

# 2022 MISS TEXAS USA®

## CONTESTANT HANDBOOK

Official Preliminary leading to MISS USA® Pageant, MISS TEXAS USA® independently produced and conducted by The Pageant Guy Productions, LLC (TPG Productions)

**July 1 - 3, 2022**



Miss Texas USA  
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MISS TEXAS USA® and MISS TEXAS TEEN USA®  
are preliminaries to MISS USA®, and MISS TEEN USA®,  
independently conducted and produced by TPG Productions

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# WHO WE ARE

## **THE MISS USA ORGANIZATION/THE MISS BRAND CORP**

The Miss USA Organization/The Miss Brand Corp. is a globally-recognized pageant platform that celebrates the unique beauty of women across cultures. Beyond well-known, Miss USA remains relevant to mainstream culture, to connect young women to their own beauty and help activate their voice.

The Miss USA Organization is committed to bringing pageants into the everyday lives of young women across America. The Miss USA Organization envisions a world in which young women everywhere can use pageants as an outlet to find their passions, learn life-skills, and develop new-found self-confidence to acknowledge their unique beauty. This new vision of pageantry will open doors, create opportunities and inspire never-before dreams for young women while also creating a platform for them to amplify their new-found voice. The Miss USA Organization presents **Pageantry Reimagined®** for a new generation of women of influence who the world has yet to meet.

## **TPG PRODUCTIONS**

TPG Productions and its staff are veterans of producing pageants in Texas. TPG Productions is the producer of **MISS TEXAS TEEN USA®** pageant, preliminary to **MISS TEEN USA®**, and the **MISS TEXAS USA®** pageant, a high profile, glamorous event and preliminary to both the **MISS USA®** and **MISS UNIVERSE®** pageants.

**MISS TEXAS USA® PAGEANT** will be live-streamed and promises to maintain the grand Texas tradition of top rate competition, sportsmanship and a grand array of prizes.

The **MISS TEXAS USA® PAGEANT** has produced an astonishing record of nine **MISS USA's**, and in 1995 produced Texas' first Miss Universe, Chelsi Smith (from Deer Park).

In July of 2011, Texas produced its third **MISS TEEN USA**, Karlie Hay (from Tomball). Texas proudly holds the distinction of being one of the few states to have attained pageantry's triple crown — a **MISS TEEN USA**, a **MISS USA** and a **MISS UNIVERSE!**

### **The current titleholders are:**

MISS TEXAS USA – Victoria Hinojosa, 22, of McAllen, TX  
MISS TEXAS TEEN USA – Landry Davis, 19 of Dallas, TX

Contestants from all over Texas aggressively vie for the titles of MISS TEXAS USA® and MISS TEXAS TEEN USA®.

### **The Year Ahead**

The titleholders will embark on a year unlike anything else, receiving exciting prizes, cash and services, as well as:

- The honor of representing Texas in the national MISS USA® or MISS TEEN USA® Pageant
- The Titleholder becomes a representative of the pageant for one year, meeting many new people, participating in official charity and social events, appearing on television, and getting the education, experiences and values to help fulfill her future career goals.

# MISS TEXAS USA® 2022

It is important for each contestant to fully understand that all of the necessary papers, documents, photos, forms, and fees be submitted to the Miss Texas USA Pageant office before admission as a bona fide contestant in the Miss Texas USA Pageant.

## **A. PAPERWORK, PHOTOS AND OPTIONAL PROGRAM ADS**

**(DEADLINE – May 1, 2022. Failure to meet the deadline may result in being omitted from the program book and/or website):**

**REQUIRED PAPERWORK - All required paperwork is accessible at MissTexasUSA.com. To access please view the instructions below. Please keep your password confidential and do not share your access to this website with unauthorized parties.**

### **TO ACCESS PAPERWORK ON WEBSITE:**

- Visit to: [www.misstexasusa.com](http://www.misstexasusa.com)
- Click the “Contestant Section” Link
- Enter password: **2022!**
- Click “Submit”

Do not wait to complete your paperwork. Please read and follow all instructions on the website carefully. Failure to complete the paperwork properly will result you having to repeat the paperwork process.

