

## Alana Lee wins Miss Nevada 2011

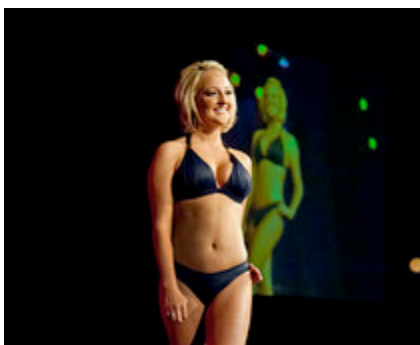
Offer of the day

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**Mesquite, Nevada, July 2, 2011:** For the last four years State Senator John Lee has represented the 150,000 people living in his senatorial district in Las Vegas. Now his daughter has him beat: **Alana Lee** has been crowned Miss Nevada 2011, and represents all 2.6 million people in the state. She will compete for Miss America on January 14th, 2012 in Las Vegas.

Alana also won the Academic Achievement award for her 3.93 grade point average at Dixie State College, where she is a senior. Alana succeeds Miss Nevada 2010, **Cris Crotz**.



Miss Nevada winners pick a platform - a subject that they want to emphasize and publicize through the voice their reign gives them. Alana Lee has chosen "Improving relations through effective communications" - which she defines as improving conflict resolution tools at multiple levels: from relationships between teens and parents to the American political system. Alana has an excellent background for that work: she is a broadcast journalism major, has worked with Sun News as a news anchor, has broadened her vision with extended periods living in Ireland, China and Monte Carlo. She also reminds us that she is no stranger to politics, having grown up in a family with a politician for a father.

All of the contestants, to be sure, are attractive young women. But the Miss America pageant system prides itself on being more than just "a beauty contest", and emphasizes academic achievement, talent, poise and speaking ability in addition to just good looks. Miss America 2010 Teresa Scanlon, who won the title at the age of 18, was an anomaly - she was the youngest winner since 1937. In this year's pageant the average contestant was over 20 years old; last year's winner was 24, and Alana Lee is 21, and the average Miss America winner is 22. It's not surprising that winners at the Miss America system tend to be college graduates who have had an opportunity to build a resume of achievement and experience that impresses the judges.

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