

2019 Miss Apple Blossom Festival Outstanding Teen

A local preliminary competition to the Miss Virginia Outstanding Teen Program

WELCOME:

On behalf of the Miss Apple Blossom Festival Outstanding Teen Pageant Program, we are excited of your consideration to become one of our contestants for our 2018 pageant set for Saturday, October 27, 2018 at Daniel Morgan Middle School in Winchester. Our 2018 titleholder, Emily Kinsey, won the state competition this past June as she was named Miss Virginia's Outstanding Teen and Overall Talent Winner! She then went on to place as 2nd Runner Up at Miss America's Outstanding Teen - WOW! Congratulations to Emily!

The purpose of the program is to familiarize young women with the Miss Virginia and Miss America Organization and to provide an opportunity for young ladies to win scholarships, develop poise, confidence, stage presence, enhance interview skills, and offer opportunities for public appearances while serving in their community.

The program is part of the national non-profit Miss Virginia / Miss America Organization. The Miss America Organization continues to be the largest scholarship provider for women in the world making over \$40 million available annually in scholarships.

Please note that the Teen-in-Training titleholders are now appointed, so there will be no Teen-in-Training Pageant Competition this year. However, if someone you know is interested in becoming Miss Apple Blossom's Teen in Training, please let us know right away and we can send them the information with guidelines/requirements.

The Outstanding Teen program will have a positive influence on you. We welcome the entire family to come and experience the excitement throughout the competition weekend.

Please use this guide to help you with preparations. We follow the guidelines set forth by the Miss America Organization, therefore many rules and regulations cannot be changed. If you have any suggestions that might improve our pageant, your input is welcome.

Please note the following details for competition weekend:

LOCATION:

The rehearsal and pageant will take place at Daniel Morgan Middle School auditorium (located at 48 S. Purcell Avenue) in Winchester, Virginia.

Our Full Dress Rehearsal is mandatory and shall begin PROMPTLY at 5 p.m. on Friday, October 26th therefore you MUST be there at 4:45 p.m. in order to have time to put all your belongings in the dressing area. This is our ONLY rehearsal, so you must be in attendance. When rehearsal begins at 5:00 p.m. the opening number will be taught, and contestant onstage introductions, staging for Lifestyle and Fitness wear, and Evening Wear will also be outlined. All of this will be rehearsed at the same time with the Miss Apple Blossom contestants. ***Please bring all competition attire: (opening number, evening wear, lifestyle and fitness attire, and talent outfit).***

Opening Number attire is a black cocktail dress with a pink accessory (can be jewelry, shoes, scarf, etc).

**Parents, please be aware that you are responsible for bringing your contestant to and from the Middle School for the rehearsal and the pageant...we recommend that you stay during the entire rehearsal. Please either pack a dinner for you and your contestant, otherwise you will have time to run out and purchase dinner to bring back to the school. The contestants will be eating in the dressing area and/or auditorium. Dinner will be from about 6:30 until 7:00, and then rehearsal will continue afterwards. Rehearsal should be over around 10:00 p.m.

Each contestant must bring their own make-up mirror, dress rack, and extension cord since the Music Room area at Daniel Morgan is not an actual dressing room. We are not able to provide those for you.

The Pageant will take place in the same location as rehearsal, and it will occur on Saturday, October 27th at 4:00 p.m. **Contestants must arrive no later than 2:30 p.m.** Tickets can be purchased ahead of time, or at the door for \$15 per adult and \$5 per student.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Teen - 13 to 17 years old and NOT a high school senior.
 - Yes, you can compete IF you are 17 and a junior/11th grader in high school and you will still be 17 by the time of Miss America's Outstanding Teen in July 2018. You must provide proof of your junior year status with an official document, such as a transcript, report card, student ID, etc.
 - YES, you can compete IF you are 12 years old in October but will be 13 in June 2019.