**2. REQUIRED PHOTO:** One, 5x7, high resolution (at least 300 dpi) **color** head shot or head & shoulder shot (without hat or crown) vertically printed. You may submit this photo via “Contestants Only” under “Required Paperwork > Official Headshot”. This photo will appear in our program book, on our website and on the “Judges Form” we provide to the judges. Please note your submitted photo may be cropped to fit our layouts in digital or print media.

### **3. PROGRAM BOOK:**

**Roster Page:** Only one sponsor will be acknowledged with your photo on the roster pages. You will be able to list your one sponsor via “Contestant Section” under “Required Paperwork > Sponsorship Listing”.

**Ad Pages:** You have the option of purchasing full page ads in the program book for \$400 each. Ad pages can be valuable tools to help you recruit sponsors. Sample ads and specifications are included in “Contestant Section” under “Extras & Options > Ad Pages”

These pages may be laid out however you like within the designated specifications and must be submitted by designated date. They should include the photo(s) of your choice - headshot, full length - whatever pose(s) you like (subject to pageant approval). Also included on optional page(s) should be your name, title, and as many sponsors and/or logos or special wording as you wish. To be considered “print-ready”, the following full page ad specifications must be followed (see #4). (For each ad that is not print-ready, please include a \$100 fee and we will do the layout.)

#### 4. AD PAGE SPECIFICATIONS:

**Page Dimensions:** 8.5" x 11"

**Image Area:** 7.5" x 10"

**"Full Bleed" Dimensions:** 8.75" x 11.25"

***VERY IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:*** - "**Full Bleed**" Ads are where the background extends to the edge of the page.) The background/photo on ads that **bleed** to the edge of the page, must extend 1/8 of an inch beyond the actual page dimensions on all sides, so the dimensions of the background/photo will be 8.75" x 11.25" on ads that are to bleed to the edge of the page. **All text/content should be within "image area" of 7.5" x 10"**.

**Resolution:** 300 dpi

**Please note:** **PHOTOS** used in your ad must be at a resolution of at least 300 dpi. Digital photos are preferred but if you are using prints, they must be **scanned at 300 dpi at printing size**. (Do not scan and then enlarge photo in page layout.)

Note: If you are hiring TPG Productions to design your ad, please include any original photos and/or logos that are to be used.

**Acceptable formats:** jpeg (jpg) or pdf

The program book will be published in **color**.

Refer to "Contestant Section" under "Extras & Options > Ad Pages" for more information and samples.

For additional questions email: [info@misstexasusa.com](mailto:info@misstexasusa.com)

<p><b>Special Note: Please do not use MISS TEXAS USA®, MISS TEXAS TEEN USA®, MISS USA®, MISS TEEN USA®, or MISS UNIVERSE® trademarks or logos without specific approval and clearance from state office.</b></p>
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## **B. WARDROBE:**

**Important Note: Please expect and arrive prepared for a wardrobe check when you check in on Arrival Day. It is important that all contestants follow our wardrobe guidelines. Be prepared to show our staff your wardrobe upon arrival.**

<b>ARRIVAL, ORIENTATION MEETING &amp; FIRST REHEARSAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Blue denim jeans</b> or capris</li><li>• <b>“Off-the-rack” t-shirt</b> representative of your area, city or school (For example, if you are from San Antonio, a t-shirt with the Alamo would be appropriate; from College Station...a Texas A&amp;M t-shirt would be fine. If you are from an area where no t-shirt is available, and you are not a student, feel free to simply wear a Texas t-shirt.)</li><li>• No one-shoulder or strapless tops.</li><li>• No beads, sequins, glitter, or studs allowed! Keep it simple and show your Texas spirit.</li></ul>
<b>INTERVIEW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>No specific guidelines other than daytime attire</b></li><li>• <b>Find an outfit that suits your taste, personality, and style</b></li><li>• <b>Choose something that would be appropriate to wear or to a press conference or TV interview</b></li></ul>
<b>REHEARSALS</b>	<p>You should look nice at all times as you will be seen in the hotel lobby, but dress comfortably. Warm-ups, nice jeans, or pants are fine. Be sure to wear sneakers or comfortable shoes.</p>

