







Welcome to the National American Miss Pageant!

Our goals at National American Miss are for you to share quality time with your family, make new friends, and gain valuable self-confidence. We are delighted that you have taken the first step life as we celebrate you, Today's Girl!

Your pageant weekend will be a spectacular event, filled with fun and excitement for your entire family and memories you will cherish for a lifetime. We are honored to have you as part of our pageant family and thrilled to have you join us at your State Pageant!

To begin preparing for pageant weekend, sit down with your family and look through this magazine. We want to make sure all of your questions are answered. Our team is here to help you every step of the way! So please, do not hesitate to give us a call.

Today is the day to start preparing for your pageant weekend!

Best Wishes.

Breame &
Ryan Ewing,
State Directors

EXECUTIONAL AMERICAN MISS?

- National American Miss is a program based on the foundational principle of fostering positive selfimage by enhancing natural beauty within.
- National American Miss is a program designed for today's girl. We celebrate America's greatness and the individuality of American girls.
- National American Miss is a program centered around helping young ladies grow and expand their ideas about who they are and what they want to achieve. We want every girl to realize that she truly can take hold of her dreams and make them real!
- National American Miss has friendly staff members who will guide you throughout your pageant experience. Each and every team member is committed to opening doors of opportunity for girls that aren't available anywhere else.
- National American Miss is a program that teaches valuable skills that will give you a competitive edge to succeed in whatever fields you may choose.
- National American Miss is a program that reminds today's girl that there is a special plan for her life...she has been created for a unique purpose!
- Our concert-level sound and lighting is unsurpassed! You will be proud to invite your family and friends to rally around and support you on pageant weekend.
- National American Miss is part of the I Am: The Pageant Powerhouse family. I Am: The Pageant Powerhouse offers award-winning, top level competitions, along with amazing opportunities for all levels of experience, shapes, sizes, and walks of life. Visit pageantpowerhouse.com for more info.









AMERICA'S JUNIOR MISS



NATIONAL AMERICAN MISS IS USING PAGEANTRY TO HELP DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS



NAM girls can conquer it all, from the pageant stage to the operating room! Check out Talia Stewart, a former Miss New York who is studying to become a surgeon at Dartmouth Medical School.

Our Mission

To encourage
America's future leaders
and equip them with
valuable life skills.

Our Vision

To be the country's premier youth pageant system.

Our Commitment

Service

We exist to serve you, the contestant, and your family.

Excellence

We are committed to excellence in all that we do.

Integrity

We challenge and hold each other accountable to the highest standards of conduct.

Value

We focus on creating a value-packed, fun family weekend.

Completion

We have an unwavering commitment to empower each contestant, enabling her to reach her full potential!



NAM is the perfect way to gain public speaking skills. The moment you hit the stage you are growing life skills that will help you prepare for a successful future. Check out NAM girl, Mackenzie Maynard, a former Miss Massachusetts Jr. Teen who is now an Emmy-nominated newscaster.



Throughout this magazine, and in everything we do, you'll see a recurring theme of "Keeping it Real." That's because we believe that each activity we provide is not only fun, but also assists in teaching you life skills, that will help you gain success in the real world.

Being in a pageant is fun! Participation in a National American Miss event is much more than just being in a pageant. Our program is carefully designed to grow your confidence and teach you skills for success in all areas of your life.

Unleash your potential! As our experienced staff guides you through the steps of competition, you will gain poise, self-confidence, and valuable communication skills. You'll feel good about yourself and gain the competitive edge to succeed in whatever fields you may choose in life, from modeling to business.

As you probably know, it takes more than a diploma to get the career of your dreams. It takes more than desire to get that student council position. It takes more than passion to effect lasting change in the world around you. To accomplish these things you have to be a communicator. You also need to be able to set goals and achieve them. You need to be larger than yourself and make a difference in your community. You need to be able to step up with natural confidence and get your unique message across. That is what our program is about: real-life skills and true empowerment.

Through our series of magazines and online videos, as well as the fun rehearsals taught by our experienced and friendly staff, you will feel your confidence grow, gain valuable **real-life skills**, and be better equipped for wherever life takes you. Through the National American Miss event, you will have a fun family experience and meet some great new friends along the way. **Empowerment, friendship, and service – these are the pillars of our**

program, and they are the ways by which we are "Keeping it Real."

You can do anything!







"All the preconceived ideas I had accumulated about pageants have been diminished these past few days. We have met so many encouraging, compassionate, smart, funny, and kind young ladies and their families! They have practiced walks and routines, and this morning, they are meeting to practice their Personal Introductions. I'll be honest, when Emily wanted to do this, I was skeptical about the environment. I was worried about the cattiness that you hear about. I was worried that my compassionate daughter would get her confidence and spirit tattered. I was worng! I have watched little girls walk up to her and ask for hugs, tell her that they love her, and that she's 'so pretty'. I have watched her confidence soar as she spoke to other young ladies. I watched her overcome fear and even embarrassment with humility, grace, and dignity. My ideas of pageants have changed, and even if she doesn't walk away with a crown, she has gained experience that will be invaluable throughout her life!" Stacey Brown Turknett - FL (mother to Emily)

6227 S 171st St.

Omaha, NE 68135

402.881.8744

STATE PAGEANT Gwards

AT YOUR STATE PAGEANT YOU WILL BE COMPETING FOR YOUR SHARE OF MORE THAN \$20,000 IN CASH, PRIZES, AND SCHOLARSHIPS!

We're giving out more than four hundred awards on pageant weekend and other prizes including Cash, Awards, Free Nights at the Host Hotel, and Scholarships! It's not a program in which only one winner takes all. In fact, each and every girl is a winner at National American Miss. If you qualify to be in the pageant, you'll become what we call a State Finalist, and every State Finalist will be presented with her Official State Finalist Award at the pageant.

