



Contestant Packet



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INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read the job description and review the schedule of meetings to verify that you are aware of the position for which you are applying and you will be able to attend the mandatory meetings and rehearsals. Please note there are ONE informational meetings for any newcomers or any contestants who might have questions or desire further information.
2. Complete the application and submit to the Riceboro City Hall or The Pageant Director as per the instructions for the form. Deadline for all applications is Saturday, September 17, 2016.
3. The Talent and Production Form should also be submitted as soon as you feel comfortable with your selection. No two talents may be performed to the same music, so it is in your best interest to submit this form as soon as possible. You will be notified of duplicate selections and the latter submission will be required to change. Final deadline for submission is Saturday, October 29, 2016.
4. At the September 17th Orientation contestants are required to bring their **Completed Application** and your **Parent/Guardian** to the meeting. **Mandatory Orientation is at 10a.m** at the Riceboro Youth Center, US Highway 17 South in Riceboro, GA.

Please contact Pageant Director, Juanita Lowery at 912-332-4462 or juanita@inspirationsperformance.com with questions.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Miss Liberty RiceFest

Job Description

Miss Liberty RiceFest is an ambassador and public figure of The City of Riceboro and the Liberty RiceFest Event, and for her chosen platform. She is a young woman with confident, comfortable and commanding presence. She is an intelligent, talented individual who takes personal pride in her physical appearance and health. She is an articulate, independent, an

eloquent communicator with the courage of her convictions. She is a proven achiever in her personal life. She is a role model who inspires others and relates well to people of all ages. She is energetic, charismatic, compassionate and outgoing as well as cooperative, flexible and punctual. Miss Liberty RiceFest is expected to perform a variety of duties to promote The City of Riceboro and its programs and mission as well as her personal platform issue. She will make personal appearances at the Emancipation Proclamation and will be required to attend and participate in the RiceFest Parade, Christmas Parade, and the Martin Luther King Parade with her sash and crown on at all times.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

- Applicant must be born a **Female** in order to compete in the Pageant and must reside in **Liberty County, GA.**
- Applicant understands that she must compete in the correct division for her age group:
Miss Liberty RiceFest (Age 13-18),
Little Miss Liberty RiceFest (Age 8-12),
Miss Liberty RiceFest Junior People's Choice (Age 5-7), or
Miss Liberty RiceFest Babies (2-4)
- Applicant understands the entry fee obligation will be they must sell **20 Tickets** at **\$5.00** each in order to participate in this event. Deadline for ticket sells is **October 1, 2016.**
- Applicant ages 8-18 understands that she must compete in the three main areas of competition in order to be selected as a Pageant Winner which includes the Interview, Platform, and Fashion competitions.
- Applicant understands that she must submit the required materials and information for the appropriate competitions (which includes the Interview Questions, Platform Essay, and Runway Description).
- Applicant understands that she must uphold a pleasant, professional, and friendly demeanor at all times while representing Pageant Title.
- Applicant understands that the Judges' scores are final.
- The **2016 Rice Festival Committee** may use speeches, photos, and videos and related materials for advertising and promotional purposes. Winners should understand that all pageant materials will become the property of the Rice Festival and will not be returned.

- Applicants should understand that the Rice Festival reserves the right to add, change, or delete any rules and regulations at any time without giving notice.
- Applicant understands that if she is a titled winner, there is a mandatory appearance at the following events: Ricefest Parade, Christmas Parade, MLK Parade, and the Emancipation Proclamation.
- Applicants are required to strictly adhere to the Pageant Rules and Regulations. If any of these rules are broken by the Applicant, they may be disqualified.

How to Write Your Platform Essay

A platform essay is a piece of writing in which you state and explain your position on a given issue or topic. Platform essays are a required aspect of pageant competitions, particularly the Miss America pageant, but they are also important in local campaigns and school or college student body elections. For platform essays that make up an application for a specific event or competition, it's important to make sure your formatting is consistent with the contest guidelines. Otherwise, making sure your work is neat and clear is always a good bet for putting your best self forward.

Things You'll Need

- Word processing software
- State and explain the issue in question at the beginning of your platform essay. For example, your area of focus may be animal rights. Give background information on the state of animal rights in your area or country. Include well-supported statistics to make your point stronger.
- Explain how the issue in question has affected you personally. Did you hear of animal rights abuses and decide to become a vegetarian? This aspect of your platform essay is important in supporting your current position on the issue. You have an opportunity to communicate to the reader that the issue has had a personal impact on you, making it a concrete experience instead of an abstract idea.
- State your position clearly. If you are against animal testing in the cosmetics industry, say so in as few words as possible. The rest of your platform essay will explain why you have taken your position, and you will also detail your plans to take action on the issue in question.
- Identify the ways in which you have worked to support your position. Do you volunteer at an animal shelter? If you have not yet taken action, describe your plan to act on behalf of the people or animals affected by the issue you have chosen. Will you begin a letter-writing campaign to local and national government? Will you organize a volunteer group to make a positive difference in the lives of senior citizens? The more concrete steps you can provide, the better.

