



The Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization

232 West Main Street
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

Miss Berks County/Miss Greater Reading

Dear Miss Contestant:

We are so excited to have you participate in the Miss Berks County Scholarship Program! The competition will be held on **Saturday, February 16th at 7:00pm at Oley Valley High School**, Oley, PA. All contestants are to arrive promptly at 9:00am on competition day.

The title of Miss Berks County, provided that there are at least 3 eligible contestants, will be available to females who reside, attend school in or who work full time in Berks County. If there are not enough qualifying local contestants for the closed title, the contestants closest in distance to Berks County will qualify for the closed title. The contestants qualifying for the closed title are also eligible for the open title of Miss Greater Reading.

The title of Miss Greater Reading is open to ALL contestants eligible for Miss Pennsylvania. Once again, ALL contestants are eligible for these titles!

Please note that we are required to have at least three contestants per title – a total of 6 contestants to award both titles.

All MBCSO titles lead directly to the Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Competition TBA. Miss contestants are NOT responsible for the cost of their own hotel room at the state competition. Contestants must be between the ages of 17 and 25 and at least a high school senior to compete. If you are 25 years of age, you may not turn 26 at any time during 2019. All contestants must reside, attend school full time or work full time in Pennsylvania to be eligible to compete. If you are not sure of your eligibility, please contact us for assistance prior to submitting your application.

Scoring in the competition is as follows:

- Private Interview – 25%
 - Based off contestant's resume, platform essay and issues young adults are Facing; Outfit should be trendy- think cute dress, jumpsuit, pants with a blazer, etc.
- Evening Wear – 15%
 - Eveningwear- long evening gown, short cocktail dress, jumpsuit, etc.
- On-Stage Question – 20%
 - Based on Contestant Platform or Issues Miss Contestants are Facing; Will wear same outfit used in Evening Wear competition
- Talent – 30%
 - 90 seconds or less: Past Examples- Speech/Monologue, Acting, Cooking Demonstration, Cake Decorating, Science Experiment, Dance Routine, Cheerleader Routine, Fashion Demonstration, Singing, Ventriloquism, Speed Painting, Playing an Instrumental, etc.
- Lifestyle and Fitness in Swim Wear – 10%
 - One-piece swim suit or bikini; Please no thongs or inappropriate swimwear. Make sure your outfit of choice is tasteful. Sarongs or skirts are encouraged to be worn if it increases the contestant's confidence and ability to be on stage. Heels or flats are welcomed.

When you are ready to enter:

Please send an E-mail stating you plan on competing along with your application, so you can be registered on a contestant list. Submit your registration on the CMN Fundraising Page at MissAmericaForKids.org and indicating you will be competing at Miss Berks County. Your \$100 donation must be met on or before February 16th, 2019.

You must e-mail the following information to missberkscounty@aol.com on or before the deadline on Friday, February 1, 2019:

- Miss Application Form
- Platform (Critical Issue/Social Impact) Essay
- Contestant Fact Sheet
- Talent Registration Form
- Copy of your birth certificate, Proof of residency (state ID card, school ID or other document confirming eligibility)
- Headshot

You should submit your application and CMN Donation as soon as possible because we are limited to 26 TOTAL MISS AND TEEN CONTESTANTS. Miss Contestants who submit their Application and CMN Donation FIRST will be deemed competition eligible. Many times, we have been forced to put contestants on a waiting list because of receiving more than 26 contestant applications. If you are placed on the waiting list, we will let you know as soon as a spot opens up for you.

Once we receive your entry materials, you will receive a confirmation email. You will be notified if you are on our contestant list or on the "waiting list." If we have eligibility questions, we will also make sure they are cleared up at that time. If you do not receive the confirmation email please contact us immediately.

