

## PAGEANT GUIDELINES FOR THE ANNUAL STATE / NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PART OF THE YOUTH CONFERENCE TO STIMULATE AND PROMOTE THAT INNER CHRISTIAN ABILITY IN EVERY YOUTH TO HIGHER GROUND. THROUGH CHRISTIAN COMPETITION, EACH ONE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THE TALENT GOD HAS GIVEN US FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF THE BODY OF CHRIST AND FOR HIS HONOR AND GLORY.

### MANDATORY PAGEANT PRACTICE TIMES

- Mandatory orientation online meeting **May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**
  - Parents and Contestants
  - 10:30 AM – 12 PM on our SYC FACEBOOK LIVE  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/arsyc/>
  - **Deadline date for completed packets will be June 1st, 2020 at our first practice.**
  
- **Tentative Schedule**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> practice June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> practice June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> practice June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - 4<sup>th</sup> practice June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **I. REGISTRATION**

A. The counselors of all youth competing must mail the registration form in before June 1<sup>st</sup> with the necessary information: Position competing for, Phone number, birth date, local congregation, talent to be displayed, Speech topic with all information legible (easy to read).

B. The counselor should do all registering. **NO** youth should or will be allowed to compete if not under a counselor. Youth should be involved in a youth group at home or give evidence of having been involved before coming to the conference. You may have letters of recommendations from the community, school, counselor, etc., but the spiritual leadership of said Youth's congregation has the final decision as to whether or not said youth may represent that congregation at the state and national conference. The minister or elders have the final authority as to said youth's participation and representing that congregation.

C. Registration must include letters for contestants, one letter of recommendation for competition from each of the following sources: Minister of their congregation, Church Counselor, School counselors or Principal. If not in high school, a letter must be submitted from his/her place of employment, and if not employed, then from an Elder of their congregation. Whoever writes a letter must identify the position of authority he or she holds to qualify the letter. **LETTER'S MUST BE TYPED!**

**Note:** Bonus of three (3) additional points will be given for sending not less

Than two (2) letters of recommendations, five (5) points for all three Letters of Recommendation.

**Letters must be sent to Bro. Robin Mitchell by the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.** If no Letters are received, the contestant cannot compete! If letters are sent in after the deadline (for whatever reason), no points will be awarded for those letters. Counselor and Contestant must make sure letters are on time.

## **II. AGE**

**A.** The age qualification is from 13 to 20 years of age. There will be two divisions: Division - A (ages 16 to 20), Division - B (ages 13 to 15).

Division - A: Miss State / National Youth Conference

Mr. State / National Youth Conference

Division - B: Miss State / National Congeniality

Mr. State / National Congeniality

**Under 13 years** of age can participate in the

***Future Mr./Miss State Youth Conference (only need to perform talent)***

**B. MARRIED YOUTH ARE NOT QUALIFIED. (Cannot run)**

**C. NO YOUTH WHO IS A PARENT OF A CHILD IS QUALIFIED TO RUN.**

## **III. DRESS**

**A.** If a contestant desires to wear a special outfit for his or her talent competition or performance, this is allowable. Youth should be dressed in said outfit when time to go on stage. After performance, there will be time to change into formal attire. Judges will be notified that costumes or special dress are part of the performance. **Dress should not be too extreme, lewd, or offensive.**

**B.** Formal wear can be worn throughout performance if desired. When winners are announced, contestants should already be dressed in formal wear ready to accept awards. We recommend that all young men wear ties with formal dress.

## **IV. LOCAL STATE CONFERENCE AND STATE PAGEANT**

**A. PURPOSE:** To encourage, organize and prepare youth of any particular state to be ready to attend the Annual National Youth Conference.

**B.** Each state interested in competing in the National Youth Conference Pageant Competition, should select representative from the state for each category if possible. Only qualified youth should be selected. The categories are found in the "AGE" section. Also: If a youth wins first place on the State level that youth should when entering the State Competition should do so with the intentions of going to the National Conference to compete. If a youth wins first place on State level and after winning, decides she or she cannot attend the National Conference, then that youth who won second place should be sent to represent that State to compete in that Division. If a youth does not plan to attend the National, it is advised that youth not enter the competition. You might prevent/hinder

another youth from participating in the National Youth Conference. **ANY YOUTH WHO IS ALREADY A PARENT OF A CHILD CANNOT COMPETE IN THE PAGEANT!**

To select a representative from a given state, one congregation should be responsible to host the program. They should notify the other congregations in the State of their intentions, set a date and have a program. All the contestants should be allowed equal amount of time to perform before an impartial group of judges, usually made up of a panel of five (5). They should be judged by the same criteria locally as they will be nationally; (see guidelines). There should be, if enough contestants compete, four (4) State winners and four (4) Runner-up. Trophies and awards may be given for encouragement and incentive.