- NO, you cannot compete IF you are 17 years old and a senior. If this is the case you must participate in the Miss Pageant, no exceptions.
- United States citizen
- Legal resident of Virginia for a minimum of 6 months prior to October 26, 2018.
- Meet the time and responsibility commitments as set forth by the directors of this pageant.
- As Miss Apple Blossom Outstanding Teen, you are required to compete in the Miss Virginia Outstanding Teen Pageant in Lynchburg, VA this coming June 2019.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Please read through and type your information on the attached Local Contract, fact sheet & all other required eligibility forms. All forms must be typed and cannot be altered in any way - this is per Miss Virginia guidelines. Your Contract must be notarized! Once finished with the paperwork, please email me a copy of everything. But in addition, please mail me the original notarized Contract OR make sure you bring it to rehearsal.
2. The entry application fee is \$200 and must be mailed with the application / fact sheet / notarized contract. Check is to be made out to Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival (please put Teen Application Fee in the memo section). No checks will be accepted the night of the rehearsal. It is preferred that you please TYPE your information on the attached application / fact sheet. ALL PAPERWORK AND FEES ARE DUE NO LATER THAN October 15th!
3. Please email a black-and-white "head and shoulder" photo. We can use color prints, but black and white reproduce better prints in the program book and newspaper. The deadline for the photo is October 12th - this is the printer's deadline!!
4. A required $\frac{1}{2}$ page ad for the program book is \$50.00. You can send this \$50.00 payment in with your entry fee. Please have the ad camera ready and it is due no later than October 12th - again this is the printer's deadline! The ad can be a picture of the contestant with a "good luck" expression from family and friends, or it can be a corporate or business ad that you have secured. If you have a different idea please call for approval.
5. A platform statement (essay) on an issue that you would address as Miss Apple Blossom Outstanding Teen is required. It is an issue that is important to you, a subject that has substance and value and an issue you feel you can influence and benefit others. Please see the attached instructions for the platform essay. Your

name should be at the top of the page and the topic should be identified with a statement title. Remember - tell how you can make a difference with this topic.

6. Resume - A resume is also required; the details will be in the paperwork attached. Both the platform statement and resume will be given to and read by the judges.
7. Birth Certificate - Please submit a copy of your birth certificate or passport as proof of citizenship / residency. It cannot be a birth registration.
8. Proof of Residency - Please submit a lease or utility bill (matching the same address that's on your application/Contract) that is dated at least 6 months prior to the pageant date.
9. Talent CD - *Should you require a talent CD (talent time cannot exceed 90 seconds), please bring your talent CD to rehearsal!* It is also a good idea to bring an extra copy of your CD to the rehearsal, just in case the copy you sent me doesn't work at rehearsal. Also, please be sure that your talent does NOT exceed 90 seconds ... the judges will know about the time limit.
10. CMNH Hours & Dollars Raised & Community Service Hours & Dollars Raised (attached excel spreadsheet). The Miss America's Outstanding Teen Organization is asking all local teen contestants to complete a profile at the www.MAOTeen4Kids.org address regardless of whether or not they choose to help raise funds. This is not a requirement at the local level, but it will help local contestants prepare for the state and national requirement and could provide some financial benefits to the local organization. Please fill out the spreadsheet with your CMNH and community service information and turn this in at rehearsal.
11. Proof of Academic Year - required if you are 17 or will be 17 by the Sweeps Pageant in the beginning of April 2019.

It is important to please follow these deadlines as it necessary for our planning of the entire program.

PAGEANT SCORING:

The Teen contestants will compete in four areas of competition, scoring ranges from 1-10, and the percentages for competition (from 2018 cycle) are listed below:

- Opening Number - (NOT JUDGED) - attire is a black cocktail dress with a pink accessory (can be jewelry, shoes, scarf, etc).

- Private Interview - (6 minutes) - 25% - There is no need to prepare an opening statement to the judges. Please wear a Sunday dress, skirted suit or pants suit.
- Talent - (90-second maximum time limit) - 35% - There will be no duplication of talent among contestants. Please call or email me ASAP with your talent type and title - it is on a "First Come, First Served" basis. If duplicate requests are received, the date received will determine which request is accepted. Talent can be a dance, vocal, instrumental, or if a contestant is not musically talented, she may write and read an essay on her platform, or even perform a monologue or a dramatic skit. Please wear an appropriate costume or attire for stage presentation. *If background music is needed, you MUST bring your background CD to rehearsal - no exceptions - that is absolutely necessary for our sound/music technicians!!*
- Lifestyle & Fitness in Activewear - 15% - New requirement on the local level for this phase of competition - all teens are required to perform a short fitness routine, similar to what was done last year on the state and national level. "Standard modeling" is no longer permitted. We will go over the routine at rehearsal. The required attire is a workout shirt or leotard with shorts.
- Evening Gown and Onstage Interview Question - 25% - This is one category with only one score. Only one question is asked. Gowns must be age appropriate.
- The outcome of the pageant will be based on points alone - there is NO final ballot.
- Should we hear that the percentages change for the 2019 cycle, we will let you know as soon as possible.

