

The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant



A Miss America Preliminary

Entry Deadline & Contestant Orientation Meeting

(For local contestants): March 1, 2015

Final Paperwork and Ad Page Deadline:

March 7, 2015

Please submit 2 page applications

For further information contact:

Pageant Director, Kelly Bailey—(863) 289-1395; Kelna1591@aol.com

Executive Director, Brenda Eubanks Burnette—(561) 351-4314; BBurne1003@aol.com

Miss Florida Citrus 2015
Scholarship Awards and Prizes



Miss Florida Citrus	<p>\$1,000 Cash Scholarship</p> <p>Regalia Magnificent Apparel - \$350 Gift Certificate for purchase of a gown valued at \$1,000 or more.</p> <p>Entry in the Miss Florida Pageant in St. Petersburg in June 2015</p> <p>Official Miss America Crown & Trophy</p>
First Runner-up	\$500 Cash Scholarship
Second Runner-up	\$250 Cash Scholarship
Third Runner-up	\$150 Cash Scholarship
Fourth Runner-up	\$100 Cash Scholarship

PAGEANT

Like the Miss Florida and Miss America Pageants, the Miss Florida Citrus competition is divided in five phases – Interview/On Stage Question, Swimsuit Talent and Evening Wear. Each contestant is scored individually from 1-10 in each category, with the high and low scores discarded.

INTERVIEW

The Interview competition is the first opportunity to meet the panel of five judges. The duration of the interview will be ten (10) minutes. During this time each contestant will be able to converse with the judges about their goals and aspirations as well as express their personal opinions. The judges will be looking for a sharp and tasteful young woman that is sure of herself, age-appropriate current events and platform. This portion of the competition counts for 25% of the final score.

LIFESTYLE AND FITNESS

The Lifestyle and Fitness competition gives each contestant the opportunity to demonstrate how well they maintain their physical fitness. Each contestant will compete in a swimsuit of their choice. The judges will be looking for overall proportion of figure, beauty of face and figure, energy and personality. Lifestyle and Fitness represents 15% of the final score.

TALENT

The Talent phase of competition allows each contestant to demonstrate artistic craft. The presentation will not be more than 90 seconds in duration. Some examples of talents performed within the Miss America Organization include singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument, comic or dramatic reading, baton, acrobatic movements, etc. Contestants are responsible for providing their own music or arrangements. Judges will be looking for interpretive ability, technical skill level, stage presence and integration of elements (costume, choreography, music and props) used in the presentation. Talent represents 35% of the final score.

EVENING WEAR

The Evening Wear competition consists of presentation in formal evening attire. Judges will look for sense of confidence, personality, stage presence, walk, poise and elegance. This phase of competition counts for 20% of the final score.

ON STAGE QUESTION

Each contestant is asked one question. The judges will be looking for personality, intelligence, speech, vocabulary and style. This phase of the competition counts for 5% of the final score.

PLATFORM ISSUE

Each contestant is required to have a platform issue about which she feels strongly. It is best to choose a cause or issue for which the contestant has a strong personal commitment, involvement or conviction (i.e. AIDS, CHILD ABUSE, CARE OF THE ELDERLY, HOMELESS, etc.).

MAIL 2-PAGE APPLICATION TO:

Miss Florida Citrus Pageant, 806 Windermere Way, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418.

For additional information, please contact:

Brenda Eubanks Burnette, Executive Director - 561-351-4314; BBurne1003@aol.com

Kelly Bailey, Pageant Director – 863-289-1395; Kelnal591@aol.com

Eligibility Requirements for MISS FLORIDA CITRUS CONTESTANTS

(Age 17 High School Senior to age 24)

Below you see a list of eligibility requirements shared by all local programs of the Miss America Organization.

To compete for the Miss Florida Citrus Pageant:

- ◆ You must be at least 17 years old and entering your senior year of high school and be no older than 24 on December 31, 2015.
- ◆ You must be single, never married, never had children.
- ◆ You must live, work full time, or attend school full time in the state of Florida.
- ◆ You must be a U.S. Citizen.
- ◆ You must meet character criteria as set forth by the Miss America Organization.
- ◆ You must be able to meet the time commitment and responsibilities as set forth by the Miss Florida Citrus Pageant, Inc. should you win the title (Must sign a contract).
- ◆ You must register on www.MissAmerica4kids.com and raise \$100 for each local in which you compete (a maximum of \$400) and \$250 for the state competition for Children's Miracle Network.

Required Documents:

Interviews will take place in the morning on Saturday, March 21st. Contestants will be required to stay at the Theatre for the entire day. No parents, coaches or hair/makeup artists will be allowed in the theatre. We will have the chaperones available to help backstage.

See Checklist. All materials listed on the checklist must be obtained by the Executive Director on or before March 1st.