**\*\*Most of us have a limited budget. Be sure to spend your pageant dollars wisely. Make your main investment in your competition items, i.e. your gown, swimsuit, your interview outfit.**

# OPENING INTRODUCTION SEGMENT

<p>[Contestant provides]</p> <p>PARAMETERS/GUIDELINES</p> <p><b>DRESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Style – short only</li> <li>▪ Color:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Solid <b>RED</b> (fire engine red)</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Hemline does not matter – straight, asymmetrical</li> <li>▪ Think fashion / glamorous</li> <li>▪ <i>No stones, beading, sequins, etc. (no bling/sparkle)</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>EXAMPLES</b></p> 
<p>[Contestant provides]</p> <p>PARAMETERS/GUIDELINES</p> <p><b>SHOES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strappy heels</li> <li>▪ Color:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>GOLD</b> only</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ 4 inch maximum height (movement is key)</li> <li>▪ ½” to 1” platform is acceptable (they will be measured)</li> <li>▪ <i>No excessive platforms will be permitted</i></li> <li>▪ <i>No bling/sparkle</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>EXAMPLES</b></p> 
<p><b>ACCESSORIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hoop earrings – <b>GOLD only</b></li> <li>▪ Bracelets – <b>GOLD only</b> (optional)</li> <li>▪ Arm cuff – <b>GOLD only</b> (optional)</li> <li>▪ Necklaces – <b>GOLD only</b> (optional)</li> </ul>	<p><b>EXAMPLES</b></p> 

# SWIMSUIT COMPETITION

[Contestant provides]

## PARAMETERS/GUIDELINES

### Two-piece or one piece swimsuit

- Color options:
  - ❖ Solid **BLACK**
  - ❖ Solid **RED** (fire engine red)
  - ❖ Solid **WHITE**
- Metal type fasteners are acceptable (no rhinestones)
- *No patterns*
- *No beading/stones*
- *No 'built in' necklaces/jewelry*
- *No trim color*
- *No metallic, sequin or velvet materials/fabrics*

## EXAMPLES



[Contestant provides]


## PARAMETERS/GUIDELINES

### SHOES


- Strappy heels
- Color – **GOLD only**
- 4 inch maximum height (movement is key)
- ½" to 1" platform is acceptable (they will be measured)
- *No excessive platforms will be permitted*
- *No bling/sparkle*

## EXAMPLES



<p><b>ACCESSORIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hoop earrings – <b>GOLD only</b></li> <li>▪ Bracelets – <b>GOLD only</b> (optional)</li> <li>▪ Arm cuff – <b>GOLD only</b> (optional)</li> <li>▪ Necklaces – <b>GOLD only</b> (optional)</li> </ul>	<p><b>EXAMPLES</b></p> 

## EVENING GOWN COMPETITION

<p>[Contestant provides]</p> <p><b>PARAMETERS/GUIDELINES</b></p> <p><b>GOWN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All types of gowns are permitted</li> <li>▪ No specific color required</li> <li>▪ Find a dress that fits your body type/figure</li> <li>▪ Gown should reflect your age/personality/style</li> </ul>	<p><b>EXAMPLES</b></p> 
<p><b>SHOES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>No excessive platforms</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>ACCESSORIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ As needed</li> </ul>	

**COMPETITION SASH** – Upon arrival will be given a sash/ with your title on it. This should be worn at all times during the weekend. You will only be given one sash, so take care of it - it will not be replaced if lost. Sashes cannot be cut, folded or altered in any way.

