

Miss Washtenaw County

Scholarship Program

13930 Green Acres Lane, Chelsea, MI 48118 734-383-3119

mwced1@msn.com

Dear Contestant,

Welcome to the Miss Washtenaw County Pageant family and congratulations on taking your first step towards the title of Miss America 2012! We will be presenting our 16th annual pageant at the Chelsea High School Auditorium on Saturday October 16, 2010 and are excited that you want to be a part of it.

Take the time to read this letter and the entire contents of the entry packet. Please save this information onto a disc. It includes all of the forms that you will need as a contestant, as well as information to help you as you prepare for competition. Please feel free to contact me by phone or email at anytime if you have questions.

Participating in a Miss America Local Preliminary is a wonderful and unique experience. You will gain poise and confidence, hone your interview and public speaking skills, make many new friends, and become a part of the largest scholarship organization for young women in the world. Our Executive Board and committee members work year round to make this experience and scholarship money available to you. Along with all that you will gain by being a contestant, there are certain expectations of you. The best time to begin your preparations is now. Fall brings with it a return to school, homework, exams, and new activities. Please take this into consideration as you make your decision. By sending your application in you are making a commitment to the Miss Washtenaw County Scholarship Program. Once applications are received much preliminary work is completed to accommodate you. Escorts are assigned, program book layout is done, schedules for interviews, and judge's paperwork and notebooks are printed. **The time to make a thoughtful decision as to whether or not you will compete is before you send your application in!**

Because of the growth of our organization the Miss Washtenaw County Pageant is mandating strict deadlines and attendance requirements. We have a minimal number of rehearsals to make it easier for you and thus each meeting is crucial to our success. Contestants are allowed one excused absence before they will be asked to leave the competition.

Refer to the Contestant's Calendar before each rehearsal. Paperwork deadlines are listed as DUE TODAY!! Each contestant is expected to prepare her own paperwork before arrival at each meeting. The instructions and templates for your resume and platform statement are included in this file. Please read the instructions included for each, fill them out as required, print off, and submit them as requested on the calendar. When printing off paperwork only use **plain white paper**. Forms that are printed on anything other than white copy paper, that have had photos or other artwork added, or that the formatting is not in compliance with the instructions listed **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**. Arrive early with all needed supplies and be ready to **start** at the scheduled times.

Children's Miracle Network is Miss America's National Platform. Each contestant is an ambassador for this organization and is required to fundraise for a small donation. Full details are explained in the Eligibility Requirements. Remember that when you register online the pageant year is 2012, you are competing for the title of Miss America 2012. **New for 2010 Miss Washtenaw County Pageant – Deadline for CMN donation is at orientation!** We suggest that you start as early as possible to meet this requirement. Fundraising supplies and suggestions can be received by calling or emailing our pageant office. There are many creative and easy ways to meet this obligation. We look forward to helping you with your goals!

Miss Washtenaw County 2010 has a year of opportunities ahead of her. She will be involved in many activities across Washtenaw County as well as being our representative at the 2011 Miss Michigan Pageant. Throughout your year of service you would be expected to make appearances as booked by the Miss Washtenaw County Executive Board. Although Miss Washtenaw's appearance schedule will be tailored to fit her own schedule she typically makes 50 appearances throughout the entire year. Miss Washtenaw County 2010 must be available for all activities and preparations leading up to the Miss Michigan Scholarship Pageant to be held in Muskegon June 2011. The Executive Board will help her develop her platform and prepare for all areas of competition. Miss Washtenaw is also expected to participate at the events preceding and to perform at our 2011 Pageant. Should you become our new Miss Washtenaw County, plan to be available on Sunday afternoon following the pageant to meet with the Executive Director and begin plans for the exciting year ahead!

As you make your plans to compete within our organization we will be asking you to assist us with some fundraising opportunities. The production and venue is of the highest quality and is planned to showcase you. Advertising and ticket sales pay for our pageant to continue to be held in a state of the art facility. Any efforts that you can give us, is both needed and very much appreciated by your Executive Board. Thank you in advance for the assistance that you can bring to our organization.

The Miss Washtenaw County Executive Board and Committees have been working hard all year to make your Miss America experience the best ever! We look forward to having you participate with us and to meeting you at orientation. Do not hesitate to contact me with questions or for advice.

Best wishes with your preparations, have fun, and Good Luck!

