

Miss Teen Plano winner crowned

By Kim Nguyen, Staff writer

(Created: Thursday, November 20, 2008 11:48 PM CST)

Madison Fuller, 14, cried tears of joy after triumphing over the other young women all vying for the Teen Plano 2009 title on Nov. 1. "I was so excited and glad to be crowned," Fuller said. "It was a dream come true".

The Miss Plano Frisco Scholarship Competition was held at Plano West Senior High School and had four titles at stake: Miss Plano 2009, Miss Frisco 2009, Teen Plano 2009 and Teen Frisco 2009. No stranger to the pageant, Fuller began preparing for it when her sister, Morgan, won the Teen Frisco crown in 2006.

The Miss Plano Frisco Pageant is arranged similarly to the Miss America Pageant. Each competition consisted of five categories: a private interview, talent, evening gown, lifestyle and fitness in swimsuit and an on-stage question. The contestant who receives the highest cumulative score from the five divisions earns the title and the crown.

Fuller felt that her strongest area for competition was in the talent category. She was the only one to have a ventriloquism act for the pageant. "It's a really unique talent and I got a lot of positive feedback from my act," Fuller said. Fuller's platform for the pageant was "Names Will Never Hurt Me: Putting an End to Bullying." A victim of bullying herself, Fuller wants to inspire teens to find an inner strength and stand up to bullies. "I want to be a good role model and set a good example for young people in the community," Fuller said".

When speaking to youngsters at events, Fuller uses a unique visual aid to emphasize how cruel bullying can be. Inspired by a traffic signal, she lights each color to guide bullying victims. "Red is when you realize that the bullying is not your fault and it needs to stop," Fuller explained. "Yellow is when you find inner strength and people to support and help you; and green is doing something about it." Fuller is looking forward to the year, full of special appearances and guest lecturing ahead of her. Also crowned during the pageant were Andrea Brown as Miss Plano 2009, Kathryn Dunn as Miss Frisco 2009 and Taylor Lowery as Teen Frisco 2009.



As the newly crowned Misses, the four women will advance to compete for the title of Miss Texas 2009 and Miss Teen Texas 2009 in July.

The Miss Plano Frisco Scholarship organization is a local franchise of the Miss Texas organization and the Miss America organization. The organizations' primary objectives are to help young women build confidence, cultivate skills, earn scholarships, showcase strengths and serve the community. To learn more about the Miss Plano Frisco Scholarship organization or about becoming a contestant, visit www.mpfo.com.

Miss America is a not-for-profit corporation that has maintained a lasting positive effect for women over the last century. The Miss America organization has been instrumental in shaping the concept of a strong, educated and independent woman and is the world's largest provider of scholarships for young women. To learn more visit www.missamerica.org.

The Miss Texas organization is headquartered in Fort Worth, becoming a statewide forum for young women to express their viewpoints, talents and accomplishments to Texas audiences since 1936. Eligibility for competition in the Miss Texas organization begins by winning a local preliminary title, like Miss Plano or Miss Frisco. From the local preliminary, the winner moves forward to compete for the state title. A contestant may compete at the state level more than once, but only one time in the national pageant. More than 12,000 women participate in the state and local events each year. To learn about the Miss Texas organization, visit www.misstexas.org.

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