



## *Caitlin Uze ~ Miss Virginia 2010*

Caitlin Uze is a 22 year-old student at James Madison University where she is pursuing a degree in social work. At JMU, she was named to the President's List and she is a member of Phi Sigma Pi National Honors Fraternity. A native of Arlington, she has earned over \$30,000 in scholarship dollars through her participation in the Miss America Organization. Upon completion of her year of service, Caitlin will fulfill her degree requirements, pursue a Masters degree in social work, and become a Child Life Specialist.

Caitlin believes strongly in her message, "Uniquely You: Building Positive Self Image". She is the Spokesperson for Girls, Incorporated and she successfully lobbied Virginia's United States Senators, Mark Warner and Jim Webb, Congressman Jim Moran, and State Senator Jill Vogel on behalf of this wonderful organization. Currently, she is working with Virginia's Commission on Youth to launch a study on the ill-effects of bullying in Virginia's schools. An advocate for the importance of giving back to one's community, Caitlin was recognized by Congressman Gerry Connolly for outstanding community service and she received the Miss Virginia Community Service award. Caitlin has also won a preliminary award in the Lifestyle and Physical Fitness portion each of the three years she competed at the Miss Virginia Pageant.

An accomplished Irish step dancer, Caitlin danced for ten years with the prestigious O'Neill-James School of Irish Dance. She qualified to compete in the World Irish Dance Championship in Ireland. In addition, Caitlin plays the tuba and sousaphone.

As Miss Virginia, she will travel 40,000 miles across Virginia making appearances, sharing her message, and entertaining. Her school presentations, sponsored by the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, touch on self-worth and self-image, bullying, leadership, and the importance of saying "no" to alcohol, tobacco, and substance abuse. In addition, Caitlin serves as Virginia's state ambassador for the Children's Miracle Network throughout her year of service. As a proud supporter of troops, she also takes part in several events sponsored by the USO and Honor Flight.

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