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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE MISS BLACK NEW YORK USA & MISS BLACK NEW JERSEY USA PAGEANT
CONTINUES MISSION OF PROVIDING COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

19 local candidates competed for 2012 title

New York, N.Y. - On November 5, 2011 at the Harlem Stage, at Aaron Davis Hall, the 2012 Miss Black New Jersey and Miss Black New York were crowned. 19 candidates from within the Tri-State area competed for the 2012 title and \$2,500 towards their college or graduate tuition.

Alicia Banks from Newark, New Jersey is the 2012 Miss Black New Jersey titleholder who attends Georgian Court University and studies dance. **Selena Watkins** from Yonkers, New York is the 2012 Miss Black New York titleholder who attended Rutgers University as a dance major. Also crowned that evening was Miss Black New Jersey Talented Teen 2012 Elyse Pettaway hailing from Roselle, New Jersey.

"It has been an honor over the past 3 years to serve the states of NY and NJ," says **Ijeoma Obilo**, Miss Black New York & Miss Black New Jersey State Director. "Most of all it has been a privilege to award these outstanding young women with the opportunity to engage in community service, positive public appearances, network development, motivational workshops, and the chance to be a positive representative for women of color in their respective states."

This year's panel of judges consisted of Karen Mitchell, CEO and Owner of True Indian Hair, TV Personality and CEO of Pretty Hot Chick Magazine Alicia Marie Rivers, Fashion & Market Editor Janelle Grimmond, and Black Enterprise Contributor and Blogger, Anslem Samuel.

1st Runner Up for the 2012 Miss Black New Jersey title was Christen Angel Mobley, and Victoria Lowe was the 1st Runner Up for Miss Black New York 2012. Additional title-holders include Miss Photogenic 2012 Kellee Blades (Miss Photogenic 2012), Christen Angel Mobley (Miss Congeniality 2012), and Chanise Smith (Spirit Award 2012).

About Miss Black New Jersey USA

The Miss Black New Jersey USA Pageant is an affiliate of the Miss Black USA Pageant and Scholarship Foundation, Inc. A non-profit corporation recognized under the 501(c)3 Code of Internal Revenue Service. The Miss Black USA Pageant celebrates scholastic achievement and believes that education is the key to lifelong success and empowerment.

www.missblacknewjersey.org

About Miss Black New York USA

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