

Catching up with...

Sydnee Stottlemire

Miss Missouri's Outstanding Teen 2008



LOCAL TITLE: Miss Gateway St. Louis' Outstanding Teen

TALENT: Lyrical Dance - "Rock Your Soul"

YEARS COMPETED: 1

PLATFORM: The Healing Power of Pets

MAOT AWARDS: 4th Runner Up to Miss America's Outstanding Teen

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW? I am a junior at the University of Missouri studying journalism with an emphasis in TV broadcasting. This past semester I worked for KBIA FM in Columbia and this summer I will produce content for KOMU8 as a part of my upper-level broadcasting requirements. When I'm not in class, I'm tutoring student athletes for Mizzou's Total Person Program. This past November, I placed 2nd Runner-Up at Miss Missouri USA.

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE APPEARANCE AS MMOT? In 2008, I was awarded the Burger King Hometown Hero award for my efforts with my platform, The Healing Power of Pets. I was whisked away from a local Burger King by none other than the King himself – and brought backstage at the Jonas Brothers concert to meet the trio and attend the concert. Biggest shock of my life!

HOW HAS YOUR PARTICIPATION IN MMOT HELPED YOU GET TO WHERE YOU ARE TODAY? During my time as Miss Missouri's Outstanding Teen, I was named the national spokesperson for ReCHAI (The Research Center for Human-Animal Interaction at the University of Missouri-Columbia). Speaking on behalf of a national organization at 14 years old shaped my communications skills, and created a foundation for a life-long love of using my voice to benefit philanthropic causes.

BEST TIP TO PREPARE FOR INTERVIEW?

Before you walk into interview, don't be holding a binder full of all the facts and platform questions you've prepared for. You've already done that part! Before your interview, relax. I like to listen to music or read a chapter from my favorite book. Remember: the judges are looking for the next Miss Missouri's Outstanding Teen. Just be you!

BEST TIP FOR FITNESS? Find an exercise routine you love! I love Pure Barre because I was a dancer growing up. Every class feels like a vacation from school and work. If you're having fun, you're hardly working.

BEST TIP FOR TALENT? Muscle memory! Before MAOT, I was practicing my routine 7 days a week. When I got to the big stage, my adrenaline and nerves spiked to an all-time high; however, I knew I was ready. I relished in that moment and didn't push away any feelings because I knew my body would take the lead.

BEST BEAUTY TIP? Coconut oil everything. I cook with it, put it in my tea, use it as moisturizer, and sleep with it in my hair once a week! I've even read an entire novel about it. The possibilities are endless, ladies!



Prep like a winner...

FAVORITE HEALTHY SNACK: Baked kale chips & dried fruit

FAVORITE BEAUTY PRODUCT: Benefit Roller Lash Mascara & Ybf Light Diffusing Foundation

PAGEANT WEEK ESSENTIAL: *Mind Gym* by Gary Mack

WISH I WOULD HAVE... Held my dress up behind stage! The year I won, there was still no air conditioning, so the humidity caused the cement floors in the dressing room to sweat. Dragging my train through the damp floor caused the entire bottom of my dress to mold!