

MINI-MISS YUBA-SUTTER GENERAL RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program is an experience that will educate and enrich the lives of young girls in the Yuba-Sutter community. Although mistaken as a beauty pageant, the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter program is actually an opportunity for young girls to learn valuable public speaking, interview, and performance skills in a completely positive environment. The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter program exists to bolster the self-esteem of young girls and to honor them for their achievements and personality. Participants will work with other local young girls in order to showcase the talented, youthful energy present in our community. After a month of learning, friendship building, and fun, the participants in the program will showcase their newly learned skills and natural talent at the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter event on the second night of the Yuba-Sutter Fair, **Friday, August 4, 2017**. The night will culminate when one participant is selected as Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter to represent the entire program throughout the next year and hold the title of Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter.

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- a. Participant must be a resident of Yuba or Sutter counties for at least six months and a resident of the State of California for not less than one year prior to the opening of the **2017 Yuba-Sutter Fair**.
- b. Participant must be entering the **3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th grades in the fall of 2017**.
- c. Previous participants are welcome and encouraged to participate again. Participants must also never have held the title of Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter.
- d. All registrations will be time and date stamped in the order of submission. Entries are not considered "officially submitted" unless they include a **\$200 application fee** (which is encouraged to be paid by sponsors—see Sponsorship section).
- e. As few as 4 participants and as many as 12 participants will be allowed into the program. Yuba-Sutter Fair management reserves the right to make exceptions to this requirement.
- f. Participants must not have been involved in, ever convicted of, or pleaded guilty to any crimes including felonies and/or misdemeanors nor have ever used illegal drugs of any kind now or in the past.
- g. Participants may be amateur or professional status.

Again, this program is reserved for local young girls who are of exceptional character and enthusiasm. The program is intended to give participants an opportunity to build on their already existing interpersonal and public communication skills and an opportunity to showcase their personality and talent. Participants who do not meet the above requirements are not eligible to be selected as the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter and, therefore, are not accepted into the scholarship program.

II. REGISTRATION

In order to be selected as a participant for the Mini-Miss program, interested applicants must fully complete the enclosed registration form and turn it into the Yuba-Sutter Fair office no later than **5 p.m. Friday, June 9, 2017**. The registration form must be accompanied with a **\$200 application fee** (All checks and money orders must be made out to the Yuba-Sutter Fair). Yuba-Sutter Fair Management reserves the right to extend the deadline if additional participants are needed. The Yuba-Sutter Fair also reserves the right to accept a late registration in the case that a selected participant drops out of the program.

III. REFUNDS

Registration fees are only refundable if the participant wanting to drop out of the competition notifies the Fair Administration office no later than **5pm, Friday, June 16, 2017 following the orientation meeting June 14, 2017**. At that time, a refund will be processed within 30 days of the cancelation.

IV. SPONSORSHIP

Participants are encouraged to obtain sponsors. Donations to participants are tax deductible since the Mini-Miss Program is a non-profit education program. Sponsors will receive several mentions during the on-stage portion of the Mini-Miss Competition and sponsors will be acknowledged in the Competition Program. A maximum of 3 sponsors is recommended. There are several local business and community leaders who look forward to sponsoring young girls in this program. Participants are not expected to pay any portion of the registration fee; instead they are expected to solicit the assistance and support of local business leaders in order to participate in this community program. A sample sponsor letter is located at the end of this packet to help you get started. **ALL SPONSOR NAMES ARE REQUIRED TO BE HANDED INTO THE SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR NO LATER THAN JULY 14TH**.

Sponsorship money for registration fees collected prior to the participant submitting their application should be payable to the Yuba-Sutter Fair so a proper receipt can be written for tax purposes. Upon Request, the Fair can supply a letter of donation for any Sponsorship money collected after the application has been submitted only for registration fees. Any sponsorship money collected for other items, i.e. dress, hair, nails, etc., are NOT tax deductible and the fair will not supply donation letters for this.

V. ORIENTATION

Selected participants and their parents will be required to attend the Mini-Miss Program orientation at **7:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, 2017 in the Fair Administration Office/Board Room**. Participants will be given the rehearsal schedule and specific questions regarding the scholarship program will be answered. Participants will also be given an outline and instructions on how to fill out an information sheet for personality interview judges.

VI. REHEARSALS

Participants will be required to attend rehearsals that begin the first week in July and end the day of the Mini-Miss on-stage competition. A schedule will be handed out at the orientation meeting. Rehearsals normally vary between two and three evenings a week. Exceptions will be made for participants who miss up to a week of rehearsal due to vacation or illness. The program is centered on educating its participants. This education occurs at rehearsals making attendance imperative.

