Betty Cantrell was crowned Miss America 2016, having previously been crowned Miss Georgia 2015. She currently is a highly regarded musician and vocalist. A native of Warner Robins, Georgia, Betty began singing at an early age. Inspired by the musical influences of Linda Ronstadt and country music, she sang with her dad’s band. From the age of fourteen, she began taking professional vocal and stage lessons, continuing her studies in music at Mercer University. At age nineteen, a friend encouraged her to enter a pageant—her first—and just two years later, she was crowned Miss America 2016. She continues to advance in her career as a singer and country music entertainer.

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