

2023 MISS UAB SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION



STARS FELL ON

UAB



Celebrating 40 years of crowning Miss UAB



Greetings,

On behalf of the University leadership, Division of Student Affairs and the campus community, welcome to the 40th Annual Miss UAB Scholarship Competition. It gives me great joy to celebrate the talented young women represented here tonight. They set a goal, worked hard, and now it's their time to shine.

What these ladies gain from this experience is much more than a moment in the spotlight, but a chance to sharpen their interviewing skills, build confidence and develop poise. They are talented, strong and independent, and display a leadership quality of which we can all be proud. For more than three decades, this pageant has supported the achievements of countless women, rewarding them with scholarships to support their academic endeavors. These are our future world leaders, doctors, writers, teachers, and the list goes on.

The beauty of tonight's ladies goes well beyond the surface. They are Blazers, and Blazers possess an inner virtue and fortitude that inspires our campus, our community and our world. So, sit back and enjoy this celebration of all that makes our university a special place: diversity of backgrounds and talents, a commitment to excellence and a passion for representing our dear UAB.

Thank you for joining us tonight. I'm certain that you will have an enjoyable and entertaining evening.

John R. Jones, III

Vice President

UAB Division of Student Affairs





Good evening, and welcome to the 40th annual Miss UAB Scholarship Competition.

Thank you for being a part of this very special night as we crown the Miss UAB 2023. On behalf of the students, faculty and staff, we present to you a diverse group of talented young women competing to represent UAB in the Miss Alabama Scholarship Competition in July.



Throughout its 40-year history, the Miss UAB Scholarship Competition has championed the need and value of higher education for women and has promoted that goal by awarding thousands of dollars in college scholarship money to young women at UAB. We are proud that UAB has played an integral role in the lives of many by continuing to support education, leadership, and community service.

While I'm excited to meet our next Miss UAB, I can't let tonight go by without recognizing and thanking our outgoing Miss UAB, Elizabeth Miller. Elizabeth has served as an active student leader within our office over the past year and has made us incredibly proud through her work with her social impact initiative, Hearts for Hunger: Fighting Food Insecurity. Elizabeth has been a dedicated and compassionate university representative and an excellent example of UAB's core institutional values.

I wish each contestant the best of luck in tonight's competition. We couldn't make tonight happen without these women and those of you in the audience supporting them.

Jennifer Griffin

Director

UAB Office of Student Involvement & Leadership



STARS FELL ON
UAB

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of crowning Miss UAB

Saturday, November 12, 2022 | 5:30 p.m. | UAB Alys Stephens Center



OPENING NUMBER & CANDIDATE INTRODUCTIONS

Elizabeth Miller and Candidates

WELCOME & JUDGES INTRODUCTIONS

Lindsay Fincher

SOCIAL IMPACT PITCH & ON-STAGE QUESTION COMPETITION

Counts for 15% of total score

PERFORMANCE BY MISS UAB 2022

Elizabeth Miller

TALENT COMPETITION

Counts for 35% of total score

PERFORMANCE BY MISS UAB 2022

Elizabeth Miller

RED CARPET COMPETITION

Counts for 15% of total score

PERFORMANCE BY MISS ALABAMA 2022

Lindsay Fincher

MISS UAB 2022 FAREWELL

Elizabeth Miller

CROWNING OF MISS UAB 2023

Final scores calculated with private interview score (remaining 35% of total score)



LINDSAY FINCHER

Miss Alabama 2022

Miss Alabama 2022 Lindsay Fincher is a summa cum laude graduate of the University of Alabama with degrees in political science in dance. Lindsay was recognized as one of the 31 most influential women on the campus of the University of Alabama, was a recipient of the Presidential Elite Scholarship, and was a member of the Blackburn Institute and numerous honor societies and organizations.



Lindsay’s social impact initiative is Catalyst: Arts for All, which promotes arts education and exposure and participation in the fine arts. She has written a children’s book entitled *A B C – The Arts and Me*. An accomplished dancer, Lindsay has been a scholarship recipient to the Institute for American Musical Theater, the Joffrey Ballet School, and the Broadway Dance Center Summer Musical Theater Intensives in New York.

