

Ms. Wheelchair VA 2015-2016 Angela West to compete in Ms. Wheelchair America
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 8, 2015



Fishersville, VA. The Ms. Wheelchair VA Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Angela West, Ms. Wheelchair VA 2015-2016, will be competing in the Ms. Wheelchair America 2016 National competition in Des Moines, Iowa.

As the current reigning titleholder, Angela qualifies for entry in Ms. Wheelchair America. Angela will be competing against over 30 contestants from across the country for the title of Ms. Wheelchair America 2016. The event will take place in beautiful downtown Des Moines, Iowa, July 27th - August 2, 2015. During the week-long program, contestants will participate in a leadership institute, mentoring events, and multiple judging sessions.

Angela West of Chesapeake was crowned Ms. Wheelchair Virginia on Saturday, March 21st at Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center in Fishersville, Virginia. The program's theme "Celebrate Life" showcased the accomplishments of remarkable ladies of all ages who have overcome challenges and obstacles to achieve and accomplish great success.

Angela lives in Chesapeake, VA and is employed as an Asian Cultural Broker for the Center for Family Involvement at Virginia Commonwealth University. Angela received a Master's of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling from Virginia Commonwealth University. She enjoys writing for her blog, working with youth with disabilities, spending time with her friends, and being active in her church. Angela uses a wheelchair due to Cerebral Palsy which happened at birth. She describes herself as determined, compassionate, gracious, diligent, and faithful.

Angela's platform for advocacy is Empower the Ability in Disability. Her motto of inspiration is "Be the Change You Want to See." Upon being crowned, Angela commented, "I thanked God, because I realized that my dreams had come true and it was going to be a year that I was going to meet amazing people." Angela passionately serves as a leader in a disability ministry where she teaches young adults with disabilities that anything is possible when they put their faith in something that is much greater than themselves. She hopes to become a published author who shares her story about overcoming life's obstacles.

In addition to being named MWVA 2015, Angela was the recipient of the Ms. Congeniality Award. Fellow contestants and volunteers had the opportunity to anonymously vote for the contestant who is loved and admired by everyone. Characteristics for being chosen as Ms. Congeniality include making the initiative to get to know each contestant, make them feel more comfortable and welcomed during the title event, and has made this experience better for all. Angela possesses all of these.

"Every year we are so blessed and honored to work with all the winners in MWVA. As we finished the Gala 2015 weekend with joy and thankfulness, we look forward to the program year ahead." states Dr. Pam Cobler, Co-Executive Director of Ms. Wheelchair Virginia.

Angela has been actively fundraising for her reign as Ms. Wheelchair Virginia. As titleholder, Angela is responsible for all of her expenses during her reign, which include traveling within the state of Virginia for appearances and speaking engagements along with participating in Ms. Wheelchair America nationals program. One of her ventures is the website <https://www.firstgiving.com/29704/angela>. The Noblemen is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization based out of Virginia Beach, Virginia which includes members located throughout the Hampton Roads region. The Noblemen mission is to identify and perform Noble Deeds for great local kids who are in need of help.

Ms. Wheelchair Virginia, a 501(c)3, is one of the largest Ms. Wheelchair state program in the country. Focusing on the accomplishments of Virginians with disabilities: the mission is to educate, advocate and raise awareness of the abilities and needs of the disability community; but more importantly, to inspire and motivate Virginians as role models of courage and hope.



For more information, contact:

Pamela C. Cobler, Ed.D.
Cellular: (540) 520-8468
Email: pamcobler@gmail.com

OR

Chinah Jewell
Cellular: (540)580-1890
Email: chinah.jewell@gmail.com

