



2018 Competition Information

2018 Miss Quincy Pageant
January 6, 2018
Quincy Community Theatre

Contestant Eligibility

- At least 17 years of age and a high school graduate by the first day of the June 2018 State competition, or no older than 24 years of age before December 31, 2017. If you were born in 1993 or earlier, you are no longer eligible.
- Must reside in, be enrolled in classes on a full-time basis at an accredited college or university, or be employed on a full-time basis for at least six months in one of the following counties in the state of Illinois: Adams, Brown, Pike, Schuyler, Hancock, or Scott.
- Relatives must not be a sponsor, volunteer, judge or official with the Miss Quincy Scholarship Program, or any other local or state Miss America Organization preliminary.
- Must be available to attend Miss Illinois Spring Kick Off in April in Springfield and to compete at Miss Illinois in June in Marion (Dates TBD).

Areas of Competition

Private Interview 25%

Each contestant will compete in a private, standing 9.5-minute interview the day of the pageant. At the end of the interview, the contestant will have 30 seconds to cover any additional issues that she would like to address, comment on, or clarify. There are 5 judges on a panel. Contestants are questioned on their background as presented on their resume, their educational and career goals, their opinions on current events and social issues, and their interests, hobbies and extracurricular activities. Scoring is based on communication skills, personal appearance and overall impression. Examples of acceptable interview attire include a business dress, skirt and blouse or pants and a nice top. Please no business suits or pantyhose.

Lifestyle & Fitness in Swimsuit 10%

This phase of competition is designed to see how well the contestant maintains a lifestyle of good physical health; whether she meets the public expectation of a titleholder and whether or not she has the confidence needed to be a titleholder. The contestant's drive, energy and presence are also to be considered. A one or two-piece swimsuit in good taste may be worn. Nude heels or pumps are encouraged. Jewelry is permitted.

Talent 30%

Contestants must perform a **90 second routine** of their own choosing. Some possible talents include all types of singing, dancing, instrumental music, gymnastics, baton twirling, dramatic or comedic monologues, etc. Scoring is based on the contestant's skill and personality, interpretive ability, technical skill level, stage presence, and the totality of all elements, including costumes, voice, use of body and choreography. Tap dancers may not have music with pre-recorded taps or tap sounds. Vocalists may not have any vocals on their accompaniment music. Only the contestant is permitted on stage during talent competition. **Any prop brought on stage must actually be NEEDED, as non-functional props distract from the live performance.** Live animals are not permitted. Props involving safety hazards, such as any form of fire, swords, knives, bow and arrows, etc. are not permitted. Contestants will compete in an outfit/costume of their own choosing which reflects the talent presented.

Evening Wear 15%

The Evening Wear phase of competition is designed for the judge to assess the contestant's beauty, poise, grace and commanding stage presence. Contestants will compete in a long gown of their choice (high low gowns are permitted).

On-Stage Question 20%

This phase of competition is designed for the contestant to show her ability to think on her feet. Scoring is based on overall first impression, contestant's ability to answer the question presented, and if young people see her as a role model who is reflective of today's generation. Each contestant will draw one question out of a bowl. The questions will be based on a hot topic in the news. Contestants will wear their opening production number outfit for this area of competition.

Production Number

Contestants will perform a fun dance number to open the pageant. The production number will be taught at rehearsals and is **not judged**. Attire: TBA.

Platform

Each contestant chooses an issue in which she cares deeply and that is of relevance to our society. Once chosen, Miss Quincy will use her stature to address community-service organizations, businesses and civic leaders, the media and others about her platform issue.

In addition to her personal platform, Miss Quincy will also be a goodwill ambassador for Children's Miracle Network. Contestants should familiarize themselves with CMN. Visit missamerica.org for more information.

Children's Miracle Network

Each contestant is required to raise \$100 for Children's Miracle Network. It is the contestant's responsibility to register, complete the information required and raise the money by January 1, 2018. Contestants will create a profile at missamericaforkids.org and are encouraged to send emails to friends and family. The money must be raised to compete.

Backstage

Contestants must do their own hair and make-up and dress themselves when backstage. Parents, make-up artists, hair stylists, etc. are not allowed backstage or in the interview waiting rooms. Hostesses will be available to assist the contestants with their clothing, etc. Butt glue, wet wipes, safety pins and sewing kits will be available.