**IT SHOULD NOT BE NECESSARY TO HAVE A STATE RUN-OFF AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THIS AT HOME. IN THE EVENT THAT SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ONE OF THE FOUR TOP WINNERS FROM YOUR STATE, THEN A RUNNER UP WILL REPRESENT THE STATE AT THE NATIONAL PAGEANT. IF A STATE COMES TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE NOT HAVING A SELECTION OF CONTESTANTS, THEN IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR THEM TO OBSERVE THE FUNCTIONS THAT YEAR AND COME PREPARED THE NEXT YEAR TO PARTICIPATE, IF THEY DESIRE.**

## **V. REIGN OF WINNERS**

**A.** Reign of winners in a Division will be for one (1) year. Those who do not win in the National Miss & Mr. National Youth Conference may compete again **ONLY IN THIS DIVISION UNTIL HE OR SHE EITHER WINS OR EXCEEDS AGE LIMIT.**

**B.** Reign of winners in Miss & Mr. National Congeniality will be for one (1) year. Youth may compete again in the same Division **ONLY UNTIL ONE WINS OR EXCEEDS THE AGE LIMIT.** Youth may then aspire for the next Division (Mr. & Miss National Youth Conference) upon reaching qualifying age.

## **VI. INTRODUCTION OF YOUTH COMPETING**

**A.** When it is time to compete, if the Talent is to be displayed first, the youth should notify the judges that this is being done. If the speech is given first, the youth should say at the completion of the speech, "And now, for my talent, I would like to...." and then proceed to display the talent.

**B.** EACH YOUTH WILL BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED BY A MODERATOR.

## **VII. JUDGING**

**A.** There will be five (5) judges selected, which may come through the local congregation or through the local college administrator.

B. Judges will decide winners by their marking point on the score sheet for individual contestants. Scores will be computed during the performance of contestants, by a panel of score keepers. Upon reaching the completion of computation of scores, the winner's name will be placed in a sealed envelope to be announced at the program's finale.

C. Judges should be knowledgeable in the following: Music performance, speech delivery, and have keen perception and appreciation for individual personal talent. Also Judges must be able to stay through the entire phase of the program, so as to listen to all contestants and judge fairly. Judges should be non-partisan.

D. Each contestant will be judged on the following:

- 1.) PERSONAL APPEARANCE
- 2.) SPEECH, CONTENT, DELIVERY, ORIGINALITY
- 3.) POISE
- 4.) PERSONALITY
- 5.) SPECIAL TALENT DISPLAYED

E. A point system will be used by which a contestant may receive from one (1) to five (5) points in each category.

**1 point - poor**

**2 points - fair**

**3 points - good**

**4 points - very good**

**5 points - outstanding**

F. A total of (25) maximum points may be obtained, plus the extra points for registering letters on time. In the event of a tie, judges will render the tie breaking decision. Each contestant will be called on again to appear before the audience and judges. A relatively easy question on current affairs will be asked each finalist. The contestant will then have to respond. The judges will determine which contestant answered best.

G. WE WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S WINNERS TO BE ACTIVE IN PRESENTING AWARDS TO THE NEW WINNERS AND TURN THEIR REIGN OVER TO THEM.

## **VIII. CONTESTANT'S PERFORMANCE**

A. Contestant's MUST compete by presenting a SPEECH ON THE CONFERENCE THEME AND A TALENT.

**Note:** Speech may be on any of the subtopic as well. Talent: Music, Dramatic reading, Compositions, Crafts, etc.; Judges will allow contestants six minutes to present his or her talent and speech using the time to contestants best advantage. Contestants, however, will be penalized points for going over the time limit. One

point will be subtracted from a contestant's score for each minute over the limit his or her performance lasts. **Note:** Each second will count for overtime.

B. Contestants should strive to have as much individual performance as possible. No other person(s) may vocalize in said performance or have an active part to lend additional performance credit to the contestant competing. Only one person is competing as an individual and not as a group, partners, etc. Check with Thomas Messer if there is doubt as to how another person(s) may be used. All extras must be silent and active as little as possible.