The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant



Contestant & Parents Contact Information Form

Local Contestant Information

Contestant's Full Legal Name: _____

Phonetic Spelling: _____

Phonetic Spelling of Contestants Name for Stage Announcements

Birth Date: _____

Age: _____

Type of Talent & Music: _____

Platform: _____

Street Address

City & State

ZIP Code

Cell Phone: () _____

Hometown: _____

City & State

E-mail Address: _____

Address while at College/University

Address: _____

Street Address

City & State

ZIP Code

Parents Information

Mother's Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

ZIP Code

Home Phone: () _____

Cell Phone: () _____

Business Phone: () _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Father's Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

ZIP Code

Home Phone: () _____

Cell Phone: () _____

Business Phone: () _____

E-Mail Address: _____

If one or both parents are deceased, or if parents are separated, please indicate that information here.

The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant



Brenda Eubanks Burnette,
Executive Director

BBurne1003@aol.com
(561) 351-4314

Sponsorship & Advertising Opportunities

Contestant Sponsor—\$300

Name & Company logo on Contestant page in program book, and on-stage mention every time contestant is introduced. Two tickets to pageant.

Gold Sponsor—\$250

Four tickets to pageant and premier listing in program book. On-stage mention during pageant.

Silver Sponsor—\$200

Two tickets to pageant and second tier listing in program book. On-stage mention during pageant.

Bronze Sponsor—\$150

One ticket to pageant and third tier listing in program book. On-stage mention during pageant.

Supporting Sponsor—\$100

Listing in program book.

Ads:

Back Cover—\$300

Inside Covers—\$250

Full Page—\$200

“Good Luck, Contestant” Full Page(Parents only) - \$175

Half Page—\$125

Quarter Page—\$75

Business Card—\$50

***Ad Pages must be turned in Camera-Ready. If you or your business requires an ad page set-up, there will be an additional charge of \$25 per advertisement.*

Thank you for your consideration of supporting the
Scholarship dreams of today’s young women!



The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant



Brenda Eubanks Burnette,
Executive Director

BBurne1003@aol.com
(561) 351-4314

February/March 2015

To Our Miss Florida Citrus Contestant Supporters:

We are honored to work with you as we join the tradition renowned for empowering young women in Florida - the Miss America Organization. Our organization provides a platform where young women can achieve their personal and professional goals and offers them a forum to express their opinions, intelligence and talent skills as a preliminary scholarship pageant in the Miss America program, which is the largest provider of scholarship assistance in existence for women.

The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant will be held on March 21, 2015 at The Ritz Theater in Winter Haven and will offer contestants the opportunity to win approximately \$3,000 in scholarships and prizes, along with a chance to become the next Miss Florida and perhaps Miss America.

We hope you will join us in sponsoring this worthwhile endeavor by purchasing an ad in our program book or by underwriting one of our contestants. Your support plays a critical role in the success of this program and the young women who enter. The attached information sheet outlines the various opportunities available, so we appreciate any assistance you can provide in helping the dreams of these young women come true.

Should you wish to book Miss Florida Citrus to appear at your company event, please don't hesitate to contact me for scheduling information and availability.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope to see you at the pageant!

Sincerely,

Brenda Eubanks Burnette
Executive Director

Contestant Name: _____

Date Received

Due to Pageant by MARCH 1, 2015.

- _____ **Contestant Application (2 pages)**
- _____ **Copy of birth certificate**
- _____ **Copy of driver's license**
- _____ **Signed copy of Rules and Regulations**
- _____ **Signed copy of 2015 Local Scholarship Rules**
- _____ **Contestant 4x6 Photos (color or b/w) (7 copies of same pose, no crown shots, head shot pose required)**
- _____ **Contestant Resume for Judges (6 copies)**
- _____ **Signed Platform Essay for Judges (6 copies)**
- _____ **Talent Request & Detail Form**
- _____ **Contestant Talent Verification Form**
- _____ **Two CD's (One Master & One Back-up), labeled with your full name, visible, in a plastic case – please bring with you to rehearsal**
- _____ **Sealed School Transcript**
- _____ **Ad pages \$ _____ amount turned in**
- _____ **Tickets Assigned # _____ - _____**
- _____ **Tickets returned _____ (Ticket money will be collected on March 7th)**
\$ _____ amount turned in

TICKETS WILL BE HANDED OUT AT THE MARCH 1st MEETING FOR YOU TO SELL. IF YOU ARE FROM OUT OF TOWN, PLEASE SEND A CHECK AND YOUR TICKETS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU. THEY ARE \$10 pre-sale and \$15 at the door. Additional tickets may be requested but all money must be turned in or you will not be permitted to go into your interview.

2015 MISS FLORIDA CITRUS PAGEANT

RULES AND REGULATIONS

This program is sponsored by Miss Florida Citrus Pageant Incorporated, a not-for-profit organization formed for the sole purpose of sponsoring the Miss Florida Citrus Pageant. The pageant will be conducted through the selection of five (5) finalists, one of whom will be Miss Florida Citrus 2015. The five finalists shall be declared by a Certified Public Accountant following the final tabulation according to the Miss America system of judging at the conclusion of the pageant. All the scholarships and scholarship monies will be awarded and governed by the same rules and regulations as applies to the Miss Florida and the Miss America Organization.

