

Daughter of William Otto – WSMR Kid



Miss Pennsylvania
SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

• *Meet Miss Pennsylvania*



Candace Otto

Candace Otto, 23, was selected Miss Pennsylvania on July 12, 2003, at the Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Pageant held at the Nazareth Area High School Theater in Nazareth, Pa. Candace competed for Miss America on September 15-20, 2003 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. She was awarded the Bernie Wayne Performing Arts Award and a non-finalist talent award. The Bernie Wayne Performing Arts Award is given to the contestant with the highest talent score among those women wishing to pursue a career in the performing arts. She is the first Miss Pennsylvania to receive the award. Devoted to helping those less fortunate, Candace has chosen "A Call to Service: Challenging Americans to Address Poverty" as her community service platform. While she was an undergraduate at Northwestern University, Candace co-founded the first local office of the National Student Partnerships (NSP) in Illinois, NSP Evanston. NSP links impoverished Americans with the critical personal, social and business resources they need to obtain and, more importantly, maintain employment. Under Candace's leadership, NSP Evanston recruited more than 60 student volunteers and secured from the Department of Labor donated phones, computers and office space. Candace also has worked with at-risk youth in the Pittsburgh Public School system, using mentoring and the arts to foster a spirit of community service. In addition to her work in the community, Candace is an accomplished performer. A vocalist, she was a preliminary talent winner at the 2003 Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Pageant. She also has been a soloist for the Mother of Sorrows concert tour of Italy, performing before 250,000 people at a Papal mass. She was a soloist at a U.S. Naval Academy memorial service following the events of September 11th, and has sung at the Grotto of Lourdes, France. A 2002 graduate of Northwestern University, Candace received a bachelor of science degree in theatre and musical theatre. After graduation, the Dean's List student received a scholarship from the Ezio Pinza Council of American Singers of Opera to study in Italy. The recipient of a number of honors, Candace received the Elyse Saraceni Award from the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera Guild and the Paul R. Pigman Prize from Shady Side Academy, her alma mater. Candace is the daughter of William and Audia Otto of Murrysville, Pa.