



For Immediate Release



Elihle Zemikhosi Mthembu Crowned International Junior Miss Princess 2025-2026

Elihle Zemikhosi Mthembu of South Africa has been crowned the International Junior Miss (IJM) Princess International Queen, earning one of the highest honors within the global IJM system. Representing her home country of South Africa, Elihle brings joy, confidence, and a powerful commitment to uplifting her community. Supported by her parents, Thulani and Purity Mthembu, she continues to shine as a leader, role model, and inspiration to young girls across the world.

Elihle is a student at Naturena Primary School No. 2 in Johannesburg, where she recently advanced to 3rd grade after earning first place academically in her 2nd-grade class. She is known for her kindness, enthusiasm, and dedication to helping others. Her service work includes organizing extra tutoring classes for students who need academic support, distributing unused clothing to children in need in her community, and continuing her impactful project of providing sanitary pads to girls ages 9–12 to help end period poverty. Her commitment to dignity, education, and empowerment sets a powerful example for young leaders everywhere.

As an international titleholder, Elihle hopes to travel, learn, and inspire girls around the world. Her mission is to encourage every young girl to feel confident in her own skin and to believe that she is smart, capable, and enough, no matter where she comes from. She values IJM because it celebrates sisterhood, kindness, cultural pride, and the ability to make a real difference. Elihle especially loves meeting new friends from around the world and becoming part of a global community of young leaders.

Her advice to anyone considering competing: Go for it! She believes IJM is fun, inspiring, and filled with unforgettable memories: a place where you grow, make lifelong friendships, and learn to shine by being yourself.

About International Junior Miss (IJM)

International Junior Miss is a premier global pageant organization proudly celebrating 18 years of empowering young women worldwide. IJM is known for its fashion-forward approach, emphasis on leadership, and a truly international sisterhood that spans countries, cultures, and continents. Each division winner receives up to \$10,000 in cash scholarships, and every international titleholder earns an expense-paid international trip, making IJM one of the most rewarding programs in pageantry. Now accepting at-large contestants representing their state, country, or heritage, IJM continues to expand its global footprint while welcoming diverse voices from across the world.

Additional photos and headshots available upon request.

Image above courtesy of Urban Hill Photography for International Junior Miss.

Contact IJM:

ijm@theiampowerhouse.com
www.InternationalJuniorMiss.org