EVERY STATE'S NATIONAL AMERICAN MISS WINNER IN EACH AGE DIVISION RECEIVES:

- Photo Shoots, shopping sprees, and travel opportunities
- Official state crown, banner, custom-designed crystal award, and roses
- Airfare to the National Pageant (up to \$350)
- Entry fees paid for the National Pageant
- Talent and Modeling Opportunities with our acting, modeling, and talent scouts at NAM Nationals
- Hotel expenses paid to attend the following year's pageant to crown your successor
- And so much more! To see a complete list, visit www.namissinfo.com/prizepackage

EVERYONE CAN WIN BIG!

THE STATE QUEEN'S TITLE

The National American Miss State title will open doors for you during your year of service. As the State Pageant winner, you will represent your state for the following year and will return to next year's pageant to crown your successor.

Use your state title to provide access and empowerment to the causes that matter most to you. NAM state queens have been invited to be speakers at state senates, national spokespersons for major charities, champions for underserved communities, and more. You will grow in confidence as a representative for your peers and your state.

THE QUEEN'S COURT

The four runners-up to the Queen's title will each receive custom-designed crystal awards, roses and an invitation to the National Pageant where they will compete in a separate competition for the National All-American Miss title. Take competition to the next level with top finishers from all across the country.





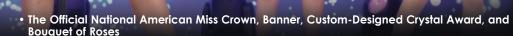
NATIONAL AMERICAN MISS is a program like no other!

experienced staff to the prestigious array of trophies, prizes, and awards, our program is unsurpassed!









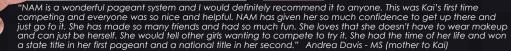
- Hotel and airfare for the Queen to next year's National Pageant to crown her successor
- Three complimentary tickets to the Thanksgiving Banquet for next year's National pageant week
- The opportunity to travel during her year of service, representing girls from across the United States as National American Miss
- The official National American Miss Ring, Charm Bracelet, and Crown Pin
- Custom-designed Marc Defang rhinestone title shoes and clutch
- Custom illustration of her crowning from Ellie L. Illustrations
- Her airfare to the national photo shoot to appear in National American Miss magazines, videos, and promotional materials
- Dream Duffle to help transport her items throughout her year of service
- Custom Pageants 2 Go Farewell DVD to be played during her national farewell
- The official National American Miss stationery, business cards, and composite photo cards.
- The official National American Miss Luggage, Custom Crown Couture Crown Case, Sweatshirt, T-Shirt, Car Magnets, and Tote Bag
- Cocktail dress for appearances from ASHLEYlauren and a custom opening number dress
- Each Jr. Teen, Teen and Miss will receive a pair of designer Stefanie Somers earrings
- Appearance gown from Ashley Rene's
- VIP guest appearance at Sherri Hill's NYFW Fashion Show, as special guest of Ashley Rene
- Hair and Make-up styling and consultation from Makeup by MasKara throughout the year
- ...And so much more! To see a complete list, visit <u>namiss.com</u>

The 1st through 4th runners-up in every age division will receive an official award, bouquet of roses, and cash award!









all about the GOMPETITIONS

Regulized Buttells

- Formal Dress
- Interview Outfit
- Production Number Outfit

AGE DIVISIONS

Miss*	19-24
Teen	16-18
Jr. Teen	13-15
Pre-Teen**	10-12
Jr. Pre-Teen**	7-9
Princess**	4-6
Age groups are assigned by the contestant's obtained age as of January 1 of the year of the competition. See <u>namiss.com</u> for more details.	

** No noticeable makeup for these three age groups

REQUIRED COMPETITIONS

Our experienced panels of judges score each State Finalist's ability to showcase:

Involvement in Community Service Project 10%
Public Speaking During Personal Introduction 30%
Poise and Presentation in Formal Wear 30%
Personality During an Interview 30%

Everything you need to know to do your best in each of the Required Competitions is explained in detail throughout the following pages.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT



The Community Service Project is incredibly fun, easy, and rewarding. A full 10% of your pageant score will automatically be awarded to you when you

donate a children's book and/or school supplies to one of your local libraries or schools. Each year NAM contestants donate over 10,000 children's books and tens of thousands school supplies nationwide. Your donation could be one book or a box full of books; your donation could be one pack of pencils or a backpack full of school supplies. Any size donation will result in the full 10% of your pageant score!

At National American Miss, we believe that true leadership comes from service. Spend one morning or afternoon with your family deciding how you will serve and bless another person with either a book(s) or school supplies. We hope that picking out the perfect book you enjoy, or picking out the perfect folder, will spark a lifetime of giving back to others in need.

Following the pageant, we encourage you to look around your neighborhood, school, local community, or state to see how you can continue to make a difference in the lives of others – visiting an elderly neighbor or family member (possibly making them a homemade card), picking up trash in a local park, helping restock food at the local food bank, volunteering with a major charity, such as Salvation Army, Susan G. Komen, or The American Heart Association, for example. You will make a huge difference in the world by serving others!

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is - What are you doing for others?" Let's all do something today to bring a smile to others.





"Our State Director and the NAMily provided an excellent and safe environment for us at the pageant this past weekend! Communication was very clear and informative. Every detail was planned and executed with precision with our safety being the first priority. This was our first experience with NAM, and it is one we will never forget!

I think my daughter said it best on the last day of the finale while she was getting ready (DAY 3), 'I WISH THIS PAGEANT COULD LAST FOREVER!'" Casandra Moylan - GA (mother to 7ce Rose)

Personal INTRODUCTION



Your Personal Introduction will be a snap! During this competition, you will learn how to speak effectively using a microphone and how to confidently and professionally present yourself on stage. You will take home the lifelong skills of introducing yourself effectively and speaking to a live audience. Public speaking is a skill admired by all. Personal Introduction counts for 30% of your pageant score.

