



UNITED STATES
of America's
NEW JERSEY • PENNSYLVANIA

2023 STATE DELEGATE HANDBOOK

Welcome!

UNITED STATES of AMERICA PAGEANTS are designed to help women ACHEIVE their hopes, dreams, goals, and aspirations, while making them feel CONFIDENT and BEAUTIFUL inside and out! We believe the true definition of beauty is **"The unique set of combinations that make you, You!"** Our motto is to **EMPOWER Women, INSPIRE others, and UPLIFT everyone!** We focus on empowering women, promoting positive self- image and providing an avenue of achievement for today's modern woman. But, more importantly we are an elite sisterhood that provides support and encouragement to inspire each delegate to be the best version of herself!

"There is no tool for development, more effective than the empowerment of women"

-Kofi Annan



WELCOME TO USOA MISS PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY PAGEANT!

We are thrilled to welcome you to the sisterhood! This experience is on the top of our priority list. Our time, love, and energy went into this event for YOU! WE understand this journey must be organized and run smoothly, which is why we ask that you adhere to all deadlines. Encouragement and positivity is what we vibe off of. There will be absolutely no gossiping or negativity in our pageants. You will be surrounded by likeminded ladies with ZERO room for distraction! Pageantry is a life changing experience and we will do all that we can to ensure it!

In this packet, you will find all the requirements, itineraries, frequently asked questions, and lodging options. As well as, the required paperwork that is needed to compete. If you need to reprint anything or need access to the tools we have provided, please visit www.usoamisspennsylvania.com or www.usoamissnewjersey.com and login to the contestant page. The password will be given as soon as your deposit is made.

Please return your paperwork to: pennsylvania@unitedstatesofamericapageants.com or newjersey@unitedstatesofamericapageants.com

Again, WELCOME to the United States of America's Miss Pennsylvania & New Jersey pageant! YOU may be the next queen! Make sure to follow us on Facebook & Instagram.

With Much Excitement.
Executive Director

Denise McKeon

Denise McKeon
610-331-6796



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

As of January 1st



TEEN

- 13-17 years old
- is single, not married, never been married, not pregnant & has never given birth



MISS

- 18-28 years old
- is single, not married, not pregnant & has never given birth



MS.

- 29+ years old
- Is single, divorced, widowed, with or without children



MRS.

- 18+ years old
- legally married more than 6th months

ALL DIVISIONS

1. Is a U.S. citizen, naturalized or has been granted Permanent residency by the United States.
2. Is a resident, works, or goes to school in the state they are competing.
3. Is a natural born female.
4. Has never posed nude in film or print media.

WARDROBE REQUIREMENTS



OPENING NUMBER

Opening number shirt will be provided.
You will need to provide and wear: nude
colored heels and jeans. .

INTERVIEW

You will need a nice dress or suit,
something that reflects your style and
personality. Solid colors work best.

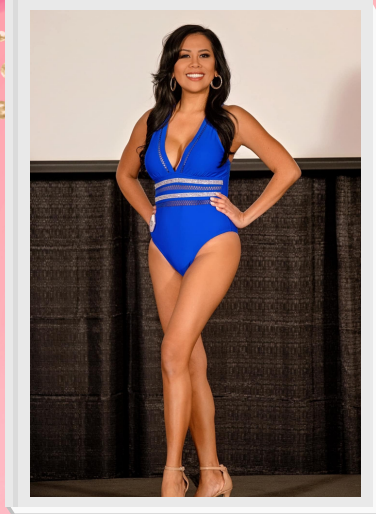


EVENING GOWN

You will need a floor length formal
dress, any style, any color. The value of
the gown will not be evaluated.



