



MEDIA ALERT

Att: Newsdesk/ All Media

12 August 2024

NYDA CELEBRATES MILESTONE IN MISS SOUTH AFRICA PAGEANT

The National Youth Development Agency, under the authority of the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities wishes to express its great joy in the crowning of Mia Le Roux as the new reigning Queen.

South Africa is a diverse society which ought to reflect all that live in it, the crowning of Mia as the first ever Miss South Africa living with a physical disability, therefore forms testament to the agenda of government, that all stakeholders form a part of the transformation mission to drive inclusivity in our society.

For the greatest of times, beauty pageants remained untransformed with standards of beauty that marginalised various communities of people across age, marital status, parenting status and various physical disabilities.

Mia is a 28 year old young woman who hails from Sasolburg in the Free State and was raised in Oudtshoorn in the Western Cape. During her journey to the crown, the newly reigning pageant queen expressed the challenges that she had growing up, following being diagnosed with profound hearing loss as a one year old and how she relies on her cochlear implant to help her perceive sound. Ms Le Roux also expressed the amount of time it had taken for her to utter her first words and this showed the spirit of resilience which this young woman has.

“Mia is truly a formidable young woman, who is deserving of all recognition and honour. Her spirit of resilience is truly inspiring for all of us as young people, to continue championing the plight of inclusivity across all sectors. Mia remains a beacon of hope for the community of young people living with disability and the NYDA wishes to applaud her for her efforts,” Asanda Luwaca, Executive Chair of the NYDA.

The agency wishes Mia well in her reign and looks forward to collaborating with her on initiatives that benefit young people, but in particular youth with disabilities.

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