UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PAGEANTS DELEGATE HANDBOOK



USOA MISS 2024 BELLA ROSE

BECOME A CONTESTANT EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW!

CELEBRATING BEAUTY & BRILLIANCE

#1 BEST MS. PAGEANT OF 2023



QUEST FOR THE CROWN

CONTENTS

3 What is NEW at USOA: The Evolution

SCORING: Ambassador Impac

Jessica Wilde shares how to overcome writer's block. Story on p. 20 5 ELIGIBLITY: Divisions

Areas of Competition

7

6

Agenda at a Glance Dress for Travel Day tips!

. . .

Entry Fees Costs & What is included

9

8

PROGRAM BOOK: Time to Shine! You are the star of our show

10 FUNDRAISING: Selling Ad Space Fund your way to USOA!

11-12

FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions You've got Questions. We've got Answers

The United States of America Pageants stands as the fastest-growing women's empowerment organization in the nation and has earned a prestigious spot among the TOP 10 BEST National Pageants for five consecutive years— 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 recognized by The Pageant Planet. In addition, we were honored as the BEST NATIONAL MS. PAGEANT of 2023. Our mission is rooted in empowering women, championing positive self-image, and supporting impactful community service initiatives. We are proud to award THOUSANDS of dollars in prizes and offer numerous opportunities for women to attain remarkable success and recognition.

13 IN ORDER TO SUCCEED The Documents you NEED!

USOA



EMPOWER | INSPIRE | UPLIFT

"We can't become what we need to be by remaining what we are" ~ Openh Winfergy

United States of America Pageants has always prided itself in being a leader in the implementation of innovative ideas that foster producing National Winners that are the perfect balance of beauty & brilliance, while putting an emphasis on community service. As we evolve into the future we still hold close and honor longstanding values and traditions of years past. We are excited to bring changes meant to better our overall program and system as a whole.



AMASSADOR 2 IMPACT

Delegates will now be evaluated on the impact they have as an ambassador for United States of America Pageants. Please see our AMBASSADOR IMPACT SCORE for more information.



RSER

PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

We are proud to be an official qualifying organization for the PVSA, honoring acts of volunteer service benefitting others.

Our soft launch in 2024 provided USOA the opportunity to celebrate & recognize the philanthropic efforts of TWENTY FOUR women who cumulatively volunteered over 7000 hours of community service!



NEW & IMPROVED SCORING

PRELIMINARY SCORE

- 30% JUDGES INTERVIEW
- 20% AMBASSADOR IMPACT
- 25% FITNESS
- 25% GOWN

FINAL COMPEITION SCORE

- 20% JUDGES INTERVIEW
- 20% AMBASSADOR IMPACT
- 20% FITNESS
- 20% GOWN
- 20% ONSTAGE QUESTION



OPTIONAL TALENT COMPETITION

United States of America Pageants will be implementing an optional talent competition designed to provide additional scholarship opportunities to our contestants on the National level starting in 2025!

USOA AMBASSADOR IMPACT SCORE





NEW & IMPROVED SCORING

PRELIMINARY SCORE

- 30% JUDGES INTERVIEW
- 20% AMBASSADOR IMPACT
- 25% FITNESS
- 25% GOWN

FINAL COMPEITION SCORE

- 20% JUDGES INTERVIEW
- 20% AMBASSADOR IMPACT
- 20% FITNESS
- 20% GOWN
- 20% ONSTAGE QUESTION

EMPOWER | INSPIRE | UPLIFT

"We can't become what we need to be by remaining what we are" ~ Openh Winfrey

The following criteria will be taken into consideration when assigning an ambassador impact score. A committee of three or more team members will assess each contestant and assign a score accordingly on a scale of 1-10 points.

- Adherence to the USOA titleholder contractual agreement, standards and protocols.
- Knowledge & Execution of the USOA Brand
 - Pageant Organization Name
 - Contestant's Title
 - System motto and values
- Titleholder etiquette and behavior towards fellow contestants, staff, sponsors, and the community at large while acting as a representative of the United States of America Pageants.
- Quantity and quality of appearances made <u>relative</u> to the contestants time as an ambassador of the United States of America Pageants.
- Social Media quantity & quality of content while promoting the following
 - United States of America Pageants
 - Appearances
 - Their platform
 - Sponsors
 - Social media assignments such as Quest for the Crown, etc.
- Ability to follow directions and complete submissions required for competing at the national pageant accurately and on time.
- Being an engaged and on time participant of events or activities organized by the United States of America Pageants.

