

Peyton Humphreys Woodson

2008 Queen of Carnival

Her Majesty, Queen Peyton Humphreys Woodson, was truly born into Carnival royalty. Her late father, Benjamin Humphreys Woodson, was incredibly involved in Carnival Memphis and helped shape the organization during the 1970's and 1980's. He was a tremendous leader and advocate for Carnival and served as King in 1974. He stayed very involved and several years later in 1981 he led Carnival Memphis as President. That same year, Queen Peyton's Aunt, Peggy Greer Garrott (Peters), was Queen of Carnival. The past Queen royalty does not stop there, however, as Peyton's mother Lucy was Queen of the Grand Krewe of Osiris in 1970. Then in 1998, Peyton's sister Neely Garrott Woodson (Powell) led Carnival as Queen of the realm. Her uncle, Giles Augustus Coors, Jr. was King of Carnival in 1972, and her cousin, Giles Coors III the King in 2006. Two of her cousins held reign as Queen of Carnival Memphis in successive years. 1984 saw her cousin Suzette Marguerite Turner (Coors) serve as Queen and, in 1985, her cousin Sophie Mignon Coors (Canale) served as Queen of Carnival. Today, Queen Peyton is proud and flattered to have the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of her family members and is honored to serve as the 2008 Queen of Carnival Memphis. Although those footsteps are quite large, Queen Peyton or QPey (her new nickname) is definitely up for the task at hand. In fact she was born for it.

Queen Peyton is the daughter of Lucy Garrott Woodson and the late Mr. Ben Woodson. She served in the 2006 Royal Court as the King's Princess (Giles Coors III) and gained a great understanding and appreciation of the good deeds of Carnival for the community by attending the daily visits to local charities, hospitals and nursing homes. Upon reflection Peyton cherishes those experiences most: "As a member of the court two years ago and through participation in the day runs, I was able to see first hand the amazing work that Carnival does throughout the Mid-South and the joy it brings to so many different people.



Lucy Woodson, Peyton Woodson, Peggy Garrott Peters and Neely Woodson Powell

I have grown up with Carnival as an exciting part of my life and it is an honor to carry on the family tradition. I am thrilled to have the chance to work with so many deserving charities this year, and I can't wait for Carnival to begin!"

Even as a youngster she was destined to become a part of Carnival Royalty. Our 2008 Queen started her Carnival Memphis participation at an early age. In 1995, Peyton served as a Royal Page for the King of Carnival, her cousin John D. Canale III. She performed her duties for Carnival so well, that three years later she was asked to serve the realm again. In 1998, Peyton was honored to become a Royal Page for the Queen, her sister Neely Garrott Woodson. Queen Peyton graduated from the Hutchison School in 2005 and is a rising senior at the University of Mississippi. She is majoring in Exercise Science and Physical Therapy, and she is a proud and active member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. Even with her busy school schedule, Queen Peyton makes time to work part-time and volunteer. She has worked at the Ole Miss Fitness Center as a receptionist, and at

Memphis Heritage, Inc. working on Don Newman photographs of Memphis. At Pampered Paws, Peyton has been able to use her love of animals to work as a Care Giver, helping the Doctor in the hospital and day care center and training to become a Veterinary Assistant.

She has enjoyed playing with the children at the Boys and Girls Club and helping them with their homework. At Leap Frog, Peyton was very involved in reading to children with developmental disabilities. She has helped Kappa Kappa Gamma raise money to buy books and help educate children in the Reading is Fundamental program in Oxford, Mississippi.

Queen Peyton is indeed a beauty, both inside and outside. Her enthusiasm for Carnival and all that it represents is infectious, and her kindness and humility is endearing. Carnival Memphis is indeed fortunate to have Queen Peyton reign as we celebrate seventy-seven years of the Party with a Purpose!