# PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

#### **Barbara Thompson**

Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Wallace Community College (334) 556-2629 bthompson@wallace.edu

#### Wallace Sponsors 2012 National Peanut Festival Queens' Day



**2012-13 National Peanut Festival Queens** recently participated in the NPF Queens' Day at Wallace Community College. The queens were treated to a lunch a The Highlands as part of the day's activities.

**Dothan, Ala.**—Wallace Community College seemed a little brighter on June 21 as the 2012 National Peanut Festival Queens visited the campus for the College's annual Queens' Day. It is the first official event for the pageant every year.

Upon arriving on campus, the queens were escorted to a classroom in the science building. The room was decorated by the NPF Queens' Luncheon Committee with the 2012 pageant theme, *Our Moment In Time*. After breakfast the Peanut Festival Queens Committee guided the queens through orientation and pageant rules for all of the NPF activities. The queens also drew numbers to determine the order of competition for the pageant.

The group lunched at The Highlands, where they were welcomed by Dr. Ashli Boutwell, dean, institutional services and community development. Mark Shope, dean, student development and Wallace Campus, led the group in the invocation. Dr. Linda C. Young, WCC president, spoke to the queens about the historic role of peanuts to the economic growth of the area, and how education is critical to future growth. "With advances in technology and continued growth in health care and other careers, a strong education is equally vital to this area's continued growth. And that's the importance of this institution to each of your communities," she said.

Also addressing the group were Janet Hughes, chairman, Miss National Peanut Festival Pageant, Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12, and Ealy Brackin, president, National Peanut Festival. Wallace Community College presented the gueens with t-shirts and photos commemorating the day.

After lunch the queens were escorted back to campus to compose their written essays, an important part of the pageant competition. Wallace instructors will grade the essays, which count as 10 percent of the final score.

Hughes was complimentary of the College's planning of the event. "We consider our relationship with Wallace as vital to the National Peanut Festival and to the MNPF pageant and its contestants. Wallace day is always a highlight for the committee and for the queens," she said. "The Wallace staff goes out of their way to make it particularly special. Our relationship with Wallace is far more than an event on campus; it links our queens to Wallace and its wonderful educational opportunities while linking us all to our community."

Wallace Community College has sponsored the Queens' Day for over thirty years.

-30-

#### TAGLINES:

**2012-13 National Peanut Festival Queens** recently participated in the NPF Queens' Day at Wallace Community College. The queens were treated to a lunch a The Highlands as part of the day's activities.

2012-13 NPF Queens.jpg



(left to right): Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12, and Jessica Still, Miss Early County.

Early County.jpg



(left to right): Tava Blackstone, Miss Columbia; Caroline Clark, Miss Rehobeth; Haley Ann Cumbie, Miss Wicksburg; Conner Lusk, Miss Dothan; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; Alexis Sims, Miss Ashford; Jennifer Beck, Miss Cottonwood; Whitney Devane, Miss Houston County; and Payton Shelton, Miss Cowarts.

#### Houston County.jpg



(left to right): Tori Mashburn, Miss Chipley; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12 and Kirstin Redfield, Miss Washington County.

#### Washington County.jpg



(left to right): Brittany Lynn, Miss Eufaula; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; and Kaitlyn Hudson, Miss Barbour County.

Barbour County.jpg



(left to right): Candace Clemmons, Miss Geneva; Katherine King, Miss Samson; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; Shelby Lynn Bottoms, Miss Geneva County; and Madison Hendrix, Miss Hartford.

### Geneva County.jpg



(left to right): Carly Danielle Wilson, Miss Graceville; Courtney Hodges, Miss Jackson County; Courtney Massengill, Miss Marianna; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; Cailyn Haight, Miss Malone; and Christen Howell, Miss Sneads.

Jackson County.jpg



(left to right): Meagan Concannon, Miss Elba; Ali Powell, Miss Enterprise; Cheyenne Nelson, Miss Zion Chapel; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; Alyson McAnear, Miss New Brockton; Jennifer Paige Sormrude, Miss Coffee County; and Emily Mock, Miss Kinston.

Coffee County.jpg



(left to right: Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12 and Annakate Faulk, Miss Henry County. Not pictured: Rachael Metzger, Miss Abbeville. **Henry County.jpg** 



(left to right): Liberty Kilpatrick, Miss Brundidge; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; Kelli Powell, Miss Troy; and Haley Waller, Miss Goshen. **Pike County.jpg** 



(left to right): Alexandra Stephens, Miss Newton; Airann Bradbury, Miss Daleville; Breana Money, Miss Midland City; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; Regan Daryl Bates, Miss Ozark; Madison Laney, Miss Ariton; Lauren Ashley Cripple, Miss Skipperville; and Chelsea Johnston, Miss Dale County.

Dale County.jpg



(left to right): Keltcee Berry, Miss Holmes County; Paige Sellers, Miss Bonifay; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; Casandra White, Miss Poplar Springs; and Makala Hicks, Miss Ponce de Leon.

## Holmes County.jpg



(left to right): Devero Bogart, Miss DeFuniak Springs; Marlena Collins, Miss National Peanut Festival 2011-12; and Haley Biddle, Miss Walton County.

Walton County.jpg