State Finalists will introduce themselves on stage, saying a minimum of:

- Name
- Hometown
- Ambition

State Finalists are scored on their ability to clearly, confidently, and effectively deliver a message on stage to the audience. The judges are looking for a representative who **naturally** conveys her own unique personality through her effective and engaging public speaking skills and naturally confident stage presence. Public speaking is such a valuable skill, whether you are doing a school project or addressing the nation.

What To Wear? Each State Finalist will wear an interview-type outfit. This can be a dress, suit, or coordinated pants outfit. This will be the same type of outfit that you will wear for your one-on-one interview with the judges. Attire rules and examples are in the Interview section on page 6 and 7 of this magazine.

Wolfe: 30-second time limit. Good news! No longer do you have to worry about whether you should prepare and memorize a super-long Personal Introduction. Over the years, State Finalists have had greater success keeping their presentations shorter and more concise, so now there is a 30-second time limit for Personal Introduction at State. National American Miss will operate a timer to indicate when the time limit has expired. For your comfort and confidence, we recommend that you design your Personal Introduction to not be near in length to 30 seconds. Why have the additional burden of worrying about keeping it just under 30 seconds? Give

A great Personal Introduction often averages around 15-20 seconds. Please be aware that the longer a Personal Introduction is, the more opportunity for mistakes. Plus, a super-long introduction has the potential to seem insincere and lose the interest of the audience and/or judges.

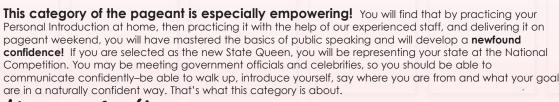
Be creative in your Personal Introduction. Be proud of who you are! Always be sincere in your presentation and don't forget to look at the judges and audience. Eye contact is important! Your vocal delivery can hugely influence your perceived confidence and competence. Use a conversational tone and be natural.

No props or gadgets are allowed.



yourself some cushion.

To view online videos, go to <u>namiss.com</u> and under "State Pageants" click on "State Required Competitions" to see examples. This is a great place to see an example of a Personal Introduction to help you prepare for your State Pageant.













Your Interview is when you can really let your personality shine. It's easy! At National American Miss, the interviews are held one-on-one, with each of the interview judges. It is our goal to use this experience to equip each participant with important job interview skills. Remember, the word "interview" is just another way of saying "conversation." Interview counts for 30% of your pageant score.

You will take home valuable interviewing skills, such as making good eye contact, speaking confidently, and sitting properly during an interview. In a very real way, you are interviewing for the "job" of representing your state. Our judges would like for our new state representatives (the queens) to be girls who are friendly, naturally enthusiastic, and effective communicators.

Our judges are friendly and just want to get to know you. Each judge wants you to do well. Their goal is to learn more about you, your ambitions, and your personality. They are looking for a representative who can engage in fun, intelligent conversation with an adult. They will not try to trick you or ask you guestions with a right or wrong answer. For example, they will not ask you, "Who is the governor of your state?"





Knowing how to handle yourself in a job interview is a real-life skill that most people do not have the opportunity to learn and practice until they are adults. Why wait?! Through our magazines, online videos, and experienced, helpful staff, you can learn this skill now. Whether it is that interview with teachers for a position as student council representative, a job you have been really wanting, or maybe a college scholarship that opens up a brighter future for you, you will have the courage and confidence to face any interview challenge. Whatever your goals are, you will get there faster by knowing how to interview.

Each year we receive hundreds of letters from parents and contestants, testifying to what a difference the Interview Competition has made in their lives. It is not enough anymore to simply have a degree, or even job skills and experience. To get that opportunity that you really want, and deserve, you will need to be able to present yourself and communicate effectively in an interview. Through your participation in this valuable part of the pageant, you will sharpen your skills and discover the secrets to successful interviews. Girl, you got this!

"You all have helped raise her! How do I begin to thank you? You are an exceptional organization with a flawless model. While participating in NAM, we have spent the past 8 years analyzing it and loving it. We will continue to invest our time and money wherever we can so you may continue to develop girls like my girl." Mother of Darrea Frazier - MD







- walk confidently, smoothly, and safely in them.
- Makeup must be age-appropriate.

Princess, Jr. Pre-Teen & Pre-Teen:

- Select an outfit you would wear to a professional job interview.
- No hats, gloves or purses.
- Shoes should complement the outfit. Make sure that you can walk confidently, smoothly, and safely in them.
- No noticeable makeup.



PRINCESS and JR. PRE-TEEN

FORVAL WEAR 3090 TOTAL SCORE

Take home the lifelong skill of presenting yourself confidently as you are individually introduced on stage with all the lights, sounds, end excitement! This is your moment alone in the spotlight wearing the dress of your choice! Select a color and style that reflects your unique personality. Your dress should help you feel confident and excited about the special person that you are!

As you are introduced on stage, you will be escorted. All contestants will need an escort. Your mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, aunt, uncle, cousin, godfather, or any other friend may escort you on stage. This is such a great way to involve your family members. What a sweet memory you will make with your escort!

The judges are looking for a representative who is proud and comfortable with who she is and how she presents herself on stage. Scores are based on the judges' overall impressions, and the State Finalist's ability to command both the judges' and the audience's attention in a poised, graceful, and professional manner.

Remember that one of the hallmarks of National American Miss is "age-appropriate." Keep in mind that what is age-appropriate for another person may not be for you, and that perception varies with each person's point of view. If there is a question in your mind if a dress is stepping over the line, be aware that one or more judges may have that same concern. You may lose valuable score points from one or more judges if they feel you do not look age-appropriate. Formal Wear counts for 30% of your pageant score.





Have you ever dreamed of being a model? Or perhaps you just want the extra poise and confidence. Through your participation in the Formal Wear Competition you will learn how a naturally confident walk and smile combined will help you succeed in any field you choose, from modeling to business, and even in everyday life. Our series of magazines, along with your training from our staff, will guide you in perfecting your own unique style and learning the stage techniques for Formal Wear.