PAGEANT/Lifestyle Published 8 August, 2024 7:00pm

TANICE SMITH NATIONAL DIRECTOR **ASHLEY BALL** Photographs



ELIGIBLITY

"To be eligible is to be on the starting line of success."

DIVISIONS

01. TEEN 13-17

Is between 13-17 years of age as of 1/1/2025
Is single, not married, has never been married is not pregnant & has never given birth.

02. MISS 18-28

Is between 18-28 years of age as of 1/1/2025
Is single or divorced & has never given birth

03. MS. 29+

Is 29+ as of 1/1/2025Is single or divorced, with or without children

04. MRS. 18+

Is 18+ as of 1/1/2025
Is legally married to her spouse
If not a citizen or permanent resident is married to a U.S. citizen.

ALL CONTESTANTS

CONTESTANTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA

 Is a U.S. citizen or has been granted permanent residency by the United States.
 Is a resident, works, or goes to school in the state they are competing.
 Is a natural born female
 Has never appeared nude in photographs or film.

Please note that in addition to the standard eligibility requirements outlined, all candidates must also meet additional moral and ethical criteria. These criteria are essential to uphold the integrity and values of our organization. We reserve the right to evaluate and assess each candidate's adherence to these standards as part of the selection process. Failure to meet these additional requirements may impact eligibility and participation.







AREAS OF COMPETITION

By USOA NATIONAL OFFICE Photographs by Ashley Ball Photography

ALL CONTESTANTS will compete in the following

Judges Interview

Format : Round Robin with approximately 5 judges for 3 minutes each.

We encourage contestants to Dress for Success and make a stunning impression! Choose an outfit that you would wear to a high-stakes job interview. Whether you opt for a sophisticated dress, a sharp skirt suit, or a sleek pantsuit, let your personal style shine through while showcasing professionalism and elegance!

Fitness Competition

Format : Onstage presentation, approximately 45 seconds

TEEN- Select any style athletic clothing & athletic shoes.

MISS, MS., MRS.- Select any style swimsuit & heels.

Wardrobe must provide adequate coverage!

Gown Competition

Format : Onstage presentation, approximately 45 seconds

Better than Beautiful! Choose a floor-length formal gown that makes you feel like royalty. Let your inner queen shine in a dress that exudes elegance and grandeur!

Patriotic Costume

Format : Independent Competition. Onstage presentation, approximately 45 seconds

This is your moment to let your inner fashionista sparkle and show off your American pride! Have fun with your costumes by highlighting either National or State characteristics. It's your chance to blend creativity with patriotism and make a memorable impression!

WINNER RECEIVES A SPECIALTY AWARD ONSTAGE!

Onstage Question

Format : Onstage presentation, approximately 45 seconds

Q&A of the TOP 3 Contestants in each division.

<u>Optional Talent</u> <u>Contest</u>

Format : Virtual Preliminaries & Finalists Onstage presentation, approximately 3 minutes

\$250.00 Entry fee

WINNER RECEIVES A SCHOLARSHIP & SPECIALTY AWARD ONSTAGE!

QUEST FOR THE CROWN





- Travel Hotel
- Check-in

DAY TWO | It Starts!



- Registration
- Orientation
- Interviews
- Activity

∋ DAY THREE | Prelims

- Rehearsal #1
 - Fitness Prelim
 - Gown Prelim

∋ DAY FOUR | Finals



- Rehearsal #2
- Activity
- Final Competition
- Crowning

DAY FIVE | Photoshoot



 Winners Photoshoot



By United States of America Pageants

As you prepare for travel day, it's essential to remember that you are always a representative of our pageant. To ensure you make a great impression and stay photo-ready throughout your journey, please follow these guidelines:

- 1. Dress to Impress: Choose an outfit that is both comfortable and stylish. Think chic yet practical—something that reflects your personal style while being travel-friendly.
- 2. Wear Your Sash Proudly: Your sash is a symbol of your dedication and achievement. Make sure to wear it with pride and visibility. It's a great way to promote your title and show off your pageant spirit!
- 3. Stay Photo-Ready: You never know when a photo opportunity might arise. Maintain a polished look and keep a few essentials handy for quick touch-ups. A light touch-up kit can be a lifesaver!
- 4. Smile and Shine: A warm smile and positive attitude go a long way. Your enthusiasm and grace will shine through in every interaction, so let your confidence and charm be your travel companions.
- 5. Be Prepared: Ensure all your travel documents, pageant materials, and personal items are organized and easily accessible. Being prepared will help keep the journey smooth and stressfree.