WARDROBE REQUIREMENTS

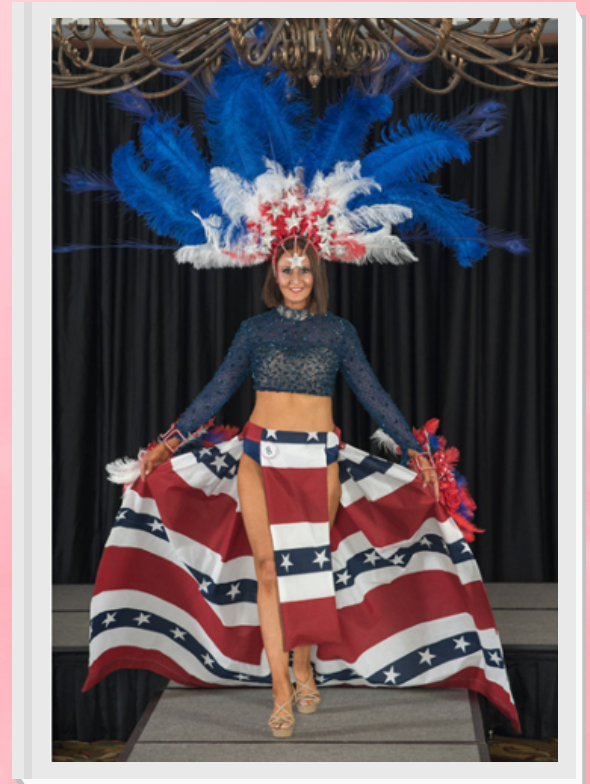


SWIM | FITNESS

You will have the choice to wear a one-piece or two-piece swimsuit. You will need clear or nude colored shoes. Wraps or sarongs are optional. NO THONGS will be allowed, and bottoms must provide adequate coverage. Teen contestants will wear active wear with white or black sneakers.

PATRIOTIC

This is your chance to let your inner fashionista shine while showcasing your American Pride!



AREA OF COMPETITION

INTERVIEW



JUDGING CRITERIA: Content of Judges Bio, Knowledge, Perception, Self Expression, Spontaneity, and Personality will be evaluated. Also important is the use of Vocabulary, Voice, Appearance and Grooming.

25% of Score | Round Robin Interview Style

SWIM | FITNESS

JUDGING CRITERIA: Physical Fitness, Confidence, Choice of Ensemble, Poise, Posture, and Execution of Movement will be evaluated.

25% of Score



*In the event of a tie, the delegate with the higher interview score shall prevail as the winner. Judge's decisions are FINAL!

AREA OF COMPETITION

EVENING GOWN



JUDGING CRITERIA: Confidence, Choice of Evening Gown, Poise, Posture, Personality, Charm, Style, Charisma, Grace, Execution, Overall Appearance, and Stage Presentation will be evaluated.

25% of Score

ON STAGE QUESTION

JUDGING CRITERIA: Knowledge, Spontaneity, Personality, Vocabulary, Voice, Confidence, and Sense of Values will be evaluated.

25% of Score



*In the event of a tie, the delegate with the higher interview score shall prevail as the winner. Judge's decisions are FINAL!

ENTRY FEES

PAGEANT ENTRY FEE \$595

- Official entry to participate in the annual state competition
- Official local titleholder's embroidered sash
- Official local titleholder's custom rhinestone crown
- Official United States of America's Miss Pennsylvania T-Shirt
- Custom USOA Miss Pennsylvania Swag Bag
- 1 Program Book
- Crowned Queen's Full Paid Entry to National Pageant in Las Vegas
- Website Recognition And Social Media Exposure

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Payment #1) \$195 Deposit due immediately! Reserves Local Title

Payment #2) \$200 Local Sash and Crown Will be Ordered

Payment #3) \$200 Delivers Sash and Crown (Deadline: October 1st)

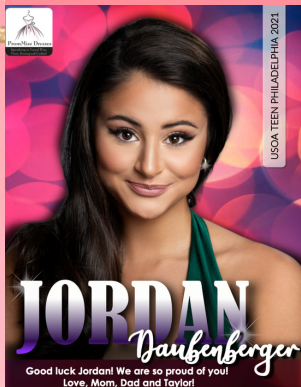
Payment #4) \$299 Contestant Spotlight Page

All checks are to be made payable to: DM Dazzle and mailed to the state office. All payments can be made online via PayPal to Email: dmdazzle1@gmail.com by friends and family option only. Any fees charged will be required to be reimbursed.

*A late fee of \$150 will be incurred if all required payments and documents are not received by the deadline. ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE

PROGRAM BOOK

CONTESTANT SPOTLIGHT PAGE



You will be responsible for ONE FULL PAGE COLOR ADVERTISEMENT in the Program Book (\$249). Each ad sold after the mandatory page, the contestant will receive 50% back. Please be sure it is sent in PDF 300DPI. The money will be put towards balances first, then forwarded back to the contestant minus 3% processing fee.

If you need help with a design page please reach out to Dani at ddora819@gmail.com.



PROGRAM BOOK FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Advertisement	Advertisement Cost	Incentive
Back Cover	\$700	\$350
Inside Cover	\$600	\$300
Two Page Spread	\$550	\$225
Full Page	\$299	\$150
Half Page	\$150	\$75
Quarter Page	\$75	\$35

To help with the associated costs of competition you can sell additional advertisements in the program book and earn money! We have set up an incentive program for you to help offset your expenses. Listed below are the available advertisements, their costs, and the amount that you will receive for selling the advertisement! You will be provided a sponsorship letter to help you secure sponsors.

ARTWORK MUST BE TURNED IN ONE MONTH PRIOR TO PAGEANT!

