



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Alexcia N. James – Our New Miss Black Iowa USA 2011**

On Saturday, April 2, 2011, Alexcia James, a graduate student at the University of Iowa in the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, assumed title of Miss Black Iowa USA 2011 with enthusiasm and humility. She will finish the yearlong reign first started by RayVynn Schauf of Waterloo. As of April 1, 2011, due to noncompliance with the Miss Black Iowa Year of Service Guide and noncompliance with other performance obligations, RayVynn Schauf is no longer the 2011 Miss Black Iowa USA Delegate/Spokesperson. According to pageant rules, in the event that a delegate is unable to fulfill her role, the 1st runner-up assumes the responsibility of the crown. Alexcia Nicole James was the 1st runner-up in the 2010 pageant.

*“Disqualifying a reigning queen is not something we do without careful thought and deliberation. We wish RayVynn well and know she will be successful in other business ventures that may be better suited for her personal and professional interests. We look forward to working with Alexcia and congratulate her! She is quite an accomplished and beautiful young woman”*, says Debra Carr, Founder and Director of the Miss Black Iowa USA and Miss Black Iowa Talented Teen programs.

Alexcia is the 25-year-old daughter of Curtis and Velinda Woodard. She was born in Monticello, Arkansas where she spent most of her childhood singing in church with her family and participating in several events throughout the community. Alexcia’s activities included, school choir, band, debate teams, co captain of the color guard, and speech and drama club. These events awarded her the opportunity to be a part of the Arkansas All State and All Region choir and band for several years all while maintaining a perfect grade point average. Some of the highlights of her childhood include being crowned Little Miss Drew County, being a member of the MHS 2004 Homecoming Court, and being chosen as a delegate for Arkansas State Governor’s School. Ultimately, Alexcia graduated as salutatorian of her high school.



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***Alexcia N James  
Miss Black Iowa USA 2011***

In August 2004, Alexcia accepted an academic scholarship to attend the University of Iowa. Due to her high achievement, Alexcia was offered early admittance into the University Of Iowa College Of Nursing. While in college, Alexcia continued to receive scholarships such as the Hearst Foundation Award and University of Iowa Tuition Scholarship. As if academics were not enough, Alexcia became a Resident Assistant. In this position, Alexcia was responsible for organizing social and scholastic events for a group of freshman women. She was also a member of the University gospel choir, Voices of Soul, where she served as president and secretary. Alexcia also played an active role in the University of Iowa Black Student Union, and served as public relations co chair of University of Iowa Association of Nursing Students. In 2004, Alexcia was recognized as University of Iowa Black Student Union Homecoming Queen. Alexcia obtained a Bachelors of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) with Honors in 2008.

Today Alexcia attends the University of Iowa as a graduate student in the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. She is also a registered nurse at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in the cardiothoracic surgery department. When she’s not busy, Alexcia enjoys dancing, singing, traveling, and helping those around her.

She is very active in her work environment, through training and mentoring new nurses on the floor. Alexcia's plan for the future is to become an Adult Gerontological Nurse Practitioner with a private practice. She wants to use her clinic to educate the community about healthy living, as means to enhance quality and quantity of life. Alexcia's philosophy for success is "*With God, nothing is impossible, if you dare to dream the possibilities are limitless.*"

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**Media Contact Information**

Debra A. Carr, Founder & Director, Miss Black Iowa USA \* Phone: 515-991-1651

Email: [www.missblackiowa@aol.com](mailto:www.missblackiowa@aol.com) \* Web: [www.missblackiowausa.org](http://www.missblackiowausa.org)

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