**CUSTOM CONTESTANT SASH:** Prior to the pageant you have to option to purchase a custom contestant sash. Custom contestant sashes are an excellent option for contestants wishing to brand themselves or to help secure sponsors. You can purchase your custom sash here: <https://www.misstexasusa.com/sash/>

## **C. JUDGING PROCESS**

The judges are looking for an all-around winner. She may not be the most outstanding in any one category, but she will score highly in all categories. The winner will have everything - poise, personality, intelligence and beauty.

### **The judging is divided into three categories:**

**Interview:** The format will be panel style. The judges will seek a young woman capable of expressing herself clearly, intelligently, and confidently. This is your opportunity to impress the judges with your opinions, ability to communicate, and overall sense of self. They are not looking for rehearsed answers. Questions will come primarily from the information you provide, but be prepared for anything.

**Swimsuit:** You should be healthy, natural, fit and confident about physical appearance. Physical measurements are not considered by the judges.

**Evening Gown:** Judges focus on poise, overall appearance, sense of fashion and style. No single detail of the gown, hair, or make-up should garner attention. The overall effect should be elegant and sophisticated.

**Special Awards:** In addition to choosing the new Miss Texas USA, other awards to be presented:

1. Miss Photogenic (to be selected from photos in the program book and in-person judging and announced during the Preliminary Show.)
2. Best in Swimsuit (to be selected by judges and announced during the Preliminary Show)
3. Miss Congeniality (to be voted for by the contestants and announced during the Final Show.)
4. People's Choice (to be selected by the public by one dollar for one vote. Winner will be announced during the Final Show and will automatically advance in the competition as one of the Top 16 Semi-Finalists.)

(Note: None of the above awards have any bearing on the final outcome of the pageant.)

## **D. ENTRY FEE**

The entry fee for Miss Texas USA is \$1195 and is due on May 1. We have a payment schedule to accommodate every contestant. Fees will also cover contestants hotel room and meals.

### **E. IF YOU WIN...**

It's sure to be a tremendous experience with the highlight of representing Texas and vying for the title of MISS USA.

You will be asked to make personal appearances as Miss Texas USA. However, no appearances will be scheduled without clearance through you, according to your availability.

### **F. PAGEANT ARRIVAL**

Miss Contestants will have the option to arrive early to the hotel and complete the interview competition on Thursday. More information will be released on this option. All remaining contestants will arrive on Friday. All check-ins will be on Friday. It is possible that hotel rooms will not be ready so contestants must be prepared to store luggage with the concierge and start right to work at immediately upon designated arrival/registration time. As part of your entry fee, contestant's hotel accommodations are included. There will be two contestants per hotel room.

### **G. HOST HOTEL**

Hilton Houston Post Oak Hotel  
2001 Post Oak Blvd.  
Houston, Texas 77056  
(713) 961-9300

FAMILY AND FRIENDS RESERVATIONS – **BOOK HERE:** [misstexasusa.com/hotel-miss](http://misstexasusa.com/hotel-miss)

Or call: (713) 961-9300

(Mention the Friends and Family rate for the Miss Texas USA pageant guests.)

### **H. TRANSPORTATION**

Each contestant is responsible for her own transportation to the Hilton Houston Post Oak Hotel (2001 Post Oak Blvd. - Phone 713-961-9300). Be sure to make your travel plans as soon as possible.

### **I. DEPARTURE PROCEDURES**

It is necessary for each and every contestant to officially check-out from the host hotel. The pageant is providing rooms for contestants until Sunday morning. Any contestant checking in earlier or checking out later than the designated pageant times will do at their own expense.

### **J. MEALS**

The pageant contestants are provided with lunch and dinner meals. Any additional meals or snacks will have to be paid for by each contestant at the time of purchase.