All advertisements must be submitted electronically, be formatted correctly, and be submitted as a 300DPI JPEG file.

DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENTS & DEADLINES

To compete in the Pageant, you **MUST** turn in the following:

- Official Online Application-Due Immediately
- Deposit- Due with Official Application
- Official Paperwork-Due within 48 hours of receiving in official Welcome Letter/Email
 - Title holder's agreement Signed
 - Credit Card Authorization Form (Only used if in violation of contract or on delinquent accounts)
 - Photo/Advertising release
- Headshot: Professional photo due within 30 days, No sash and crowns allowed for announcement
- Copy of Birth Certificate, Naturalization, or permanent resident card
- Copy of drivers license or identification card
- Final divorce decree for any previously married Miss & Ms. Contestants
- Ad Page artwork/\$299 fee/forms (as soon as they are ready, but NO LATER than one month before pageant)
- Mrs. – copy of marriage license
- Any other documents requested by director
- Judges Bio- 5 hard copies, typed (3 weeks prior to pageant mailed to state pageant office)

A late fee of \$150 will be incurred if all required payments and documents are not received by the deadline. ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE

***All items due no later than one month before pageant**

BACKSTAGE & PAGEANT ETIQUETTE

BACKSTAGE

NO ONE is allowed in the backstage dressing area during the pageant other than the contestant, staff, and exclusive sponsors for hair and makeup. If the contestant is 13 or 14 years of age, she may have one female escort. You may bring your own full size mirror. NO tolerance for vandalism to anyone else property. All trash must be disposed of properly. Room cleaned up at end of competition. Absolutely no cell phones use will be permitted during the pageant backstage.

PAGEANT ETIQUETTE

None of these things will win or lose a pageant for you. However, once you have entered the pageant everyone is watching you, and it is important to make a good impression. These guidelines will help you create an impression of a responsible, confident, organized individual who can handle any job given to her.

- Meet every deadline, or call for an extension!
- Follow all rules! They are for your safety and security.
- Be neat and clean! No one should have to pick up after you.
- Be organized! It is your responsibility to know what's happening and be ready.
- Get acquainted! You should get to know the other contestants, the contestant coordinators, and our Team. Most importantly, be respectful to everyone!
- Be complimentary of all accommodations and meals! Sponsors and staff always do their best, please remember that.
- Be cheerful even if you are not "the winner." Only one person can win the crown, and you are already a winner for representing with your local title!
- Be a gracious winner! It happens once in a lifetime, and many others would like to be in your shoes!

CROWNING & AWARDS

Miss Congeniality

This special award is voted by the contestants and will be given to the young lady who is most embodies sisterhood, gives support, and has good sportsmanship despite it being a competition!

People's Choice

We will have voting 3 weeks prior to the pageant for our People's Choice Recipient. Voting costs are \$1 per vote. There will be no limit on votes per person and feel free to solicit votes from friends, family, and social media followers from all over the world.

Photogenic Award

This award is presented to the contestant whose photo shows the most personality, beauty, fashion sense, and confidence.

Patriotic

This award will be given to the contestant who is most patriotic with their costumes while rocking the stage representing out wonderful state and country.

Social Media Award

This award is presented to the contestant who best used social media during her local reign to promote her platform and the USOA pageant system.



LODGING

d
THE DESMOND
MALVERN

A DOUBLETREE BY HILTON



1 Liberty Boulevard
Malvern, PA 19355

Phone Number for Reservations: +1 (610) 249- 2175
All callers identify themselves as USOA PA/NJ Pageant.

FAQ'S

Do I have to compete in and win a preliminary competition in order to compete in the national pageant?

Yes, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have a state competition that you must compete in order to go to the national pageant. Other states may or may not have local preliminaries available in your area, if there is not a preliminary pageant in your state apply directly with the national office.

How long does it take to receive my sash and crown?

Once the sash is ordered it generally takes 3-6 weeks for production.

When do tickets go on sale?

Tickets typically go on sale 2-4 weeks prior to the pageant. You will be notified when they go on sale and given instructions on how to purchase tickets.

Do children under 5 need a ticket?

YES! EVERYONE needs a ticket.

Will the pageant be televised?

We are hoping for USOA TV on our website, details TBA.

Are there any required rehearsals prior to the pageant?

No. All rehearsals will take place during pageant weekend. Optional workshop tentatively scheduled for August and Zoom workshops.

How do I sell advertisements in the program book to raise money towards my pageant expenses?

Once you are registered as a contestant, you will be provided a sponsorship letter to present to businesses, friends and family whom may wish to support you by either purchasing an advertisement to simply wish you good luck or to promote and highlight their business!

When is the National pageant?

President's Day weekend 2023 (not confirmed yet)