

From the University of Mississippi Medical Center Division of Public Affairs

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MISS MISSISSIPPI, MISS OUTSTANDING TEEN MISSISSIPPI VISIT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

JACKSON, Miss. — Miss Mississippi, Sarah Beth James, and Miss Outstanding Teen Mississippi, Christina Bostick, will be visiting the patients at the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children Tuesday, July 20 at 2 p.m.

James and Bostick will be passing out teddy bears to the patients and visiting the activity rooms.

The bears were collected during the Teddy Bears and Tiaras campaign, leading up to the 2010 Miss Mississippi pageant in Vicksburg.

James, whose platform is promoting organ and tissue transplantation, will represent the state in the 2011 Miss America Pageant set for January 15 in Las Vegas.

As one of 170 Children's Miracle Network hospitals across the country, Batson Hospital benefits from a unique partnership between The Miss America Organization and Children's Miracle Network. Each year, the new Miss America serves as a Goodwill Ambassador, raising funds and awareness for the nation's premier children's hospitals.

About Batson Hospital

The Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children is the only hospital in the state devoted exclusively to the care and treatment of sick and injured youngsters. More than 150,000 children from all of the state's 82 counties come to Batson Hospital each year. The spectrum of care ranges from well-child care for healthy newborns to care for cancer, birth defects, epilepsy, cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia, neurological disorders, pulmonary disease, trauma, allergies, diabetes and numerous other childhood illnesses.

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The University of Mississippi Medical Center, located in Jackson, is the state's only academic medical center. University of Mississippi Health Care represents the clinical programs of the Medical Center and includes University Hospitals and Health System and University Physicians, the faculty group practice. UMMC encompasses five health science schools, including medicine, nursing, health related professions, dentistry and graduate studies, as well as the site where University of Mississippi pharmacy students do their clinical training. The Medical Center's threefold mission is to educate tomorrow's health-care professionals, conduct innovative research to improve human health, and to provide the highest quality care available to the state's citizens. A major goal of the Medical Center is the improvement of the health of Mississippians and the elimination of health disparities. For more information, contact the Division of Public Affairs at 601-984-1100 or visit us on the Web at <http://info.umc.edu/>.