If you are like most people, you may be surprised to find out that most professional modeling is not done catwalk-style, "stomp and scowl," but rather what is known as "glide and smile." Fashion shows, catalogues, commercial print...delivering a healthy smile, posture, and appearance will not only get you that modeling job, but also bring you success throughout your life. Through your participation in the Formal Wear Competition, you will gain the skills that models have, plus you will have the added confidence to shine in all that you do.



- It's important that you look and feel your very best at the pageant. Remember you will do your best when you are in a dress that makes you feel like a winner. Be sure to choose a dress in which you can walk safely! For example, if your dress has a train, it may accidentally be stepped upon.
- Be true to yourself. Don't try to be something that you are not. Whether you are athletic or poetic, outdoorsy or fancy, choose a dress that will reflect your personality and sense of style.
- When deciding on a color for your dress, ask yourself, "What does this color say about me and my personality?" There is not a perfect pageant dress color, so pick your personal favorite and one that complements your eyes, hair, and skin tone. Most importantly, choose the color that makes you feel confident and special.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT



The following two pages detail all of the expenses required to participate in the competitions. Read below about what a sponsorship fee is, why you need one, and how to find your personal sponsor(s).

WHAT IS THE REQUIRED SPONSORSHIP FEE?

The sponsorship fee is the entry fee required to be in the pageant. Sponsors can be family members or businesses... ANYONE can sponsor a State Finalist! All sponsorship fees are tax-deductible for businesses as an advertising expense. Most family members, community businesses and organizations are thrilled to sponsor young ladies who are a positive reflection on their community! All sponsorship fees are non-refundable.

WHY DO I NEED A SPONSORSHIP FEE?

Sponsorship fees help offset the cost of producing the pageant. Sponsorship fees pay pageant expenses, which include prizes, awards, trophies, judges' expenses, staff expenses, ballroom rental, staging, lighting, national pageant expenses, and the winner's trip to Nationals. Think of sports teams, professional athletes, and various community activities: these events are able to take place and these people are able to compete because they have the support of their sponsors.

HOW DO I FIND SPONSORS?

To begin, read through this magazine and discuss it with your family. Make a list of prospective sponsors (family members, local businesses, neighbors, places where your family does business). Dress nicely (for example, in an interview-type outfit) and visit the prospective sponsor IN PERSON if possible. Take this magazine with you, as it will help answer questions your potential sponsors may have.

THE BOTTOM LINE 3 REQUIRED COMPETITION FEES

(1) Sponsorship Fee\$	550
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- (2) Production Number Outfit.....\$35
- (3) Audience Ticket to the Final Show\$25

THIS IS WHAT WE CALL "THE BOTTOM LINE." THERE ARE NO OTHER REQUIRED FEES!

Thinking about raising your pageant fees through sponsorship contributions?

Check out this helpful list of what to do, how to do it, and some ideas of whom to see.

Make a list of prospective spousors. Anyone can be a sponsor! Look at the next page for a list of ideas. Also, your checkbook (listing whom you write checks to) is a great place to look for ideas. List them on page 11 of this magazine.

Dress up!

Look your best! It shows that you are a caring person and are prepared.

3 Visit the sponsor in person!

Phone calls, e-mails, and letters are not as effective as a personal visit. Try to visit your sponsor in person if possible. Even visiting over FaceTime or Zoom is a terrific option!

Share the good news and your goal!

• Tell the prospective sponsor the good news about being accepted as a State Finalist.

• Let them know about the All-American family focus of the pageant.

• Share your goals! For example: "To do my best to represent my community well, to make new friends, to gain life skills, and to have a great time with my family.'

Ask for their support.

For example: "The fee to be in the pageant is a total of \$550. I'm asking ten people to contribute \$55 each. It's tax-deductible for businesses. Would you help me with your \$55 contribution today?"

Thank them with a smile!

Whether they give you \$5, \$50, or nothing at all, always thank them with a smile for their time. No matter what the outcome, you'll gain strength and character and have the respect of the prospective sponsor.

Thank them with a note!

Within a week of the contribution, send a "thank you" card or note to your sponsors. Writing a note is not as hard as it might seem, and if you can develop this habit, it will make a big difference throughout your life!

LIST OF PROSPECTIVE



Listed below are samples of actual businesses that have sponsored girls each year. The key to success is to visit in persor if possible, and to ask for sponsorship from locally owned businesses or individuals with whom you or your family do business or know. They are often eager to return the support you have shown them through your regular purchases

Keep in mind when visiting a business that it is important to speak with the actual business owner, agent, or manager. For example, many State Farm insurance agents sponsor girls each year whose families have their home or car insurance policies with them. However, if you write to the State Farm corporate headquarters, it is unlikely that they will know who you are or be in a position to sponsor you.

Many sponsors are small businesses, local service organizations, and the countless family members and friends of our participants. Together they make a difference in the lives of thousands of young people each year.

Here are some general categories of sponsors, and examples of each:

Family members, friends, and neighbors who know you well.

Examples: Mom, Dad, grandparents, aunts, uncles, family businesses, and friends' businesses The insurance agent that handles your car, home, life, disability, business, and/or other insurance.

Examples: State Farm, Allstate, Farmers, AFLAC, American Family, Farm Bureau Local businesses and professionals that provide health and medical services for your family.

Examples: Dentist, Doctor, Orthodontist, Chiropractor, Pharmaci

Friends who have their own business where you have been a customer. Examples: Mary Kay Cosmetics, AVON, LuLaRoe, Arbonne International, Amway

The companies that provide repair and maintenance for your car, home, and lawn. Examples: plumbing, hardware, air-conditioning and heating, lawncare, construction and remodeling, pest control, auto repair, and computer repair

Places you have your hair, nails and beauty services done. Examples: nail or hair salons, Great Clips, Fantastic Sams, Regis

Places you regularly take lessons or exercise.

