

WHAT IS

MS. VETERAN AMERICA

THE MEANING BEHIND THE CROWN

The National Ms. Veteran America competition celebrates "The Woman Beyond the Uniform." This event honors the service of the over 2 million women who have worn the U.S. Military Uniform and acknowledges the women who have made the ultimate sacrifice during their military service. This event also highlights the strength and courage of our nation's military women. It reminds us that these women are our mothers, daughters, sisters, and wives.

The beneficiary of the Ms. Veteran America competition is **Final Salute, Inc.**, a 501(c)3 nonprofit providing safe and suitable housing to homeless Women Veterans and their children. Since 2010, Final Salute Inc. has provided over 17,000 housing days and raised more than 3 million dollars to support over 8,000 women veterans and their children in over 30 states and territories. Final Salute Inc. has received national recognition for spearheading the conversation on homelessness among women veterans. It was featured in the NCIS episode "One Step Forward" and the award-winning documentary, "Served Like a Girl."

The Ms. Veteran America Pageant sheds light on the issues women veterans face while giving them a safe venue to be recognized and celebrated. Ms. Veteran America's duties include 250 hours of community service during her 12 months as the title holder. She attends speaking engagements and other special events across the country and serves as an active advocate for the issues facing homeless Women Veterans and their children.