### **K. PAGEANT CHAPERONES**

Each group of approx. 10 - 15 contestants will be assigned a chaperone who will help keep you informed and direct you where you are supposed to be at any given time. She is there to assist you with any problems or questions you might have. Remember, these ladies are volunteering their own free time to do this for you, so please be courteous to them and treat them with respect.

## **L. INCIDENTAL EXPENSES**

The pageant is not responsible for incidental expenses incurred by the delegates such as valet services, room service, laundry, etc. These must be paid for by each contestant.

## **M. VIDEO**

The pageant will be videotaped and livestreamed. We are planning special features in this year's show and will be using multiple cameras this year to capture the event. An order form will be emailed to you prior to the pageant. **Any videography, photography, and live streaming by audience members during the pageant is strictly prohibited and will those who do not comply will be removed from the pageant.**

## **N. PAGEANT EVENTS**

1. **REHEARSALS** - Rehearsals are the key to a truly successful show and pageant weekend. Rehearsals take a great deal of time and hard work. Be prepared for this.

LISTEN. BE COOPERATIVE. FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS. BE ON TIME. HAVE FUN!!

Rehearsals are for contestants only and will be closed to the public.

2. \* **PRELIMINARY SHOW** - This is a full production and an entertaining show. It will be staged on Friday evening. Every contestant will be judged for preliminary Evening Gown and Swimsuit scores. Remember, these are only two of the three preliminary judging events and placement will not be announced this evening.

This is a ticketed event and open to the public. The Special Awards Winners - Photogenic and Swimsuit Awards - will be announced during this show.

This preliminary competition is very important for each of the contestants as they must score well to be one of the 16 Semi-Finalists.

3. \* **FINAL SHOW** - This is a ticketed event and a very entertaining and exciting show. It will be held on Saturday evening. **All** contestants will participate in the Final Show. The show will begin with the Opening Production and the introduction of each contestant to the audience. Then, the Top 16 will be announced and will be judged in Swimsuit and Gown, leading into the announcement of the Top 5, and then the announcement of the Runners-up and Winner. All contestants will be seen at different times throughout the show and the award to Miss Congeniality and People's Choice will also be presented during the Final Show.

- \* **Tickets will go on sale approximately a month prior to the pageant and information will be provided to you.**

## **O. PAGEANT RULES**

**To run a smooth and enjoyable event, we ask contestants to observe a few simple rules. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.**

- You must participate in all pageant activities and wear pageant identification at all times.
- When not in your hotel room, you must be in the company of a pageant chaperone. Do not venture off by yourself. You are not permitted to visit your parents', family's, or friends' rooms once registered with the pageant.
- The pageant schedule is very busy. You are required to be on time.
- The pageant will provide meals as designated on your itinerary. You will be responsible for any other food or beverage.
- As per venue rules (if applicable), you are not permitted to eat except in specified areas. • No interviews for radio, television or newspaper are to be granted without prior consent of the State Director or Contestant Coordinator.
- Any hotel incidental expenses will be your responsibility.
- Security is provided, however we cannot be responsible for your safety if you disregard the rules. • We are not responsible for valuables. Do not bring expensive jewelry or large amounts of cash. Be sure to mark your clothes and other items for easy identification.
- You, your parents, friends, relatives, etc., are not to engage the judges or auditors in conversation prior to the conclusion of the conclusion of the pageant.
- Only specified pageant team members will be permitted backstage during the pageant. Pageant personnel will be available to assist to you.
- You will have optional access to pre-approved hair and makeup artists, at designated times and locations during the pageant. Only pre-approved artists and contestants are allowed in these designated areas.
- Cell phones must be turned off during rehearsals and shows.
- Do not attempt to meet your significant other during breaks.
- All rehearsals are closed to the public.
- There will be no smoking in public. Your room is non-smoking and you will be held financially responsible for any damages should you choose to smoke. The pageant does not advocate smoking.
- You are not permitted to solicit or sell any products or goods during the pageant weekend to any other contestants, friends, family, or pageant staff.
- You must depart the ballroom/theater immediately following the completion of the pageant.

