**The Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization**



**232 West Main Street**

**Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530**

**General Information**

**2017 Miss Berks County/Miss Greater Reading**

**General** **–** The Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant is a preliminary to Miss Pennsylvania and Miss America Scholarship Pageants. The winners of the Miss Berks County Pageant will participate in Miss Pennsylvania competition June 11-17, 2017 in Pittsburgh. Competition consists of Talent (30%), Interview (25%), Evening Wear (15%), Lifestyle and Fitness in Swimsuit (10%), and On-Stage Interview (20%). Swimsuits may be either one or two piece but must be in good taste. Talent presentations are limited to a maximum of **1 minute 30 seconds** and must again be in good taste. If you have any doubt about the appropriateness of your talent please check with the pageant organizers before submitting your entry application. Any contestant who comes to rehearsal with a talent deemed by the pageant organizers to be in poor taste will have to change her talent or will not be permitted to participate in the pageant. No "live" accompaniments are permitted. Please bring Two (2) copies of your CD accompaniment to rehearsal the day of the pageant, Saturday, March 04, 2017. A piano will be available for contestants desiring to play the piano for talent.

**Cost –** There are no entry fees, required sponsors nor required ads for entry into the Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant. You are, however, required to raise $100 in donations for the Children’s Miracle Network. Please see our website for information. We also strongly encourage our contestants to sell ads for our Program Book.

**Awards –** Scholarships and other awards are still being determined. The winning contestants will advance to the Miss Pennsylvania competition June 11-17, 2017 in Pittsburgh, PA.

**Location –** The Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant will be held at Wilson West Middle School at 450 Faust Road, Sinking Spring, PA 19608 at 6:30pm. Contestants are required to be at the Wilson West Middle School no later than 9:00am on March 04, 2017.

**Eligibility –** The Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant is open to unmarried 17 to 24 year old women residing, attending school or working in Pennsylvania. Email us for additional eligibility information.

**Entries Deadline** **–** Applications for entry into the Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant will be accepted on a rolling basis until Saturday, February 18, 2017. Fact Sheets, Talent Request Form and Critical Issue Essays must accompany the Application. Entry into the scholarship program is limited to a total of 26 “Miss” and “Teen” contestants. Should that number be exceeded, the additional applicants will be placed on a “waiting list.”

**Orientation** **–** No Orientation will be held. However, please feel free to contact us with your questions.

**On-Stage Rehearsals –** On stage rehearsals will be held the day of the program, March 04, 2017. You will need to be present all day on March 4th since we will be rehearsing and doing interviews during the day until the program begins. If you have questions, please email us.

**Interviews –** Interviews with the judges will take placed during the day on Saturday, March 04, 2017.

**Program Date –** The Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant will take place on Saturday, March 04, 2017 at 6:30pm

**Platform –** The platform (Critical Issue) is an issue about which you have strong feelings which you want to communicate to others. All contestants are required to have such a “platform.” The “Critical Issue” Essay is required with your Application, Fact Sheet, Talent Request form and Check by Saturday, March 04, 2017.

**Talent –** Submit your Talent Form as soon as possible since talents are accepted on a “First Come, First Served” basis. Don’t forget that it must be 1 minutes, 30 seconds or less.

**Contestant Contract –** Contestants will be required to sign and return a notarized standard Miss America Local Contract prior to the competition.

**Additional Information and Paperwork** **–** As the pageant nears you will receive additional information. There are also some other forms which must be submitted to enable us to prepare the Program Book and plan the pageant.

**Additional Requirements –** The winners of the Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant (Miss Berks County and Miss Greater Reading) must compete at the Miss Pennsylvania competition June 11-17, 2017. She we will also be required, but not limited, to volunteer at various service organization events throughout Berks and the Greater Reading Area. All events must be approved by a member of the Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization Board.

**Questions? –** Please contact the Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization contestant chair via email at missberkscounty@aol.com .