All appearances made as Miss Florida Citrus are subject to approval by the Miss Florida Citrus Scholarship Pageant or Local Executive Director. An approved chaperone must accompany all appearances of Miss Florida Citrus. This rule applies particularly to News/Media appearances and interviews. Your chaperone must be present for all media questions and answers.

A representative of the Pageant Board accompanies the 2015 Florida Citrus titleholder when leaving to participate in the Miss Florida Pageant. The titleholders will be given a calendar with deadline dates with regard to wardrobe choices, purchases and all relevant activities for preparation for the Miss Florida Pageant. Your choices **MUST BE APPROVED** by the Miss Florida Citrus Executive Board. **ALL** wardrobe purchases and alterations will be completed and approved prior to the state pageant. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS** or changes without the express approval of the Pageant Board once you arrive at Miss Florida. Any paid pageant coach must be approved by the Executive Director and is subject to approval by the board. Paid pageant coaches may suggest wardrobe options but these options may or may not be approved by the pageant board. All coaching sessions with any outside coaches/music teachers/interview preparation must be approved prior to the scheduled appointment.

1. LIMITED NUMBER OF CONTESTANTS:

The contest shall be limited to an initial twenty (20) qualified contestants who will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

2. FILING OF APPLICATIONS:

Applications may be obtained either by computer request, or by mail. Completed applications must be completed before receiving the contestant folder.

3. PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS:

The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant will determine eligibility of applicants as related to residence, age, schooling and other general rules of the contest. Within one week following the deadline of applications each applicant will be informed of her acceptance or rejection as a contestant.

4. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES AND REGULATIONS:

The applicant's signature on the application will be considered as evidence that the applicant **HAS READ AND AGREES TO ABIDE BY ALL THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE PAGEANT, AND THAT THE APPLICANT AGREES TO ATTEND ALL ANNOUNCED MEETINGS AND REHEARSALS.**

Contestant

Parent

You must understand that failure to follow these rules without just cause may be the cause of elimination from the pageant. **"JUST CAUSE"** absences must be cleared in advance by the Miss Florida Citrus Executive Board to be considered acceptable.

5. CANNOT REPEAT: Whoever is crowned as Miss Florida Citrus **WILL NOT** be allowed to compete in that particular title the following year. Former Miss Florida Citrus titleholders may compete only if she falls within the eligibility guidelines and with approval from the Executive Board.

6. AGE, SEX, AND SCHOOL STATUS: Applicants must be female. She must be between the ages of 17 and 24 years of age. Must be 17 and a High School Senior by the time of her first appearance in preliminary round of the local or state competition and no older than twenty four (24) years of age on December 31, 2015 (for Miss America 2016).

7. RESIDENCY: Applicants for the title of Miss Florida Citrus must be a resident of Florida. Your residency is determined by the address on your driver's license or the address of your education institution.

8. PERSONAL STATUS: Applicant must be single, never having been married, or never have had a marriage annulled.

9. MARRIAGE OR PREGNANCY: Applicant must never have been pregnant or never birthed a child. Upon conclusion of the Pageant, since marriage or pregnancy could interfere with the fulfilling of a contestant's responsibility to the Miss Florida Citrus Scholarship Pageant, any member of the court who marries or becomes pregnant will automatically forfeit their position and scholarship balances. She will also return her crown to the Miss Florida Citrus Executive Board. In such cases, the Miss Florida Citrus Scholarship Pageant will determine the course of action to be followed.

10. GOOD MORAL CHARACTER: Each applicant or contestant must be of good moral character and must not have been convicted of a crime.

11. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TITLEHOLDER AND HER COURT: After final selection of the titleholders and their court, each member shall portray good conduct, morals, and good manners. They should conduct themselves with dignity and at all times be a credit to the Miss Florida Citrus Pageant and to the community she represents.

12. TITLEHOLDERS FUTURE RESPONSIBILITIES: Following her selection as Miss Florida Citrus, the title holder will be required to make future appearances on behalf of her title as well as a representative of the Florida Citrus industry. Any exceptions to such requested appearances must be approved by the Miss Florida Citrus Scholarship Pageant. The following appearances and responsibilities are considered mandatory for the titleholder.

1. Miss Florida Pageant and related activities.
2. All sponsor events/appearances and requests are mandatory.
3. Send-Off Celebration for the Miss Florida Pageant.
4. Following year's fund raiser and autograph signing should one be scheduled.
5. Following year's Orientation meeting.
6. Following year's Dress Rehearsal and Pageant.
7. Titleholder will send thank-you notes to sponsors.
8. Titleholder will have professional autograph pictures made for appearances. The specifications shall come from the Executive Director.
9. A minimum of Ten (10) public appearances during the year. There may also be other events that the Board may need the titleholder to attend.
10. All clothing will be approved by the Executive Director or assigned Board Member before any and all appearances.
11. All clothing will be approved by the Executive Director or assigned Board Member before going to Miss Florida.
12. Titleholders will be available for all photo sessions.
13. Titleholders will be available for any and all fund-raisers for the upcoming year.
14. . All pageant sponsors and new contacts remain with the organization and may only be contacted with Board approval. Current sponsors may not be approached without the Executive Director.