### **The following rules, if broken, constitute grounds for disqualification:**

- There will be no consumption of alcoholic beverages or any illicit drugs, regardless of age.
- Hair stylists, makeup artists, coaches, or parents and other visitors will not be allowed in your hotel room, nor will you be permitted to go to their hotel rooms during the pageant weekend.
- Coaches, parents, or other visitors will not be allowed backstage or designated locations for hair and makeup. Only pre-approved artists and contestants are permitted in the designated locations for hair and makeup.
- All contestants must meet the requirements set forth by the Miss USA Organization.

*Remember: If you witness any of these rules being broken, it is your responsibility to report the infraction to your chaperone or pageant team member. Failure to do so will implicate you by association.*

## **P. HAIR AND MAKEUP GUIDELINES**

Contestants are permitted to hire a personal hair and/or makeup artist during pageant weekend. Please read the guidelines below.

### **Contestant Requirements:**

You have the option to hire a hair and/or makeup artist during pageant weekend. You are not required to hire an artist, as you are able to do your own hair and makeup during the pageant. Prior to the pageant, you can also choose to enroll for hair and makeup classes taught by our sponsors to sharpen your skills.

If you choose the option to hire a hair and makeup artist, you are required as a contestant to pay a one-time fee of \$250. This fee grants you permission to have one (1) hair stylist and/or one (1) makeup artist, if needed. If you choose an artist that provides both hair and makeup services, a one-time fee of \$250 is still required. Please note, the one-time fee does NOT include your artist. You must secure your own artist, but we can recommend from a list of our sponsors. Upon securing an artist, you will be responsible for their service fee payable to them.

In all, you will be responsible for:

- 1) the one-time fee of \$250, payable to the pageant
- 2) the artist service fee (negotiated separately from the pageant), payable to the artist

### **Artist Requirements:**

Each artist will have to pay a daily access fee for the designated room(s) provided for hair and makeup artists. Each artist will be provided with a workstation, electrical outlets, and chair in the designated room(s) at the host hotel during pageant weekend.

Hair and makeup services are provided only in the designated room(s) during the designated times specified by the pageant, and only registered artists and contestants will have access to this room. No coaches, directors, family, or friends are allowed in the hair and makeup room.

Additionally, your artist(s) is NOT allowed in your hotel room. No coaches, directors, family, or friends are allowed in your hotel room. This is outlined in the Rules and Regulation form.

### **Artist Access Fee:**

If the artist is a Miss Texas USA / Miss Texas Teen USA hair and/or makeup sponsor they have a reduced daily access fee. Sponsor access fee is \$75 per individual artist or per team member (if they work for a company with several artists), per day. Non sponsor access fee is \$150 per individual artist or per team member, per day.

\*fees collected are used to pay for rooms(s) and resources needed to provide hair and makeup services during pageant weekend

### **Examples of Hiring an Artist:**

- Contestant hires 1 hair stylist and 1 makeup artist: Each of those artists will have to pay a daily access fee, contestant pays the one-time fee of \$250.
- Contestant hires 1 artist providing both hair and makeup: The artist will have to pay a daily access fee, contestant pays the one-time fee of \$250.
- Two contestants have hired and are sharing the same artist: Both contestants will each have to pay the one-time fee of \$250, but the artist will only have to pay their daily access fee, as some artists will have multiple clients.

### **Artist Registration:**

You must inform your artist(s) to register with the Miss Texas USA office at the link below. Upon artist registration, they will be required to pay their daily access fee. Unregistered and unpaid artists will not be granted access to the hair and makeup designated room(s).

