



PRESS RELEASE

Bringing the Big Apple to the Liberty Boys & Girls Club

Miss New York, Amanda Mason, to Visit Local Boys & Girls Club



Liberty Boys & Girls Club, Tampa, FL, January 7, 2013: Amanda Mason, Miss New York 2013, will be visiting the Liberty Boys & Girls Clubs on Tuesday, January 7th at 3:30 pm to work with Club Members on a variety of social activities.

Since the age of fourteen Ms. Mason has worked with numerous non-profit organizations across the country; such as American Heart Association, Building Homes for Heroes and CMN Hospitals to name a few. For the past 9 years, she has focused her attention on educating youth on the dangers of drugs and alcohol and how they can maintain a healthy lifestyle to follow their dreams.

A graduate of Robinson High School, which is steps away from the Liberty Boys & Girls Club, Ms. Mason is looking forward to returning to familiar territory and sharing her story and time with Club Members.

"Amanda is such an ideal role model for young women today," said Jennifer Yingling, Director of Annual Giving for Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay. "It is so vital that our younger Club Members be exposed to women in her position and with her values. I think it will be an additional treat for our youth to know that she is also a native and can relate to them on so many levels."

At 23 years old, Ms. Mason is currently working toward her Master's degree in Classical Voice at the internationally renowned conservatory Manhattan School of Music. She is as passionate about performing arts, as she is an activist. It was in middle school that Ms. Mason decided she wanted to become a professional singer. In her journey of pursuing her dream, she chose to lead a healthy lifestyle and avoid negative obstacles which could affect her performance. Through her journey she created steps to help achieve her goal. These steps led her to

create the Middle School Movement and DREAM acronym (Determination, Respect, Evaluate, Accountability, Motivation) in hopes of "*Reaching Kids Before Alcohol and Drugs Do.*"

Youth will greet Ms. Mason with their own special tiaras before leading her on a tour and sitting down for a pizza lunch and open discussion.

About the Miss American Organization

The Miss America Organization is one of the nation's leading achievement programs and the world's largest provider of scholarship assistance for young women. Each year, the Miss America Organization and its state and local organizations make available more than \$45 million in cash and scholarship assistance.

Participating in the Miss America system helps young women pay for college and prepare for a career through hands-on leadership; all while gaining life experience, working on issues of importance to society, enhancing personal and professional skills and developing artistic expression.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay

Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay has been a positive force in the community for more than 85 years; enabling young people to become productive, responsible and caring citizens through structured programming, safe learning environments and dedicated staff. With a focus on three core priority outcomes – Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, and Improving Character & Leadership, Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay provides opportunities to build new skills that raise each Club Member's belief that he or she can succeed and receive recognition for personal, social and academic accomplishments.

Contacts

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