

MISS YUBA-SUTTER GENERAL RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

The Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program is an opportunity for young women to learn valuable public speaking, interview and performance skills in a completely positive environment. The Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program is designed to enhance self-esteem of our community's accomplished young women and to honor them for their achievements and leadership skills. Participants in the program will work as a team in order to showcase the intelligence, confidence, and impressive abilities present in our community. After a month of learning, friendship building and fun, the participants in the program will showcase their skills at the Miss Yuba-Sutter event on the opening night of the Yuba-Sutter Fair, **Thursday, August 3, 2017**. The night will culminate when one of the participants in the Miss Yuba-Sutter Program is selected to represent the entire scholarship program and the Fair throughout the next year and hold the title of Miss Yuba-Sutter.

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- a. Participant must be a resident of Yuba and 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 their Junior year of High School in 2017, not be older than 20 years of age and cannot reach their 21st birthday during reign as Miss Yuba-Sutter**.
- c. Participant, if attending school outside of the Yuba-Sutter region, should not temporarily live any further away than 100 miles. She must be able to attend all local functions required of the selected Miss Yuba-Sutter.
- d. Previous participants are encouraged to participate again. Participants must also never have held the title of Miss Yuba-Sutter.
- e. All registrations will be timed 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.)
- f. 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.
- g. Participants must not have been involved in, ever convicted of, or pleaded guilty to any crimes including felonies and/or misdemeanors (exclusive of traffic violations), nor have ever used illegal drugs of any kind now or in the past.
- h. Participants may be of amateur or professional status.

Again, this program is reserved for local women 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 community commitment, achievements and talent. Participants who do not meet the above requirements are not eligible to be selected as the Miss Yuba-Sutter and therefore, are will not accepted into the scholarship program.

II. REGISTRATION

In order to be selected as a participant for the scholarship programs, 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 cancellation.

IV. SPONSORSHIP

Participants are encouraged to obtain sponsors. Donations to participants for registration fees are tax deductible since the Scholarship Program is a non-profit education program. Sponsors will receive several mentions during the on-stage portion of the Scholarship Competition and sponsors will be acknowledged in the Competition Program. A maximum of three (3) sponsors is recommended. There are several local business and community leaders who look forward to sponsoring young women 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 get started. **ALL SPONSOR NAMES ARE REQUIRED TO BE 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 monies 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 Scholarship Program orientation meeting at **7:00 P.M. Wednesday, June 14, 2017 in the Fair Administration Office/Board Room**. Participants over the age of eighteen (18) may or may not choose to bring their parent(s) with them to the orientation. 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 the information sheet for personality interview judges and a community service list for community service judges.

VI. AREAS OF COMPETITION

The participants in the **2017 Miss Yuba-Sutter** Scholarship Program will be judged in eight areas. The participant garnering the highest final score will be selected as the **2017 Miss Yuba-Sutter** and will represent the entire Miss Yuba-Sutter Program.

Communication Skills	15%
Impromptu Question/Poise	15%
Stage Performance Area	15%
Personality Interview	12%
Community Service	12%
Scholastic Achievements	12%
Fair Industry Interview	12%
Administration Responsibility	<u>7%</u>
	100%

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

- a. **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.
- b. **PERSONALITY INTERVIEW:** A panel of judges will meet the participant face-to-face and engage in a conversation about the participant's goals, family and values. Judges will score the participant based on her ability to communicate one-on-one and on her personal appeal and sense of humor.
- c. **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 goals, education, community involvement, 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 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 woman with the ability to publicly speak under pressure.
- d. **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 range from public speaking, vocal performance, dance, instrumental, theatrical, mime, baton, martial arts, to sewing, cooking and athletic demonstration. The participant should use this opportunity to showcase how she will entertain audiences if given the title of Miss Yuba-Sutter. Judges will score the presentation based on stage presence, degree of difficulty, technical ability, creativity, originality, 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 a 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 participant 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 presentation, 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 the 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 the Scholarship Director **unless the Director feels it is in the best interest of the program.**
8. ALL props must be officially approved by Scholarship Director.

9. Participant 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 an 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. Accompaniment tracks may have background voices (such as "aahh's" and "ooo's"). Soloists may not sing along with the recording of a professional vocalist. Lip-syncing is permissible, but will be announced as so.
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, etc.)
16. Instrumentalists must **memorize** musical selection. All musical instruments must be brought to 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 Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program Director regarding the Stage Performance are for the good of the participant and seek to enhance the entire program.** Please feel free to discuss any concerns or questions with the Scholarship Director.

- e. **ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBILITIES.** This objective area of competition is to stress the importance of 100% participation in rehearsal attendance and meeting deadlines turning in forms and other required information. It also shows a sense of responsibility. Miss Yuba-Sutter is required to meet many deadlines and have excellent follow through.
 1. **Rehearsals.** Participants will be required to attend rehearsals that begin the first week in July 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.
 2. **Enforcement.** A one (1) point deduction will be taken off of participant's Administration Responsibility for each unexcused absence. The same applies for participants who miss more than three deadlines unexcused. A list that explains what is excused and what is not excused will be passed out and discussed at orientation. Yuba-Sutter Fair Management reserves the right to make exceptions to ANY of the above rules regarding absences and deadlines.
- f. **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Participants will be guided in filling out a descriptive list of her community service activities. A panel of judges will review this list and each participant will receive a score on her community involvement.

