

**SHINNECOCK NEWS**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**THE MISS SHINNECOCK TEEN PAGEANT**  
**CONTINUES**

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. ~ *The 2011 Miss Shinnecock Teen Pageant will be held on Saturday, June 11, from 6 to 9 p.m., in the Southampton High School auditorium—a larger venue to accommodate the overwhelming crowd that swelled beyond the doors of the Southampton Inn Ballroom in 2009. Tickets are currently on sale for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students with the proceeds benefiting the Shinnecock Indian Education program as well as travel expense for the winners to attend various powwows and conferences across Indian Country. Tickets will also be sold at the door the night of the event, where children age five and under will be allowed free admission.*

Finally reinstated after 13 years, the 2009 Miss Shinnecock Teen pageant crowned two goodwill ambassadors to represent the Shinnecock Indian Nation: Miss Shinnecock Teen Autumn Rose Williams and Miss Shinnecock Junior Teen Mattah Wright. This year Miss Mattah Wright will pass along her Junior Teen crown to one of six Shinnecock girls from grades 6 to 8. Miss Autumn Rose Williams, however, will retain her role as Miss Shinnecock Teen as no eligible Teen contestants in grades 9 through 12 stepped forward to compete.

This year the pageant format will allow only one category to be representative of the modern world—formal wear. All other categories will include Native dance competition, Native talent, Native history interview and Algonquian language, and special features of traditional Shinnecock dances. In addition to a crowned Junior Teen princess, second and first place runners-up will be named, as well as winners for Miss Congeniality, Best Dancer, Best Talent, Most Articulate, and Formal Bell.

In the absence of a Teen category, this year Shinnecock girls ages 1- to 5-years-old will get a chance to shine in a new Tiny Tot Showcase featuring the girls modeling Native regalia and formal wear. All tiny tot participants will be crowned winners.

This year a panel made up of all Native American judges—two from Shinnecock and three notable members of other Native Nations—will judge the girls on speech and etiquette, knowledge of Native and Shinnecock history, traditional Native and Shinnecock dance, regalia, formal wear, and talent. All year long the girls have been preparing with lessons in history, etiquette and dance that have strengthened their sense of tradition, leadership, social conscience, and self assurance in achieving their potential.

In order to make this event possible, the pageant committee is seeking volunteers, sponsors and donations in all capacities. Donations may be sent via check, payable to Shinnecock Teen Pageant, c/o Suffolk County National Bank, 295 North Sea Road, Suite 101, Southampton, NY 11968.