

Miss Harlan County Homecoming Scholarship Pageant Rules and Expectations

The Miss Harlan County Homecoming Scholarship Pageant has a long history of showcasing the finest young women who are graduating from our local high schools each year. As this is an event that is sponsored by the Harlan County Chamber of Commerce, the pageant committee has chosen to widen the pool of contestants by allowing both JUNIORS and SENIORS to sign up. The reasoning behind this is that due to the appearances and events that the Chamber of Commerce requests Miss Harlan County to attend, it is often difficult to do so if she is away at college. If you participate in the pageant as a JUNIOR, you will NOT be permitted to participate as a SENIOR. One time participation allows for the maximum number of young women to have the opportunity to compete for the title as well as the scholarships. We are thrilled that you are considering entering the pageant and we look forward to working with you!

This is a scholarship pageant focusing on community service, extra-curricular activities, beauty, poise, and personality. Twelve young women from HCHS and six from HHS will be chosen for participation in the pageant. Any junior or senior girl can sign up for consideration as long as she has a 3.0 GPA. Contestants will be selected by the faculty at the respective high schools.

Each contestant will be required to have a male escort who is a student but who does not have to attend their same school. Escorts must attend either HCHS or HHS. Consideration of an escort such as a sibling will be determined by the pageant committee. Escorts will be expected to attend pageant practices in which their presence is requested. The time required for escorts to be involved in pageant activities and practices will be very minimal. Because the time requirements have been drastically reduced from years past, attendance will be more important than ever at the rehearsals in which escorts are required to attend.

There will be many rehearsals prior to pageant night and all of the contestants are expected to attend. In the event that you have a conflict with pageant practice, you must communicate that conflict to the pageant director. Efforts will be made to accommodate your schedules, but you must remember that it is in your best interest to attend all of the practices. The better prepared you are, the better your chances are of winning. In addition, as the pageant is a well-coordinated "show", we need all of the contestants to be present at rehearsals so that the entire group performs to the best of their ability.

This year, we are inviting former contestants to help out as pageant coaches for each of you. These former contestants will help you decide on your wardrobe, practice questions with you, and basically guide you through the entire process. They will be your trusted advisors in all things pageant!

The clothing requirements for this year's pageant are Sunday-best and evening gown. During the introduction part of the pageant, you must have theme-appropriate attire and

white tennis shoes. A pageant t-shirt will be provided for the introduction segment. A casual sundress may be needed for a community dinner prior to the pageant night. We do not want you to have to purchase new clothes in order to participate in the pageant. Wear your prom gown and a nice Sunday dress and you will be stunning! The most important thing to remember is to wear your smile and to project your poise and personality to the judges and to the audience.

The pageant begins with a dance routine by the contestants. This is followed by an introduction, in your own words, limited to 1 1/2 minutes. During the evening gown segment of the competition, you will be asked a question that has been submitted by the pageant committee. The questions will not be provided to you in advance of pageant night. However, there will be many opportunities for you to hear previous year's questions during the rehearsals.

The pageant judges are from out-of-town and they will not have any connections to the contestants. Scores are tabulated by an accounting firm.

Scholarships and prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Miss Congeniality, Miss Photogenic, Second Runner-Up, First Runner-Up, and Miss Harlan County!

We want the Miss Harlan County Homecoming Scholarship Pageant to be a great experience for you. Making new friends and creating lifetime memories are what it is all about. As a community, we want to celebrate the beauty and the accomplishments of our local young women and this pageant is a great way to showcase each of you!

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to another great pageant!

Flo Asher and the Pageant Committee

Harlan County Chamber of Commerce