Spotlight Advertising

Each contestant has the option of purchasing special advertising pages in our Official Program Book. This is a great way for you to gain added recognition and exposure by "spotlighting" your photo more than once in our book. As a contestant, your photo is automatically included in our regular pageant lineup. The spotlight pages are something extra. Many times, your family members, friends, and other supporters want to give you added visibility. Spotlight advertising is not required, **but it's highly encouraged you sell at least one.** Contestants may also approach businesses to purchase ads. The money raised supports our program and

scholarship fund, and it also helps you! It empowers people and businesses to buy into YOU and YOUR message. It gives you an opportunity to advertise yourself and tell the judges more about you and what you stand for (they each receive a copy of the program book). Feel free to share your accomplishments, life experiences, information on your platform, etc. in words or pictures in your spotlight ads. Going into the community and selling ads helps you build a network of support. That's always helpful to have, especially if you become Miss Quincy! The #1 reason people give to any cause is because they were asked. Set a goal and practice your pitch. For example, "I'm asking you to believe in me because I want to be a (doctor, teacher, nurse, etc.) and scholarships through the Miss America organization will help me get there." **The Miss Quincy contestant who sells the highest dollar amount in ads will earn a \$200 scholarship AND will get to choose her contestant number for the pageant (must sell at least \$200 in ads to qualify for this award)!** The production team will determine all other contestant numbers, which will be chosen based on talent (mixing up singers, dancers, musicians, etc.).

Headshot Photo

Each contestant is required to provide a headshot photograph. This must be submitted electronically by e-mail to missquincyprogrambook@gmail.com no later than December 17, 2018. Photo must be high resolution. The photo will be used for the judges' books, program book, newspaper, social media and People's Choice Award.

Flowers

Our floral sponsor, Adam Florist, will be selling flower bouquets in the lobby at the pageant. They will also accept pre-orders. Pre-ordered bouquets will be delivered to the theatre and will be in the dressing room when the contestant arrives the evening of the pageant. We are not accepting flower deliveries from any other florist on pageant day. To pre-order flowers, please call Greg at Adam Florist at 217-919-9080.

Tickets

Pageant tickets are \$15 and will go on sale November 25, 2017. Miss America local titleholders will be given free admission. All children are required to have a ticket.

Orientation

Orientation is November 25 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the Kroc Center in the Bluffs A classroom (second level). Special speakers will provide in-depth information to help you prepare for competition. Please wear business attire (pencil skirt, shift dress, sweater dress, dress pants, etc.) and bring paper and pen for taking notes. Please no parents.

Rehearsals

There will be three mandatory rehearsals where you will learn walking patterns, participate in a mock interview and learn the choreography for the production number. Please bring heels to practice. The final rehearsal is January 5 at Quincy Community Theatre. At this time, each contestant will have the opportunity to practice her talent on stage twice. Contestants may have one two-minute conference with a person of their choosing in between performances. A full schedule will be provided at orientation.

Paperwork

Your paperwork will consist of an application, contestant contract, contract addendum, resume, platform essay, program book information form, and talent form (with music). Your paperwork must be typed. The paperwork will be posted at missquincy.org in the coming days. Your application is due no later than **November 1**. The talent form is due **December 6**, and all other paperwork is due **December 10**.

Prizes

All contestants will receive a Miss Quincy Scholarship Program t-shirt and swag bag with contents provided by generous sponsors. Runners-up will receive a scholarship. The next Miss Quincy will receive:

- *The Opportunity of a Lifetime!*
- College Scholarship
- Official Miss America Local Crown

- Official Miss America Local Sash
 - Flower Bouquet provided by Adam Florist
 - Parade car magnets provided by Sign Pro
 - Appearance Wardrobe provided by Ally's Boutique
 - Formal Wear Wardrobe provided by Frew's Bridal & Formal Wear
 - Thirty-One handbags, totes and travel essentials exclusively monogrammed and provided throughout the year by Alyssa Hummel
 - Personal Fitness Training provided by Snap Fitness
 - Hair color and cuts provided by Trevor Hill of Furtado Studio
 - Spray tans provided by Morgan Creek Villa & Day Spa
 - Headshot photo shoot for Miss Illinois provided by SK Photography
 - Notecard Set provided by Priority One Printing
-and MUCH more!

Questions?

Please contact Executive Director, Lindsey Hess, at lindseyNhess@gmail.com.