Examples: dance, gymnastics, martial arts, cheer, athletic gyms

Places where you and your family regularly dine.Examples: McDonald's, Applebee's, Chili's, CiCi's Pizza, Burger King, IHOP, Sonic, Subway, Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, Olive Garden, Texas Roadhouse

Places you regularly shop for your family

Examples: Walgreens, Safeway, Walmart, Target, and local grocery stores

The local representative of the company that provides financial services for your family. Examples: First National Bank, Chase, Coldwell Banker, H & R Block, Liberty Tax Service, Farmers State Bank, Wells Fargo, Century 21, Remax, mortgage companies.

Locally owned stores where you have purchased clothing.

Examples: bridal and formal wear, fashion boutiques Note: Stores that are in the mall are generally not a good place to look for sponsorship. They are not locally owned.

Fraternal and other organizations.

Examples: American Legion, Knights of Columbus, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Girl Scouts

Remember, sponsorship contributions can cover any pageant related costs, such as:

- Sponsorship Fees
- Production Number Outfit Final Show Tickets
- ...so don't stop at \$550!
- Optional Contests
- Hotel Room
- Roses

WHAT IF A PROSPECTIVE

If a prospective sponsor says, "No," say "Thank you for your time" with a smile. Remember, the only difference between success and failure is that successful people keep trying.











Potential Sponsors to Contact:

Check When You Contact	Name
	<u>Surrex</u>
-	Ix Tailing
<u> </u>	Ter MPN
	$\frac{1}{2}$
	Turiale Our!
	10



- Introduce yourself.
- . Explain that you have been accepted as a State Finalist in the National American Miss Pageant for
- . Show the prospective sponsor this magazine and
- . Tell the prospective sponsor that you are trying to raise the fees necessary to attend the pageant for
- . Explain the goals of the pageant:
- Gain poise and self-confidence
- Practice speaking in front of a live audience
- Learn how to professionally interview for a job
- Become actively involved in my community
- Remind the prospective sponsor that their donations are tax-deductible as an advertising expense for business owners. All sponsors will be listed in the State Yearbook *
- Tell the prospective sponsor that you can have as many or as few sponsors to reach your minimum goal of \$550.
- Thank the prospective sponsor for their time, whether they choose to sponsor you or not.
- Each State Finalist's total sponsorship list is limited to 195 characters including spaces.

Quick, simple, and done! To lock in your place in the pageant, you can go online to namiss.com, select "online payments," and make a secure payment online with any major credit card. It's fast and easy. You'll receive an immediate confirmation online and by e-mail. For payments by check, make payable to "NAM" with the State Finalist's name on memo line.

What are the benefits of entering National American Miss? This is an opportunity of a lifetime. In addition to trophies, prizes, scholarships, cash, and awards, you will gain self-confidence, communication skills, and valuable experience from interviewing and appearing on stage in front of an audience! You will make friendships that you will cherish for years to come and memories that will last a lifetime. In short, you will have a great time while building important real-life skills.

Is National American Miss a beauty pageant?

Definitely not! You are scored 30% on your Personal Introduction, 30% on Poise and Presentation in Formal Wear, 30% on Communication Skills and Personality in Interview, and 10% on Participating in our Community Service Project at your State Pageant.

Is previous pageant experience required?

Absolutely not! Anyone is quite capable of doing well and even winning in our system regardless of prior pageant experience. We will provide you with all the information and help you need. We are looking for enthusiastic young ladies who can proudly represent their state. First time participants make terrific State Finalists and can make wonderful winners!

Do I have to get coaching or other formal

training? No! Our series of magazines, along with the training from our staff, will provide you with a solid foundation to create your own style and learn the stage techniques required for competition.

Do I have to stay at the pageant host hotel?

You are not required to stay at the pageant host hotel. However, the pageant does set up a special discounted block for the State Finalists and their families. It is often well worth taking advantage of the low rate and being right there in the heart of it all. Spend your time having fun and making new friends rather than commuting.

If I do not enter any Optional Contests, will it affect my chances of winning the overall pageant? Absolutely not! Scores from the optional contests (talent, photogenic, etc.) have no effect on the outcome of the overall pageant. Optional contests are scored by a separate panel of judges. Each optional contest is an opportunity for you to shine and be recognized in your area of interest.

What is a Sponsorship Fee? The sponsorship fee pays for the cost of producing the pageant: awards, trophies, choreographers, emcees, lighting, sound, staging, judges' expenses, staff, florists, hotel ballroom rental, cash awards, printed materials, scholarships, office support, and all of the many other things that come together to make the pageant the best program for you and your family. The sponsorship fee is \$550 and can be divided up into separate payments.

You may have as many or as few sponsors as you wish contributing to make up your total sponsorship fee of \$550. Businesses, family, friends, or fundraising activities are all great ideas for earning your sponsorship fee. Sponsorship fees are non-refundable. Remember sponsorship contributions can cover any pageant related costs, such as Sponsorship Fee, Production Number Outfit, Final Show Tickets, Optional Contests, Hotel Room, Roses, and more. So don't stop at \$550!

Do I have to raise my sponsorship fee, or can we just pay it? It is up to you. You can either raise your sponsorship fee or pay it yourself-or even a combination of the two-whichever works best for you and your family. Remember that the total sponsorship fee is \$550.

I would like to be in the pageant, but how do I get sponsors? The best place to begin is where your family does business. Examples are cleaners, insurance companies, banks, doctors, dentists, local stores, etc. Call ahead to make an appointment, and dress up when you visit them. Visiting potential sponsors is good practice for your interview. Most sponsors will want to ask you questions about the pageant. They will receive recognition in your state yearbook. See

Should I write my sponsor a thank you note?

pages 10 & 11 for more good ideas.

It is very important to write each of your sponsors a note of thanks: it is an essential part of good manners. Be sure to thank them for making your dream of being in the pageant a reality!

If you would like to enter the FREE optional contest, "Best Thank You Note," then make a PHOTOCOPY of one of your thank you notes and bring it to page ant Check-In. The "BEST THANK YOU NOTE" is selected by our optional judges, and winners are awarded a trophy.