VII. AREAS OF COMPETITION

The participants in the **2017 Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter** Scholarship Program will be judged in the following four (4) areas: the participant garnering the highest final score will be selected as the **2017 Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter** to represent the entire Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter Program:

1. Personality Interview..... 25%
2. Communication Skills..... 25%
3. Stage Performance..... 25%
4. Impromptu Question/Poise..... 25%

The above areas of competition serve to select a young lady who is well rounded in her abilities to communicate, entertain, and serve. No area of competition will focus on physique or outer beauty.

Each area of competition will be judged by a separate panel of judges consisting of no less than 3 judges per panel. The judges will be selected by the Yuba-Sutter Fair Management and include local community leaders, regional professionals, and Miss California State representatives. Judging is solely at the discretion of selected judges and the decision of the judges is final in all cases. A local accounting firm will tabulate all judge scorecards.

In the case of a tie, the participant with the highest score in the Personality Interview area of competition will be selected to receive the title of Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter.

Individual scores will not be revealed. No scorecards will be photocopied or distributed. No participant will be given information about another participant's scoring. Scholarship Director may discuss areas of the program that participants can improve upon, but all scorecards will remain confidential.

VIII. PERSONALTY INTERVIEW

A panel of judges will meet the participant face-to-face and engage in a conversation about the participant's goals, family, and hobbies. Judges will score the participant based on her ability to communicate one-on-one and on her personal appeal, sense of humor, and confidence.

IX. COMMUNICATION SKILLS

This phase of competition is the first area of competition performed on stage in front of an audience. The participant will perform a one-minute speech on an assigned topic. Judges will score the participant on her creativity and ability to speak before a large audience. Participants will receive the topic for the communication skills speech at the orientation. Participants will learn good speech-writing and public speaking skills at rehearsals.

X. STAGE PERFORMANCE

This is the second phase of competition performed on stage before an audience. Participants will be given no less than one minute and no more than two and a half minutes to perform a live talent. This area of competition gives the participant an opportunity to express her creativity and ability to entertain. The performance may be any talent that the participant can demonstrate on stage. Talents can range from vocal performance, dance, instrumental, theatrical, mime, baton, martial arts, to sewing, cooking, and athletic demonstration. Every participant is welcome to perform whatever area of talent they feel they have been most blessed. If a participant feels she does not have the proper training or talent in any one performing art or demonstration, she is encouraged to deliver a speech regarding a topic close to her heart.

Judges will score the presentation based on degree of difficulty, technical ability, creativity, originality, stage presence, and audience appeal.

The following are some restrictions concerning the stage demonstration and performing arts portion of competition:

1. Any talent exceeding the two and half minute time limit or going under the one-minute minimum will be disqualified in this area of competition.
2. Participants must turn in two professionally recorded copies of their musical accompaniment on a CD marked clearly with their name and contestant number. Musical selections may not be cued to the middle of a song or have a false ending. Musical backgrounds may not begin in the middle of a participant's presentation.
3. All presentations must be performed live.
4. Participants may not use film, video, or slide presentations, as stage lights do not allow for the audience to clearly see such a presentation.
5. All costuming and stage arts outfits **MUST** be approved by Scholarship Director.
6. Duplication of a presentation is prohibited. No two participants may perform using the same song. For example, one participant cannot sing a song that another participant is performing a dance to. Priority will be given to the participant who turned their registration form into the Yuba-Sutter Fair office first.
7. Participant may not change her presentation, in any way, after it has been officially approved by Scholarship Director.
8. All props must be officially approved by Scholarship Director.
9. Participants will only be permitted on stage during her Stage Performance presentation. No other person can be part of the participant's presentation.
10. The participant's stage entrance and exit will be determined by program management.
11. The participant's lighting will be determined by program management. Participants are not to provide lighting specifications. Strobe lights, black lights, etc. are not permitted because they do not successfully operate on the outside Fair stage and because the stage lighting cannot be turned down.
12. All participants performing vocal solos, song/dance numbers, theatrical monologues, or speeches **MUST** use a microphone provided by program management.
13. All presentations that involve reading, reciting, or explanation must be accompanied by a musical background. This helps the participant stay on time and always adds more depth to the presentation. (This does not necessarily apply to dramatic or theatrical monologues).
14. Vocal solos must be performed to an accompaniment track free of professional background voices. The tape may include an occasional "ooh" or "ahh", but the participant's voice cannot be assisted by a recorded background voice. Vocal solos must be performed with taped instrumental accompaniment.
15. Participant whose talent is sketching, painting, graphic art, commercial art, sculpting, sewing, cooking, or involves a product created prior to the on-stage presentation, must provide proof of authenticity and creation by the participant signed by an individual outside of the participant's family who is qualified to verify authenticity (i.e. instructor, organization leader, community leader, or pastor).
16. Instrumentalists must memorize musical selection. All musical instruments must be brought to the stage and provided by participant.