PRIVATE INTERVIEWS:

The interview session will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 27th. We will give your interview time slot at the rehearsal. Please make sure that you arrive 15 minutes prior to the interview time. It is important that you are not rushed getting into the interview room. Interviews will be held on the 2nd floor of the H & W Construction Co. / Aikens Group building located at 1025 Martinsburg Pike in Winchester. Please go to www.mapquest.com for directions.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

It is our strict policy that the dressing room and backstage areas are for contestants and committee personnel ONLY - no exceptions. Parents, family and friends of contestants will not be permitted in these areas at any time during the competition weekend. There will be experienced hostesses available to assist the contestants and they will meet you and the contestant at the dressing room door to help take their belongings. Rehearsal will be conducted in conjunction with the Miss Apple Blossom pageant. Since all pageant participants will be dressing and rehearsing in the same area all rules and regulations pertaining to the Miss Virginia Organization will be in effect. Failure to abide by these rules will result in immediate dismissal from the pageant with no refund.

APPEARANCES:

The Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival will be celebrating its 92nd year during the first week of May 2019. The new Miss Apple Blossom Outstanding Teen will ride in the 2019 Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival parades, which will be held on Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4, 2019. *****This is a mandatory appearance!*****

AWARDS/PRIZES:

Miss Apple Blossom Festival Outstanding Teen Winner

- \$250.00 Cash Scholarship Award
- Flowers, Trophy, Crown & Sash
- Registration payment for participation in the Miss Virginia Outstanding Teen Pageant (\$395.00)

\$150 Interview Winner Scholarship Award

LOCAL HOTELS - Suggested for family and friends:

Hampton Inn
1204 Berryville Avenue
Drive
Winchester, VA 22601

Fairfield Inn Marriott
250 Front Royal Pike
Winchester, VA 22602

Hilton Garden Inn
120 Wingate
Winchester, VA 22601

MISS VIRGINIA OUTSTANDING TEEN COMPETITION:

Location: Lynchburg Virginia - June 2019

Hotel Accommodations - State teen participants and their families will be responsible for securing and paying for their own hotel room(s), meals, and event tickets during competition week in Roanoke. All contestants will stay with their parents in their hotel room. Special discount rates may be offered for this event at the host hotel, but you will be responsible for checking on rates and for making all necessary accommodations. ****The Miss Apple Blossom Pageant program does not make any reservations for you, nor does the program pay for any of these hotel accommodations, meal, program tickets, etc.****

Sponsors - Each state contestant must have a sponsor, and the Miss Apple Blossom Pageant pays the Teen's sponsor fee of \$395.00. This covers the auditorium, production cost, scholarships, awards, prizes and meals for participants. The sponsor fee also supplies scholarships and support for the Miss Virginia organization.

Please read over the application, complete and mail all necessary materials. *We'd like to know as soon as possible if you are planning on being a contestant. Please send all paperwork and entry fees ASAP, but please no later than October 15th.* If you are unable to meet the deadline, please contact us either by email or phone and we can discuss options.

We look forward to meeting you in October, and we wish you the best of luck in the Teen competition. Please feel free to email us with any questions or concerns at missappleblossomteen@yahoo.com OR at 540-533-4203.

Sincerely,
Xandra Brown Taylor (Teen Director)

PLEASE REMEMBER: Email a copy of your application to
missappleblossomteen@yahoo.com ... AND ... Mail a hard copy of the:
Notarized Contract and required addenda,
fact sheet, platform essay & resume,
both checks (\$250 total), talent CD,
copy of birth certificate, and proof of residency to:

Xandra Brown Taylor
Re: Miss Apple Blossom Outstanding Teen Pageant
105 Deep Bottom Place
Stephens City, VA 22655