Wardrobe and materials you will need on pageant day:

1. Rehearsals - Yoga pants/sweat pants, a comfy tank top/t-shirt, and/or a long sleeve shirt or sweatshirt in case you are cold
2. Private Interview Outfit
3. Opening Number Outfit – Black Dress, pant suit, jumpsuit
4. Evening Wear (Long Evening Gown)
5. Lifestyle and Fitness in Swim Wear
6. Talent Costume/Outfit.
7. Music on a Flash Drive in MP3 format. Be sure to test them on a variety of devices to be sure they will work on our sound system the day of the pageant. Also, please note, that no one else is allowed on stage or in the wings to provide live musical accompaniment for you during your performance. You must accompany yourself or use the CD.
8. Be sure to bring make-up, hair products, etc.
9. Some contestants bring full length and make-up mirrors as well as racks for hanging clothing. Tables and some racks will be available for your use.
10. A copy of the standard Miss America Local/State Contract and Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization Addendum filled in as completely as possible, signed **AND notarized**. PLEASE NOTE THAT A PARENT OR GUARDIAN WILL NEED TO SIGN AND HAVE THEIR SIGNATURE NOTARIZED ON YOUR CONTRACT if you are UNDER AGE 18. YOU CAN NOT COMPETE WITHOUT THIS CONTRACT!

Prizes and Awards: All winners will advance to Miss Pennsylvania competition with their entry fees covered by the Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization. In addition, all titleholders will receive a Miss America local crown and sash. The winning titleholders will also receive a scholarship, and additional prizes are still being determined and added.

The Interview Process:

The private interview will take place on the date of the pageant on February 16, 2019 beginning in the morning. The judges will be seated and the contestant is at a podium in front of the judges. The judges' chairperson will introduce you and the questions begin immediately. Do not go to the judges table to shake hands with the judges. You will immediately go to the podium and begin to answer questions. For Miss Contestants the interview length is 10 minutes. The first 9 and ½ minutes are spent on questions and answers. At the 9 and ½ minutes mark, one of the judges will tell you that the formal part of your interview has been completed and ask if you wish to add anything at that time. If you chose to do so you have ½ minute to speak. It is your decision whether to end the interview at that point or to add something. Your decision does not influence your scoring but, if you chose to add something it will play a part in your finale score. Please remember that no visual aids, paperwork or props may be brought into the interview.

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Fund Raising Requirements:

All contestants are required to establish a registration page for CMNH fundraising at www.missamerica4kids.org. To do so, go to the webpage and follow the directions on the page. Contestants must raise \$100 for CMNH for each local

pageant in which they participate, up to a maximum of 4 pageants. If a contestant raises \$400 or more, she may continue to compete in local pageants without any additional fundraising requirement.

Winners will also be required to raise an additional \$250 for Children's Miracle Network in order to participate in the Miss Pennsylvania Pageant. Please note, if you win a local pageant, CMN fundraising from the local level does NOT roll over to the state fundraising requirement.

Should you be named Miss Pennsylvania, an additional \$500 is required for your participation in Miss America in September 2019. The Miss America Organization partners with Children's Miracle Network in this fundraising effort. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Times and Dates:

- February 1, 2019 – Entry Deadline with ALL Paperwork, All Photo Headshots and Program Book ads / Sponsorships for the Program Book are due
- February 15, 2019 at 10:00 pm – \$100 CMN Donation Requirement must be met
- February 16, 2019 at 9:00 am – Contestants should arrive at the competition location for Rehearsal & Interview
 - You will be given a schedule prior to the competition which will include your interview time
- February 16, 2019 at 7:00pm – The Miss Berks County Scholarship Program begins

Questions:

Facebook – Facebook.com/MissBerksCounty

Email – missberkscounty@aol.com

Website – Missberks.org

Thank you for your interest in the Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant!

