

Dear Teen,

This letter will introduce you to the Miss Northeast Arkansas Outstanding Teen Pageant. It is an official preliminary to the Miss Arkansas Outstanding Teen Pageant and the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageant. Accordingly, we are governed by the same rules and operate under the same franchise as they do. The Miss Northeast Arkansas Outstanding Teen Pageant is open to young ladies who live or attend school in Clay, Greene, Mississippi, Cross, Craighead, Poinsett, Randolph, Jackson, Sharp, Lawrence, Independence, St. Francis, Lee, Phillips, Monroe, Woodruff, Fulton and Crittenden counties. A contestant must be at least 13 year old and in the 8th grade on the date of the local pageant (Sept. 19) and no more than a 17 year old high school Junior on the date of the local pageant. A 17 year old high school Senior must compete in the Miss pageant.

We are looking forward to a great Pageant this year and are so glad you want to be a part of it. The winner this year will receive a \$200 cash scholarship, entry into the State Pageant and an official crown. She will also receive guidance needed to prepare for her competition in the Miss Arkansas Outstanding Teen Pageant in Hot Springs. The 1st Runner-up will receive a \$150 cash scholarship and sponsorship into the Miss Lights of the Delta Outstanding Teen Pageant to be held in November. The 2nd Runner-up will receive a \$100 cash scholarship. If there are enough entries, prizes will be awarded to 3rd and 4th Alternates. Mississippi County residents will be eligible for the Arkansas Northeastern College Scholarship award of tuition for 12 college credit hours.

Competition will include Private Interview with the Judges, Fitness in Active Wear, Evening Wear, On-Stage Question, and Talent. Scoring is: Interview – 35%, Fitness in Active Wear – 10%, Evening Wear – 15%, On-Stage Question – 5% and Talent – 35%.

Fitness in Active Wear – Active Wear is described as biker shorts (any color or material) with 3” or 5” inseam. They may be straight across the waist or V. The top may be a short or fully covered sports bra (with a bra lining) with the back criss-crossed, halter top, standard straps, off one shoulder or racer back style. This may be embellished with stones, if you wish. Wear any color & style of athletic shoes. (Girls that were in the teen pageants before last year will have these and you might find someone to loan you a set)

Talent may be NO MORE THAN 2 MINUTES!! As technology is changing, CD is preferred for accompaniment. If you must use a tape, please contact us ahead, so we can be prepared. In either case, have only one song on the CD or tape. Make yourself a practice CD or tape so you don't wear out the performance version.

TO ENTER THE PAGEANT, YOU MUST DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Fill out Information Cover Sheet and Queen's Contract Intention Form. These are found on our web site. (www.missnea.org)

2. Go to www.missteeenarkansas.org for forms. Complete required forms (Local Contract and Release) on computer, note verifications required. Read the Local and State Pageant Contract, make sure you qualify, sign, date, and notarize this form. We do not need attachment B (Medical) or attachment C. Do attach residency verification. Complete the Indemnity Release Form, sign, date, and notarize. [If you have done another prelim this year, you may use the same Contract just write in NEA over the name of the other pageant]

3. Fill out the Official Resume and Platform Issue. Be sure to be specific in filling out these as this is what the judges will be referring to during your interview. Must be typed. **SPECIAL NOTE:** on the Resume items Marketing Plan, Legacy, and Why I Should Be Miss America's Outstanding Teen, tell what you plan as Miss Northeast Arkansas' Outstanding Teen. Example-Marketing: As Northeast Ark. Outstanding Teen I will promote my issue in area schools and community events. Legacy: At the end of my reign there will be more people, especially teens, who have become blood donors. Why I should be Northeast Ark. Outstanding Teen: Through my issue I can get more teens involved in community activities. I am able to arrange my schedule so I can attend events in Northeast Arkansas. Keep these 3 items to a sentence or two so you can have more space on this one sheet to write about you.

4. Secure a business concern to sponsor you in the pageant. They will get advertising for the sponsorship. You will need to get a check from them for \$75 payable to the Miss Northeast Arkansas Pageant.

5. Enclose a portrait picture of you, **WAIST UP, OR HEAD AND SHOULDERS** (billfold size or larger, 5x7 if available is best) to be reproduced in the program. It will be returned to you.

6. Copy of Birth Certificate (this will be returned)

7. Latest School Transcript (7th and 8th grade only may submit Report Card). – will be returned.

THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS IS AS FOLLOWS

SEPTEMBER 11 – ENTRY DEADLINE – WE ABSOLUTELY MUST have all entry materials in our hands by this date so that we can plan the pageants and get the program to the printer. An extension can be granted only by the Executive Director. However, **COMPETITION ORDER IS SET IN REVERSE ORDER OF ENTRIES RECEIVED.** The last one we receive will be #1 in competition and the first one we receive will be the last contestant.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - 8 A.M. - Talent Rehearsal at Blytheville High School on 10th Street. Be sure to bring heels, accompaniment tape or CD with your name on it, props or anything else you might need for your talent. Rehearsal for Active Wear, Evening Wear will follow. Bring shoes you plan to wear – no competition clothes. Opening and closing practice will then be conducted with the Miss contestants.

INTERVIEWS – will take place at the Blytheville Holiday Inn beginning at 11:30 a.m. Your exact time will be emailed to you or given at rehearsal. Wear dress, pants, skirt, top that is a typical and trendy teen outfit. Interview will be 6 minutes in length, **NO OPENING**, but you will be given 30 seconds at the end for any remarks you want to make.
(Rehearsal and Interview time may be changed after all entries are received)

PAGEANT – will begin at 7:00 p.m. at Blytheville High School.
After the pageant there will be a get together with pageant committee, new queens, and former queens.

New queen and parent will have a meeting with the Directors that night or Sunday morning.

Tickets for the event are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. They will be available at the door. Encourage your “fan” club to attend as you always perform better with good crowd support.

If you enter and then win another Outstanding Teen preliminary before our pageant, your sponsor fee will be returned to you. If you just drop out of the pageant, it will not be refunded. We do encourage you to enter all preliminaries for which you are eligible. And we encourage you to enter early to get in the competition line-up.

For those that want to stay in Blytheville during the pageant, the Holiday Inn (763-5800), Hampton Inn (763-5220) and Comfort Inn (763-7081) will all offer special pageant rates. Ask for it when you make your reservations. The Interviews are in the Holiday Inn but the other 2 are just across the street.

If we can be of any help to you before our rehearsal on September 19, please feel free to call or email me. We will help any contestant who requests assistance, however all contestants will be treated equally. Thank you for your interest and I hope to hear from you soon. Remember the deadline date, September 11!

Sincerely,
Eva Lee Graves
870-763-2951
Email: neapageant@sbcglobal.net

All entry materials are to be mailed to:
717 E. Main, Blytheville, AR 72315