spread the word that young women need to make their own dreams come true through a good education. I have the opportunity to talk about the importance of STEM education and to share our organization's efforts in advocating for the importance of education.

The Miss America Foundation is the world's largest provider of assistance to young women, totaling more than \$45 million in scholarships each year. 12,000 young women, in towns and cities across this country, participate in this program each year and each one who participates in Miss America receives scholarships that they then use for their education. I am testament to the strength of the scholarship program, as I have earned over \$50,000 to finish my college education after my year of service.

Recently, I was so pleased to see Sharon Stone's interview when we were both invited to the White House Correspondents Dinner in April. Sharon praised the Miss America program and told the interviewer that the only reason she was able to attend college was through a local pageant scholarship. Our scholarships are for medical school, military awareness, performing arts and now we can add STEM to that unique list.

As thousands of high-school seniors have now proudly counted themselves among the graduating class of 2013. For many students, whether from big cities or small towns, the possibilities seem endless. But they are also faced with the reality of affording a college education. As higher education costs soar across the country, a generation of young

Americans will be forced to make personal and financial decisions that can impact their lives for decades as they make their college decisions.

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, who I will meet with next month during the Let's Read, Let's Move event, has stated that while a generation ago the United States had the highest college graduation rate in the world, today it ranks 12th among developed countries in the percentage of young adults with college degrees.

As Miss America 2013, I have been a strong advocate for children and now would like to represent students from my generation who want to make America stronger through education. Through our scholarship program, I hope to continue to help young women achieve their dreams through the power of the Miss America Foundation.

Please join me in advocating for young women to pursue a college education and make their lives and their families stronger for the future.

PRESS RELEASES

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2013 – Miss America 2013 Mallory Hagan and Miss America Chairman & CEO Sam Haskell hosted an afternoon briefing on Capitol Hill to discuss the Miss America Organization's education initiatives. The event included an update on the organization's efforts to advocate for the importance of higher education and, in particular, STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education – for young women.

The Miss America Foundation, Inc. is the world's largest provider of assistance to young women, totaling more than \$45 million in scholarships each year. 12,000 young women, in towns and cities across this country, participate in this program each year to compete for scholarships that they will use for their education.

Sam Haskell announced a new STEM scholarship for Miss America program participants. He also announced a new leadership role for MAO Board Member, Tammy Haddad who was named President of Development for The Miss America Foundation, Inc.

[Click here to read Miss America's article in the *Huffington Post* today.](#)

Today (9/3/2013), the Miss America Organization for the first time, announced the first annual STEM scholarships to the Miss America Foundation. These scholarships will allow women to pursue numerous careers in the sciences and mathematics, fields that continue to grow exponentially as we enter into a new age of technology and medicine. As the Miss America Foundation advocates STEM education through the arrival of a new scholarship. The lives of women who wish to pursue careers in STEM subjects will significantly change as they engage in dynamic careers where women can thrive and grow as humans, learners, and teachers for future generations to come.

The two recipients of the S.T.E.M. will receive an additional scholarships of \$5,000 each.

7/26/2013 – "The Miss America Organization, a strong advocate of STEM studies, introduced a STEM scholarship to national contestants, an essential step in the advocacy of countless educational opportunities for young women."

Today (10/22/2013), Miss America 2014 Nina Davuluri visited South Bend, Indiana to attend an event sponsored by the P-H-M Education Foundation promoting the awareness of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) education in the classroom. Nina visited Penn High School in Mishawaka and toured a robotics exhibit designed and constructed by the young women who attended the event. After touring the robotics exhibit, Nina attended a luncheon and spoke of the importance of the STEM platform and following your dreams.

Nina spent Monday afternoon touring Whirlpool Corporation Headquarters learning about their brands and how their products are developed and tested. She also had the pleasure meeting with Whirlpool executives and the participants in Whirlpool's WERLD Program - mechanical, electrical, materials science and chemical engineering undergraduate and graduate students who are seeking to launch their career with a global industry leader. Following her tour, Nina visited the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Hospital where she spoke to girls, ages 7-14, on the importance of believing in yourself and being accepting of your own. She also discussed the importance of education and STEM.

3/3/2014

Watch Miss America 2014 Nina Davuluri Address the Montgomery College Community About STEM and Cultural Competence



Miss America 2014 Nina Davuluri visited Montgomery College to give a presentation on her personal platform and what it's like to be a beauty queen and STEM scholar. Watch as she describes her experiences as the first woman of Indian descent to achieve this prestigious position and the influence Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics have had on her life and career.

Montgomery College Television produced this video, The Beauty of STEM, in association with the Miss America Organization.

[Click here to watch the video](#)