Laura Bloomensaat
Executive Director
Miss Washtenaw County Scholarship Program

Miss Washtenaw County

Scholarship Program

2010 ENTRY FORM

NAME _____

Mailing ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Email _____

Address _____

School or College _____

YEAR _____

AGE _____ **BIRTHDATE** _____

ELIGIBILITY (you must check one category and provide two documents at orientation to prove eligibility) () Resident of Washtenaw or Livingston Counties
() Full time Student in “ “ “
() Working Full time “ “ “

PARENTS _____

TALENT _____

MICROPHONE TYPE (Place X in area if applicable) () Stand
() Hand Held
() Lavalier

MUSIC _____

(Talent music will be registered by postmark or email date of entry form. If you have not decided on your music you can still send entry form at this time and register your music via Email or at orientation)

PLATFORM _____

ENTRY DEADLINE September 17, 2010

Send completed entry forms to:

Laura Bloomensaat
13930 Green Acres Lane
Chelsea, MI 48118

Email: mwced1@msn.com

COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

There are five areas of competition in the Miss America Organization. The total score breaks down into one-third speaking ability, one-third talent, and one-third modeling and poise. This section will review each phase of competition and explain the judging criteria.

The same panel of five judges will score each area of competition. Each contestant is scored individually, not comparatively. Each competitor is scored immediately after each phase of competition. The Olympic Scoring System is used. Scores are 1-10, whole numbers only. The high and low scores are dropped.

A note on wardrobe selection: Always choose something that suits your personality and is something contemporary, that you would select to wear out in public. You are judged on the total look, not the outfit itself or price of the outfit. Choose a style, color, and fit that is becoming to you.

TALENT

Talent is 35% of the total score. The time limit for is **ninety seconds**. Music needs to be on CD. The contestant must begin and finish onstage. No live animals or dangerous props (fire baton or swords) are allowed. All props must be functional and an integral part of the talent. When choosing your talent music and content keep in mind the values and image of the Miss America Organization. The Miss Washtenaw County Program has the right to ban music, movement, costume, or content deemed inappropriate.

The judges are looking for: overall first impression, interpretive ability, technical skill, stage presence, totality of all elements including costume, music, and choreography, quality of the performance, and entertainment value.

PRIVATE INTERVIEW

The interview will be conducted during the day of the pageant. It is 25% of the total score. Your wardrobe selection should be age appropriate and could be pants, skirt or dress. Choose something that you would wear for a job interview. You will be introduced as you enter the room and will speak from a podium. The nine and one half minute interview will begin immediately. When the time has elapsed you will be offered a chance to clarify anything or make a closing statement of up to 30 seconds. Questions are on general topics, current events, items from your resume and your platform essay. This is your opportunity to let the judges get to know you. The judging will emphasize your poise in handling the questions and how well you articulate your beliefs on the issue, not the position you take.

The judges are looking for: overall first impression, qualities and attributes of Miss America, positive role model, knowledge and understanding of platform,

ability to fulfill job responsibilities, confident and commanding presence, personality, appearance and attractiveness, validated opinions and responses, ability to express feelings and defend beliefs, energy, intelligence, and communication skills (speech, vocabulary, and grammar).

EVENING WEAR

This phase is 20% of the total score. The contestant's entire look (not the price of her gown) and stage presence is taken into consideration.

The judges are looking for: overall first impression, sense of confidence, walk, posture, carriage and grace, personality, stage presence, beauty and sense of attractiveness, and appropriateness of the evening wear.

SWIMSUIT

This area of competition is worth 15%. The swimsuit can be a one or two-piece suit of your choice. If the contestant's selection is a two-piece suit, it must have full or moderate rear bottoms. The top must be a full coverage style with straps from front to back or a halter strap. The straps must be permanently attached to the suit, not tied. Remember this is a family oriented show. All swimwear must be approved. The Miss Washtenaw County Program has the authority to ban swimwear that is deemed inappropriate. The footwear for this competition is sandals or shoes of your choice. Contestants may not use oil or glitter on their bodies. No jewelry except earrings.

The judges are looking for: overall first impression, beauty of face and figure, walk, posture, poise and grace, does the suit compliment the young woman wearing it, statement of physical fitness and health, sense of confidence and comfort in your ability to compete in this phase of competition, display of energy, charisma, and expression.

ON-STAGE QUESTION

This area is worth 5%. This question will be on general topics.

The judges are evaluating your extemporaneous responses to the onstage question, poise, confidence, and comfort level in speaking before a large audience.