Helpful Hints

Remember, sponsorship contributions can cover any pageant related costs, such as:

- Sponsorship Fees
- Production Number Outfit
- Final Show Tickets
- Optional Contests
- Hotel Room

- Roses

...so don't stop at \$550!



YOUR GUIDE TO LOOKING YOUR BEST FOR PAGEANT WEEKEND!

- □ Look through the latest prom and fashion magazines to get ideas about the type of dresses you like and which ones you would feel confident wearing.
- Start early! Use your resources and be creative. You don't have to spend a lot of money to get a great dress. The internet, resale shops, and bridal stores are great places to find bargains. Also, department stores usually have great sales on formal dresses after prom season. You can also borrow a dress from a friend, rent a dress from a local shop, or use a prom dress or flower girl dress that you already own. Whether you are purchasing, borrowing, or renting a dress, find a style that is pleasing to your body type and will allow you to move gracefully across
- □ When looking for that perfect dress, remember that there is a fine line between something that is elegant and age-appropriate, and something that is too sophisticated and mature. The line doesn't fall in the same place for all young ladies, so be careful not to look too old for your age.
- Be true to yourself. Don't try to be something that you are not. Whether you are athletic or poetic, outdoorsy or fancy, choose a dress that will reflect who you are.
- Look through the newest colors for the season and choose a color that will highlight your eyes, hair, and skin tone. Remember to focus on your best features and draw attention to them. Take a good look in the mirror and have confidence in yourself and your physical characteristics. You are a unique and special young lady, so don't be afraid to bring out your best!
- Once you have acquired your dress and shoes, practice walking in them to prepare for pageant weekend. If you've never worn fancy shoes and formal dresses, then you will need some time to get used to them. Break them in a little. You want your shoes to be your "friends," not your "enemies," on pageant weekend!
- □ The dress itself is not being scored for color or style. However, your dress should follow the rules on page 9, it should fit correctly, and be neat and tidy. The poise and presentation of the young lady wearing it will be scored. So, pick something that makes you feel like a winner!

NTERVIEW OUTF'

- Choose a dress, pants, or suit that will showcase your personality in a color that expresses your style. Choose a color that highlights your eyes, hair color, and skin tone.
- Your shoes should complement your interview outfit and not draw attention to your feet. Remember, chunky open-toed sandals with big gawky soles and platforms will attract attention to your feet and away from your beautiful smile. Shoes that are hard to walk in may affect your poise and posture.
- Pumps or t-strap shoes are elegant with almost any style of interview outfit.
- □ Natural enthusiasm makes a great first impression. Select the outfit that you feel confident in the one that puts a smile on your face.
- No flashy or distracting buttons, accents, or accessories that would make an outfit inappropriate for a professional job interview.

PAGEANT PRODUCTION NUMBER OUTFIT

- During the pageant finale, every girl will take part in a fun opening number dance, which you will learn during a rehearsal on pageant weekend. Every girl will wear the same production number outfit.
- ☐ This required outfit is used for the opening production number, as well as the optional Actress Contest. The official T-shirt and socks will be available for purchase on pageant weekend for a total of \$35.
- You will need to bring your own white tennis shoes and blue jean shorts.
- ☐ The official T-shirt color and design vary from year to year.

Reminder: No noticeable makeup for the Princess, Jr. Pre-Teen, and Pre-Teen age divisions.



To view online videos, go to <u>namiss.com</u> and under "State Pageants" click on "State Required Competitions" to see examples. This is a great place to see a variety of styles and age divisions to help you prepare for your State Pageant.



OPTIONAL PAR

Contestas

Check out all the additional opportunities to WIN on pageant weekend with the Optional Contests! Optional Contests are just that – optional! Look below to see which contests might be fun and exciting for you!

The Optional Contests are scored by different judges than the judges that score the Required Competitions.



Wow! NAM National Pageant Qualifying Optional Contest!

The winner from each age division will receive a trophy and a prize package valued at \$300. The package includes her entry fee paid to compete in this year's International Talent Contest (a \$175 value); in addition, she will receive a \$125 credit toward the national sponsorship fee for this year's NAM National Pageant. Runners-up will also receive trophies.

- · Available to all age divisions.
- Talent performances must be a live solo performance.
- You may submit up to 2 Talent entries.
- There is 2-minute time limit on all entries.
- \$100 entry fee per Talent entry.

PHOTOGENIC

Wow! NAM National Pageant Qualifying Optional Contest!

The winner from each age division will receive a trophy and a prize package valued at \$300. The package includes her entry fee paid to compete in this year's International Photogenic Contest (a \$175 value); in addition, she will receive a \$125 credit toward the national sponsorship fee for this year's NAM National Pageant. Runners-up will also receive trophies.

- Available to all age divisions.
- Photos must be submitted at Check-In on pageant weekend.
 Do not mail them in.
- Up to 4 photos may be submitted.
- The photo(s) must be no larger than 8½"x11".
- The photo(s) may be black & white or color.
- \$75 fee per photo entry.

Placing in the TOP 5 in any Optional Contest on these 2 pages will automatically qualify you for the NAM National

Pageant!

CASUAL WEAR MODELING®

Wow! NAM National Pageant Qualifying Optional Contest!

The winner from each age division will receive a trophy and a prize package valued at \$300. The package includes her entry fee paid to compete in this year's International Casual Wear ModelingsM Contest (a \$175 value); in addition, she will receive a \$125 credit toward the national sponsorship fee for this year's NAM National Pageant. Runners-up will also receive trophies.

- · Available to all age divisions.
- You may submit up to 2 Casual Wear Modeling[™] entries.
- Each State Finalist will model one age-appropriate outfit per entry.
- This is your chance to show your own personality and style.
- This contest has the excitement and energy of a live fashion show!
- \$75 fee per Casual Wear Modeling[™] entry.





