

Emily Hamilton Crowned Miss Washington's Teen 2023

Miss Washington *Scholarship Organization*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Emily Hamilton, Miss Seattle's Teen, crowned Miss Washington's Teen 2023 on June 24th at Capital High School Performing Arts Center.

OLYMPIA, WA (June 24, 2023) – Twenty-three teen delegates from across the state competed for over \$130,000 in scholarships, cash and sponsorships over 2 days, culminating in the selection of Emily Hamilton as Miss Washington's Teen 2023. The teens, age 13-18 participated in private interview, health and fitness, talent, and evening gown.

Emily was crowned on Saturday, June 24th in front of hundreds of patrons at Capital High School's state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center. Miss Thurston County's Teen, Charlease Hyder was named 1st Runner Up, with Miss Kitsap Peninsula's Teen Zariah Houston, Miss Auburn's Teen Kaitlyn Gallo, and Miss Spokane's Teen Paige Tobin placing 2nd, 3rd and 4th Runner Up, respectively.

Emily lives in North Bend, WA, and is a rising senior at Mount Si High School, where she is a varsity cheerleader. She'll use her \$7500 scholarship to study communications after high school. Emily is neurodivergent, having ADHD, high functioning autism and social communication disorder. Emily says "I want to inspire other girls who might have been born on the spectrum to just be themselves. Although we may have to work ten times harder to be just as good, anything is possible". Her community service initiative is entitled "Rising from Homelessness to Housing". She and her family have been working with Tent City 4 in east King County for 10 years and she is committed to promoting the success of tent cities in finding people stable and permanent housing.

For the talent competition, Emily performed a powerful rendition of Dolly Parton's "Jolene" and in addition to the crown, she was awarded a preliminary evening gown award and was a Teens in Action Award finalist.

To learn more about the Miss Washington Scholarship Organization, as well as our affiliated local preliminary organizations, visit www.misswashington.org. Learn more about the Teen program at www.misswashingtonsteen.org

ABOUT THE MISS WASHINGTON SCHOLARSHIP ORGANIZATION:

The Miss Washington Scholarship Organization, a not-for-profit corporation, is based in

Puyallup, Washington. It is committed to providing the young women of Washington State with the opportunity to enhance their personal and vocational development through scholarship programs and community service. The Miss Washington Scholarship Organization conducts the Miss Washington's Teen and Miss Washington competitions, official preliminaries to Miss America's Teen and the Miss America Competitions.

ABOUT THE MISS AMERICA ORGANIZATION:

The Miss America Organization is one of the most recognizable household names in America working to empower young women through education and service. MAO is comprised of 51 licensed state organizations, including all 50 states and the District of Columbia and hundreds of licensed local preliminaries. The organization awards more than five million dollars in cash scholarships each year and millions more in-kind per year through national, state, and local programs.