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Annual Miss University Pageant Set for Sunday

Participants competing for scholarships, spot in Miss Mississippi Pageant

OCTOBER 11, 2017 BY KAROLINE KOUK

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Leah Gibson, Miss University 2017, will crown the new Miss University at the pageant Oct. 15 in the Ford Center. Photo by Kevin Bain/Ole Miss Communications

OXFORD, Miss. – Thirteen contestants will be vying for the title of Miss University at the 69th annual Miss University Scholarship Pageant, set for Sunday (Oct. 15) at the University of Mississippi's Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts.

The pageant, sponsored by the Ole Miss Student Union and the Student Activities Association, is set for 5:30 p.m. Tickets, priced at \$10 for UM students and \$15 for the general public, are available at the Ford Center Box Office and online at <https://olemissboxoffice.com/>.

The winner advances to the Miss Mississippi Pageant in June 2018 in Vicksburg. Miss University 2018 also gets a scholarship and other benefits, said Bradley Baker, director of the Ole Miss Student Union and pageant host.

"The winner will receive over \$5,000 in scholarships and prizes from various sponsors for the Miss University Pageant," Baker said. "This pageant not only provides scholarships but it empowers young women to achieve their dreams while serving as role models for their communities, states and the nation."

Contestants complete an interview session with judges before the pageant, and the on-stage competitions include talent, evening gown, swimwear and on-stage question events.

These contestants for Miss University 2018 and their platforms are:

- Shelbee Avelino, of Arroyo Grande, California; Seventeen Strong and Overall Wellness
- Asya Branch, of Booneville; Empowering Children of Incarcerated Parents
- Madison Demotts, of Gulf Breeze, Florida; Move Mississippi
- Emma Gaddy, of Moulton, Alabama; Dance For All
- Kimberly Gordon, of Brooksville; Body Dysmorphic Disorder
- Baylee Howard, of Corinth; Women in Engineering Proactive Work
- Mary Margaret Hyer, of Hattiesburg; Advocate, Celebrate, Donate
- Mary Randall Ivy, of Oxford; Listen Carefully: Healthy Hearing Awareness
- Ciara Knapp, of Chatham, Illinois; Crowning Success: The Four Points Mentoring
- Charley Ann Nix, of Batesville; Don't Wait, Educate: A Bullying Prevention Program
- Dana Wesley, of West Point; Language-Learning to Foster Understanding
- Hannah Whitlock, of Pontotoc; Game On for Literacy
- Blair Worsmith, of Little Rock, Arkansas; Guiding Youth to Financial Freedom

For more information about the pageant, go to <https://saa.olemiss.edu/miss-university/>.

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OXFORD, Miss. – Eleven University of Mississippi students spent their winter break learning about the people who work behind the scenes of the American government in Washington, D.C. Lead by Jonathan Klingler, assistant professor of political science, the students of Pol 391: Applied Politics met not with candidates, but with the people who make candidates'

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OXFORD, Miss. – Stephanie Jennings Teague, of Chicago, sees her commitment of \$100,000 to the Patterson School of Accountancy's new building at the University of Mississippi as a means of saying "thank you." "It is a way to show a small token of my appreciation to Ole Miss, the faculty and staff, and the accounting

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U.S. inflation roller coaster prompts fresh look at long-ignored money supply By Michael S. Derby NEW YORK – The amount of money sloshing around the U.S. economy shrank last year for the first time on record, a development that some economists believe bolsters the case for U.S. inflation pressures continuing to abate. The Federal Reserve's

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