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Rowlett Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission Announces First Miss Juneteenth



ROWLETT, TEXAS— the City of Rowlett’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission has appointed Ariane Gibbons as the inaugural Miss Juneteenth Rowlett. She was crowned by Mayor Blake Margolis. To begin her reign, Miss Gibbons will serve as host for the 2023 Rowlett Juneteenth Block Party event on June 17, 2023 and will then go on to represent her title in Juneteenth events throughout the DFW metroplex.

Miss Gibbons is a 2022 graduate of North Garland High School in the Garland Independent School District. In her time at North Garland, she served as cheer and volleyball captain. Miss Gibbons also attended the Gilbreath-Reed Career and Technology Center to obtain her Certified Veterinary Assistant certification. Miss Gibbons volunteers in the Rowlett community and serves as a Lead Peer Advocate with the Stopping the Madness Antibullying Foundation.

Ariane competed in the 2018 Miss Juneteenth Fort Worth pageant and won the first runner-up title, Miss Freedom Juneteenth FTW, and the 2018 People’s Choice award. She also competed in the 2021 Miss Juneteenth Fort Worth winning the Miss Freedom title during the historic year of Juneteenth becoming a national holiday. Miss Gibbons went on to accompany Texas State Representative Rhetta Bowers throughout the 2021 Juneteenth weekend festivities.

The Miss Juneteenth Scholarship Pageant is a historic centerpiece of Juneteenth festivities. The pageant offers an opportunity for young black women to enrich their personal development and self-knowledge through training in poise, etiquette, public speaking, and essay writing. The winning Juneteenth queen and her court serve as ambassadors to the community and bring attention to the cultural importance of the holiday.

The Rowlett Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission exists to provide creative ideas and feedback to proactively engage Rowlett’s diverse population. The commission enhances the community by celebrating and fostering mutual respect, integrity, and fairness. Members seek to engage with others in a deliberate and collaborative effort to enrich the vibrant culture of Rowlett.

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