

# 2025 Miss Sumter County Pageant

## Teen and Miss Guidelines

**February 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

Access to Dressing Room begins at 10:00am. Enter through the door to the right of the auditorium. You may have help unloading (NO MALES please as the younger group will be dressing already). During the pageant, each contestant will be allowed one person to remain in the dressing room with her. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., only the contestant and this person will be allowed in the Dressing Room. Contestants and helpers WILL remain in the Dressing Room for the entire pageant. Auditorium will open to spectators at 5:00 p.m. Auditorium will be cleared between Pageants.

The pageant will consist of the following judged categories:

### **INTERVIEW:**

- ❖ All Teen & Miss contestants will be required to attend a private interview conducted in the new Sumter Fair Conference Room located at the fairgrounds. Interviews will begin around 1:00 p.m. (depending on the number of contestants).
- ❖ Interview will include the contestant and the pageant judges. It will last 7 minutes.
- ❖ An interview schedule will be given to contestants on February 13, 2025. You are required to be at the interview site 15 minutes prior to your scheduled interview time.
- ❖ Contestants should dress appropriately for an interview. Professional, business-like dresses or suits, age appropriate. Be yourself. Have fun! This is where the judges want to get to know you, unrehearsed.
- ❖ Contestants will be judged on personality, communication, and conversational skills.

### **OPENING NUMBER:**

- ❖ All contestants will perform a group dance number. This will not be judged. It is a time to show your personality and have fun! Contestants will be required to wear the hot pink pageant t-shirt, white bottoms of your choice. Contestant may accessorize with any color. Your outfit should be age appropriate and reflect your personality. Please remember you will be dancing when choosing your shoes.

### **ON-STAGE INTRODUCTION & OUTFIT OF CHOICE (OOC):**

- ❖ Contestants will return to the stage (one at a time) in their outfit of choice. Props are allowed but must be carried or worn by the contestant.
- ❖ Each contestant will introduce herself on stage. Introductions should be approximately 20 SECONDS. Contestants will be judged on personality, poise, and projection.
- ❖ Following the introduction, contestant will model her OOC.
- ❖ Contestant will be judged on fit of outfit, modeling, and personality.

### **TALENT:**

- ❖ Talent should be age appropriate and pageant appropriate (family-friendly).
- ❖ Talent should not last more than 2:00 minutes. \*2 point deduction will be applied to talent score for every minute over the time limit.
- ❖ All props must be USED by the contestant during the talent and be brought on and off the stage by her (Piano/keyboard is an exception. No pageant staff will be helping the contestant. This will be to the responsibility of the contestant to figure out the logistics of this talent).
- ❖ Instrumental tracks ONLY should be used for vocal performances.
- ❖ "Talent Request Form" and music (emailed to [MissSumterCofl@gmail.com](mailto:MissSumterCofl@gmail.com) with Contestant Name and Division) must be completed and turned in no later than 6:45 February 11<sup>th</sup> (first practice). Talent can be practiced at this scheduled pageant practice, at Dress Rehearsal.
- ❖ Talent performances will be approved on a first-come, first-serve basis. Identical talents with the same song will not be allowed.
- ❖ Contestant will be judged on talent abilities, entertainment value, poise, and projection.

### **DRESS & ON-STAGE QUESTION:**

- ❖ Contestant should wear a long pageant/evening dress.
- ❖ Dress should be age appropriate.
- ❖ Contestant will be judged on fit of dress, poise, and stage presence.
- ❖ Before modeling evening gown, contestant will answer an On-Stage Question
- ❖ She will draw a question from the bowl and hand it to the emcee. The emcee will ask the question and the contestant will give her answer. Contestant will be judged on completeness, ability to articulate answer, poise, and projection.

### **PHOTOGENIC COMPETITION:**

- ❖ This is a competition that will take place off stage with the judges exclusively.
- ❖ Contestants will submit an 8 x 10 photograph/headshot. This does not have to be a professionally taken photo.
- ❖ Photos will not be returned after judging.
- ❖ This category is included in your registration fee.