

Happy New Year to all! With the hustle and bustle of the holiday season coming to an end, I have found myself thrust into the beginning of an exciting and interesting new year. 2013 has already presented overwhelming challenges and endeavors for me.

A few weeks ago I did something I would never dream of doing in a million years, I emceed an event. (Our Glitzy Girls Winter Wonderland) I am not one who likes to speak in public or be the center of attention, (ironic for a pageant veteran, but true) so this was huge for me.

I was afraid my nerves would get the best of me, however once I had gotten through the first several age groups the rhythm of the day just seemed to set in. The greatest advantage of being the Emcee was that I had the best seat in the house, an up close and personal view of the entire competition, and it was AWESOME! This was one of the toughest pageant competitions I have witnessed in a very long time.

The greatest disadvantage of being the Emcee was that I had the best seat in the house, an up close and personal view of the entire competition, and it was DISTRESSING! Able to see and hear everything that was happening on stage and behind the scenes, I knew a storm was brewing. Not everyone leaves with the title they believe they deserve and this weekend would prove no different. Sadly this storm resulted in disqualifying a contestant due to their family's poor sportsmanship and rule violation.

Though many families may leave a pageant unhappy with the outcome very few will attack the system, the judges, the contestants, their families and the emcee. OH NO YOU DIDN'T! (I actually snapped my fingers in the Z formation as I said that, lol) The personal attacks against me were so slanderous that I will not even dignify them with a response. These vicious attacks along with rule violations left us with no choice but to strip a contestant of their title and move up every contestant that followed.

In an effort to protect the integrity of the Winter Wonderland pageant and its competitors, videotaping was prohibited at the event with the exception of the talent event. Each contestant deserves the security and privacy of their identity, attire, style, and unique modeling routines. To compensate we offered Stage Shots of "YOUR CONTESTANT".

A violation of this rule is a violation against every contestant. Though the vicious attacks and rule breaking was done by a family member, actions must have consequences. If we did not disqualify the child we would have been condoning the actions of the family member as well as personally violating the other contestant's privacy. Decisions like this are never easy, but we feel it is our obligation to preserve the integrity and privacy of every contestant. I want to throw a shout out to my parents and commend them on their dignity throughout the drama and for organizing such an awesome pageant. Great job Mom and Dad!

Looking ahead, we are busy planning another wonderful event this May, The Couture Event, it is Glitzy Girls' magazine signature event of the year. It's a cross between a Fashion Show and a Pageant, with the actual designers on hand as well as trained pageant judges.

Last year's Couture event had a Paris flair to it, but this year - we have gone all out! Our staging has been re-designed to complete the Paris scene and we are ready to bring you a very unique setting. My parents have been setting the standard for many of the photo events in pageantry for years, but with the Couture Event they will be bringing a new pageant experience to the contestants and their families.

The entire production from stage, lighting and sound will be provided by Glitzy Girls Events, we have invested in bringing our contestants and their families a unique experience at each of our pageant systems.

We don't want you to walk away with the same old feeling that you had the week before. In most cases pageants are the same from week to week, maybe different location, but basically the same pageant, same faces. All of our events are specifically designed and tailored for the individual event.

We are also looking forward to a NEW Halloween Pageant this year. I can't wait for all the exciting things we are planning for 2013. Stay tuned for more details. Till then, let your beauty Shine!

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- editor-in-chief



Photo by: Jim Brown

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