Marilyn Baver & Donna Schlouch

MBCSO, Co-Executive Directors

Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization

2019 Application for the Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization local pageant of the
Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Organization

** Please Type All Information on One Page Without Changing the Format & Complete ALL areas. **

Title(s) Competing For: _____ *Eligible for Miss Berks County (Must live, work, or attend school in Berks County)*
_____ *Eligible for Miss Greater Reading Only*

Date of Application: _____

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Home Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

1st Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

1st Email: _____

Second Email: _____

College Name: _____

College/Residence Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

PLATFORM STATEMENT TITLE:

TALENT: (90 Seconds or Less) – Please complete the Talent Form

Type of Talent: _____

Title of Music: _____

EDUCATION:

High School Name: _____ Year Graduated: _____

College Name: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Date of Enrollment: _____ Full Time? Yes No Year In School: _____

Major Course of Study: _____ Degree Sought: _____

EMPLOYMENT: Employer's Name & Address: _____

Job Title: _____ Date of Hire: _____

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals:

Donated Hours: _____ (Estimate)

Money Fundraised: _____ (Estimate)

Contestant Platform Issue:

Donated Hours: _____ (Estimate)

Money Fundraised: _____ (Estimate)

PARENTS:

Mother's Full Name: _____ Hometown: _____ Phone: _____

Father's Full Name: _____ Hometown: _____ Phone: _____

All data must be factual. The failure to provide factual information may result in your disqualification from the pageant.

This application does NOT go to the judges. Applications accepted on a first come first serve basis.

In completing this application, I give permission to the local pageant organization to use my photographs and any videos taken for any and all purposes as a contestant of this local organization. Please understand that it is not always possible to receive photo credit. This application may be shared with other Miss Pennsylvania Local Preliminary Pageant Directors of the MAO.

Signature of Contestant: _____ Date: _____

TYPING THE CRITICAL ISSUE/SOCIAL IMPACT (PLATFORM) ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE ONE PAGE CRITICAL ISSUE (PLATFORM) ESSAY AND THE FACT SHEET ARE THE ONLY TWO ITEMS WHICH ARE GIVEN TO THE PAGEANT JUDGES. THEY SHOULD BOTH BE TYPED AND CHECKED FOR GRAMMATICAL AND SPELLING ERRORS. BE SURE YOU KNOW AND ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS EVERY ITEM YOU PLACE ON THESE TWO DOCUMENTS! KEEP IN MIND THAT THE CRITICAL ISSUE ESSAY AND FACT SHEET PROVIDE THE JUDGE'S THE FIRST IMPRESSION OF YOU. BE SURE TO KEEP A COPY OF EACH OF THESE DOCUMENTS SO YOU CAN REVIEW THEM BEFORE YOUR INTERVIEW.

CRITICAL ISSUE/SOCIAL IMPACT (PLATFORM) ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS

Indicate the critical issue/platform you will address if chosen to be Miss Berks County or Miss Greater Reading. This critical issue does not have to be your community service project, but may be, if you choose. The Berks County Scholarship Organization may wish to implement a local platform as well.

FORMAT: Your essay should be typed in 10 to 12 point font on a single sheet of white paper with 1" Margins.

Format as follows:

TITLE OF PLATFORM

SUBMITTED BY: (Contestant's Name)

ACTUAL ESSAY (In block form)

Name: Jane Doe

Theater & Youth: Changing Lives

Children in Pennsylvania need to become more active in their community. When they become involved in extracurricular activities, their grades in school improve, their confidence levels improve, and their self-worth skyrockets. Local theatre is one way to fill the need for activities. By being involved in theatre children learn about culture, history, and they learn respect of others. They meet different types of people and learn how to act in public situations. Children learn how to act responsibly. They will be expected to study hard, and learn their lines, while completing their homework and maintaining good grades. They learn how to manage a busy life and multitask at a young age. This will all be very advantageous and necessary later in life.

By being active in the Pennsylvania Theater of Performing Arts of Hazleton, my local theatre, I have reached some of my greatest goals. I have become more confident, better with time management, and have become more present in the community. I am a 4.0 student at a college preparatory school and I can say that years of multitasking, learning lines, and performing on a stage have allowed me to become very efficient at life. I am able to manage not only my homework, but also monthly performances at the theatre and my job as a jewelry designer with Origami Owl. Since my first show, I have become more confident in myself. I am able to talk to new people and make a good impression.

