

Miss Oklahoma to Emcee Miss SWOSU Pageant This Saturday

10.20.2008

Miss Oklahoma Kelsey Cartwright will serve as emcee at the Miss SWOSU Pageant this Saturday, October 25, on the Southwestern Oklahoma State University campus in Weatherford.

The pageant, which is a preliminary pageant for the Miss Oklahoma/Miss America pageants, will feature eight SWOSU contestants. The pageant begins at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. The evening will also feature the first-ever Miss SWOSU Outstanding Teen Pageant. Five contestants are competing for that title.

Kelsey Cartwright, a junior at Oklahoma City University, is a dance management major. She is a member of the prestigious American Spirit Dance Company at OCU and dances in the Christmas and spring shows every year. Before starting college, Cartwright trained at Attitudes Dance Studio in her hometown of Collinsville, where she received numerous awards.

Cartwright won the title of Miss Oklahoma in her first-ever attempt. She competed in 11 local pageants before finally winning a crown, which qualified her for the Miss Oklahoma Pageant. At the pageant, she walked away with a swimsuit preliminary award, Rookie of the Year Award, the Brooke E. Hailey Scholarship, and the title of Miss Oklahoma 2008.

Her platform issue is working to have adoption files opened in Oklahoma. Because her father was adopted, the Cartwright family was never able to embrace their family history or have access to their medical records because Oklahoma has a closed record policy. She and her father immediately began working to have the adoption file opened and, once she realized the impact it made on her father, she knew she wanted all adoptees to have the same opportunity.

Advance tickets are \$7 for non-SWOSU students and \$5 for SWOSU students. All tickets at the door are \$10. Advance tickets are available in Room 205 of the SWOSU Administration Building and from all contestants.

Contestants this year are: Kaeli Carothers, Hollis; Megan Miller, Piedmont; Tori Nichols, Oklahoma City; Whitney Sexton, Apache; Ashley Slemp, Gracemont; McKenzie Smith, Yukon; Alyssa Troy, Woodward; and Rebecca Witt, Tipton.

Contestants in the Miss SWOSU Outstanding Teen Pageant are: Allie Ayers, Snyder; Aubrey Crowder, Weatherford; Corianne Fairchild, Leedey; Tangie Gamble, Leedey; and Ashley Wheeler, Navajo.