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Miss Rodeo Oklahoma Pageant Announces New Scholarships

The nonprofit Oklahoma Rodeo Pageants Council (ORPC) has announced it will award additional scholarships for finalists in the next Miss Rodeo Oklahoma Scholarship Pageant, June 5-8, 2019. Held in conjunction with the Woodward Elks Rodeo in Woodward, Okla., the pageant will select Miss Rodeo Oklahoma 2020. The winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship, with a \$1,000 scholarship for first runner-up and \$500 to the second runner-up. Several other additional prizes also will awarded.

"This marks a significant increase in the scholarships we will award this year," said Kathy Shumway, ORPC president. "The mission of the ORPC is to provide diverse opportunities for the development of the young women of Oklahoma to maximize their educational potential while promoting the sport of rodeo, the State of Oklahoma, its legacy and the western way of life. Our Board of Directors and members are working hard to fulfill this mission through the state pageant program and our commitment to scholarships."

Previously, Miss Rodeo Oklahoma received a \$1,000 scholarship and first runner-up won \$500. The Miss Rodeo Oklahoma Pageant selects Oklahoma's representative to the Miss Rodeo America Pageant held each year in Las Vegas as part of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo. Miss Rodeo Oklahoma 2019 is Kodi Smalygo of Skiatook.

"We know that participating in the Miss Rodeo Oklahoma Pageant changes lives. The learning and personal growth is a reward in itself," said Shumway. "We hope these scholarships will be incentives for more of Oklahoma's young women to take part."

The Miss division is for Oklahoma female residents, ages 18-24 years, as of January 1 of the competition year. Complete entry information and applications can be obtained at www.missrodeoklahoma.com.

The state pageant also offers additional age categories and awards for teen, princess and sweetheart. Miss Rodeo Oklahoma Teen is Allie Baker of Barnsdall, and Miss Rodeo Oklahoma Princess is Tara Fenton of Pawnee.

Platinum Sponsors for the Miss Rodeo Oklahoma Scholarship Pageant include the Woodward Elks Rodeo, the Woodward Convention & Visitors Bureau, Arrowhead Now, the Hampton Inn and Suites of Woodward and the Wyndham Garden Airport, Oklahoma City.

To make a contribution toward the scholarship fund or ORPC programs, email missrodeoktickets@gmail.com and a Board member will contact you.

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Editor's Note: High-resolution photos are available to accompany this release.