Becoming active in the theatre will help change lives. Studies show involvement in the arts improves grades. A study conducted by Jayna Solinger showed that 96% of the students in the 11th grade gifted class participated in extracurricular activities. Compare that to the 55% of the students who were in the normal class. The average GPA of the active students in the gifted class was 3.85, the GPA of the non active students was 3.27. This difference could be the difference between being accepted into your college choice or not. I have seen first-hand the benefits of theatre. Because of my involvement in the theatre I have been able to manage my school work with ease. I am able to better organize, better focus and excel at life. I want others to learn these skills to help them excel in life.

If chosen as Miss Greater Hazleton, I will strive to make a difference in the youth of the Hazleton Area and the Keystone State. I am the Youth Representative of the Pennsylvania Theatre of Performing Arts and I plan on offering children an experience I feel is a wonderful opportunity for them. I am currently running youth workshops, while producing and directing 2 full main stage productions a year. In my area, I have expanded the youth program with performance classes to further improve their experience. I will challenge the community to become more active by having the youth participate more frequently. I will encourage activities with their peers such as bus trips to places they may not be able to travel to otherwise.

By becoming the next Miss Greater Hazleton, I will continue to manage theatre programs for all ages. I will encourage participation throughout the schools and social media. I hope to help the youth learn time management, multitasking, gain self-assurance, and increase their confidence levels. I will help students increase their grade point average and excel at school. And just like I have, with or without a crown, I continue to help students throughout Pennsylvania excel at life and achieve their academic and personal goals.

Contestant FACT SHEET – Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization

Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Organization

**** All Information Must Be Typed without changing the format of the pages. ****

Full Name: _____

Title(s) Competing For: _____ *Miss Berks County* _____ *Miss Greater Reading Only*

Age: _____ **Birthdate:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

High School Name: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

College Information (if appropriate):

College/Univ. Name: _____

Degree Sought: _____

Declared Major: _____

Declared Minor: _____

Dates of Attendance: _____

Current Status: _____
(i.e. Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Graduate)

Scholastic Ambition: _____

Career Ambition: _____

Scholastic Honors: _____

Graduate School Information (if appropriate):

College/Univ. Name: _____

Degree Sought: _____

Dates of Attendance: _____

Current Status: _____

Other Accomplishments: _____

Employment Experience: _____

What Type of Talent Will You Present: _____

Musical Accompaniment / Song Title: _____

Father's Name: _____ **Occupation:** _____

Mother's Name: _____ **Occupation:** _____

Brothers and Sisters:
Name: _____ **Age:** _____
Name: _____ **Age:** _____
Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Other Interesting Facts About Yourself: _____

The Miss America Organization encourages young women who participate in the program to become involved in the community, to develop a Platform and to speak out on issues of concern to them, to their communities and to the nation. If you are selected as the winner of this competition, on what issue would you want to focus on during your year of service? Please attach a one-page document outlining your Platform Issue.

Contestant Signature:

Local Director Signature:

Talent Request Form
Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization Preliminary Pageant
Of the Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Organization

** Please Type ALL Information keeping in the page format. **

CONTESTANT NAME: _____

Title(s) Competing For: _____

All talents must be in good taste. If you have any questions about whether your talent is appropriate, please contact the local pageant before submitting your talent request. If your talent is found not to be in good taste at the rehearsal, you will have to change your talent or you will not be permitted to participate in the pageant. Decision as to whether a talent is in good or bad taste is at the sole discretion of the organizers of the local pageant you are competing in.