- Platform Essay should be no longer than 1 page. Platform essay will be pre-recorded for pageant.

MEETING AND REHEARSAL INFORMATION

The Pageant will be held in the Riceboro Youth Center.

Rehearsal on Friday, **November 4, 2016** will be in the **Riceboro Youth Center**.

All talent music must be on CD and cannot exceed **2 minutes**. We cannot have duplicate talents so we will honor requests on a first come basis.

All talent concepts must be submitted by **October 8th**. All talent CDs must be turned in by **October 29th**, 2016.

Interviews, you will be asked **one on-stage question**. Questions are all included in this orientation packet.

WORKSHOPS AND REHEARSALS

We will hold the number of workshops for this pageant to a minimum. All contestants are **expected** to attend each of the following workshops and/or rehearsals (unless it is noted as optional).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10am ALL APPLICATIONS, and PARENT MUST ATTEND	Required Orientation Meeting Riceboro Youth Center
Saturday, October 1, 2016 10am Workshop #1 Social Issues	Required Opening Number Rehearsal Riceboro Youth Center
Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 5:30pm	Opening Number Rehearsal Inspirations Performance Studio
Saturday, October 8, 2016 10am Workshop #2 Body Image/Fashion	Opening Number Rehearsal Riceboro Youth Center
Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 5:30pm	Opening Number Rehearsal Inspirations Performance Studio
Saturday, October 22, 2016 10am Workshop # 3 Academic Leadership	Recording of Platform Essay Riceboro Youth Center
Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 5:30pm	Opening Number Rehearsal Inspirations Performance Studio

Saturday, October 29, 2016 10am
Workshop #4 Etiquette & Self-Esteem

REQUIRED Tea Party Kick-off
Inspirations Performance Studio

Friday, November 4, 2016 at 6:00 pm
Required Contestant Meeting & Full Rehearsal

DO NOT BE LATE

Miss LIBERTY RICEFEST Pageant Contestants MUST arrive NO LATER THAN 12PM.

The Riceboro Youth Center will be open at 10am November 5, 2016



(To be completed by the parents or guardians or any contestant who is under the age of 18 years on the date of signing of this agreement.)

AFFIDAVIT

I, _____ the undersigned, the parent and natural guardian (or the duly appointed qualified and acting legal guardian) of the foregoing entrant, do hereby consent to and agree to all the terms and provisions of the foregoing contract and the agreements therein, individually and as the guardian of said entrant. I understand as the legal parent or guardian, I release and hold harmless The City of Riceboro, Inspirations Performance Studios, LLC, its owners and operators from any and all liability, claims, demands, and causes of action whatsoever, arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by the participant and/or the undersigned, while in or upon the premises or any premises under the control and supervision of The Miss Liberty RiceFest Pageant Director, Inspirations Performance Studios, LLC, its owners and operators or in route to or from any of said premises. I/we understand the Pageant Policies.

_____ I/we understand my entry obligations I/we understand the risks related to dance

_____ I/we understand my responsibilities for my property I/we understand the dress code

_____ I/we understand the schedule I/we give media use rights permission

_____ I/we understand the attendance policy.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

WARDROBE GUIDELINES

Provided below are guidelines for the wardrobe you will need to participate in the 2016 Miss Liberty RiceFest Pageant.

Headshot: Any outfit of your choice. Please keep in mind this is a head and shoulders shot only.

Opening Number: Black knee-length casual dress (style is contestant's choice) in addition to black heels or flats. Black biker, cheerleading or dance shorts underneath. *Shorts CANNOT show outside of dress.

Talent: Wear something appropriate for your talent. The rules of good taste should prevail. Remember that stage lights are strong and you need to make sure you have sufficient lining with any talent outfit.

Fashion: Contestants should choose a career of their choice. Wear something appropriate of your career choice. Again, good taste should dictate your choice.

Formal Wear: Contestants are allowed to wear any type of Formal Wear gown. Shoes and jewelry should coordinate with the ensemble. Again, good taste should dictate your choice.

TALENT GUIDELINES

These guidelines are designed to provide you with the information you need to perform at the Miss Liberty RiceFest Pageant.

