



# NEWSLETTER

## Miss New Hampshire and Miss New Hampshire's Teen Tea Party was a sweet success!

On Saturday, November 22, 2025, the Miss New Hampshire and Miss New Hampshire's Teen Tea Party brought together our local titleholders and young girls who are interested in participating in *Granite Stars* or *Empowerment Camp*. These programs provide mentorship and a fun opportunity to be a part of the 2026 state competition week. Guests enjoyed tea, desserts, and entertainment while building friendships and sisterhood. Our masters of ceremonies for the event were **Megan Plaza**, Miss New Hampshire's Teen 2025, and **Corinne Kelly**, Miss New Hampshire's Teen 2022. The Tea Party was a wonderful reminder of the incredible community that makes our program so special!

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See page 8 for more information  
on *Granite Stars* and  
*Empowerment Camp*!

### Save-the-Date

**Forever Miss NH Ball**  
**(hosted by Forever Miss NH Moms)**  
Sat April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
(see page 9 for details)

**Miss NH & Miss NH's Teen 2026**  
**State Competition**  
Wed Apr 29<sup>th</sup> - Sat May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

To suggest a topic for a future newsletter,  
use our [topic suggestion form](#) or email [media@missnh.org](mailto:media@missnh.org)!

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The Tea Party also served to unite our now complete class of local titleholders, who will compete in the 2026 state competition. We have 24 incredible Miss and 24 amazing Teen contestants who will be competing at the state competition being held Wed Apr 29<sup>th</sup> - Sat May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 (see the competition schedule on page 9).



Thank you to all of our volunteers, parents, and local titleholders who supported this event!



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## Emily Spencer, Miss New Hampshire 2024, continues her community service through the Miss Inspiration Pageant

Miss New Hampshire 2024, **Emily Spencer**, proudly hosted the 3rd Annual Miss Inspiration Pageant, an evening dedicated to celebrating the confidence, talent, and service of young women with disabilities. It was truly an inspiring night filled with joy, empowerment, and community support.

**Annika Romanauskas** was crowned Miss Inspiration 2026 and awarded \$4,000 in scholarships! The event recognized nine incredible contestants, each receiving a scholarship for their participation. In total, \$13,000 in scholarships were awarded, doubling last year's amount.

**Shae Lynn Phaneuf** was named 1st Runner-Up, and **Lorelai Rice** earned 2nd Runner-Up, rounding out a night filled with heartfelt moments and celebration. The Miss Inspiration Pageant continues to highlight that true beauty shines brightest through confidence, kindness, and the courage to inspire others.



*Congratulations!*

For more information about the Miss Inspiration Pageant, contact:  
[missinspirationnh@gmail.com](mailto:missinspirationnh@gmail.com)



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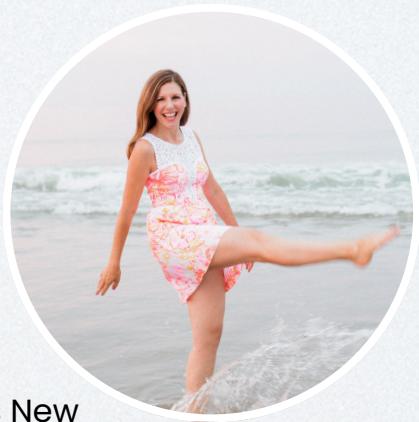
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# Catching up with Miss New Hampshire 2002 Mary Morin Carlin!

We checked in with Mary to see what she has been up to since completing her year of service.

## **How did you first get involved with the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program?**

When I was in 2nd grade, my teacher, Miss Tidd, competed for Miss New Hampshire! As a little girl sitting in the audience, I was captivated by the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program and the amazing women in it. I immediately knew I wanted to one day be Miss New Hampshire and compete in Miss America.



## **What did you gain from participating in the Miss NH Scholarship Program?**

The highlight of being Miss New Hampshire was and always will be the people; the wonderful Miss New Hampshire family of volunteers and young women, and my amazing parents and sister who constantly support me. I'm forever grateful for this community. I earned more than \$40,000 in scholarships, lobbied New Hampshire's Congressional Delegation on Capitol Hill and even got invited to a 4-year-old's birthday tea party! That then 4-year-old was Allie Nault. She is now a longtime dear friend and served as Miss America's Outstanding Teen 2016.