Yuba-Sutter Fair Management reserves the right to make exceptions to any of the above rules regarding the Stage Performance phase of competition. All decisions made by the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program Director regarding the Stage Performance are for the good of the participant and seek to enhance the entire program.

XI. IMPROMPTU QUESTION/POISE

In this phase of competition, the participant will answer an impromptu question specifically tailored for her by the panel of judges. The question often focuses on the participant's family or interests. Judges score the participant based on her ability to think on her feet. Judges look for poise, confidence, posture, and grace. The selected Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter will often be asked questions in a public format or be asked to speak in front of an audience at the last minute. This area of competition helps select a young lady with the ability to publicly speak under pressure.

XII. REHERSALS

Participants will be required to attend rehearsals that begin the first week in June and end the day of the scholarship program. A schedule will be handed out at the orientation meeting. Rehearsals will vary between two and three nights a week. The program is centered on educating its participants. This education occurs at rehearsals, making attendance imperative.

XIII. OPENING PRODUCTION NUMBER

Participants will learn an opening production number to be performed the night of the on-stage competition. The production number is NOT JUDGED and serves merely for the entertainment of the audience and to calm the nerves of the participants prior to the first phase of on-stage competition.

XIV. WARDROBE

ALL INTERVIEW AND ON-STAGE APPARREL MUST BE APPROVED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR.

- a. Participants will need a long summer dress with sleeves for the personality interview phase of competition. Examples of appropriate interview dresses will be demonstrated at the Orientation.
- b. Participants will need to provide new, white canvas shoes and blue Denim Capri's to be worn for the opening production number of the on-stage showcase.
- c. Participants will need a floor-length formal dress with straps for the Impromptu Question/Poise competition. It is strongly suggested that the participant avoid choosing a black dress. It is also strongly suggested that the participant choose a gown she feels confident and beautiful wearing. Examples of appropriate Mini-Miss formal dresses will be demonstrated at the Orientation.
- d. All other wardrobe requirements will be discussed at the orientation meeting.
- e. It is strongly suggested that you do not purchase any wardrobe items until after the orientation.
- f. All wardrobe items must be approved by the Scholarship Competition Directors.

XV. HAIR AND MAKE-UP

Hair and make-up specialists will be on-hand backstage to assist participants. Although outer beauty is not a consideration in judges' scoring, it is important that participants are easy to see on stage. Stage lights require participants to use certain make-up so that facial features are visible to the audience. Participants may not provide their own personal backstage assistant.

XVI. PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents will not be allowed to attend rehearsals except for the dress rehearsals. The fewer amount of people at rehearsals the better opportunity for productivity. Parents will also not be allowed backstage both to ease the minds of all participants and due to limited room. Program Management wishes to take as much burden off of parents as possible. The success of the participants in this program is dependent on supportive parents. It is encouraged that parents help their daughter practice and prepare at home on a daily basis.

XVII. TICKETS

Each participant and her parents will receive tickets to the Yuba-Sutter Fair for Thursday and Friday only (a total of 6 tickets). This will allow the participant and her parents to get into the gates the night of her on-stage competition and the night of the Miss Yuba-Sutter competition. Participants will be required to attend the first and second nights of the fair.

XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE MINI-MISS YUBA-SUTTER

- a. Participant may not attend functions or speak to the media as a representative of the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter unless cleared and approved by the Scholarship Director. Participants will work as one team, not as individuals.
- b. Members of the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter will uphold standards of conduct that exemplify qualities of good citizenship, fellowship, and good sportsmanship at their highest level at all times. The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter extends respect, concern, and sensitivity to each other and to those whom they come into contact.
- c. Participants will not be in the company of, or speak to, a judge or group of judges except at those functions where contestants are scheduled to exchange conversation with judges.
- d. Participants will be given many opportunities to assist in the community and at the Fair after the scholarship competition is completed. The Yuba-Sutter Fair cherishes the leadership, talent and welcomes fellowship opportunities after the conclusion of the Scholarship Program.

XIX. AWARDS

Several awards will be given to members of the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter in recognition of their achievement in specific areas of judging.

a. VICTORY AWARDS

Each participant will receive an award recognizing the area of competition in which she received her highest score.

b. FRIENDSHIP AWARD

Possibly the most meaningful and honorable award is the Friendship Award because it is determined by the members through a ballot vote.

XX. JUDGING

- a. Each area of competition will be judged by a separate panel of judges consisting of no less than three (3) judges per panel. The judges will be selected by Yuba-Sutter Fair Management and will include local community leaders, regional professionals and Miss California State representatives.
- b. **Participants/Parents will not purposefully or knowingly search out, inquire, be in the company of, or speak to fair management, a judge or group of judges except at those functions where participants/parents are scheduled to exchange**

conversation with judges. Failure to comply will result in automatic disqualification of the participant.