1. I understand that no talent may exceed 120 seconds/ 2 minutes. Exceeding the time limit will result in points deducted from my score from the pageant judges.
2. I understand that all talents must be performed live. Any portions that are pre-recorded will not be announced and will not be judged.
3. I understand that no duplication of talent act among the contestants is allowed.
4. I understand that I may not use any audio/visual equipment during my talent presentation.
5. I understand the following rules regarding my CD's: a. My talent accompaniment is the only track on the CD. b. My talent accompaniment is of performance quality. c. My talent accompaniment has a definite end. If there is a fade at the end, the fade is recorded and completed within the 2-minute time limit. d. My talent accompaniment is at a volume level consistent with professionally produced CDs. e. My talent accompaniment is in a case labeled with my name and the title of my talent.
6. I understand that I must use the sound equipment provided and may not bring my own microphone.
7. I understand that my talent presentation may not include fire, knives, glass, or any other object or substance that is deemed dangerous by the pageant.
8. I understand that I must bring all my own props. I further understand that only props that are actually used will be allowed and that the Director of the pageant has the right to disallow any props.
9. I understand that once my application and talent request is completed and accepted by the pageant, I may not change any aspect of my talent.
11. I understand that sound levels and lighting will be set by the technical crew. I understand that I must be prepared to present my talent at a normal sound level and that I will not use excessive volume levels when rehearsing prior to the pageant.

Signature

Date

CONTESTANT TALENT REQUEST

Due by October 8, 2016

Name: _____

Talent (Song, Dance, etc.):

Title of Performance: _____

Composer: _____

Publisher: _____

MAXIMUM TALENT TIME LENGTH IS 2 MINUTES.

If your talent will be a dramatic reading, comedy monologue, etc., give the name of the book, play, or writing you will use: Name of the book, play, or writing:

Author: _____

Publisher: _____

I will bring the following props which I will use in my talent presentation:

Please note: In the case of two contestants requesting the same talent music, the contestant that first registers her talent music with us will have priority. Talent music will not be duplicated. Email completed form to: Juanita Lowery juanita@inspirationsperformance.com or bring to workshop by October 8, 2016. CD Deadline: October 29, 2016 Please label your CD with your name and selection. Keep at least one extra CD to bring to rehearsal in case there is a problem.

SCORING PERCENTAGES

Scoring Percentages

Interview.....	25%
Fashion Runway.....	15%
Platform.....	35%
Formal Wear.....	25%

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

*There will be only one question picked on-stage regarding your interview question which you will answer while on stage. The contestants will choose randomly while on stage. For contestants in the Miss Liberty RiceFest (Age 13-18) category

Random questions:

- What would you say to people who do not believe that pageants are a good influence on women?
- Why should you be the next Miss Liberty RiceFest ?
- What makes you different from all the other girls who are competing in this pageant?
- Tell us about a time when you overcame defeat?
- Do you think that social media has helped or hurt our society?
- If you could meet anyone from history who would it be and why?
- What is your greatest accomplishment?
- What inspired you to create or promote your platform?
- Should teachers and students be friends on FaceBook?
- Tell us about a time when you have encountered negative peer pressure and overcame it
- What are some qualities of an influential leader?
- What is the most important extracurricular activity that you are involved in and why?

Contestant in the Little Miss Liberty RiceFest (Age 8-12) category will be assigned a question they pick randomly at our orientation meeting. Contestants will answer on-stage.

- Who is your role model? Why?
- If you could meet one celebrity who would it be?
- If I was a genie in a bottle and could grant you any wish what would it be?
- List 3 adjectives that best describe you?
- Would you like to be famous? Why or why not?
- What is/are your favorite thing(s) to do in Liberty County?

CONTESTANT HEAD SHOT PHOTOGRAPHS

For the Pageant Program Book and Posters.

Your head shot must be provided in an electronic format to Juanita Lowery by 5pm on October 29, 2016.

Headshot is also due electronically by October 29th. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Entrepreneurship and leadership are one of our workshops and what we plan to encourage the contestants to pursue. An additional opportunity to win will be through selling tickets and program ads.

Each ticket sold after your 20th ticket and all program ads sold will count towards the contestant's sponsorship total. The contestant with the most earnings will win 10% of all sponsorship earnings via 2016 Miss Liberty RiceFest Pageant. All contestants are eligible to compete and win this portion of the pageant.

Ticket prices include only the advance tickets sold. At-the door ticket sales will NOT count towards a contestant's sponsorship earnings.

Ads can be from businesses or persons of the contestant's choice.

Program Ad Prices

\$25 Business Card

\$30 ¼ Page ad

\$60 ½ Page ad

\$100 Full-Page ad

ALL PROGRAM ADS are due electronically by October 29th. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Send ads to juanita@inspirationsperformance.com



MISS LIBERTY RICEFEST 2016 PAGEANT

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 5, 2016
DOORS OPEN AT NOON

PAGEANT BEGINS
AT 1 P.M.

TICKETS \$5
IN ADVANCE / \$7 AT THE DOOR

Come enjoy an evening of entertainment as contestants for Miss Liberty RiceFest 2016 compete for the crown. These young ladies will showcase their personal skills, fashion style and talent just for you!

**RICEBORO YOUTH CENTER
US HIGHWAY 17 SOUTH RICEBORO, GA 31323**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Juanita Lowery 912 332 4462

juanita@inspirationsperformancestudio.com