Keep in Mind...

More detailed information will be included in Magazine #2.
You may sign up online for any of these optional contests by going to namiss.com

SPOKESMODEL

Wow! NAM National Pageant Qualifying Optional Contest!

The winner from each age division will receive a trophy and a prize package valued at \$300. The package includes her entry fee paid to compete in this year's International Spokesmodel[™] Contest (a \$175 value); in addition, she will receive a \$125 credit toward the national sponsorship fee for this year's NAM National Pageant. Runners-up will also receive trophies.

- Available to Pre-Teen, Jr. Teen, Teen, and Miss age divisions only.
- You may submit up to 2 Spokesmodel™ entries.
- State Finalists will wear interview outfits.
- Choose from a list of topics, write a short speech and deliver it on stage.
- There is a 1½-minute time limit on all entries.
- \$75 entry fee per Spokesmodel[™] entry.

ACTRESS

Wow! NAM National Pageant Qualifying Optional Contest!

The winner from each age division will receive a trophy and a prize package valued at \$300. The package includes her entry fee paid to compete in this year's International Actress Contest (a \$175 value); in addition, she will receive a \$125 credit toward the national sponsorship fee for this year's NAM National Pageant. Runners-up will also receive trophies.

- Available to all age divisions.
- You may submit up to 2 Actress entries.
- State Finalists will choose lines from a provided list.
- \$75 fee per Actress entry.

"Have you ever dreamed of being on the big screen?
Then this is the competition for you!"

Pageorie TESTIMONIALS



"For me, NAM has given me the confidence to stand out and be bold! When I started at NAM, I tried blending in by hiding my curly hair by flat ironing it so people would 'accept' me, but with NAM, I have learned that people will accept me no matter how I look as long as I am proud of who I am. With the support of my NAMily, I chopped off my hair

and I now proudly walk around with my curly afro to show people the lesson NAM taught me-bold is beautiful!

At NAM, family is everything and the sisterhood is extremely strong! My family and I return year after year, competing or not, to see all of the friends I have made over the years! Some of my best memories are at NAM with the girls, like trying to teach each other to floss in our evening dresses!

We recommend it to anyone because you will walk away learning something about yourself, while having a blast with your family and new friends!" **Kylee Long - OH**



another Exciting
OPTIONAL

Wow! NAM National Pageant Qualifying Optional Contest!

HAVE YOU EVER drewned OF BEING A MODEL?

The winner from each age division will receive a trophy and a prize package valued at \$300. The package includes her entry fee paid to compete in this year's International Top Model Search^{ss} Contest (a \$175 value); in addition, she will receive a \$125 credit toward the national sponsorship fee for this year's NAM National Pageant. Runners-up will also receive trophies.

- Available to all age divisions.
- You may submit up to 2 Top Model Search™ entries.
- \$150 fee per Top Model Search™ entry.

Dress: Although this is a separate contest, the outfit rules are the same as the Casual Wear Modeling[™] Contest. You may only wear one outfit per entry.

Rules: Use freestyle modeling with turns, hesitations, and poses to reflect your personal style. You will be evaluated on how well you do in the photo shoot by judges who are modeling industry professionals. Your success will be determined by posing, working with the photographer, and having photos that would work well for commercial print work. Being on time, having a positive attitude, and wearing the appropriate attire are also factors, just as they would be for any professional photo shoot.

Pageant Furnishes: Pink backdrop and the photographer.

You Bring: A smile, a positive attitude, and your own apparel. You are allowed to wear makeup, but it must be age-appropriate. So, for Princess, Jr. Pre-Teen, and Pre-Teen, that means that you can have makeup on, but it should not call attention to itself, or be perceived as inappropriate for your age.

You will receive a high resolution digital file of the photos from your photo shoot, including the digital rights to the photos. You can use them for building your modeling portfolio, comp cards, or social media... anything you like!



Free OPTIONAL Por

Check out all of these additional fun and exciting Optional Contests! These contests are a great way to earn trophies and highlight your individual interests at no additional cost.

MOST PROMISING MODEL

Wow! NAM National Pageant **Qualifying Optional Contest!**

- Available to all age divisions.
- No entry fee. However, State Finalist must enter the Photogenic and Casual Wear Modeling Contest to be considered for this award.

 • Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies and an invitation to the National Pageant.

MISS PERSONAL T

- Available to all age divisions; no entry fee.
 Each State Finalist will vote for the girl they feel has been the friendliest and the most helpful during
- pageant weekend.

 Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies.

- Available to all age divisions; no entry fee.
 The pageant choreographers will select the girl who shows the most uplifting spirit throughout pageant weekend.
- Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Wow! NAM National Pageant **Qualifying Optional Contest!**

- Available to Jr. Teen, Teen, and Miss age divisions; no entry fee.
- State Finalists will bring copies of their official school transcripts. Judges will look at a combination of grade-point
- average and course load.

 Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies and an invitation to the National Pageant

Wow! NAM National Pageant **Qualifying Optional Contest!**

- Available to Pre-Teen, Jr. Teen, Teen, and Miss age divisions; no entry fee.
- State Finalists will bring records of their volunteer service, as well as letters of verification.
 Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies and an invitation to the National Pageant.

ART CONTEST

- Available to Princess, Jr. Pre-Teen, and Pre-Teen age divisions; no entry fee.
- State Finalists will receive a picture to color or decorate as they wish.
 Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies.

- · Available to all age divisions; no entry fee.
- State Finalists will write "Thank You" notes to their sponsors. The Optional Contest judges will select the one they feel is the best.
- Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies.

- Available to all age divisions; no entry fee.
 This award is earned by the State Finalist in each age group who sells the most tickets to her final pageant.

