

Carolinas' Carrousel Announces the 2009 Belk Carrousel Scholarship Winners

Carrousel Queen and her Court named at awards ceremony at the Charlotte Marriott City Center

CHARLOTTE, NC – November 26, 2009 – The 2009 Carrousel Queen and her Court were named at an awards ceremony at the Charlotte Marriott City Center on Wednesday evening, November 25. The Queen and four runners-up were selected from a group of 60 area high school girls who participated in the Belk Carrousel Scholarship program.

Judging was based on academic achievement, community involvement, poise and interview skills. The winners announced at the ceremony are:

Carrousel Queen	Athidi Guthikonda	Ardrey Kell High School
1 st Runner Up	Elyse Caroline Marder	Highland School of Technology
2 nd Runner Up	Janna Katherine Wandzilak	Weddington High School
3 rd Runner Up	Maddisson Elizabeth Sheppard	Hopewell High School
4 th Runner Up	Lauren Caddick	Forestview High School
York Scholarship Winner	Brittany Nicole Southard	Burns High School
Community Service Award	Elizabeth Davis	South Iredell High School
Miss Congeniality	Lindsay Alexa Gowan	Chase High School

The Carrousel Queen and her Court and the York Scholarship winner receive college scholarships ranging from \$700 to \$3,000. The Community Service and Miss Congeniality award winners receive trophies.

In conjunction with the Carrousel Scholarship program, Wingate University offered scholarships to students who had submitted applications to the school. Lucia Maria Leahy of Charlotte Catholic High School and Hannah McDougal of Kings Mountain High School were awarded scholarships in the amount of \$3,000 for each year they attend Wingate.

Also announced at the ceremony were the winners of the Carrousel Music Scholarships, awarded to outstanding members of area high school marching bands. The winners' band departments receive matching grants from the Belk Carrousel Scholarship Fund. The Robert L. Maddox Scholarship is awarded to a student who plans to attend college as a music major. The winners are:

Inside Mecklenburg County	Bryan DuBose Daniels	Myers Park High School
Outside Mecklenburg County	Lauren Alexandra Turnmyre	Ashe County High School
Overall Winner	Amanda Elizabeth Goodman	Ashe County High School
Maddox Award Winner	Nicholas George Love	Ashe County High School

The Carrousel Queen and her Court will ride on a float sponsored by Autobell Car Wash in the Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday, November 26. The other outstanding students who participated in the scholarship program will ride on other sponsored floats in the parade. The music scholarship winners will march with their bands in the parade.

About Us

The Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade has evolved over more than six decades as a regional tradition and highlight of the Holiday Season. Founded in 1947 by four local businessmen to attract

holiday shoppers to uptown Charlotte, the Thanksgiving week events have become so much more. In 2008, the Parade was recognized as the fourth largest Thanksgiving Parade in the United States. The Parade and its ancillary events are produced by Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc., an independent, volunteer, non-profit, charitable organization. Carolinas' Carrousel is committed to enhancing regional area's community life through quality family oriented entertainment. The Parade officially announces and celebrates the beginning of the Holiday Season. In addition, it promotes excellence through awards to area high school students and marching bands. The Carolinas' Carrousel also exists to offer business, industry, and the local citizenry the opportunity of participating in showcasing the region and encouraging academic and artistic excellence in the future leaders of the area.

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