CONTESTANT _____ PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

1. ABDICATION OR DISQUALIFICATION: In the event the titleholder should abdicate or be disqualified, the first runner-up shall become the recognized titleholder until the next titleholder is crowned the following year.

2. RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES: Once the application is accepted to participate in the competition, the contestant agrees not to participate in any other pageant or activity which conflicts with the Miss Florida Citrus Scholarship Pageant. Failure to follow this rule will be considered cause for elimination from this pageant. In the event a contestant does not adhere to this rule the Pageant Board shall determine the course of action to be taken.

3. CONSENT OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS: An applicant under eighteen (18) years of age must have the written permission of her parents or legal guardians to participate in the pageant. The notarized signature of the parents or legal guardians on the application shall be considered as their consent.

4. MANAGEMENT CONTRACT OF ENDORSEMENTS:

By signing this application, each applicant agrees that if she is selected as the titleholder in the Pageant she will not sign a management contract with any individual, business, or corporation; that she will not give any verbal or written endorsements of any mercantile commodity or any commercial organization; nor will she permit any service not associated with the Miss Florida Citrus Pageant without the express written permission from the Pageant Board.

5. JUDGING PROCEDURE:

Announced decision of the judges will be final.

6. DRESSING ROOM TO BE CLOSED:

During the course of the dress rehearsal and the pageant competition, the dressing room will be closed to everyone except contestants, pageant officials and official pageant assistants. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

CONTESTANT _____ PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

7. PAGEANT COMPETITION:

Competition will consist of five phases:

- I. Interview representing 25% of the total score.
- ii. Talent representing 35% of the total score.
- iii. Swimsuit/Physical Fitness representing 15% of the total score.
- iv. Evening wear representing 20% of the total score.
- V. On-stage Question representing 5% of the total score
- vi. Ranking of the top 5 scorers dictates the final placement of the top 5.

8. REHEARSALS:

Dress rehearsal will be at the Ritz Theatre on March 21st at 12:00 noon, following your private interview. Please enter through the side door, and bring everything you need for the pageant (Competition wardrobe, accessories, musical instruments, hair and cosmetic needs). You may NOT leave the theatre after you arrive for any reason.

9. PAGEANT DAY AND NIGHT:

Morning Interview:

All contestants will report to the interview (The Ritz Theatre, Central Avenue, Winter Haven, FL 33880) thirty (30) minutes prior to their assigned interview time. You will be expected to be **COMPLETELY DRESSED AND WAITING 30 MINUTES BEFORE THE TIME YOU ARE GIVEN.** It is crucial that you are **ON TIME.** When you have finished your interview, you will go directly to the theatre. You must arrive at the theatre at 12:00pm. Food and beverage will be provided. Everything you will need for the full pageant must accompany you to the theatre. **YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE THEATRE FOR ANY REASON.** All contestants will remain sequestered backstage until the conclusion of the pageant. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!** You may bring some comfortable clothes to lounge in for rehearsal. At approximately 4:00pm you will immediately start preparing for the show's opening performance and competition. All contestants must be with their hostess and properly dressed for "**PAGEANT CURTAIN CALL**". Throughout the pageant, you will be expected to move with haste, to always be alert for cues, and ready to do your performance. The Executive Director will select the contestant order based upon the type of talent that you are performing. You are **ALWAYS** expected to be prepared and on time for your cue.

10. CONTACTS:

All paper work should be returned to Brenda Eubanks Burnette, and she should always be the initial contact for any information or concerns. Whenever you send information regarding the pageant by email, please send your email to MissFloridaCitrus@gmail.com. When returning your contestant folder, **DO NOT SEND IT VIA EMAIL.** Mail it or deliver it to the pageant address. It must be RECEIVED by 3/1/15 so please plan for appropriate mailing time. There will be no extensions to the deadline.

These are the Rules and Regulations of the Miss Florida Citrus Scholarship Pageant. Please complete your contestant folder using the checklist and return your folder to the Executive Directors no later than March 1, 2015. This is the absolute last day to turn in the required paperwork and advertisement pages. Failure to complete paperwork may result in dismissal from the pageant.

We will meet on March 1, 2015 at 11:00am at the Ritz Theatre in the conference room for a contestant orientation (optional for out of town contestants). We will meet again on March 7, 2015 in the same room to collect the materials and collect ticket money. You must bring all of your paperwork completed, your photos, your ad pages, your fees, ticket money. If you are mailing your envelope, please be certain that you have gone over the checklist several times and that all of the items are in the envelope. Once again, it is your responsibility to check and double check the contents of the mailed package.