Remember, every moment is an opportunity to showcase the excellence and poise that brought you to this stage. Have a fantastic journey, and let your light shine bright, no matter where your travels take you!

Schedule subject to change >

USOA ENTRY FEE & WHAT IS INCLUDED

MUA: Make-up by Roxy Photography: Ashley Ball

ALL INCLUSIVE FEE \$2750.00

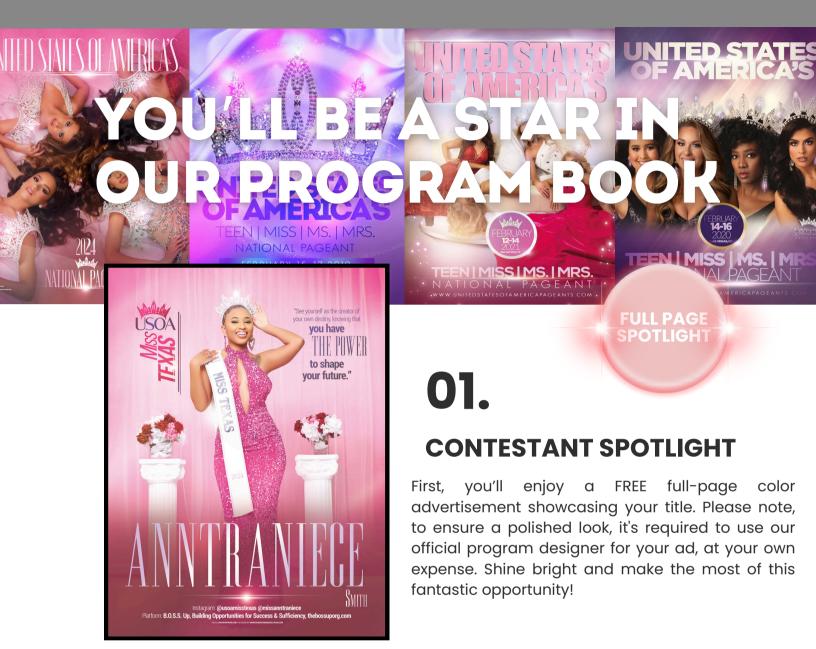
- Official entry to participate in the annual competition
- Official State titleholder's rhinestone embroidered sash
- Official State titleholder's rhinestone tiara
- Designer opening number outfit
- Designer opening number heels
- Full Page Contestant Spotlight page in the National Program Book
- National Program Book
- National Photo Package
- (Includes Onstage Competition Photos)
 - 3 Nights Hotel Accommodations at the Host Hotel

(Shared with another contestant or Partial lodging for private room)

- 2 meals provided per day
- Official UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 PAGEANTS T-Shirt
- Entry to USOA Activities
- Contestant Swag Bag & MORE!

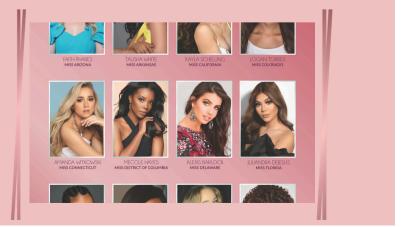
Payment #1) \$450.00 Deposit Payment #2) \$575.00 Orders Crown Payment #3) \$575.00 Orders Sash Payment #4) \$575.00 Ships Sash & Crown Payment #5) \$575.00 Final Payment

ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE



02. CONTESTANT ROSTER

Second, you'll be listed on our contestant roster page!



FUNDRAISING



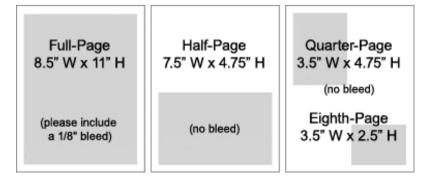
"Your quest for sponsors is the first step towards making dreams come true. **Go out and make it happen!**"

To elevate your competition experience and help cover associated costs, you have the opportunity to sell additional advertisements in our exclusive program book and earn substantial rewards! Our carefully crafted incentive program is designed to offset your expenses while giving you the chance to shine. **Here's how it works:** Explore the enticing advertisement options available, each with detailed pricing and the generous commission you'll earn for every sale. We'll provide you with a polished sponsorship letter to assist you in securing prestigious sponsors.

