

# Miss Oregon: 'We produce hope'

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Hayes, 20, is a student at Liberty University with a major in strategic communications. Her goal is to work in a law firm focusing on family and pro bono work.

"I believe that every single girl on the stage was absolutely beautiful and deserved it just as much as I did," Hayes said.

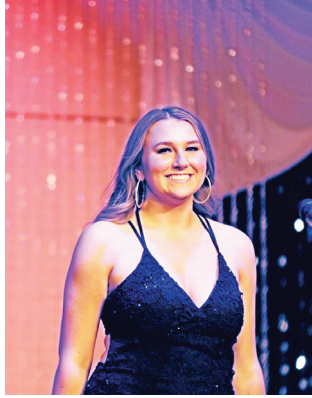
The Miss Oregon Scholarship Program began in 1947. The annual event was canceled in 2020 because of the pandemic but returned this year in a hybrid format with both a live and virtual audience.

The event was one of the North Coast's largest since the pandemic began.

The five-person judging panel included publisher Neal Robbins; 2008 Miss Oregon Danijela Radeta; former Miss Idaho pageant director Gene Hill; writer and artist Mary Anne Radmacher; and Seaside Chamber of Commerce CEO Brian Owen.

Judges selected five finalists out of 18 entrants based on Thursday and Friday preliminaries, onstage interviews, red carpet performance and talent.

Along with Hayes, the



Photos by Malia Riggs/For Seaside Signal

**LEFT:** Miss Clatsop County Haylie Moon was named nonfinalist interview winner and received a \$250 scholarship. **RIGHT:** Miss North Coast Caitlin Hillman competed in the event.

finalists included Miss City of Roses Allison Burke, of Tigard; Miss Evergreen Claire Sparks, of Beaverton; Miss Tri-Valley Danielle Cormier, of Wilsonville; and Miss Portland Metro Sophia Takla, of Portland.

Miss Clatsop County Haylie Moon, from Cannon Beach, was named non-finalist interview winner and received a \$250 scholarship. "This is my final year competing as a miss contestant," she said. "I could not have done anyone more proud. I'm so proud of myself. I'm so proud of this community of women and the sisterhood. And I absolutely love com-

peting in this program."

Miss North Coast Caitlin Hillman, of Gearhart, said she felt great about the pageant. "I'm really just happy to be here," she said. "This is my first time competing in the miss division, so it was great to be able to represent the North Coast and be here and meet so many amazing women. I'm very excited for Abigail. She's going to be an amazing Miss Oregon."

Earlier Saturday, reigning titleholder Marin Gray passed the Miss Oregon Outstanding Teen crown to Moira O'Bryan, of Coos Bay, one of 11 teen contestants.

"It's pretty exciting," Beth

McShane, the program's executive director, said. "Coos County is one of our oldest, best local programs, and they have their first state titleholder."

Teens will compete in Orlando next month.

As the winner, Hayes will receive a \$10,000 scholarship and in-kind scholarship contributions from the Sherman College of Chiropractic. She will participate in the Miss America competition in December at Mohegan Sun in Connecticut.

In her final interview question, Hayes was asked how she would build stronger relationships with local businesses and sponsors.

"Looking at the 75th anniversary of Miss Oregon, what better brand than for our brand to be hope," Hayes said. "After a year of coming out with political tension and global pandemic I believe it's very important that we produce hope, and as Miss Oregon, it is my mission to help involve other organizations ... and letting them know what this organization is truly about."

Her first act as Miss Oregon?

"I'm going to go hug my parents and cry," she said.

## BRIEFS



Eva Hill

### Bookmobile to deliver free books

The Seaside School District Bookmobile will be giving away free books in Seaside, Warrenton and Cannon Beach.

The bookmobile comes to Broadway Park from 1 to 2 p.m., and Cartwright Park from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m., on Wednesdays in July and August.

The bookmobile visits the city park in Cannon Beach on Tuesdays from noon to 2 p.m. in July and August.