<https://www.misstexasusa.com/hmu-registration/>

# KEEPING EXPENSES DOWN

Providing services and goods for pageant contestants is a growing industry. While many of these people can be helpful, a number of them will try to sell you items you do not need or charge you exorbitant fees for their services. For example, **if you are told you must have an “arrival outfit” other than what is specified by the pageant, this is wrong!** You will be given specific instructions as to what to wear upon arrival at the pageant. An expensive “arrival outfit” is not only a waste of your money, but it is inappropriate for rehearsals. If in doubt, you will find that this contestant handbook describes everything that you will need for the pageant weekend.

**Be informed, be prepared and beware, and your entire pageant experience will be more enjoyable and memorable.**

The following are fixed expenses:

Pageant entry fee

These items are necessary, but the cost is variable:

1. Competition wardrobe
  - a. Evening gown
  - b. Interview outfit
  - c. Swimsuit
  - d. Opening number outfit
  - e. Shoes & accessories
2. Clothing for non-competition activities (rehearsals)
3. Photo – One professional headshot required for use in program book and on website

Other *optional* expenses:

1. Show tickets, preliminary and final, for family and friends
2. Hair & nail care
3. Make up
4. Coaching/training
5. Incidental expenses while at pageant

Something you should always keep in mind is that as nice as it would be to have special outfits for all activities, the judges see you only in your interview outfit, evening gown, swimsuit and opening number costume or dress. You are not judged based on all the cute clothes you wear when you arrive and rehearse. It is **not** a contest of who has the best wardrobe.

Now, to get a little more specific on the areas where you can economize:

1. Evening gown. There is no arguing that multi-thousand-dollar evening gowns are gorgeous. However, a fantastic gown in itself does not win a pageant. Quite often, the winner is not wearing the most exquisite or most expensive gown, but she looks great in the gown she is wearing. It is the overall picture that counts. We have had state winners in borrowed dresses and in dresses that their mothers have made. You can purchase a used gown or rent a gown for a fraction of the cost of buying the same gown new. Or, find a sponsor to provide, loan, or sell you a gown at cost. (This can be tax-deductible for a sponsor.)

2. Interview outfit. You need not purchase a designer suit to wear for personal interviews. Just as with the evening gown, your interview outfit should be one that flatters you and one in which you feel comfortable and look attractive. The judges are looking at the overall picture, not at which designer you are wearing. You may already have a dress or a suit in your closet that would be suitable, or you might borrow one.
3. Shoes & accessories. Make your shoes do double- or triple-duty. Depending on specific wardrobe requirements for your pageant, the same pair of shoes could be worn with swimsuit, interview outfit, cocktail dress, and/or evening gown. Also, check your closet and see what you already have that could work for part of the competition. Your jewelry need not be costly; watch for sales, check the discount stores, borrow from a friend.
4. Clothing for non-competition activities. More than likely, this clothing can already be found in your wardrobe. **You do not need** an expensive new “arrival outfit”. **You do not need** special rehearsal clothing.
5. Photos. We will send information to you about our official pageant photographer who covers all of our pageants and provides excellent pictures of our state winners for their national competitions. However, there are many good photographers around. So, keep in mind you may use the photographer of your choice. Check with your local director for a referral in your area and feel free to shop around for the best price!
6. Optional Ad Page. This can be an excellent tool to help you get sponsors. Let companies know that their donation to you is 100% tax deductible as an advertising expense. And you can list as many sponsors on your page as you would like to. You may purchase as many pages as you would like to.
7. Show tickets. There is a range of prices for tickets for each show, and if you order early, you can get the best seats available in the lower price range.
8. Hair, Make-up and Nail Care. See if your salon will provide these services free in exchange for a mention on your ad page in the program book. And, learn to do your hair, make-up and nails yourself. We do not provide time or facilities for hairdressers or make-up artists, nor are they allowed to set up in the public areas of the hotel.
9. Coaching/Training. Private sessions with a pageant trainer can be expensive and are not for everyone. This does not mean that you should be unprepared and just “wing it”! You may know someone who will assist and advise you at no charge. Perhaps you can attend a seminar at a cost much less than private sessions. Shawnae Jebbia, a former Miss USA, says she did not have any pageant training—she just watched CNN!
10. Incidentals. This includes phone calls, food not provided by the pageant, etc. How much you spend on these items is entirely in your control and can cost almost nothing if you plan ahead and do not spend money unnecessarily.