Brenda Eubanks Burnette, Ex. Dir., 806 Windermere Way, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418. (561) 351-4314 BBurne1003@aol.com

INTERVIEW LOCATION:

Holiday Inn
Cypress Gardens Blvd.
Winter Haven, FL 33880

PAGEANT THEATRE LOCATION:

Ritz Theatre
Central Avenue
Winter Haven, FL 33880

2015 LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS

THE MISS FLORIDA CITRUS ORGANIZATION WILL AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES: (PLEASE NOTE IN SOME CIRCUMSTANCES A 501 C-3 FOUNDATION AFFILIATIONS MAY NOT ALLOW PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO BE UTILIZED FOR STUDENT LOANS OR COMPUTER EQUIPMENT.)

1) SCHOLARSHIP USAGE:

Scholarship funds may be applied to tuition, textbooks, supplies, academic fees and other appropriate mandatory educational expenses. All unusual or questionable items of expense must be referred to the Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization with as much information as possible and far enough in advances for consideration of approval. Amounts received as scholarship payments are taxable income to the extent that they exceed "Qualified Tuition and Related Expenses".

Qualified Tuition and Related Expenses include tuition and fees required for enrollment or attendance of a student at an educational organization, including fees, books, supplies and equipment required of all students in the particular course of instruction.

Payment of all approved expenditures will be made directly to the college, university or other accredited institution unless extenuating circumstances exist (with the exception of computer or musical equipment clause). Personal Reimbursements to scholarship recipients will not be honored, so proper planning and time allotment is essential on the part of the student.

2) REQUESTING USAGE:

Requests for scholarships are initially processed by the Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization [for its review and approval](#) upon written receipt of statements from colleges and schools or from the contestant for other educational expenses. All statements and invoices must be accompanied by cover letter from the contestant. Payment is disbursed at 50% of scholarship given after 6 months of crowning and the remaining 50% given at 9 months. The Executive Director may approve an advancement of scholarship after 6 months of service.

Requests for computer or musical equipment will be recommended only if the college or school states in writing that it is mandatory requirement in order for the contestant to complete the coursework. The contestant may be reimbursed for this expense provided the contestant submits either a letter on official school letterhead from the school stating the mandatory requirements or alit of course requirements. There will however, be a \$1,000 cap on computer equipment, and this type of expense will be reimbursed only once. Computer software is not a reimbursable item. The original bill of sale must be submitted as well as the original credit card receipt or a copy of the canceled check.

3) REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES:

Payments for room and board will be made to the educational institution (or for off-campus housing if the scholarship rules and regulations of the Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization permit) and such requests must be accompanied by appropriate documentation from the educational institution evidencing the charges for same. Contestants must maintain at least 12 credit hours as a full-time student, 9 credit hours part-time status and 9 credit hours for graduate in order to qualify. Payments do not cover key fees or deposits. Utilities (electric, gas, cable, phone, etc.) are also not covered.

It is each contestant's obligation to determine whether the scholarship, in whole or part, is includable in gross taxable income, regardless of whether a Form 1099 has been issued.

Contestants are encouraged to consult a tax advisor regarding the taxability of the scholarship payments.

4) PRIORITY OF LEVEL IN USAGE:

Contestants receiving scholarships at the local level must use the scholarship won at the local level prior to applying for funds at the state level. It shall be the responsibility of the local contestant to request written verification from the Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization Local Executive Director that all local scholarship funds have been exhausted for submission to the State Organization.

Outside of a request for computer equipment as discussed in Item 2, exceptions to this rule may be granted for payment of college or university room and board which does not fall within the guidelines for disbursement at the local level. The request for an exception must be submitted in writing to Scholarship Committee for consideration.

5) STUDENT LOANS:

Scholarships may be used for outstanding student loan obligations provided the contestant has satisfactorily completed the coursework for which the loan was obtained. In all cases, requests must include a current bill from the lender showing a current address, a copy of the promissory note showing that the contestant is either the primary or secondary payer of the obligation, and an official transcript showing completion of the coursework.

6) USAGE FOR FUTURE EXPENSES AND FORFEITURES

Scholarships may be used for future educational expenses, provided, however, except as set forth below; contestants must begin use of their scholarships within 1 year of the date of the award.

Prior to the date of forfeiture, reasonable attempt will be made by the local organization to notify the contestant of impending forfeiture. If a contestant has not submitted a request to the Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization for her scholarship award dollars during this period, her right to request funds will be forfeited. **If a contestant forfeits any money from her scholarship award at the local level, her award at the state and national level will automatically be forfeited.**

An exception to the time limits may be made if the contestant, prior to the expiration date, makes written appeal to the Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization citing compelling reasons why the time period should be extended. If a contestant who wins her local title is successful in winning her state title it will still be necessary for her to submit a written letter of request for extension of her local scholarship awards. The Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization will review the request and determine whether an extension is warranted. The decision of the Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization shall be final and binding.

