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## Summary

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**Dynamic, passionate, and engaging speaker,** Amanda Mason has been reaching thousands on local, state, and national podiums addressing all ages and professions from children to CEOs.

For the past 16 years, she has been a driving force waging a war on drugs through her prevention program, *The Middle School Movement: Reaching Youth Before Alcohol & Drugs Do*. Her mission is to protect the next generation by giving them tools to overcome obstacles, evaluate their decisions, and accomplish their D.R.E.A.M (Determination, Respect, Evaluate, Accountability, and Motivation).

Her public speaking journey started with the *National Foundation for Women Legislatures* (NFWL). At 14-years-old, as a co-chair of a children's literacy program with the NFWL, she addressed the Florida House of Representatives. At the following NFWL Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, Amanda had the opportunity to speak about the problems facing teens at the premiere of the movie "Chumscrubbers." The film features Glenn Close and Rita Hanks, delivering a message about the dangers of teens abusing prescription drugs. At that moment, Amanda realized that prescription drug abuse was a widespread problem that went beyond her high school, which was nicknamed "The Pharmacy."

*I remember during my freshman year of high school, some of my classmates were caught drinking on campus. The school only gave them two weeks of in-school suspension. Another one of my classmates was rushed to the emergency room after abusing cough medicine to lose weight for the wrestling team. When I reached out to teachers, they seemed afraid to get involved. It was time to make a change. I felt like the school's lack of education was similar to putting a band-aid on a broken arm, but this was a battle between life or death. I was not going to back down. -Amanda Mason-*

Statistics show that alcohol and drug use skyrockets in middle school, so she decided to use her voice and bridge the gap in prevention education by creating the *Middle School Movement*.

During her year as *Miss New York 2013*, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo signed off on a state-wide drug prevention campaign with the *Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services* (OASAS). In 2015, she received *Drug-Free Ambassador*, the highest awards from the *Foundation for a Drug-Free World*. Today, she continues to make a difference.

## Additional Education and Experience

- ◆ Masters in Mass Communications ('18) in broadcast journalism, graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from *ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism*.
- ◆ Master in Music ('15) and Bachelor in Music ('12) in classical vocal performance, *Manhattan School of Music*.
- ◆ Miss New York 2013
- ◆ National Ambassador, Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Former National Spokesperson, *National Council On Alcoholism and Drug Dependence* (NCADD) and *Safe America Foundation*.
- ◆ Studied courses in addiction and prevention from the Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) training program.

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## Public Speaking Career Highlights

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### National | State Conferences

- ◆ *National Foundation for Women Legislatures* (NFWL), National Conference
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- ◆ *Parents Resource Institute for Drug Education* (PRIDE), National Conference
- ◆ *Safe America Foundation*, National Conference
- ◆ *Safe America Foundation*, National Conference
- ◆ *36th Annual Women Commissions*, National Conference
- ◆ Florida House of Representatives, NFWL Conference
- ◆ Florida Governor Jeb Bush's *Annual Drug Summit*, Statewide Conference
- ◆ "Chumscrubbers" Movie Premiere, NFWL Conference
- ◆ *National Council On Alcoholism & Drug Dependence*, National Luncheon
- ◆ *NY State Office of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services* (OASAS), Statewide Kickoff
- ◆ *Council on Addiction Prevention and Education* (CAPE), Annual Luncheon
- ◆ *PBS Graduate Day Show* with Boys & Girls Clubs of America President, TV Interview
- ◆ *NYPD Drug & Alcohol Youth Prevention Conference* (800 Officers)
- ◆ *Drug Free Foundation Heroes*, Gala
- ◆ NCADD Affiliates, Annual Conference

### (2003 to Present)

- Georgia
- Iowa
- Washington, DC
- Florida
- Arizona
- Washington, DC
- Georgia
- New York
- Florida
- Florida
- Florida
- Arizona
- New York
- New York
- New York
- New York
- New York
- New York

## Workshops | School Events | Conferences

- ◆ Safe America Foundation, *Brain Camp Prevention Workshop*
- ◆ *Council on Addictions of Finger Lakes*, Youth Conference
- ◆ PS 123 School Event with NYPD & Derek Dennis, NFL Carolina Panthers Football Player
- ◆ *OASAS Prevention Campaign KickOff*, Middle School IS 77
- ◆ The American Sign Language & English Secondary School
- ◆ Boys and Girls Club, *Dining The Right Way* Etiquette Class at Planet Hollywood
- ◆ *Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)*, Warren County Conference
- ◆ *Westchester Youth Leadership*, Annual Conference
- ◆ Leader of the SMART Girls Club at Navy Yard B&G Clubhouse
- ◆ *East Fillkill Rotary Club*, Luncheon

## Location

Georgia  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York

## Emcee

- ◆ Permian Basin Alzheimers Walk
- ◆ Bakersfield Pregnancy Center
- ◆ *Miss New York 2015*, Prelim Competition
- ◆ *Miss America 2015*, Homecoming Celebration
- ◆ *Tigerlily Foundation*, PJ Glam Party
- ◆ *Gigi's Playhouse*, Dream Event
- ◆ *Miss New York Outstanding Teen*, Talent Competition
- ◆ *Miss Mohawk Valley*, Pageant
- ◆ *Miss Manhattan 2016*, Pageant

## Location

Texas  
California  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York  
New York

## Event Leadership

- ◆ *United Way of Midland*, Power of the Purse (Emcee & Media Coordinator)
- ◆ *American Heart Association*, Tampa Bay Heart Walk (Youth Chair)
- ◆ *American Heart Association*, Fashion Show Fundraiser (Chair/Coordinator/Emcee)

## Location

Texas (April 2020)  
Florida  
Florida

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## Highlighted Remarks

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*"Ms. Amanda Mason (Miss New York 2013) was an exceptional speaker, presenter, and entertainer delivering a serious message regarding drug prevention....They delivered a heartfelt and positive message. The students were engaged and accepting of the message and truly had a valuable learning experience regarding the harmful effects of drugs. Thank you!"*  
— James Kennedy, Guidance Counselor at St. Vincent Ferrer High School

*"..two of the boys that volunteered to go on stage with Amanda are both on the autism spectrum. For them to go on stage was remarkable. That in itself told me how well received the program was. Amanda was great in reaching out to the students. As I said yesterday, you can't teach those skills. She has them and what a pleasure to have her here."*  
—Joseph, Principal at a Middle School in Queens

*"Whenever a highly-visible young leader like Amanda Mason takes on substance abuse prevention as a cause -- that is a tremendous benefit to all our work. We applaud her for helping to educate youth and parents about the dangers of drug use, and know our member coalitions throughout the Empire State join us in this sentiment."*  
— Gen. Arthur T. Dean, Chairman and CEO, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA).

*"Miss New York Amanda Mason's positive and uplifting message for middle school students will help CANYS continue its work advocating about problems related to alcohol and drug misuse."*  
— Julie Dostal, Ph.D, CPP, President of the Council on Addictions of New York State (CANYS).

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## Presentation and Popular Topics

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- ◆ Overcome Bullying: Verbal, Physical, Social and Cyber
- ◆ Truth About Drugs: Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Medication, Over-the-Counter and other Illegal Drugs.
- ◆ Impaired Driving & Drunk Goggles
- ◆ Setting Goals, Achieving Dreams & Time Management
- ◆ Overcoming Obstacles & Evaluating Situations
- ◆ Interview Skills and Career Preparation
- ◆ Preparing for College & Planning for the Future

*Presentations can range anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour. Classroom or assembly presentations can be customized for your needs and can also be adapted for any age group K-12.*