### **In Summary:**

1. Know which expenses are unavoidable and which costs can be minimized or eliminated altogether.
2. Avail yourself of free or reduced-cost services, provided in exchange for recognition on your ad page.
3. Find sponsors to help cover your costs. We provide you with a sponsor letter and tips on finding sponsors. Sponsors may provide services, wardrobe, and/or financial support.
4. Shop sales and discounts.
5. Borrow, rent and/or use items you already have.
6. Get advice and help from friends, relatives, someone with pageant experience.
7. Prepare yourself. Be as physically fit as possible. Practice doing your own hair and make-up. Keep up with current events—watch/read national news.

# CHECKLIST

The following checklist has been prepared as a last reminder of some of the articles you may need at the Pageant. Add your own specific needs to the list and be sure to check over everything before you leave home!

- \_\_\_\_\_ Competition Evening Gown
- \_\_\_\_\_ Judges Interview Attire
- \_\_\_\_\_ Opening Introduction Attire
- \_\_\_\_\_ Competition Swimsuit
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival and orientation meeting attire
- \_\_\_\_\_ Shoes for introduction/swimsuit competition
- \_\_\_\_\_ Earrings and accessories
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make-up mirror (for use in Dressing Room)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 athletic or casual outfits for rehearsals
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sweater or light jacket

## ACCESSORIES AND SUPPLIES

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| _____ Bath powder and/or oil        | _____ Shoe Pads (to cushion the balls of your feet) |
| _____ Costume jewelry & accessories | _____ House slippers                                |
| _____ Cologne /perfume              | _____ Manicure set/nail polish                      |
| _____ Curling iron/flat iron        | _____ Needle, scissors & thread                     |
| _____ Extension cord                | _____ Personal hygiene products                     |
| _____ Hair dryer                    | _____ Shower cap                                    |
| _____ Hair spray/products           | _____ Underclothing                                 |
| _____ Safety pins and straight pins | _____ Tissues                                       |
| _____ Steamer/Iron                  | _____ Toothbrush                                    |
| _____ Incidental Money              | _____ Toothpaste                                    |
| _____ Cosmetics                     | _____ Mouthwash                                     |
| _____ Pajamas & robe                | _____ Magazines/books                               |
| _____ Note pad & writing pen        | _____ Hairbrush and combs                           |
| _____ Deodorant                     | _____ Band aids                                     |
| _____ Personal medication           | _____ Make-up removal pads/wash cloths              |
| _____ Special soaps and lotions     |   |
| _____ Shampoos & conditioner        |   |
| _____ Hair accessories/clips        |   |
| _____ Shoes                         |   |

**2022 MISS TEXAS USA  
CONTESTANT SCHEDULE  
(as of 2-10-22/ subject to change)**

**THURSDAY, June 30, 2022**

Evening – *GROUP 1* (TBD) Contestants' Interviews

**FRIDAY, July 1, 2022**

Morning -

Contestant Orientation at Hilton Houston Post Oak Hotel (CLOSED to public) (Ballroom)

Rehearsal (CLOSED to public) (Ballroom)

Afternoon -

*GROUP 2* (TBD) Contestants' Interviews

8:00 p.m. - **MISS TEXAS USA - PRELIMINARY SHOW AND COMPETITION**

**SATURDAY, July 2, 2022**

Morning & Afternoon

Rehearsal (CLOSED to public) (Ballroom)

8:00 p.m. - **MISS TEXAS USA - FINAL SHOW AND COMPETITION**

**SUNDAY, July 3, 2022**

*Contestant Check-out and Departure*