- c. **The results and decision of the pageant/scholarship judges and or fair management are final and not open for discussion.** A local accounting firm will tabulate all judge scorecards.
- d. **The Fair Management will make every effort to see that a judge does not judge the same competition not more than two consecutive years.**
- e. In case of a tie, the participant with the highest score in the Personality Interview area of competition will be selected to receive the title of Mini Miss Yuba-Sutter. If a tie score still exists, then the participant with the highest score in Communication Skills will receive the title.
- f. No scorecards will be photocopied or distributed. No participant will be given information about another participant's scoring. Individual scores may be requested from the Fair office after the competition of the Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program Director may give participants suggestions on improvements in specific areas of the program after the night of the on-stage competition, but judges' individual score will remain confidential.

XXI. 2ND RUNNER-UP

A 2nd Runner-Up to the title of Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter will be awarded if there are more than 6 participants in the Scholarship Competition. The young girl with the third (3rd) highest total of points will be crowned the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter 2nd Runner-Up. The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter 2nd Runner-Up will be asked to fulfill the roles and duties of Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter in the case that the title-holder and the First Runner-Up are ineligible or unable to fulfill said duties.

XXII. 1ST RUNNER-UP

The participant with the second (2nd) highest point total will be crowned Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter 1st Runner-Up. She will receive various gifts donated by local businesses. The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter 1st Runner-Up will be asked to fulfill the roles and duties of Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter in the case that the prior titleholder becomes ineligible or unable to fulfill her duties.

XXIII. MINI-MISS YUBA-SUTTER

- a. The participant receiving the highest total of points in all four categories of competition will be crowned the **2017-2018 Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter**. She will receive various gifts from local businesses and given the traditional Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter crown to wear at various community events. She will also receive \$250 at the conclusion of her reign.
- b. The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter will be expected to represent the Yuba-Sutter Fair, and serve as a role model to other young girls and boys in the Yuba-Sutter community. She will be expected to attend all community events and several functions except when school or illness prevents it. Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter will be expected to be punctual for all scheduled appearances and/or events. The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program management will be responsible for the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter calendar and must be contacted before the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter attends any event representing the program.
- c. The newly crowned Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter and her parents will attend an orientation with the CEO of the Yuba-Sutter Fair and the Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program Director, to learn about her duties and expectations.

- d. She will also serve as a companion to the newly crowned Miss Yuba-Sutter and Miss Teen Yuba-Sutter. The Miss Yuba-Sutter and Miss Teen Yuba-Sutter will serve as chaperones for the Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter at several events.
- e. The Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program management has the right to take away the title of Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter for any reason deemed necessary in preserving the name of the Scholarship Program. The Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program management reserves the right to make exceptions for any of the above regulations.

Sponsors:

Contestants are encouraged to get sponsors to help pay for the application fee and various wardrobe requirements. The best people/businesses to ask to be sponsors are those that a contestant knows. For example, a contestant would probably be more successful asking her doctor, dentist, orthodontist, or a family/friends' business than she would just asking a business that she has no connections with. A sample sponsor letter can be seen below. Please feel free to use this letter, substituting the underlined information with the contestant's own.

*Tip: A contestant should physically walk this letter in and speak to the prospective sponsor in person, instead of simply mailing the letter.

Tuesday, May 1st, 2017

Your Name

Your Address

Your City, CA Your Zip Code

To whom it may concern,

My name is (Your Name) and I am (Your Age) years old. As you may know, the Yuba-Sutter Fair is right around the corner, and this year I am running for Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter. I am writing you in the hopes that you or your business will be able to help me in my endeavor by being one of my sponsors.

In case you are not familiar with the scholarship program, let me begin by stating that the Yuba-Sutter Fair Scholarship Competition is an experience that educates and enriches the lives of young women in the Yuba-Sutter Community. Although mistaken as some sort of beauty pageant program, the Scholarship Program actually provides an opportunity for young women like me to learn valuable public speaking, interview, and performance skills in a completely positive environment. As a contestant, I will be judged in the areas of (Miss and Teen: community service, scholastic achievement, fair industry, personality interview, communication skills, talent and impromptu question) (Mini Miss: personality interview, communication skills, talent and impromptu question). I will work with other local young women in order to showcase the talented, youthful energy present in our community.

In order to participate in this wonderful program, I am not only required to pay a \$200 application fee, but I will also need to buy evening gowns, interview outfits, and talent costumes. This all can get a little pricey, so I am hoping that you or your business will be able to help me out in any way possible. Your sponsorship is tax-deductible and you or your business will also be thanked during the pageants themselves on August 3rd and August 4th, 2017.

Thank you so much for your time and your willingness to help out. Community members like you are what make Yuba-Sutter such a great place.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Phone Number