

Nicole Aleq'ak Colbert

Yup'ik Eskimo, Napakiak, Alaska

Miss Indian World 2008

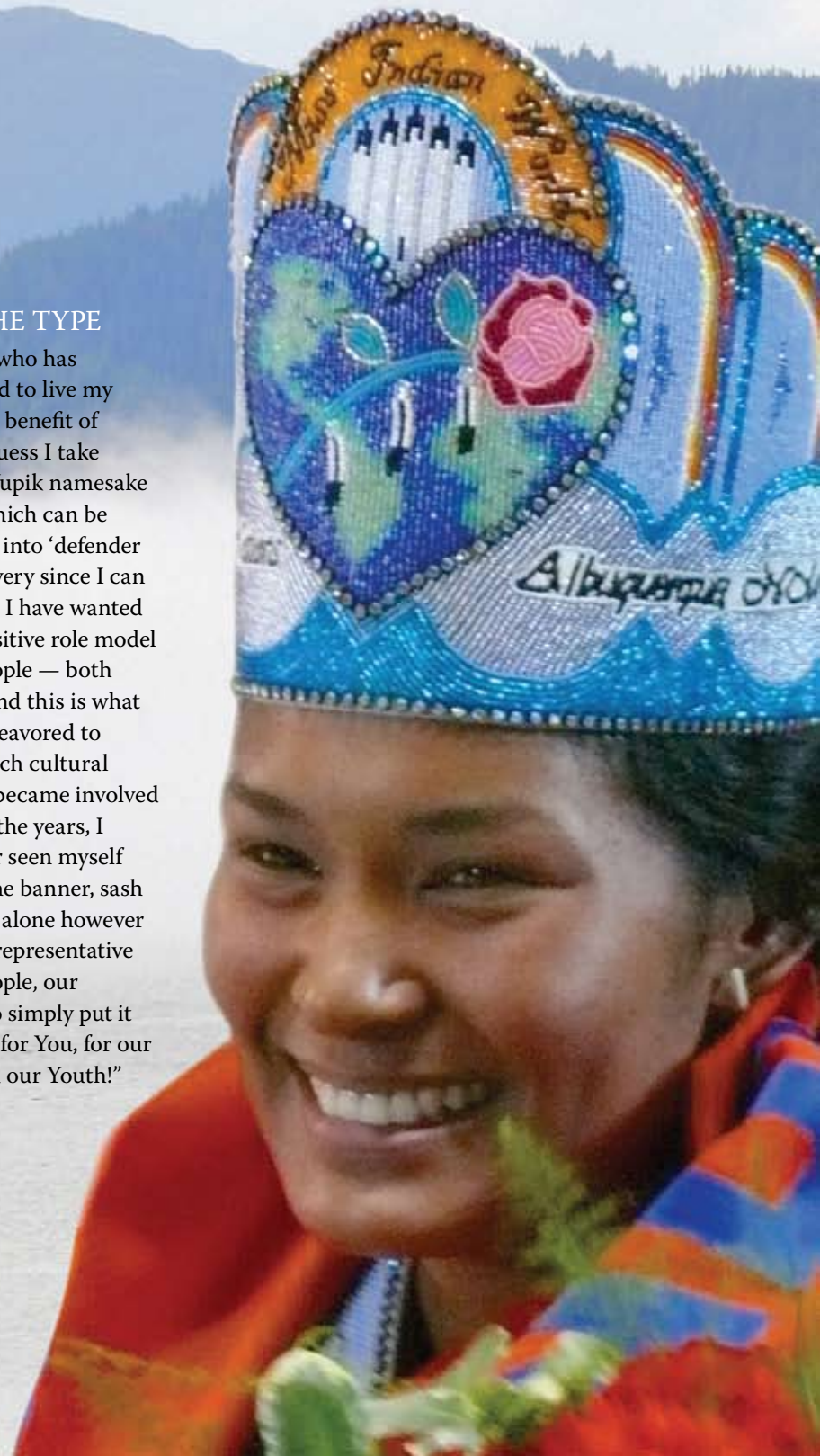


Nicole receives her crown.