C. **PROPS:** A voice recording on tape recorder, music background recorded may be used in moderation.

Props should be kept to a bare minimum, if any at all. Youth should not have to decorate the stage with props in an attempt to impress the audience and judges. If a youth does use props in performing, then the following will apply to said youth: There will be only one (1) minute allowed for set-up of props and there will only be one (1) minute allowed for removal of props. The removal must be done smoothly and quietly and handled cooperatively. We cannot afford any more time for this than one (1) minute, and anyone exceeding one minute for setup or removal will lose one (1) point every 30 seconds of overtime. **NO EXCEPTIONS** unless otherwise deemed by the Director of the pageant. Props should be cleared with Thomas Messer prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>, by sending information to his mailing address.

Failure to register a contestant on time with ALL information could lead to his/her disqualification from competition at the National Conference. **All letters and registration forms must be sent in prior to June 3<sup>rd</sup>.** **"NO EXCEPTIONS."** No letters will be accepted at the National Conference. We wish to be fair and honest with all.

## **PAGEANT GUIDELINES ADDENDUM**

1.) Contestant must be in the age category competing in when you attend the National Conference. There are two categories:

Mr. & Miss Congeniality - Ages (13-15)

Mr. & Miss State / National Youth Conference - Ages (16-20)

If you compete in a state conference at home and know you will have a birthday that will move you out of the qualifying age limit and category in which you won or competed you cannot compete at the National Conference.

Example: If a youth wins Miss Congeniality locally while she is 15 years old and then turns 16 before the National Pageant, she will compete in the National Congeniality category that she won on the state level. Please take care of any problems at home and not at the National Conference. If you have any problems understanding this, please call Thomas Messer (see director's list)

2.) Contestants must submit a separate letter stating what their performance will consist of. **EXAMPLE:**

"TALENT": What are you going to do? Be specific, giving details!

(All information will be held in confidence.)

"DRAMATIZATION": A copy of the selection must be sent in order to compete; not complying with these requests will result in your disqualification. **Original and spiritual talents are greatly encouraged.**

**Please refrain from morbid skits such as suicide, murder and drunkenness, etc. We do not want to glorify something that the Scriptures condemn.**

**YOU MUST STATE IN 100 WORDS OR MORE WHY YOU DESIRE THE TITLE FOR WHICH YOU ARE COMPETING.**

3.) **SCHOOL:** You must have a grade point average of at least 2.0 and be in good standing academically. This must be confirmed by your school. If in school or not, you must have verification that you are striving for a "4.0" in church attendance, spiritual involvement, and community service from those who write your letters of recommendation,

4.) **PROPS:** You must state clearly what you request that the school provide (if possible) as well as what props you intend to use during your performance. **BE SPECIFIC!**

**5.) COMPETITION SPEECH:**

A copy of speech must be typed and sent to Thomas Messer along with other requirements before June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. NO EXCEPTIONS.

**6.) REGISTRATION FOR NATIONAL PAGEANT:**

Contestants must register on National Youth Conference Pageant Registration Form, (see attached).

**Please make copies of the form if needed.**

**7.) PHOTOGRAPH:**

Contestants are asked to submit a current photo (4X6). Black and white is preferred, but color okay. **(Photos cannot be returned.)**

**ALL THE PAGEANT GUIDELINES MUST BE COMPLIED WITH IF ANY YOUTH DESIRES TO COMPETE. FAILURE ON PART OF COUNSELOR OR YOUTH TO SUBMIT ALL INFORMATION PRIOR TO DEADLINE WILL RESULT IN YOUTH BEING DISQUALIFIED FROM COMPETITION IN THE PAGEANT.**

If further information is desired, direct correspondence to:

**Klein J. Mitchell – Pageant Director  
901-831-7021**

# STATE YOUTH CONFERENCE PAGEANT REGISTRATION FORM

(Please Type or print only)

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY & STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER WITH AREA CODE:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL (now attending/graduated from)** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITION COMPETING FOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE POSITION NOW HOLDING:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FUTURE ENDEAVORS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**INTEREST/HOBBIES** \_\_\_\_\_

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**PHOTO: PLEASE SEND A (4 X 6) PHOTO OF CONTESTANT; BLACK AND WHITE PREFERRED, BUT COLOR IS OKAY.**