- g. **SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS:** Each participant will be required to turn in school transcripts for the last two school years of her education. Participants will also be guided on how to create a list of her scholastic awards and activities. A panel of judges will take into account the participant's level of education, difficulty of classes, grades achieved, school activity and leadership and will give the participant a score indicating their impression on her academic achievements.
- h. **FAIR INDUSTRY INTERVIEW:** Participants will receive an information packet on the Yuba-Sutter Fair and California's Fair Industry at the Orientation meeting. A panel of judges will interview the participant on her knowledge of the fair industry. The selected Miss Yuba-Sutter will act as the official spokesperson for the Yuba-Sutter Fair and will represent the Yuba-Sutter Fair at both the Miss California State competition and at local events. She is expected to understand the importance of the Fair Industry and the contribution the existence of the Yuba-Sutter Fair makes to the Yuba-Sutter Community.

VII. 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.

VIII. WARDROBE

ALL INTERVIEW AND ON-STAGE APPAREL MUST BE APPROVED BY THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR.

- a. Participants will need a professional business outfit including a long-sleeved jacket and knee-length skirt for the two interview phases of competition. Examples of appropriate interview suits will be demonstrated at the Orientation.
- b. Participants will need to provide new, white canvas shoes and blue denim Capri's which are to be worn for the opening production number of the on-stage showcase.
- c. Participants will need a floor-length evening gown for the Impromptu Question/Poise competition. It is strongly suggested that the participant avoid choosing a black gown. It is also strongly suggested that the participant choose a gown with beads and or sequins.
- 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.

IX. 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.

X. 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 participants practice and prepare at home on a daily basis.

XI. TICKETS

Each participant and her parents will receive tickets to the Yuba-Sutter 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 Mini-Miss & Miss Teen Competition. **Participants will be required to attend the first and second nights of the Fair.**

XII. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE MISS YUBA-SUTTER PROGRAM

- a. Participant may not attend functions or speak to the media as a representative of the Miss Yuba-Sutter Program unless cleared and approved by Program Management. Participants will work as one team, not as individuals.
- b. Members of the Miss Yuba-Sutter Program will uphold a standard of conduct that exemplifies qualities of good citizenship; fellowship and good sportsmanship at their highest level at all times. The Miss Yuba-Sutter Team 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. All participants of the Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program are not allowed to co-habit as defined by the dictionary, (living together as husband and wife, esp. when not legally married) or marry or become pregnant beginning with the pageant orientation process to the time of passing the 'Title' (approximately 14 months). Any individual found to be co-habiting, married or pregnant during the program will immediately be disqualified from the program.
- e. Members of the Program 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 and talent found within the Program's participants and welcomes fellowship opportunities after the conclusion of the Scholarship Program.
- f. Social Media will be monitored by Scholarship Director.

XIII. AWARDS

- a. **VICTORY AWARDS:** Each participant will receive an award recognizing the area of competition in which she received her highest score.
- b. **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** The participant who was recognized as contributing to her community in the most exemplary manner by garnering the most points in the Community Service area of competition will receive the Community Service Scholarship Award; a cash prize sponsored by Soroptimist International.
- c. **FRIENDSHIP AWARD:** Possibly the most meaningful and honorable award is the Friendship Award because it is determined by the participants in the Miss Yuba-Sutter Program through a ballot vote.
- d. **SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:** This award will be given to the participant which shows outstanding Scholastics.

XIV. 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 the 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 for 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 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 completion 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.

XV. MISS YUBA-SUTTER

- a. The participant receiving the highest total of points in all eight categories of competition will be crowned the **2017-2018 Miss Yuba-Sutter**. She will receive various gifts from local businesses and given the Miss Yuba-Sutter Crown to wear at various community events. She will also receive a minimum \$1,000 scholarship at the conclusion of her reign
- b. Miss Yuba-Sutter will be expected to represent all the participants in the **2017 Miss Yuba-Sutter** Program, during the Yuba-Sutter Fair and serve as a role model to young people of all ages in the Yuba-Sutter Community. She will be expected to attend all community events and functions except when school or illness deter otherwise. Miss Yuba-Sutter will be expected to be punctual for all scheduled appearances and/or events. The Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program Management will be responsible for the Miss Yuba-Sutter calendar. Groups interested in Miss Yuba-Sutter's presence at their event must get permission from the Fair.
- c. The newly crowned Miss Yuba-Sutter will attend an orientation with the Yuba-Sutter Fair CEO and the Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program Director to learn about her duties and expectations.
- d. Miss Yuba-Sutter will also serve as a chaperone and mentor to the newly crowned Miss Teen Yuba-Sutter and Mini-Miss Yuba-Sutter.
- e. The new Miss Yuba-Sutter must remain a full-time student in order to receive her scholarship. **Miss Yuba-Sutter may be required to show proof of enrollment for fall classes. Failure to show proof would result in forfeiting her scholarship.**
- f. If Miss Yuba-Sutter is crowned **Miss California State in 2018**, the 1st Runner-Up will NOT take on the role of Miss Yuba-Sutter since the Miss California State Competition is held only weeks prior to the next Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program.
- g. Once Miss Yuba-Sutter has been announced, all titleholders, including Miss Yuba-Sutter and the Miss Yuba-Sutter 1st Runner-up must comply with rule 11d throughout their reign. Failure to comply will result in the forfeiture of your title, and all scholarship money that would have been presented to you at the completion of a successful reign.
- h. If Miss Yuba-Sutter forfeits her title, the 1st runner-up will be declared Miss Yuba-Sutter and be required to abide by these same rules.
- i. The Miss Yuba-Sutter Scholarship Program Management has the right to take away the title of 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.

XVI. FIRST RUNNER-UP

- a. The Miss Yuba-Sutter 1st Runner-up will be asked to fulfill the roles and duties of Miss Yuba-Sutter in the case that the prior titleholder becomes ineligible or unable to fulfill her duties.

- b. **The 1st Runner-Up must not violate Rule 11d to remain eligible should she be asked to assume the duties of Miss Yuba-Sutter.**

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 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-deductable 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