



2008 Panel of Judges



Kasey Montgomery

Kasey Montgomery competed at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood, California, where she graced the stage before a sold-out audience, representing the Mountain State in the Miss USA national telecast (produced by the Miss Universe Organization, owned by Donald Trump, Universal, and NBC). As a Miss USA representative, she served the state of West Virginia as an ambassador of the company for one year, through extensive travel, public speaking engagements, interactions with dignitaries, charity and social events participation, media appearances, and gaining the education, experiences and values to fulfill her career goals. A resident of Petersburg, West Virginia, Kasey is a trained model, actress, and vocalist who has performed with the West Virginia All State Choir, Limited Edition Choir, and for festivals throughout the state. She has worked with Moon Star Productions, showcasing country artist, Monty Lane Allen, whose hits include A Soldier Coming Home, If I was an Angel, One More Date, and the title cut off his new album, Great Big World. With aspirations of becoming a recording artist herself, Kasey has performed on stage with vocalists Lauren Simmons and the Davison Brothers, and she had the honors of introducing Toby Keith at the State Fair of WV. A student at West Virginia University pursuing a degree in Communications, Kasey also serves as a resource spokesperson for the National Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders.



Ryan Harris

Ryan Harris is an Entertainment Consultant, Pageant Coach, Make-up Artist, Talent Scout and Agency Director in New York, and Ohio, with clients across the US and Canada. He has spent the last 24 years working in the entertainment industry, starting at age 5 as a child model. By the age of 15, Ryan was coaching local talent for television commercials, radio and print ads, as well as giving motivational speeches to High School drama classes across Ohio. In 1996 having just turned 19, he became the Assistant Director of John Robert Powers International; a Boston based talent agency and finishing school. In 1997, Ryan joined teams with the International Modeling & Talent Association (I.M.T.A.) of Phoenix Arizona. He began a cross-country talent search for over 350 different agents worldwide. In 1998 Ryan became the Vice President of Model Talent Scouts International (M.T.S.I.), an International scouting firm. Since returning to Ohio in 2000, Ryan has continued to scout for such companies as "One Life to Live", "Days of Our Lives", "As the World Turns", "All My Children", "Law & Order", "Sopranos", MTV, A&E, Ford Models NY, Elite Models NY and Cosmo, just to name a few. He has also been a judge and a pageant coach for the Miss America, Miss Universe, and Mrs. International programs, with many winners across the nation, and credits that include consulting/coaching Ohio's Outstanding Teen 2005, Pennsylvania's Outstanding Teen 2006, and your reigning Mrs. Ohio International 2007.



Emily Strang Tarbert

Emily Strang Tarbert was crowned Miss East Central Ohio in 1997, where she was also awarded the talent and interview awards, and went on to proudly represent her community in the Miss Ohio Scholarship Pageant. A graduate of Ohio University and Capital University School of Law, Emily works as a child advocate in Franklin, Muskingum and Perry counties. Emily served as a consultant to the Supreme Court of Ohio and developed training curriculum for attorneys wishing to represent children in juvenile and domestic court proceedings. Emily is a member of the North Terrance Church of Christ and Southeastern Ohio Women and Girls' Fund. In her spare time, she serves as a volunteer with the Perry County Court Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian ad litem Program, and teaches the Smart Steps for Stepfamilies course as a certified marriage counselor through the Enriching Lives Through Lasting Marriages (ELLM) grant initiative. Emily resides in Zanesville with her husband David; step-daughters Hannah (9) and Ellie (6); and son Truman (3).



Brandon Kupec

Brandon Kupec is a businessman and practicing attorney in Clarksburg, West Virginia, where he holds an interest in a variety of companies and focuses mainly on real estate development and sales, as well as practicing law full time with his family firm, Kupec & Associates, P.L.L.C. A 2001 West Virginia University graduate with a Bachelors degree in Political Science, and a 2004 Graduate of West Virginia University College of Law, Brandon specializes in contracts and real estate law, and he actively represents a number of models and entertainers. He has judged a number of competitions, and has served on interview and public speaking panels to prepare women for state and national pageants.



Alexis Lux

A District Director for the Muscular Dystrophy Association overseeing fourteen counties in Northeastern Ohio, Alexis Lux holds both undergraduate and graduate degrees from Kent State University. Participating in pageantry since childhood, her first title was that of Tiny Miss Akron. She went on to become Ohio's Miss Job's Daughter, and went on to place as 4th runner up at the International pageant. Also serving on the Pro Football Hall of Fame Queen's Court and as Miss Greater Akron for the Miss Ohio/Miss America Program, Alexis has also served for over fifteen years as a state ambassador for the Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment Fund – raising funds and awareness; all the while providing hearing devices for children throughout the state. Alexis enjoys coordinating special events, participating in community service projects, making OSU Buckeye necklaces, learning sign language, promoting pageantry, and spending time with her husband Brian and two dogs.

Judges Chairperson – Dianna Maple is the Director of Human Resources for Genesis HealthCare System. With extensive training and experience in the areas of public speaking and interview development, she serves as the Judges Chairperson for the Ohio International Pageant System. Dianna has far-reaching familiarity with pageantry and entertainment, serving as a former Miss Southeastern Ohio through which she competed at the Miss Ohio (America) pageant, and also serving on the Mrs. Ohio staff when it was previously held in Zanesville, as well as on the judging panel for the Miss Pennsylvania USA pageant. Dianna is a vocalist that performs with the Solid Gold Singers & Dancers, and she is the Co-Chairperson of the Zaney Follies – a community project that supports Genesis Hospice & Palliative Care. A trained and competitive trampolinist, an active athlete, and now a print model, Dianna most enjoys time with her husband Homer and their dogs Maverick and Bandit.

