

Pageant Categories

The following categories are for ALL the contestants, and they are all competing for the title.

Included:

Miss Congeniality- We ask that the girls select the contestant who best embodies kindness, helpfulness, and positivity for the title of Miss Congeniality. It is not a popularity contest but a commendation of someone who exemplifies qualities we should all aspire to.

Best Essay- 2/4/26 You will be given the essay prompt, a rubric, and a graphic organizer. You will have your laptop to type your essay and will turn it in at the end of your 90 minutes. An area for individual and smaller groups will be available if you find the large area a distraction and speech-to-text will be allowed for your essay.

Judging – The essays will be evaluated based on the rubric provided to the participants on essay day. This rubric outlines the criteria and corresponding points for assessment. While there are specific guidelines for scoring and the development of the essay, the judge has the flexibility to select the essay they personally consider the best. The Best Essay may not always have the highest score, although it often does. The essay contributes 50% towards your initial score. It is advisable to use all the time allotted to you and avoid rushing through the essay.

Optional:

Miss Photogenic- You must submit a **PRINTED** photo, **5x7 or Smaller.** *They need to be headshots.* (Shoulders and up) **These are DUE by 2/2/26**

Judging- Each year, a different photographer evaluates the submissions. The only directive given is that the girls adhere to the submission requirements. The photographers select a photo they believe showcases an exceptional headshot of the girl. In the past, winners have ranged from those who submitted selfies to those with professional pictures. Remember to submit the photo you adore.

Best Dress - In the Best Dress category, participants will have extra stage time to allow the judges time to see their dress. A special segment will be dedicated to showcasing both dancing and walking for Best Dress, while also having a description of the attire announced.

Judging- The judges are familiar with the rules and guidelines given for your attire, and if there are any directives with theme. They seek a well-fitted dress where the girl wears the dress, the dress is not wearing the girl. It's essential that she appears at ease in her dress selection, and that it enhances her overall look.

Best Hair – We do not provide guidelines on Best Hair. You can wear your hair anyway you want. Up, down, half up/down, braids, wigs. Your choice! What we do give guidelines on is accessories in your hair. You can't wear any type of crown/tiara in your hair and no accessories can be hanging down touching your face. Rhinestone pins, clips, a small flower, all are acceptable. We will ask you to remove any accessory that is not allowed and that could mess up your hair, just be mindful of what you are using and ask if you are unsure it is permitted.

Judging-The judges determine the best hair based on its "wow" factor. They admire styles that they wish they had or appreciate the effort put into an elaborate look. Your hair will be assessed both during your walk and before dancing.

People's Choice- For just \$1.00, you can vote for your preferred contestant. This provides a way for those with family and friends unable to attend to show their support. It became evident early on that contestants with more family and friends present tended to win. This voting system was introduced to ensure fairness and give every girl an equal opportunity to win. Votes can be bought on RevTrak by anyone using the contestant's name. The purchasing period starts when applications open and continues until the pageant day, allowing ample time for voting.