The bookmobile comes to Gearhart City Hall on Thursdays in July and August from 1 to 2 p.m.; and to the Cullaby Lake boat ramp Thursdays in July and August from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

### Local students earn dean's list recognition

Gearhart's Jackson Januik and Seaside's Niquilla Blodgett were named to the dean's list at George Fox University. Januik is a senior majoring in management. Blodgett is a senior majoring in elementary education.

Traditional undergraduate students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or above on 12 or more hours of graded work to earn a spot on the dean's list.

### Januik earns degree at George Fox

Jackson Januik of Gearhart was among the undergraduate, adult degree and graduate-level students who received diplomas from George Fox University this spring. Januik earned a bachelor of arts degree in management.

George Fox University is ranked by Forbes among the top Christian universities in the country and is a Christian college classified by U.S. News & World Report as a "Best National University."

More than 4,000 students attend classes on the university's campus in Newberg, Ore., and at teaching centers in Portland, Salem and Redmond.

### Sheets needed

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 320 First Ave. in Seaside, needs double, queen and king flat sheets for the quilting club. To donate, contact Claudia Kulland at 503-505-1626.

### City awards tourism grants

The Seaside Visitors Bureau and Tourism Advisory Committee awarded \$16,900 in grant funding



Seaside Museum and Historical Society

**The Lewis and Clark Salt Makers, one of the programs to receive an assist from a city tourism grant. This year's event takes place Sept. 11-12.**

to five organizations for six upcoming events through the 2021-2022 Tourism Grant Program.

The Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District received a total of \$5,000 for two events: \$3,000 for a Prom Centennial Chalk Art Contest, which will include lessons and a public display near the Turnaround July 30-31, and \$2,000 for a Pickleball Tournament to be held Nov. 12-14.

The Seaside Museum and Historical Society received \$3,100 for the annual Lewis and Clark Salt Makers reenactment Sept. 11-12, on the beach at Avenue U.

Seaside Downtown Development Association received \$5,000 for Halloween Happenin's, a popular collection of family-friendly events from Oct. 29-31, 2021, that brings visitors into town around the holiday.

The Seaside Municipal Airport received \$3,300 for an Annual Fly-In on Sept. 18, that will be open to the public and feature static aircraft displays by local pilots and others such as the Coast Guard and Life Flight.

A new entity, Seaside Events and Promotions, received \$500 for an all-ages Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Tournament to be held April 30-May 1, 2022.

### Moving up ceremony for Koalas, Wallabies

The Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District recognized preschoolers moving on to kindergarten with a drive-through celebration on Friday, June 18, in the Sunset Recreation Center parking lot.

Teachers Kelly Smith and Jen McCollister had a total of 20 children this past school year in the Koalas and Wallabies classes, 11 of whom will be going to kindergarten this fall.

### Local students earn OSU diplomas

More than 7,000 students representing all 36

of Oregon's counties, all 50 states and 73 countries have earned degrees as part of Oregon State University's class of 2021.

Seaside residents to graduate include Brad A. Gohr, bachelor of science degree majoring in fisheries and wildlife sciences; Berkley D. Posalski, bachelor of science, construction engineering management; Joshua M. Strozzi, bachelor of science, cum laude, computer science.

Cannon Beach residents to receive degrees include from Oregon State University include William R. Benefield, bachelor of science, mechanical engineering; Annuka A. Brown, bachelor of science, education, bachelor of science, human development and family sciences.

Gearhart's Dante M. Leffler received his bachelor of science degree with a major in environmental sciences.

### Clatsop 4-H seeks feedback to develop programs

Clatsop County 4-H is seeking community feedback as it looks to offer new afternoon programs for underrepresented teens.

People interested in informing the organization's decisions are asked to fill out a survey available at [beav.es/3qk](http://beav.es/3qk).

The programs would be different from the usual 4-H offerings provided through the Oregon State University Extension Service in Clatsop County or in local schools. The goal is to reach struggling teens, according to organizers.

Oregon State University is looking for responses from as many people in the community as possible, adults and teens alike. The survey responses will help inform program priorities, activities, topics and locations.

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