But that's not all—excel in this endeavor and you could be crowned with a distinguished onstage award for the highest advertisement sales! Embrace this glamorous chance to support your journey, showcase your entrepreneurial spirit, and make a dazzling impression.

SELL AD PAGES TO POTENTIAL SPONSORS

Advertisement	Cost	Incentive
Back Cover	\$1500	\$750
Inside Covers	\$1000	\$500
Two Page Spread	\$750	\$375
Full Page	\$499	\$250
Half Page	\$299	\$150
Quarter Page	\$150	\$75



YOU'VE got Questions. We've got Answers



Q & A with USOA!

The FAQ section provides clear and concise answers to the most commonly asked questions, helping you quickly find the information you need. Whether you have inquiries about event details, participation guidelines, or any other concerns, this section is designed to offer straightforward solutions and enhance your overall experience.

Is it necessary to compete in and win a preliminary competition in order to participate in the national pageant?

State preliminaries may or may not be available in your region. If there is no official pageant held in your state, please apply directly through the national office.

How long does it take to get my sash & crown?

These items are custom-designed and made to order. Once the necessary payments to order these items are received, please allow approximately 5-6 weeks for production and shipping. If you require expedited production, a two-week expedited option is available for an additional \$50.00.

We appreciate your understanding and patience as we craft your personalized items to ensure the highest quality.

When do tickets go on sale?

Tickets generally become available for purchase 2-4 weeks before the pageant. You will receive a notification once they are on sale, along with detailed instructions on how to secure your tickets.

Am I entitled to a complimentary ticket for my parent, spouse, or is there discounted tickets for military or children?

To help offset event expenses, we require that all attendees purchase tickets at the full price, as we do not offer discounts. However, children aged two and under can attend for free. Thank you for your understanding and support

Am I allowed to have anyone with me backstage?

Access to the backstage dressing area is restricted to contestants only! Our dedicated staff will be present to assist with wardrobe needs as required.



Will the pageant be broadcast or televised, and if so, what are the details regarding viewing options and channels?

All pageant events will be streamed live on PageantsLive.com, allowing family, friends, and fans to watch and support the contestants from anywhere. The streaming service is offered at an affordable rate, ensuring everyone can join in the excitement and cheer for their favorite participants. Don't miss out on the action—tune in and be part of the experience!

What resources and tips are available to help me effectively sell advertisements in the program book for my pageant expenses?

1. Leverage Your Network: Reach out to friends, family, and professional connections who may have businesses or personal networks. Use the official sponsorship letter provided by the pageant to make your request more formal and compelling. 2. **Prepare a Professional Pitch:** Create a wellcrafted pitch that highlights the benefits of advertising in the pageant program book. Emphasize the exposure and audience reach they will gain. Use copies of previous years' program books to show potential sponsors the quality and layout of the ads, and how their business will be showcased. Create attractive sponsorship packages that include personalized incentives, such as offering to make a special appearance at the sponsor's business or hosting a promotional event on their behalf. This added value can make the sponsorship offer more enticing.

3. Host a Sponsorship Event: Organize a small event or meet-and-greet where you can present the sponsorship opportunities. This can be a great way to engage potential sponsors in person, answer their questions, and showcase the value of their investment.

4. Utilize Social Media: Promote the sponsorship opportunities on your social media platforms. Share details about the benefits of advertising in the program book and use visuals from previous years' program books to create engaging posts. Include a call to action encouraging businesses to get in touch with you for more information.



USOA DOCMENTS

To compete in the pageant, you are required to submit the following items:



- A. Official Application
 - Due Immediately
- B. Deposit
 - Due within 24 hours of acceptance
 - Remainder of payments are due six weeks prior to nationals
- C. Titleholder Contract
 - Due within 24 hours of acceptance
- D. Supporting Documents
 - Copy of birth certificate, naturalization, or permanent resident card
 - Copy of driver's license or identification card
 - Final divorce decree (for any previously married MISS & MS contestants)
 - Marriage license (for MRS contestants)
- E. Ad Page Artwork/Fees/Forms
 - Submit as soon as ready, but no later than six weeks prior to the pageant
- F. Headshot
 - Professional photo, without sash and crown

G. Judges Bio Form

- 1 digital copy to be sent to the national office
- 6 hard copies, 3-hole punched, mailed to the national office six weeks before the pageant
- H. Any Other Requested Documents
- As specified by the national office Important Note:

Items 1-4 must be submitted for us to ship your sash and crown. All materials must be received no later than six weeks prior to the national pageant.