



# Miss Texas Onionfest 2011

by: Rebecca Rodriguez

Twenty young ladies from the Mid Valley area, ages 10-15, competed across three divisions for the coveted Onion Fest Pageant titles on March 4, 2011 at the Weslaco ISD Performing Arts Center. This year's pageant was produced for the second time by J. Nava Studios in conjunction with the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Onion Festival. Contestants competed in three areas of live competition in a crowd of over 800 people. After weeks of question preparation, introduction writing, and gown shopping, only three contestants were crowned winners.

Nine ladies ages 10 and 11 competed in the youngest division. After three areas of competition on stage introduction, evening gown, and fishbowl question, Alyssa Marroquin was named Springsweet Miss 2011. Her court includes 1st runner up Brooklyn Craig and 2nd runner up Gabriella Aviles.

Other winners in the Springsweet division included Miss Photogenic and Online People's Choice winner Janelle Medellin, and Miss Congeniality Brooklyn Craig.

This year's Miss Onion Blossom was a very tough division. With eight strong competitors ages 12-13, it was a fight to the finish line. When judges scores were in, Kaylie Pena was crowned Miss Onion Blossom 2011 as well as won the other contestants' votes as Miss Congeniality. Her court includes 1st runner up Daniella Hernandez and 2nd runner up Cassandra Cantu. Other winners in the Onion Blossom Division were Miss Photogenic Gina Escamilla and Online People's Choice Katelynn Lopez.

Young ladies ages 14-15 were eligible to compete for the title of 2011 Miss Texas Onionfest. Ariel Amber

Guillen took the crown home along with the title of Online People's Choice winner. Robyn Perez was named Miss Photogenic and Gabriella Ramirez was named Miss Congeniality.

Two overall winners were also awarded with plaques this year. The 2011 People's Sweetheart, voted on by the audience the night of the pageant, is Leena Sanchez from the Onion Blossom Division. Winning Miss Hospitality for the second year in a row was Gabriella Aviles in the Springsweet Miss Division.

This year's winners were seen at the Texas Onion Festival, Rio Grande Valley Stock Show Parade, and the Onionfest VIP Party. More event appearances will come as the year progresses.

