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**National Miss Orange Show Queen:
Scholarship Pageant crowns four San Bernardino Area queens including Miss National
Orange Show and Miss National Orange Show Outstanding Teen**

San Bernardino, Calif., February 28, 2009- In conjunction with an official local division of the Miss America Organization, the National Orange Show hosted a scholarship pageant to select the reigning queens for the San Bernardino area for the year of 2009. The National Orange Show is pleased to announce Ridhi Patel as 2009 National Orange Show queen and Rikayah Crawford as 2009 Miss National Orange Show Outstanding Teen.

Contestants at the pageant competed for four crowns based on their age and region of residence in the San Bernardino area. Miss National Orange Show/ Miss San Bernardino County included contestants from the county of San Bernardino at large, but not from the city of San Bernardino or its adjacent mountain areas. Miss National Orange Show Outstanding Teen was a competition for teen girls age 13-16. The additional two crowns for Miss City of San Bernardino and Miss Greater Inland Empire were awarded to Vanessa Citizen and Christyn Richardson. Crown winners were awarded based on overall performance in talent, swimwear, evening gown, and interview competitions.

The National Orange Show queen, Ridhi Patel, will reign over the National Orange Show Festival later this year in May, as well as participate in various events with the National Orange Show Events Center throughout the year. She will also go on to compete for Miss California later on this year.

“We are excited to have Ridhi as our new National Orange Show Queen,” commented Derrick Vasquez, Director of Catering and Special Events at the National Orange Show Events Center and one of the community judges for the Riverside County pageant last week. “We are confident that she will be an outstanding representative of our community and the National Orange Show fairgrounds.”

George Bye, who has participated in pageants in this area since about 1976, and Michael Osborn, who served as a photographer and board committee member for the National Miss Orange Show event during the height of the National Orange Show pageant's popularity in the 70s and 80s, were both present at Saturday's event.

"I do this to raise scholarship money for these outstanding young women," George Bye commented, "I believe in their future."

About the National Orange Show Events Center

The National Orange Show Events Center is the Inland Empire's premier source of entertainment and all-inclusive event solutions. The center's multi-use, 120 acre facility offers 150,000 square feet of indoor space, a quarter mile speedway, and a state-of-the-art satellite wagering center. With the historic tradition of the annual citrus fair at the heart of the organization, the National Orange Show Events Center is at the forefront of the events industry while working to maintain strong community connections. For more information, visit www.nosevents.com.

Editor's Note: Photo Embedded below



Pictured (L-R): Former Miss San Bernardino County, Veronica Bell; Former Miss National Orange Show, Naomi Slotkin; 2009 Miss Riverside County Lindsay Nault; 2009 Miss Greater Palm Springs, Dr. Vanessa Sheldon; 2009 Miss National Orange Show, Ridhi Patel; 2009 Miss National Orange Show Outstanding Teen, Rikayah Crawford; 2009 Miss City of San Bernardino, Vanessa Citizen; and 2009 Miss Greater Inland Empire, Christyn Richardson.

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