MISS UAB COMMITTEE



JESSICA BROWN
Director



LAUREN COTANT, PH.D
Judges Chairperson



ALEX BUSHERY
Operations Coordinator



TONI REEVES
Backstage Coordinator



KRISTEN BOWEN
Dressing Room Coordinator

The Miss UAB Scholarship Committee hopes that you enjoy this evening's production as we celebrate 40 years of this scholarship program. We have enjoyed working with these talented students and wish the very best to the winner as they move on to represent the University and compete in the Miss Alabama Competition. The Miss America Organization has provided scholarships each year at the local, state, and national levels to help further the education of well-deserving students. We are proud that UAB continues to play a large role in the educational, leadership, and community endeavors of our students.



MISS UAB FORMER STARS



Miss UAB 1983
Phyllis Pope



Miss UAB 1984
Angela Tower



Miss UAB 1985
Regina Trent



Miss UAB 1986
Carla Haag



Miss UAB 1987
Elizabeth Langner



Miss UAB 1988
Kelly Sewell



Miss UAB 1989
Franetta Curry



Miss UAB 1990
Kim Evans



Miss UAB 1991
Teri Giminez



Miss UAB 1992
Amy Elliott



Miss UAB 1993
Michelle Taylor



Miss UAB 1994
Susan Cade



Miss UAB 1995
Nashly Pace



Miss UAB 1996
Amy Lowe



Miss UAB 1997
Catherine Romine



Miss UAB 1998
Tamula Patterson



Miss UAB 1999
Amy Bain



Miss UAB 2000
Kelly Sharritt



Miss UAB 2001
Layla Carter



Miss UAB 2002
Whitney Weldon



Miss UAB 2003
Lindsey Humphreys



Miss UAB 2004
Lindsey Elmore



Miss UAB 2005
Brooke Tidwell



Miss UAB 2006
Brittlynn Hall



Miss UAB 2007
Alicia Lewis



Miss UAB 2008
Erica Leonardi



Miss UAB 2009
Ashley Davis



Miss UAB 2010
Ja'Taune Bosby



Miss UAB 2011
Elizabeth Wesson



Miss UAB 2012
Elisabeth Chrmer



Miss UAB 2013
Amanda Whitaker



Miss UAB 2014
Chassidy Sumler



Miss UAB 2015
Melanie Roberts



Miss UAB 2016
Mattie Boyd



Miss UAB 2017
Harley Chapin



Miss UAB 2018
Vishwadha Gunda



Miss UAB 2019
Lillie-Ann Dawson



Miss UAB 2020-2021
Tiffany Millan

Since 1983, the Miss UAB Scholarship Competition has been an official preliminary to the Miss Alabama and Miss America competitions. The program offers young women the opportunity to further their educational goals through scholarships and personal growth. Students involved in the Miss UAB Scholarship Program gain valuable experience and opportunities to enhance leadership and interviewing skills, talent, poise, and confidence.



ELIZABETH MILLER

Social Impact Initiative:
Hearts for Hunger: Fighting Food Insecurity

Representing my prestigious university as Miss UAB 2022 has been the honor of a lifetime. I have been able to meet students from all walks of life and hear their stories. Through my Social Impact Initiative (SII) Hearts for Hunger: Fighting Food Insecurity, I started UAB's first Food Insecurity Day and collected over 240 meal swipes for students. And I've had the joy of speaking to hundreds of K-12 students about my SII.

These moments are just a glimpse into a chapter of my life that will be etched forever in my heart. These memories were made possible by the love and support of those closest to me.

First, I thank God from whom all blessings flow. My time as Miss UAB has been nothing short of a miracle directly from my heavenly Father. He has sustained me and given me more than enough strength to carry out my duties as Miss UAB while also being a student, daughter, sister, and friend. Isaiah 40:29 states, "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."

Mom and Dad, thank you for embarking on this adventure with me. You have gone above and beyond to give me this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Whether it was getting up at the crack of dawn to drive me to a news interview, accompanying me to an event, or encouraging me with your words, you showed me what it means to love your child well. I can never thank you enough for showing Christ in all you do. Jackson, thank you for reminding me to have fun even when life is crazy. You're the best brother I could ever have. To my grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends that are like family, thank you for constantly uplifting and supporting me. Your prayers, texts, calls, monetary donations, and presence at any event was a constant reminder of how loved I am.