## **What are you up to today?**

After my year as Miss New Hampshire, I earned my M.S. in Broadcast Journalism at Syracuse University. I am a former television news reporter and former morning news anchor and worked at stations in NH, ME, VT and NY. I am a wife and am a proud mom to my 13-year-old daughter, Charlotte. I am a passionate volunteer advocate for The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network along with Charlotte. We have lobbied at the state and federal level for pediatric and adult cancer legislation. I also volunteer extensively at both her current school and her former pre-school in Saratoga Springs, NY, and volunteer as a Girl Scout co-leader.

## **What is a fun fact or something people might be surprised to learn about you?**

I've always loved the quote and the idea, "Life is like riding a bicycle, to keep your balance, you must keep moving" by Albert Einstein. My dad and I love riding The Prouty to benefit Dartmouth Cancer Center together. And since 2017, I've cycled two different routes in The Pan-Mass Challenge with my husband and have done many annual virtual (at-home) PMC rides to fundraise for pediatric brain tumor research at The Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in honor of our hero, Charlotte!

Photo credit: Katrina Bernard Photography



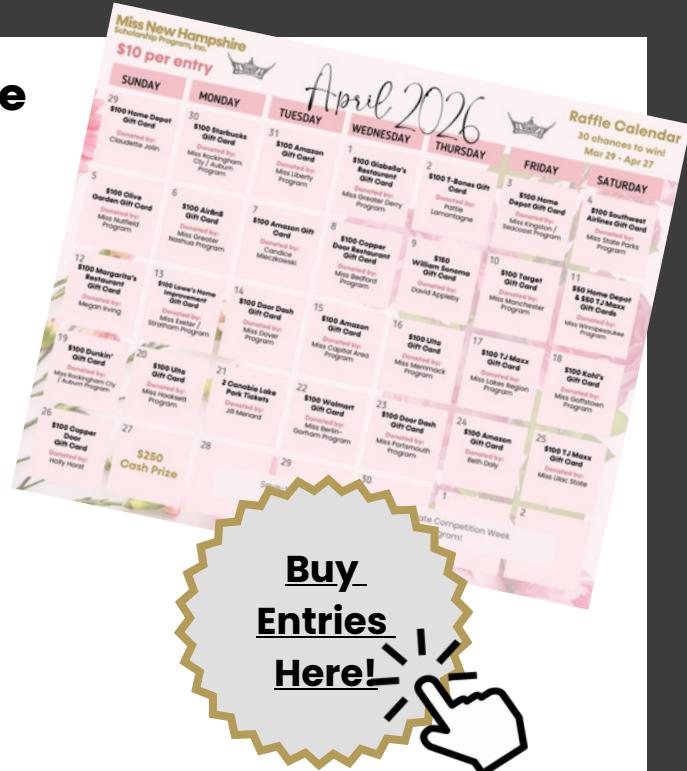
# Support the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program and win amazing prizes!

The Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program Raffle Calendar is here! For just **\$10 per entry**, you'll have **30 chances to win** daily prizes from Sun, March 29 – Mon, April 27, 2026, including a \$250 cash prize on the last day!

Every entry purchased helps our organization continue to provide scholarships and leadership development for young women across New Hampshire, empowering them to pursue their educational and career goals.

**Raffle calendar sales end Saturday, March 28, 2026 – don't miss your chance!** Purchase entries at the link provided. You can support your favorite contestants or just purchase from the organization!

**Thank you for your support!**



Raffle calendar sales end  
March 28, 2026!

## Miss New Hampshire 2025

Xanthi Russell



**BOOK  
NOW**

Bring the excitement of  
Miss New Hampshire to  
your next event!

Whether it's singing the National Anthem, delivering an inspiring speech, or engaging with your audience, Xanthi and Megan stand ready to serve the Granite State!

Have Xanthi or Megan attend your next event!  
Visit [missnh.org](http://missnh.org) to book!

## Miss NH's Teen 2025

Megan Plaza



**BOOK  
NOW**



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# Celebrating "Service" & "Success"

In this issue we celebrate our final list of scholarship award winners from the 2025 state competition! Thank you to our generous donors and sponsors who make these scholarships possible! We can't wait to recognize additional scholarship winners following our 2026 competition! Save-the-date: April 28 - May 2, 2026!

