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# Acting Governor Kim Guadagno Welcomes 2015 Miss America Contestants to Atlantic City

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## Second Year of the Return of the Iconic Miss America Competition to Atlantic City

Trenton, NJ - Acting Governor Kim Guadagno and leaders from the Miss America Organization today welcomed the 53 contestants who will be competing in this year's nationally televised 2015 Miss America Competition. This year's event will be broadcast live from Boardwalk Hall on the ABC television network on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

"It's such a pleasure to welcome the Miss America competition back to Atlantic City for the second year in a row," said Acting Governor Guadagno. "The 53 contestants can take pride in their success and in the leadership and dedication they have displayed."

The Miss America Competition welcomes contestants from all 50 states, plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This year's event marks the second year of its return to Atlantic City, where the pageant originated in 1920.

"On behalf of the Miss America Organization, we are thrilled to be returning to Atlantic City once again," said Sam Haskell, CEO and Chairman of the Board of the Miss America Organization. "We have an incredible class of intelligent young women competing this year and you will see them shine brightly during our ABC telecast on Sunday, September 14 as we proudly showcase your beautiful beaches and boardwalk. We thank the Acting Governor, Kim Guadagno and our partners in Atlantic City for all of their support as we bring this great American tradition from the heart of Atlantic City to all of America, live on ABC."

In addition to hosting an American tradition, the Miss America Organization is the proud home to one of the nation's leading achievement programs and is the world's largest provider of scholarship assistance for young women. Along with its state and local affiliates, the Miss America Organization offered more than \$45 million in scholarship support last year alone.

"Hosting events like Miss America also provides support to local businesses while showcasing the unique and diverse attractions that Atlantic City and New Jersey have to offer," added Acting Governor Guadagno.

The Miss America Competition is the latest in a series of world-class events that have either recently occurred or will soon take place in New Jersey. Wrestlemania XXIX sold out MetLife Stadium in 2013, with Super Bowl XLVIII following in February of 2014. New Jersey was also the proud host of the 2014 Special Olympics USA National Games, in addition to countless other events showcasing some of the world's premier athletes, entertainers, and performers of all genres and disciplines. Just last week, the Acting Governor helped announce that New Jersey will also host the 2017 PGA TOUR Presidents Cup.

For more information on the Miss America Organization and its work, visit [www.missamerica.org](http://www.missamerica.org).

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