I (Contestant) have read and understood the 2015 Miss FLORIDA CITRUS Organization Local Competition Scholarship Rules and Regulations:

Signed

Date

Printed Name

The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant



Instructions for Typing the Contestant's Platform Statement

2014-15 Local Pageants

This is your opportunity to explain to the state judges what your chosen platform is and why it is important for the Miss Florida/Miss America Organization to embrace this platform. In addition, it should explain how your platform will further the Miss America Organization "brand" to the public.

This page ONE (1) page, singled-spaced document, combined with the Contestant's Resume, will comprise your entire application for this job. The judges will receive exactly what is submitted. Any items that do not meet the criteria or are submitted after the deadline will not be given to the judges. If your Platform Statement arrives on the day of the deadline, but does not meet the criteria, there will not be time to return it to you; therefore, it will not be given to the judges. The contestant may explain the lack of judging materials during her interview, if she so chooses.

1. Go to the word processing program of your computer.
2. Start a "new" document.
3. Set margins for 1" on all four sides. The font style may not be any smaller than "10" and no larger than "12" point type using the Times New Roman font style.
4. With the justification set for left, type "**Name:**" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your name.
5. Then, move to the next line and type "**Title:**" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your state title.
6. Double space down. Set your justification to "center". Then type in **bold and underline** the title of your Platform.
7. Double space down. Write what you feel is critical for the judge's to know about your platform and why it is necessary for you to have the job of Miss America to promote this issue. What you write will be what the judges know about your platform, your role in successfully dealing with this issue, and the role the Miss America Organization may play in your plan.
8. This essay **may** include some of the following items (this is not to be meant as an exhaustive list):
 - A clear definition of the platform and the specific issues you wish to address
 - A plan on how you have or will create awareness of the platform
 - The way in which you have or will change attitudes regarding the issue
 - The way in which you have or will change behaviors related to this issue
 - The way in which your platform issue will move the Miss America Organization forward
 - Your media plans
 - Your marketing strategy
 - How you propose to fund your ideas/plans
 - Any significant accomplishments you have made in regard to your issue
9. At the bottom of the page, set the justification to the right. Type a line of 26 spaces. Below that line, type Signature/Date and after printing **sign and date the document**. If you forget to sign and date, we will need to return the document to you as it cannot be accepted without your signature. Thank you.

It is important that you sign and date the original document and required copies as shown in the attached sample prior to submitting

Name: Jane Smith

Title: Miss Local

Celebrating Cultural Diversity and Inclusiveness

It is imperative that this nation face and embrace its cultural diversity. While many people have talked about this issue, I believe that most of them have only paid lip service to the true necessity of what needs to be addressed related to this issue. There is a false truth in merely accepting and tolerating cultural diversity. I intend to prove that in order to accept and understand people of other cultures; one must be willing to step out of a personal cultural comfort zone and identify the origin of their prejudice. I will specifically focus on three areas: Children, Communities, and Businesses.

The title of Miss America, combined with the national media already looking at the surface of this issue, will allow me to create the national awareness that must exist. Currently, the term “Cultural Diversity” is well known in the halls of institutions of higher learning and, perhaps, even in the public school classroom because of the need for some to be politically correct. But, in order for us to make a true change in attitudes and behaviors of Americans, we must move beyond talk and into action and policy changes.

My plan is to motivate the media and to partner with the National Conference for Community and Justice. This organization has chapters in every major city in the nation and, in many cases, those chapters have community leaders involved who can, with encouragement and challenging, bring this issue out of hiding and into the public light in each of those communities.

Obviously, the media and the NCCJ already exist. However, what is lacking is a lightning rod to draw attention to this issue. This is where the Miss America Organization steps into the lead. What better role is there for Miss America than to be an agent of change in organizing our nation to accept our differences and to create an environment that values each person on individual characteristics rather than on stereotypes or assumptions?

For years, Miss America was seen as a young woman who cut ribbons and appeared in parades. It is time for “Miss America” to step out of the convertible and *lead the parade*. Our country’s ethnic make-up is changing rapidly and our citizen’s fear of terrorism can explode already existing, but deeply hidden prejudices. I want to be the leader that this nation needs.

This nation needs this issue addressed now and through the already existing NCCJ and its local and state organizations combined with the power of Miss America, we can make a concrete difference now, which will change the direction and the future of our nation.

Signature/Date

The Miss Florida Citrus Pageant



Contestant's Resume Instructions

2014-15 Local Pageants

This is your opportunity to demonstrate to the national judges why they should consider you for the job of Miss Florida Citrus. You may list as many or as few items under each category as you desire. Your only restriction is that it must follow the established format and it must fit on one (1) page. This page, combined with the Platform Statement, will comprise your entire application for this job. The judges will receive exactly what is submitted. The judges will receive exactly what is submitted. Any item incorrectly submitted or submitted after the deadline will not be given to the judges. The contestant may explain the lack of judging materials during her interview, if she so chooses.