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## 2025 State Competition Awards

## Service & Success



**OLIVIA FONSECA**  
Windham Country Club  
Community Service Award



**XANTHI RUSSELL**  
D+M Demers Real Estate  
Investments Volunteer Award



**HAYLEY PETERS**  
Sue and Bruce Appleby  
Teacher Education Award



**MARENA BEALE**  
Non-Finalist  
Interview Award



**VERONIKA SOKOL**  
Lisa Cripps Richer Memorial  
Humanitarian Award



**RACHEL BROWN**  
AHA Go Red for Women  
Fundraising Award

Miss



Photo credit: Katrina Bernard Photography

Thank you to our amazing donors for supporting these awards!



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# 2025 State Competition Awards

# Service & Success

Teen



**ISABEL DWYER**  
Community Service Award



**MEGAN PLAZA**  
Seeds of Hope Teens in Action Award



**MAYRA GILLIS**  
AHA Go Red for Women Fundraising Award



**MEGAN PLAZA**  
Lisa Cripps Richer Memorial Humanitarian Award



**LILY BEAUCHEMIN**  
Keeping the Arts Alive' Claude Morin Memorial Award

Photo credit: Katrina Bernard Photography

Reminder →

Scholarship award winners can access their scholarship funds by visiting the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Foundation website. ([request funds here!](#))



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## Granite Stars

*Granite Stars* is a mentoring program that gives girls ages 5 – 12 a unique, fun, and memorable opportunity to be a part of the 2026 Miss New Hampshire Competition. Every Miss America starts somewhere and who better to get you started than mentors from our Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program. Participants receive an official crown and sash, the opportunity to perform on the Miss New Hampshire stage, and come home with incredible memories!

## Program Cost



**By 1/10/26:**    **\$300**    **\$200**

**By 3/1/26:**    **\$350**    **\$225**

*Note: your photo may not be in the program book if you sign-up after 1/10/26.*

## Empowerment Camp

Too old for *Granite Stars* but not ready to compete in the Miss New Hampshire's Teen Program? Teens ages 13 – 17 can join us for a 2-day workshop held during the 2026 Miss New Hampshire's Teen Competition for behind-the-scenes training with our *Empowerment Camp*! They will also have the opportunity to perform live on the Miss New Hampshire's Teen stage during the final competition!

## Ready to Sign-Up?

**Deadline to Register is March 1, 2026!**



We hope to have you participate in this exciting opportunity!

For more information about *Granite Stars & Empowerment Camp*, contact:  
**Director – Sherre Dubis | [srdubis@comcast.net](mailto:srdubis@comcast.net) | 603-320-8560**



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# Save THE Date

# Forever Miss NH Ball

Manchester Country Club, Bedford, NH  
Saturday, April 18, 2026



This event is being hosted by Forever Miss New Hampshire moms to celebrate our current class of 2026 and our past Miss New Hampshire's. It will be a fun night of dinner, dancing, and of course some fun games. Save the date! More details to follow.

# Happy Holidays

Sending you our warmest holiday greetings from the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program! As we look ahead to celebrating our program's 80th anniversary in 2026, we are filled with gratitude for the support, spirit, and community that make this organization so special. Wishing you a wonderful New Year and we hope to see you this spring at the 2026 Miss New Hampshire and Miss New Hampshire's Teen competition!

## 2026 State Competition Dates

**Wed 4/29:** Preliminary Competition

**Thurs 4/30:** Preliminary Competition

**Fri 5/1:** Miss NH's Teen Final Competition

**Sat 5/2:** Miss NH Final Competition

Contestants should refer to Google classroom for all required dates and deadlines.



Photo credit: Katrina Bernard Photography

Interested in getting more involved? Sign-up to volunteer!

Volunteer Sign-up Form

Volunteers  
needed

You can help with event planning, donor outreach, production of the state competition, attending events with Miss NH, serving as Field Director for local competitions, and more!

### About the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program

The Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(4) non-profit organization and an official state program of the Miss America Organization. Scholarships are administered by the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Foundation, Inc., a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The mission of the program is to empower young women through scholarship competitions and to provide community service and leadership opportunities while fostering life-long friendships through the Miss America Organization. For more information about the program, to host Miss New Hampshire or Miss New Hampshire's Teen at a local event, or to donate to the scholarship foundation, please visit [missnh.org](http://missnh.org).



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