



**Sarah Slocum Collins
Miss Arkansas 2009**

Sarah Slocum Collins is a 2004 graduate of Sheridan High School in Sheridan, Arkansas where she served as Student Council President, Senior Class secretary, a Girls State Delegate and a Girls Nation Senator. During her high school years, Sarah was an active member of the SHS Choir being named first chair, first soprano at All-State.

After graduating first in her class, Sarah attended the University of Central Arkansas to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, with a minor in Mass Communication. She was awarded academic and vocal performance scholarships and was a member of many student organizations including Director of the IDEAL Leadership Team, Student Orientation Staff, Student Government, and a member of the UCA traveling choir until she graduated *summa cum laude* in 2008.

Sarah pursued her Juris Doctor at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Arkansas where she graduated and became a licensed attorney in 2012. During that time, Sarah was crowned Miss Arkansas 2009 requiring her to take a one year sabbatical from law school to travel the state encouraging students to pursue higher education and work with state leaders to make higher education affordable for a greater number of students.

In 2013, Sarah began her work as a governmental lobbyist and strategist. Currently, she is an associate attorney with the Roberts Law Firm and Vice President of Government Relations with Roberts GR Strategies both in Little Rock, Arkansas. Sarah and her husband Ryan have one son, Beckett who is by far her greatest accomplishment, joy and blessing.

Sarah continues her volunteer work with the Miss Arkansas Pageant by serving on Miss Arkansas' interview prep team for Miss America and Miss Arkansas Pageant emcee for 2015. She enjoys volunteering in her community and serving as a small group leader in their home church of Cross Church Pinnacle Hills.

Miss America Impact Statement

"When I began competing at the age of 20, I could not have envisioned the profound impact the Miss America Organization would ultimately have on my life, not only during my competition years, but also long after I'd left the stage. Competing in the Miss America system at the local, state and national level taught me invaluable communication skills that I employ today as a lobbyist and attorney and helped me establish a strong foundation of physical health. It also taught me poise and the art of performance in being able to effectively communicate with a large audience or a small group of individuals."

"In addition to the intangible benefits, the scholarship money I received at various levels within the system helped fund my undergraduate and law degrees, a feat that would not have been possible without the scholarship assistance that serves as the cornerstone of the organization."

"By far, one of the greatest investments I made within myself was founded in my decision to compete in the Miss America Organization and for its impact I will be forever grateful."

Miss America
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