It is important that these instructions are followed, even when using the preformatted page included:

1. Create a "New" document with your computer's Word program.
2. Set margins for 1" on all four sides. The font style may not be any smaller than "10" and no larger than "12" point type, using the Times New Roman font style. Please refer to the attached sample to verify you are following the requested format.
3. With the justification set for left, type "**Name:**" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your name as you wish the judges to know it. (If your name is LaCricia Deborah Smith and you want to be known as "Deborah Smith", please type "Deborah Smith").
4. Then, move to the next line and type "**Title:**" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your state title.
5. Then, move to the next line and type "**Hometown:**" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar once. Then, type your hometown including the city and the state. Hit the tab bar approximately six (6) times and type, **Contestant Number:** _____. You will not know your contestant number at the time you are typing this information, which is why you will need to type a line. If you notice, it is "Contestants number", and then a colon (:), hit the space bar twice and then begin the line. All of which is in bold. Type the line to long enough to reach the end of the margin. Depending upon your font size, you may need to hit the tab bar 5, 6, or 7 times for it to look correct. The "C" in contestant does not have to line up with the "D" in date (see below), even though it appears that way on the attached sample.
6. Move to the next line. Now set your justification to the right. Type "**Date of Birth:**" in bold. Hit the space bar two (2) times, and type the month, day, and year of your birth. (Ex. October 10, 1992)
7. Move Justification to the left. Double space down and type "**Education:**" in bold. Hit the tab bar three times and then type your most recent school first and **your classification for Fall 2014**. If it is grad school, indicate it as such. List degree seeking (all on the same line as the name of the school), move to the line underneath that to list your undergraduate school and degree sought/achieved, and below that list your high school. If you are a High School Senior go ahead and list your college for the fall (ex. Florida State University - Freshman).
8. Double space down. Hit the tab bar once. Type "**Platform Issue:**" in bold. Hit the tab bar three times. Type the TITLE of your platform, MAKE SURE IT LINES UP WITH THE INFORMATION ABOVE IT. DO NOT TYPE ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE TITLE.

9. Double space down. Hit the tab bar once. Type **“Scholastic/Career Ambition:” in bold**. Hit the Tab bar once, MAKE SURE IT LINES UP WITH THE OTHERS ABOVE IT. Then type the type of degree/education you would ultimately like to achieve and beneath that, list your career ambition.
10. Double space down. Hit the tab bar once. Type **“Talent:” in bold**. Hit the tab bar three times. Type the type of talent and specific selection. MAKE SURE IT LINES UP WITH THE INFORMATION ABOVE IT. (i.e. Pop Vocal - “Crying”, Tap Dance - “Staying Alive”, etc.)
11. Double space down. Type **“Scholastic Honors:” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
12. Double space down. Type **“Leadership Roles:” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
13. Double space down. Type **“Accomplishments:” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
14. Double space down. Type **“Interesting Facts:” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
15. Double space down. Type **“Employment:” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
16. Double space down. Type **“How has the world you come from shaped your dreams and aspirations?” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Please answer the question in sentence form.
17. Double space down. Type **“Of all the ways you could succeed in your life, why have you chosen to succeed in the Miss America Program?” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Please answer the question in sentence form.
18. Double Space down. Type **“What social issue, other than your platform, will have the greatest impact on your generation and why?” in bold**. Hit the space bar twice. Please answer the question in sentence form.
19. Use your best judgment on what is most important for the judges to know about you. Use your space wisely. Attached you will see an example of what it should look like. Any variations from this form **will not** be considered acceptable. Your materials will not be retyped. The judges will receive your original work.

Please remember that the entire form MUST FIT ON ONE PAGE using the Times New Roman font style. You must leave a 1" margin on all four sides of the page.

Some spacing issues may arise. Simply follow the example provided

This form is given to the judges with your platform statement. You will notice there is a REQUIRED SIGNATURE LINE at the bottom of the Platform Statement. When these two pages are put together, they will create your entire application. Your signature covers the materials listed ON BOTH PAGES. Your signature verifies that everything on your forms is true and accurate. If it is proven that any information on these forms is not true, correct and factual, you risk disqualification from competing in the National Competition and losing your state/local title.

Name: Jane Smith

Title: Miss Local

Hometown: Anytown, America

Date of Birth: December 29, 1992

Education: University of State – sophomore – Bachelor of Science, Liberal Arts
Frederick Douglass High School

Platform Issue: Celebrating Cultural Diversity and Inclusiveness

Scholastic/Career Ambition: Obtain a Masters of Business Administration

Talent: Pop Vocal / “Fallen”

Scholastic Honors: Recipient of National Coca-Cola Scholarship; Recipient of the Metropolitan Urban League National Scholarship; Dean’s List; Member of the President’s Leadership Council at the UCF

Leadership Roles: Created and implemented a comprehensive Cultural Diversity Education Curriculum for grades K-12 in twelve Public Schools; University Student Body Senator; H.S. Sr. Class Pres.; College Sorority President.