My best friends. From helping me create Tik Tok videos, being my hype people at all my events, and being a listening ear, you have each played an instrumental role during my time as Miss UAB. Our friendship is a true gift from the Lord.



Jessica, thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving me a year I will cherish for a lifetime. Your dedication was displayed from organizing events to showering me with a fabulous send-off party. These are just a drop in the bucket of the ways you fiercely supported me. To the Miss UAB Committee, you put in countless hours to prepare me for Miss Alabama. I am thankful the Lord graced me with such a selfless group of women in my life.

To our rock-star sponsors, thank you for giving your time, services, and monetary donations. Your contributions have allowed countless women to earn scholarships that will enable them to continue their education.

Growth is the word I would use to describe my year. I have experienced what it means to dream big dreams and see life breathed into them. Serving others has shown me there is always a need to help those who cannot help themselves. And perhaps most importantly, I have grasped that I am fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God. I don't have to define my success by comparing myself to those around me; I am simply loved and cherished as I am.

To the Miss UAB candidates, know that you are fearfully and wonderfully made by our heavenly Father. And to Miss UAB 2023, get ready. Because this chapter of your life is just beginning.





FIRST SEMESTER - SPRING 2022

- Blazer Kitchen Drive** —————★ Collected non-perishables and school supplies for UAB Blazer Kitchen
- Food Insecurity Day** —————★ Collected over 240 meal swipes for students in need at UAB
- Food Drive for Cullman Caring for Kids** —————★ Collected over 400 jars of peanut butter and jelly with Holly Pond High School
- Visiting Local Schools** —————★ Read *Maddi's Fridge* to students to educate them on food insecurity
- Blaze Her Week** —————★ Hosted UAB Blazer Kitchen Service Day, Women's Empowerment Luncheon, & BlazeHer Poetry Contest
- Food for Thought** —————★ Met with District 4 Senator Garlan Gudger to discuss food insecurity in Cullman County and Jefferson County
- Earth Day Event** —————★ Met with FeedBHM and college students to discuss the impact of food waste & creating food pantries
- Food for Thought Fridays** —————★ Created social media campaigns to educate the public on food insecurity statistics
- Hearts for Hunger Media Tour** —————★ Discussed food insecurity on CBS 42 News, Talk of Alabama, WBRC Fox 6 News, and UAB News
- Fired Up to Feed a Blazer** —————★ Collected non-perishables and hygiene products for UAB Blazer Kitchen
- Monday Meals Tik Toks** —————★ Created Tik Tok videos educating UAB students on how to create healthy, easy, and delicious meals using items from UAB Blazer Kitchen and the dining halls
- Student Excellence Awards 2022** —————★ Emceed and performed at UAB's annual Student Excellence Awards



**Hearts for Hunger:
Fighting Food Insecurity**



SECOND SEMESTER - FALL 2022

2022 World Games —————★ Partnered with FeedBHM to feed workers at the 2022 World Games

UAB Connect Fest —————★ Served as emcee for UAB's Fall 2022 Blazer Welcome kickoff event, Connect Fest

MONTH OF SEPTEMBER: HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Be Seen In Service —————★ Volunteered at UAB Blazer Kitchen and encouraged students to participate

Green and Gold Game Night —————★ Hosted a Kahoot game night at UAB to educate students, faculty, and staff on food insecurity

Fired Up to Feed A Blazer —————★ Volunteered at The Community Foodbank of Central Alabama with UAB Serve205 and held a food drive for UAB Blazer Kitchen

Blaze a Trail —————★ Utilized social media to encourage individuals to be physically active and provided insight into food insecurity