FINAL BALLOT

From this 100% the top five finalists will be named. The top five finalists enter the final round of competition with zero points. Each judge will rank the top five contestants on a final ballot. A first place vote is worth ten points, a second place vote is worth five points, a third place vote is worth three points, a fourth place vote is worth two points and a fifth place vote is worth one point. The total of the final ballots alone will determine the outcome of the pageant. The high and low scores on the final ballot will NOT be dropped. All judges' votes will count on the final ballot

In all phases of competition the judges are instructed to evaluate contestants by asking these questions.

Does this contestant possess the qualities and attributes of Miss America?

Can she do the job?

Will she be difficult to manage once she has the job?

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Miss Washtenaw County Scholarship Program is a closed local franchise in the Miss America Organization and the Miss Michigan Scholarship Program. Contestants are required to follow all of the rules and regulations set forth by MAO and MMSP.

AGE

Contestants must be at least 17 years of age on the date of the local pageant. The contestant must also have completed High School before competing at the state pageant, in June 2011. The contestant will be no older than 24 years of age on December 31, 2011.

A copy of your birth certificate must be presented at orientation. If you have previously been a contestant in Miss Washtenaw County we will already have a copy on file.

An eligible contestant for Miss Washtenaw County is a resident, student, **OR** employee of Washtenaw or Livingston Counties. Each category is described in detail. Please read carefully. You must fall into **ONE** of these categories and at **orientation** submit the required documentation that verifies that you have met that eligibility criteria.

RESIDENT

Contestant is a resident of Washtenaw or Livingston Counties and has been for a minimum of six months preceding the pageant date. The contestant must submit two of the following items, in the contestant's name. Financial information may be deleted or blackened out.

- Michigan State Drivers License
- Auto Registration
- Voter's Registration Card
- Lease
- Utility Bill
- Federal or State Income Tax Return

STUDENT

Contestant is a full time student (12 credit hours minimum) within Washtenaw or Livingston Counties. Out of state students must have been enrolled for the six months preceding the pageant date. Michigan residents must be currently enrolled. The contestant must submit two of the following items: **one of which shows the credit hours currently enrolled for**. Financial information may be deleted.

- Copy of Student ID
- Official Transcript
- Letter from Registrar
- Copy of Registration

EMPLOYEE

Contestant is employed full time in Washtenaw or Livingston Counties and has been for a minimum of six months preceding the pageant date. Contestant must submit one of the following. Financial information may be deleted.

- 1) Copy of pay stub dated six months prior to pageant date showing hours worked **and** copy of most current pay stub showing hours worked.
- 2) Letter from immediate supervisor or human resources department verifying current full time employment status, including the six month period preceding the pageant date.

NATIONAL PLATFORM

In addition to her personal platform all local contestants and title holders will be ambassadors for Children's Miracle Network. This new national platform will provide the Miss America Organization the opportunity to not only raise funds for Children's Miracle Network, but also to raise additional funds for the Miss America Scholarship Foundation.

Service, one of the four points of the crown, has always been important to contestants striving for the opportunity to be Miss America. To build on this, contestants competing at any level in the Miss America system will now be expected to raise a minimum of \$100 to support Children's Miracle Network and the Miss America Scholarship Fund. This is not an entrance fee, but rather a new service requirement to participate in Miss America sponsored pageants.

Contestants must register online at www.missamerica4kids.org and click on New Contestants. Contestants may register and complete their fundraising goal at any time. The pageant year cycle that you are registering for is 2012. You are a local contestant competing for the title of Miss America 2012. If you are paying by check you can bring your check to orientation made out to Children's Miracle Network. Donation forms will be available at orientation. **The deadline for CMN donations for the 2010 Miss Washtenaw Pageant is Contestant Orientation on September 19th.** For further questions or to request fundraising tools please write to Laura at mwced1@msn.com or call at 734-383-3119

ORIENTATION

The 2010 Contestant Orientation will be held Sunday September 12th from 2 until 4pm. It is held in the Woodlands Room (in the basement) at Chelsea Community Hospital. Complete driving directions are given in the Directions document. This is a relaxed gathering and an informational meeting. It is our chance to get acquainted, for you to meet the other contestants and Miss Washtenaw Volunteers, and for you to become familiar with the Miss America Organization. Parents or friends are welcome to attend with you. Required paper work that is due at orientation is a copy of your birth certificate, proof of eligibility, and CMN donation as described in Eligibility Requirements.