Accomplishments: Recipient of the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service to Community; Recipient of the National Conference for Community and Justice Humanitarian Award; Performer, Grand Ole Opry in Nashville; Piano Performance scholarship at State University.

Interesting Facts: First person on either side of my family to attend college; Youngest of five children with a 13-year gap between me and my next oldest sister and an almost 20-year gap between the oldest and myself.

Employment: Internship with a Law Firm; Internship with local ABC television affiliate; Student Assistant at State University.

How has the world you come from shaped your dreams and aspirations?

I come from a loving, supportive family that has always taught me to work hard for the things I want to achieve. Growing up, my parents always encouraged us to get involved with our local community and help those who were less fortunate than us. They tried to instill good values in us and to always guide us on the right path. I think it is because of these lessons my parents taught me that I want to make a difference in today’s world. I aspire to be a woman of great influence, preferably working in the non-profit sector, where I can apply my talents for the greater good and help to change people’s lives. One person truly can make a difference, and I am on my way to proving that cliché. I also dream to one day have a loving family of my own, with beautiful children in whom I can instill the same core values that my parents gave to me.

Of all the ways you could succeed in your life, why have you chosen to succeed in the Miss America Program?

Along with providing the financial assistance for young women to fulfill our educational goals, the Miss America Organization gives us the opportunity to bring national attention to a cause dear to our hearts. If I were to become Miss America, I know that my voice would be heard as a spokesperson for my personal platform, as well as the national platform. Raising awareness of important social and political issues has always been important to me, and Miss America provides the perfect arena for that.

What social issue, other than your platform, will have the greatest impact on your generation and why?

Although I’m not sure I would consider it a social issue, I think technological advancements will have the greatest social impact on my generation. Technology is changing everything – the way we communicate, our lifestyles, access to information – it’s all right at your fingertips! That can be a double-edged sword. I believe we run the risk of losing both interpersonal and language skills due to the ease and speed of communicating electronically. I believe our educators should address this issue immediately, or it may, unfortunately, have the greatest impact on my generation and every generation to follow.

CONTESTANT'S TALENT REQUEST & DETAIL FORM

1. Your name as you want it announced (we will NOT change it on the cue card during the pageant):

Phonetic spelling of your name: _____

2. Telephone number @ Home: _____ Work: _____

Your cell: _____ Parents cell: _____

3. A. Please indicate type of talent:

Sing: _____ Type: _____

(Such as Broadway, Opera, etc.)

Dance Type:

(Please specify, i.e. jazz, en pointe, clogging, classical ballet, lyrical ballet, etc)

Play an instrument Type:

Other:

B. Full title of music used in your presentation. If doing a medley, you must list all of the song titles. Please remember that no more than 2 songs from any one particular Broadway show may be used. (It is difficult to clear more than 2 songs.)

4. Type of microphone preferred (The Miss Florida Citrus pageant will try to accommodate your preference; however, we cannot guarantee your particular choice of microphone):

(circle one) stand hand-held body/lapel

5. I have accurately timed my talent presentation at: _ minutes and _ seconds

**** THE TALENT PRESENTATION SHOULD BE TIMED FOR NO MORE THAN 90 SECONDS FROM THE TIME YOUR NAME IS ANNOUNCED. ****

6. Description of talent costume:

7. Do you use any NECESSARY props? (circle one) yes no

If "yes," describe:

(I understand no props are allowed unless they are absolutely functional.)

NOTE: The Miss Florida Citrus pageant will NOT be responsible for any special equipment, supplies, or musical instruments. We will only provide a piano.

CONTESTANT TALENT VERIFICATION FORM

I, _____, have completed and have attached the talent request and detail form. I understand the following:

1. My talent presentation can be no longer than **1:30 minutes** in length and is timed and recorded under this time limit.

Initials: _____

2. I will bring **2 (two) CDs** of my accompaniment **to rehearsal on March 21, 2015.**

One is marked "MASTER" and the other as "BACK-UP." Both are labeled with my name and the title of the piece. I WILL NOT SUBMIT MY ONLY ORIGINAL.

Initials: _____

3. No props are to be used unless they are completely functional. There are no backdrops or set props allowed.

Initials: _____

4. The Miss Florida Citrus pageant is not responsible for any special equipment, supplies or musical instruments. A piano will be provided.

Initials: _____

5. I am responsible for retrieving my music and/or props as soon as the pageant is over. Nothing will be mailed to me or picked up at a later date.

Initials: _____

6. The recorded quality of my CD accompaniment will not be altered in any way from the quality I submit.

Initials: _____

Talent introduction: Please write two sentences to be read as an introduction for your talent presentation. Include your name, type of talent, title, and any additional information pertinent to your presentation.

Signature: _____

Date: _____