Miss UAB 2023 Candidates



JADA ALLEN

Major: Accounting

Hometown: Muscle Shoals, AL



MEAGAN BALDWIN

Major: Art

Hometown: Hayden, AL



JEANIE CABANISS

Major: Kinesiology

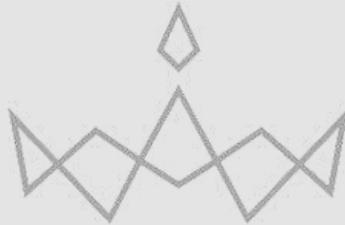
Hometown: Pelham, AL



LAURYN CASH

Major: Biology

Hometown: Pleasant Grove, AL



PHAEDRA MANUEL

Major: Bioinformatics

Hometown: Hoover, AL



EMILY MORRINGS

Major: Biology

Hometown: Blountsville, AL



PRISCILLA MOYANA

Major: Mathematics

Hometown: Leeds, AL



OZIOMA OSANU

Major: Business Information Systems

Hometown: Calera, AL



SOPHIA PORRILL
Major: Kinesiology
Hometown: Gardendale, AL



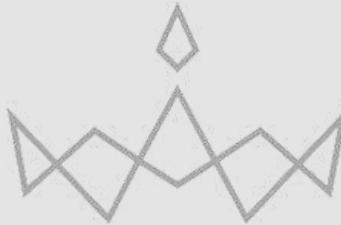
ERIN STANLEY
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Birmingham, AL



MAKINNA STEWART
Major: Cancer Biology
Hometown: Saraland, AL



EMMA TERRY
Major: Accounting
Hometown: Leeds, AL



MEGHANA VADRANAM
Major: Cancer Biology
Hometown: Johns Creek, GA

CANDIDATE ORDER

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Jada Allen | 8. Phaedra Manuel |
| 2. Makinna Stewart | 9. Sophia Porrill |
| 3. Erin Stanley | 10. Emily Moring |
| 4. Emma Terry | 11. Jeanie Cabaniss |
| 5. Meagan Baldwin | 12. Priscilla Moyana |
| 6. Meghana Vadranam | 13. Ozioma Osanu |
| 7. Lauryn Cash | |



FINALIST AWARDS

Winner - Miss UAB 2023 ★—————★ *\$2,200, Certificate, & Flowers*

Miss UAB 2023 will also receive a gift certificate from Southern Exposure Photography, a year of free workout classes from True40 Fitness Studio, a year of free haircuts from Morgan Ashley Salon, a gift bag from the UAB Bookstore, and a gift certificate for a free spray tan from Glow by Gabby.

First Runner-Up ★—————★ *\$1,000, Certificate, & Flowers*

Second Runner-Up ★—————★ *\$800, Certificate, & Flowers*

Third Runner-Up ★—————★ *\$500, Certificate, & Flowers*

Fourth Runner-Up ★—————★ *\$500, Certificate, & Flowers*

Social Change Award ★—————★ *\$500 & Certificate*
Sponsored by Dr. Lindsey Elmore, Miss UAB 2004

Talent Award ★—————★ *\$400 & Certificate*
Sponsored by Kelly Belcher, Miss UAB 2000

Spirit Award ★—————★ *\$200 & Certificate*
Sponsored by UAB Blazer Spirit Council

Civic Engagement Award ★—————★ *\$200 & Certificate*
Sponsored by UAB Serve205

Miss Congeniality Award ★—————★ *\$100 & Certificate*

Servant's Heart Award ★—————★ *\$100 & Certificate*



A SPECIAL
THANK YOU



Alyssa Howard
Apryl Myers
Ashalya Hayes
Autumn Jones
Dr. Brandon R. Brown
Chris Isom
Columbia Young
Darien Garrison
Deidre Murray
Eliza Maddox

Emilie Shaver
Eunice Choe
Meredith Kahl
Stacy Rowan
Taylor Stewart
Alys Stephens Center
Hill Student Center
Norton's Florist
UAB Ambassadors

COMPETITION JUDGES

Layla Hamilton, Miss UAB 2001, *Head Judge*

Debbie West

Dori Weldon

Dr. Lindsey Elmore, Miss UAB 2003

Stefanie Patterson



Miss UAB

COMPETITION SPONSORS

MORGAN ◦ ASHLEY

SALON

true40

fitness studio

Jack Baine
SOUTHERN EXPOSURE PHOTOGRAPHY



GLOW BY GABBY

**THE UAB
BOOKSTORE**

**LITTLE
BROWN**
PHOTOGRAPHY



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT
& LEADERSHIP

The University of Alabama at Birmingham