



The top five contestants for the Miss Oregon title included, from left, Shivali Kadam, Miss Portland; Hannah Garhofer, Miss Tri-Valley; Stephanie Magee, Miss Meadow Lark; Allison Burke, Miss Northwest Wonderland; and Claire Sparks, Miss Central Valley.

Photos by Katherine Lacaze

Miss Oregon: Shivali Kadam crowned Miss Oregon

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song "Reflection" from Disney's "Mulan." However, her emphasis throughout the competition was promoting Science Technology Engineering and Mathematic subjects and discussing how she will help contribute to growing the next generation of female engineers and scientists through her platform: STEM to Bloom.

"Anyone can be in the Miss America organization," said Kadam, who graduated from Oregon State University in 2018 with a degree in chemical engineering and works as a construction manager in semiconductor manufacturing for Jacobs Engineering Group. "It doesn't matter what your goals are, personal or professional, we are here to support you in all of those goals."

Kadam first became familiar with the Miss Oregon Scholarship Program when she saw her friend and fellow collegiate a cappella group member Emma Wampler, Miss Linn-Benton County 2015, at an appearance.

"When she described the program to me, the emphasis on service, I was like, 'I'm all in, I want to do this,'" Kadam said. "I'm so grateful for the last four years in this organization. It has brought me a second family and so many mentors I respect so much who have been guiding lights in my life."

During the final day of competition, Kadam and the other top 10 candidates competed for a second time in the categories of talent; evening wear and social impact; and onstage interview. Those candidates included Emily Warren, Miss Sunstone; Stephanie Magee, Miss Meadow Lark; Claire Sparks, Miss Central Valley; Rylee Young, Miss Southern Gem; Sarah Blum, Miss Linn-Benton County; Josie Carstensen, Miss Capital City; Rose Sheldon, Miss Coos County; Allison Burke, Miss Northwest Wonderland; Hannah Garhofer, Miss Tri-Valley; and Danielle Cormier, Miss Emerald Valley.

Once the field was narrowed down to the top five — Kadam, Sparks, Magee, Burke and Garhofer — the



Miss Tri-Valley Hannah Garhofer, who went to Seaside High School, performs a tap routine as her talent during the final day of competition for the Miss Oregon Scholarship Program's state competition Saturday. Garhofer was the



Marin Gray, Umpqua Valley's Outstanding Teen, is crowned Miss Oregon's Outstanding Teen for 2019 by Kennedy Hjelte, Miss Oregon's Outstanding Teen 2018.

contestants had an onstage discussion with emcee Kari Virding Christensen, Miss Oregon 2007, about their qualifications for the job that accompanies the crown.

Garhofer, who attended Seaside High School and

some mixed reactions, as the competition originated as a bathing suit revue. However, Kadam said she "is so excited to be the first Miss Oregon 2.0 and really move the organization forward in that direction."

they do not feel comfortable in a swimsuit onstage," Sheldon said. "At no point in our time as Miss Oregon, or Miss Coos County, or Miss America, do we make an appearance in our swimsuit. We are here to make an impact in our community, our state, and our country, and looking good in a swimsuit is not a requirement for that."

Also during the evening, Marin Gray, of Roseburg, was crowned Miss Oregon's Outstanding Teen. Gray, who took fourth runner-up last year, was Miss Umpqua Valley's Outstanding Teen.

"I went into it this time just wanting to bond with my sister queens, because I realized last year that there was such a good sisterhood," said Gray, whose platform is Building Respect, Alliances, and Value for Everyone, or BRAVE. "I came in here with the mindset of just spending time with those people who are so amazing and having a lot of fun, and it just worked out for me this year."

She will spend the next three weeks refining her performance in the various categories of competition to prepare for the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Competition in Florida at the end of July.

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Shivali Kadam

was Miss Clatsop County in 2017, took second runner-up and Burke was first runner-up.

Moving forward

Under the Miss America 2.0 initiative, the program made several changes to competition and judging criteria, the most prominent of which was the elimination of the swimsuit category. The change was met with

During the onstage interview segment, Sheldon also was asked her opinion about whether the swimsuit segment should be reinstated or stay removed. Sheldon responded she was in favor of eliminating that portion of competition.

"Time and time again, I've talked to women — strong, philanthropic, capable women — who have not competed, simply because

School District: Board approves agreement to begin natural disasters plan update, streamlining process

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different entities to have their own individualized mitigation plans while the county continues to be the oversight agency.

"It allows us a lot of streamlining of the processes and emergency management systems," Roley said.

Each jurisdiction will have representation on a

steering committee to help with developing plans using a standardized template. Maintenance supervisor Chuck Loesch will represent the school district.

However, each jurisdiction can also independently apply to FEMA for funds to mitigate damages that could occur in the case of a natural disaster, whether it be a flood, Storm of 2007, or tsunami, Roley said. She gave the example of applying for funds to move the district's

bus garage to the hill next to the new campus.

"In a tsunami, we would lose all those resources, but in an emergency, they could be used for shelter and transportation if they were moved," she said. "We could potentially write a grant to FEMA to have that facility built."

The board approved to enter into an intergovernmental agreement to undergo the process of updating their plan.

City budget: City OKs \$67M budget for 2019-20

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Planned street construction, sewers and sewer plant replacement costs also drive the budget. Capital construction of a water tank above the new Seaside Middle and High School campus in the Southeast Hills is budgeted at more than \$5.5 million.

The budget, which required adoption by July 1, directs about \$2.2 million to the Seaside Civic and Convention Center construction cost, after paying more than \$14 million in 2018.

The city's total unappropriated ending fund balance stands at about \$16 million.

The approval of the fiscal year budget came as councilors also adopted a road district budget and voted to receive state revenue sharing.

The road budget of \$894,939 comes at a cost to property owners of

about 30 cents per \$1,000 of assessed home value.

Without comments at a public hearing, the resolutions received unanimous approval from councilors Randy Frank, Tom Horning, Tita Montero, Seth Morrisey, Dana Phillips and Steve Wright.

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