Nicole Colbert, Miss Indian World 2008

I AM THE TYPE of person who has endeavored to live my life for the benefit of others, I guess I take after my Yupik namesake Alek'aq which can be translated into 'defender of men'. Every since I can remember I have wanted to be a positive role model for my people — both cultures and this is what I have endeavored to do with each cultural pageant I became involved with over the years, I have never seen myself wearing the banner, sash or crowns alone however truly as a representative for my people, our people...to simply put it "I did this for You, for our Elders and our Youth!"



Virtue in the Bible describes a woman who knows herself and honors GOD, a cultural woman who willingly works with her hands to sew and bead the beautiful regalia of her people, one who prepares and enjoys her traditional foods and who enjoys her time on the land of her ancestors as she carries on the subsistent lifestyle. A woman who is passionate about what she believes in and honors her body and appearance by taking care of herself, she is well studied and not caught off guard, she continues to improve the talents and gifts within her through education and cultural knowledge. She is known as kind, welcoming and humble and willingly shares the wisdom of her elders and people as she respects the cultures of those around her. A woman who presents herself well-rounded whether she stands before a ruler or a servant, she is an benefit outside herself for our people and any organization that she may work with. Strength and honor justifies her and she will have no shame in living her life open before others, when she speaks she opens her mouth with the wisdom of her people as she kindly challenges those around her to walk beside her as leaders for the next generation. She corrects herself by learning from her mistakes and teaches others the way to go from her experiences, she is a role model to those younger then her and an asset to the one she shall marry. She is the one who holds the title and unselfishly understands it is for our

people, charm is empty and beauty is only for a moment but a woman who fears the Lord she shall be praised. All will see the fruit of her hands and her own works will praise her in time to come. Refer to NKJV Prov 31:10

As the Miss Indian World title holder for the past year I traveled in and out of various tribes and cities to attend conferences, summits, traditional ceremonies, cultural festivities, numerous powwows and dinning functions with the hopes of sharing my passion of encouraging all people to embrace their cultural identity — if we, the next generation, does nothing to this effort we could loose all that our ancestors worked so hard to maintain.

From the everglades of the Seminole Tribe to the untouched beauty of the Saskatoon Canadians; While visiting an honorable US Air force Base and enjoying the enriching culture of the Italians to experiencing the festivity of the Islanders during my stay in Nassau, Bahamas; To bringing the accomplishment home to my people the Alaskan Natives for the 2nd time within the Miss Indian World's 25 year history and all those places in between which are too many to name please know I will forever keep you in my fondest memories...

I am so thankful and totally humbled to have represented the Gathering of Nations as well as the various tribes that make up our diverse Country and beyond — as Your Miss Indian World!

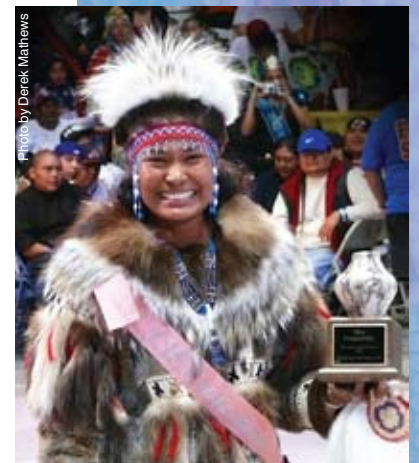
Nicole performs a native dance in the Miss Indian World Competition



Nicole smiles for the camera!

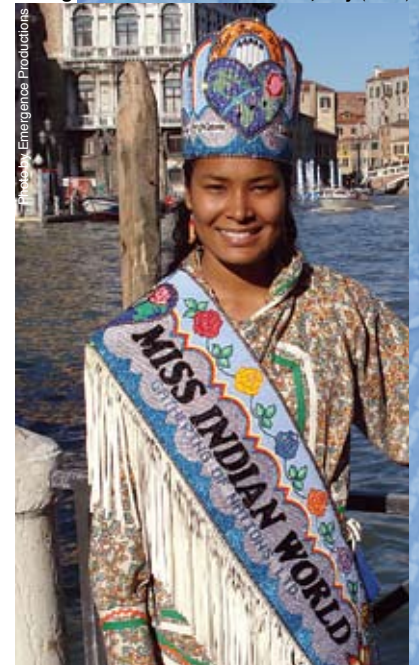


Nicole hanging with pals, Chip and Dale, on the Disney Cruise.



Nicole in her native dress at MIW. (above)

Taking time out in beautiful Venice, Italy. (below)



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