Headshots for the Miss Washtenaw County Program Book will be taken on this day. Please come with hair and make-up done, ready for your photo to be taken. A group photo will also be taken for publicity purposes.

Instructions for filling out the Miss America Contract and for preparing your resume and platform statement will be reviewed. An opportunity for questions and answers will follow.

NATIONAL PLATFORM and

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK DONATION

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Contestants must register online at www.missamerica4kids.org and click on New Contestants. Contestants may register and complete their fundraising goal at any time. The pageant year cycle that you are registering for is 2012. You are a local contestant competing for a spot in a 2012 Miss America Pageant. If you are paying by check you can bring your check to orientation made out to Children's Miracle Network. Donation forms will be available at orientation. **The deadline for CMN donations for the 2010 Miss Washtenaw Pageant is Contestant Orientation on September 19th.** For further questions or to request fundraising tools please write to Laura at mwced1@msn.com or call at 734-383-3119

2010 MISS WASHTENAW COUNTY CONTESTANT'S CALENDAR

Sept. 17	Entry Deadline	
Sept. 19 2:00pm	Orientation Program Book Photography	Woodlands Room Chelsea Community Hospital 775 S. Main St. Chelsea, MI 48118
	DUE TODAY!!	Proof of Eligibility – two Birth Certificate Copy CMN Donation
Sept. 26 2-5pm	Program Book Photography (if needed) Mock Interviews – optional DUE TODAY!!	Chelsea Community Hospital Private Dining Rooms A & B MAO Contract CD for Talent (2copies) On-stage Introduction Form Program Book Advertising
Oct. 1 7:00 arrive 7:30pm show	Performance	Brookhaven Manor Retirement Center 401 W. Oakbrook Dr. Ann Arbor
Oct. 3 12-5pm	Rehearsal Princess Party DUE TODAY!!	Fran Coy's Salon 418 S. Wagner Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 Platform Statement (7 copies) Resume (7 copies)
	Bring heels for walking (SS & Gown)	
Oct. 10 10am 12:30pm 1:00pm 3:30pm	Production Review Lunch and prepare for show DRESS REHEARSAL Teen Rehearsal On stage	Auditorium Chelsea High School
Oct. 16 9:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 2:30pm	Rehearsal; Production Numbers Talent Rehearsals Interviews Begin MWCOT Pageant	Chelsea High School
7:00pm (Final schedule of the	MISS WASHTENAW COUNTY PAGEANT day will be distributed later)	
Nov. 11 6:30pm	Dinner for Miss Washtenaw County 2010 and contestants Home of Fran Coy - 8825 Trinkle Rd, Dexter, MI 48130	

Instructions for Completing the Miss Washtenaw Contestant's Resume

Please remember. This is your opportunity to demonstrate to the judges why they should consider you for the job of Miss Washtenaw. You may list as many or as few items under each category as you desire. Your only restriction is that it must follow the established format and it must fit on one page. This page, combined with the Platform Statement, will comprise your entire application for this job. The judges will receive exactly what is submitted. Any items submitted that do not fit the established criteria will be returned for correction only once. Any items, which do not meet the criteria or which are submitted after the deadline will not be given to the judges. If your resume arrives on the day of the deadline, but does not meet the criteria, there will not be time to return it to you; therefore, it will not be given to the judges. The contestant may explain the lack of judging materials during her interview, if she so chooses.

1. Go to the word processing program of your computer.
2. Start a "new" document.
3. Set margins for 1" on all four sides. The font style may not be any smaller than "10" and no larger than "12" point type, using the Times New Roman font style. Set the first tab spot at 2.25 inches. Please refer to the attached sample to verify that you are following the requested format.
4. With the justification set for left, type "**Name:**" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your name as you wish the judges to know it (If your name is LaCricia Deborah Smith and you want to be known as "Deborah Smith", please type "Deborah Smith").
5. Then, move to the next line and type, "**Hometown:**" in bold. Following the colon (:), hit the space bar twice. Then, type your hometown including the city and state.
6. Move to the next line. Set your justification to the right. Type "**Date of Birth:**" in bold. Hit the space bar twice and type the month, day, and year of your birth. (i.e. October 10, 1986),
7. Set justification to the left. Double space down (i.e. hit "Enter" twice). Type "**Education:**" in bold. Tab to 2.25 inches. Type your most recent school first. If it is graduate school indicate it as such. List degree seeking (all on the same line as the name of the school), move to the line underneath, tab to 2.25 inches and list your undergraduate school and degree sought/achieved, and below that list your high school.
8. Double space down. Type "**Platform Issue:**" in bold. Tab to 2.25 inches. Type the TITLE of your platform. Make sure it lines up with the information above it. Do not type anything other than the title.
9. Double space down. Type "**Scholastic/Career Ambition:**" in bold. Tab to 2.25 inches. Type the degree/education you would ultimately like to achieve and beneath that list your career ambition. Make sure it lines up with the information above it.
10. Double space down. Type "**Talent:**" in bold. Tab to 2.25 inches. Type the type of talent and the specific selection. Make sure it lines up with the information above it. (i.e. Pop Vocal – "Crying", Tap Dance – "Staying Alive", etc.).
11. Double space down. Type "**Scholastic Honors:**" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
12. Double space down. Type "**Leadership Roles:**" in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).