NOST RECOMMENDATIONS

- · Available to all age divisions; no entry fee.
- Winner receives a trophy
 \$50 NAM Boutique Certificate will be awarded to every girl that submits at least 75 accurate referrals

Wow! NAM National Pageant **Qualifying Optional Contest!**

- · Available to all age divisions; no entry fee.
- State Finalists will be given a resume to fill out and turn in at pageant Check-In.
- Judges will look at a combination of the State Finalists' activities, honors, academics, and neatness.
 Winner and 1st Runner-up receive trophies and an invitation to the National Pageant.







Congress : STESTINIONIALS :



Part of the NAMily!

"National American Miss is the only pageant system I've competed in and it's because I'm not ready to say goodbye to it! I started my pageant journey two years ago with NAM, and I've enjoyed every single second of it. You truly build a family through NAM, and I'm so incredibly thankful for all of the opportunities NAM has given me.

Madyson Zoucha - NE

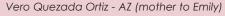


An Amazing Experience!

"As a parent you strive to give your children the best, it's such a great feeling to know that by having them be a part of National American Miss I'm doing just that. In two years, NAM has equipped my daughters with skills that will serve them for the rest of their life. They have established speaking skills, work ethic, interview skills, sportsmanship, community involvement, and much more. National American Miss has taught my daughters that by not giving up on your dreams and ambitions and by working hard something beautiful is created and anything is possible.

As a family, National American Miss has given us memories and unbreakable friendships that we will cherish forever. Along the way, my daughters have met many role models, from the first person to greet us to the very last contestant that somehow inspired us with their grace on stage.

National American Miss has been and will continue to be a part of their life as their biggest cheerleaders for their success. I'm confident in saying that my daughters' futures are brighter because of National American Miss."





Positive Attitude!

"National American Miss is very well run and we love the positive attitude of all the contestants. All the National American Miss girls were friendly and inviting toward my daughter. We are looking forward to Nationals in Orlando. We are so proud she made queen's court at her first pageant! Mother to Addison Cooney - NJ



A True Blessing!

"NAM has blessed our family in countless ways. My daughter and I have been able to grow together, set goals and chase dreams. NAM has given her so many opportunities that she may not have otherwise had.

I believe NAM has shaped her into the confident, compassionate beautiful young woman she is today. Watching her dreams come true and seeing doors open for her has been one of my greatest blessings."

Cori Helget - MN (mother to Maddie)



Learned Life Skills!

"Many years ago, I received a letter in the mail inviting me to join National American Miss and almost 2 decades later, I can say without hesitation that it was the most influential mailing I have ever received. That letter not only changed my life, but my family's as well. From the moment we walked into our first NAM State Pageant, we instantly knew it was the furthest thing from a scam. National American Miss is an organization based on integrity, honesty and with the best interest of its contestants and their families at heart.

National American Miss gave me more than just years of competing on a stage; it gave me a competitive edge while interviewing for jobs, confidence to speak in front of thousands of people, invaluable memories made with my family, and most importantly, that taking a leap of faith and trying something new can forever change your life."

Jena Diller-Reindel - OH



Safe and Fun!

"This was our second year at the pageant and we put much thought into whether it would be a safe event to attend. We are so thankful we decided to go. Our State Director and the staff clearly had put even more thought into how to make this a safe event for the girls and still a fun and memorable experience. She was able to make friends, have an amazing time, and make memories that will last her a lifetime. We can't wait for Nationals!"

Nicole DiMartino - GA (mother to Tia)



Communication Skills!

"I went from being 'anti-pageants' to becoming a proud pageant mom! I once said that I would not let Addison participate in pageants because Addison defines her own beauty. Well, that was before I was educated on 'life-skills pageants.' NAM is definitely a life-skills pageant that has helped to build Addison's communication skills, interview skills as well as her confidence. Addison is so motivated to be her best! Addison is so passionate about helping others who are in need. NAM has encouraged Addison to use her passion as a platform of service. Addison is excited to go out into her community regularly to help others. In the last year, Addison has touched more lives than I could have ever imagined!" Christel Wells - GA (mother to Addison)



Gained Confidence!

"I have developed more confidence and have grown comfortable in my own skin – something many teenage girls face problems with.

I attribute all of my success in high school to my experience with the National American Miss Pageant system. This pageant has the power to change a girl's life...and she doesn't even have to be the winner!" Alexandra Curtis - CA



Best of the Best!

National American Miss has completely changed my life. Not only have I met incredible girls from across my state, but I feel more confident and at ease while speaking and being on stage.

I came into my state pageant timid and nervous but I left confident and proud. So blessed to be a part of the NAMily! Teri Lynlee Staggs - TN



Grace & Poise!

"NAM has helped me to become a confident and graceful young lady. I hope one day I will change the world like NAM has changed me."

Joey McDowell - TX



I Believe in Myself Now!

"It's crazy to think four years ago I was a shy, insecure airl who decided to walk into NAM Nebraska open calls. I was on my way to volleyball practice and that's when a message came on the answering machine saying I was a state finalist. I don't think I ever screamed so loud in my life until that moment! From that day on, I never would have expected to have my life changed so much. After my first year of NAM, I began to see a change in myself. I realized I had the power to embrace whoever I was. I gained confidence to speak in front of people. It's been amazing not only to see that change in myself, but to see NAM embrace every single different girl and their personalities! NAM is about making that change and helping girls today be confident with who they are in a society who tells them to only look at the negatives about themselves. NAM praised girls for their intelligence, their community involvement, their confidence, and for who they are, not just on the outside. Without National American Miss helping to build me these last few years, I don't think I would be the same person I am today! National American Miss has helped me to believe in myself and to believe that I can accomplish anything." Michaela Edstrand - NE

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JUST A FEW OF OUR OFFICIAL NATIONAL PRIZE SPONSORS













































Save the Vate!

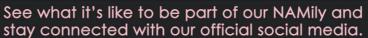
THANKSGIVING WEEK IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA



Be in the leaven...

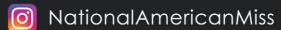




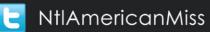




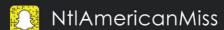














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