13. Double space down. Type “**Accomplishments:**” in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).

14. Double space down. Type “**Interesting Facts:**” in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).

15. Double space down. Type “**Employment:**” in bold. Hit the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).

16. Double space down. Type “**Marketing Plan:**” in bold. Hit the space bar twice. In sentence form, explain how you would market the Miss America “Brand”. Please include any relevant experience you have had which may uniquely qualify you to serve in this position. Please be aware that a portion of the Miss America job description will include marketing the Miss America Organization to corporate sponsors, commercial sponsors, and other national organizations. (Both For-Profit and Non-Profit).

17. Double space down. Type “**Legacy:**” in bold. Hit the space bar twice. In sentence form, please write what your legacy as Miss Washtenaw will be. This statement should answer the question, “A year after giving up your title as Miss Washtenaw, what will we remember about your year of service?”

18. Double space down. Type “**Why I should be Miss Washtenaw this year:**” in bold. Hit the space bar twice. In sentence form, explain to the judging panel why you should be selected Miss Washtenaw and, more importantly, why you should be selected Miss Washtenaw this year. Why is it critical for you to be Miss Washtenaw right now?

Please remember that the entire form MUST FIT ON ONE PAGE using the Times New Roman font style in size 10 or 12. You must leave a 1” margin on all four sides of the page. Use your best judgment on what is most important for the judges to know about you. Use your space wisely. Attached you will see an example of what it should look like. Any variations from this form will be returned to you and will not be accepted. Your materials will not be retyped. The judges will receive your original work. The attached file resumetemplate.doc (or resumetemplate.rtf for other word processing programs other than Microsoft Word) can be used as a template for your resume. Sample.pdf contains a sample resume and platform statement.

This form will be given to the judges along with your platform statement. You will notice there is a required signature line at the bottom of the platform statement. When these two pages are put together they will create your entire application. Your signature will cover the materials listed ON BOTH PAGES. Your signature verifies that everything on your forms is true and accurate. If it is proven that any information on these forms is not true, correct, and factual, you risk losing your local/state title.

DIRECTIONS TO MEETINGS AND REHEARSALS

Chelsea Community Hospital

Orientation, Mock Interviews

From Ann Arbor take I-94 west to exit #162, Old US 12/Fletcher Rd. exit. Go west (right) onto Old US 12/Jackson Rd. Go past the first traffic light, Freer Rd, to the hospital entrance on your right. Follow the green signs to the Main Hospital Entrance.

Woodlands Room - Once in the lobby go right and take the elevator to the basement level. Follow the signs for the Woodland Rooms. You will go right as you exit the elevator.

Private Dining Rooms - Go right at the gift shop and follow hallway to, and go past the Main Dining Room. The Private Dining Rooms will be on your right in the hallway directly behind the Main Dining Room.

Chelsea High School

Dress Rehearsal & Pageant

From Ann Arbor take I-94 west to exit #162, Old US 12/Fletcher Rd. exit. Go west (right) onto Old US 12/Jackson Rd. Go north (right) at the first traffic light, Freer Rd. The school will be about ¼ mile on the right. Follow the driveway around to the lower level for the auditorium parking.

Brookhaven Manor Retirement Community

Community Service Project

401 W. Oakbrook Dr.

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

From Ann Arbor Saline Rd Go east on Eisenhower Parkway. Go north (left) on Northbrook Rd. to Oakbrook Dr. and go east (right) to Brookhaven, which will also be on your right.

From State Street Go west on Eisenhower Parkway. Go north (right) on Northbrook Rd. to Oakbrook Dr. and go east (right) to Brookhaven, which will also be on your right.