- **“Regardless of talent performed, you may NOT have voices, instruments, or other noises that mimic the talent of the contestant.”** (Example: A vocalist may have background vocals with "oohs and aahs" or other background lyrics, but cannot have a tape with a voice singing the melody line for the contestant to sing along with. The same would be said for instrumentalists, dancers, and any other talent which could provide for an unfair advantage if a judge could not delineate from the talent on the track versus the live performance of the contestant.)"
- **Talent is limited to NO longer than one minute 30 seconds (90 seconds total).**
- **In case of duplicate requests, the Talent Request Form received first will prevail.**
- **Props must actually be used in the talent and may not sit on stage as a visual prop.**

NAME: _____

Type of Talent: _____

Music Title: _____

Composer/Artist: _____

Props: _____ **Music Timed At:** _____

Microphone Needed (Circle): Wireless Handheld Wireless Handheld w/Stand

Talent Introduction: (A few Short Sentences)

Signature: _____

CONTESTANT PROGRAM BOOK INFORMATION

Due: February 1, 2019

Name: _____

Age on February 16, 2019: _____

High School, College, University and State:

Grade: _____

Type of Talent: _____

Title of Talent: _____

Platform Summary Statement (One Sentence):



The Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization

232 West Main Street
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

December 9, 2018

Greetings!

The Miss Berks County scholarship competition for young women ages 17 to 25 and teens ages 12 to 17 is an official preliminary to Miss America, part of the largest scholarship provider for young women in the world. Through our pageant in Berks County, young women gain the opportunity to showcase their talents, advocate for their philanthropic platforms, and compete for scholarship dollars for college. The winners of our program will go on to compete for more scholarship dollars at the Miss Pennsylvania Pageant.

On February 16, 2019 we will crown three winners: Miss Berks County, Miss Greater Reading, and Miss Greater Reading's Outstanding Teen at Oley Valley High School.

As Co-Executive Directors of the Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization Committee, we are so grateful for ALL the support we receive! We thank you for your support in previous years, and hope you will donate once again. Former Miss Berks County titleholders have used their academic scholarship dollars to complete bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, and law degrees. Current and former contestants are scholars and community leaders, and role models to many girls. ***Only with the help of sponsors like YOU can their educational and personal dreams come true.***

For the 2019 Scholarship Pageant, we request your generous support more than ever. Given the rising costs of college, our goal must be to increase our scholarship funds this year. Please know one thing: When you advertise your business in the program book, sponsor an award, write a check for the scholarship fund, or donate services, you help provide substantial cash awards and in-kind services to talented, intelligent, community-minded young women. Our sponsors will be recognized in our program book, on our website, on Facebook and during our exciting program. ***Please consider donating by February 1, 2019!***

Again, we appreciate your continued support and look forward to your donation and attendance at the 2019 Miss Berks County Scholarship Pageant on February 16, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Baver at 610-683-5045 / MJBaver@hometownnu.com; or Donna Schlouch at dmschlouch@aol.com.

Thank you!

Marilyn Baver & Donna Schlouch
MBCSO, Co-Executive Directors



The Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization

232 West Main Street
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

Sponsorship Invitation

_____ **Yes! I would like to make a Scholarship Contribution!**

- _____ **GOLD SPONSOR \$750+**
(Full Page Ad, 3 appearances at sponsor's event, 4 Miss Berks County Pageant Tickets)
- _____ **SILVER SPONSOR \$500-749**
(Half Page Ad, 2 appearances, 2 Miss Berks County Pageant Tickets)
- _____ **BRONZE SPONSOR \$250-499**
(Quarter Page Ad, 1 appearance, 2 Miss Berks County Pageant Tickets)
- _____ **GENERAL SPONSOR \$1-249**
(Listing in program book and public acknowledgement during pageant production)

_____ **Yes! I would like to contribute an In- Kind Donation!**

Please describe donation (service or merchandise) and indicate its market value.

DESCRIPTION: _____

- _____ **GOLD SPONSOR \$1,500 +**
(Full page ad, 2 appearances, 4 Berks County Pageant tickets)
- _____ **SILVER SPONSOR \$1,000-1,499**
(Full page ad, 2 appearances, 2 Berks County Pageant tickets)
- _____ **BRONZE SPONSOR \$500-999**
(Half page ad, 1 appearance, 1 Berks County Pageant ticket)
- _____ **GENERAL SPONSOR \$400-499**
(Quarter page ad, 1 appearance)

_____ **Yes! I would like to buy Advertisement Space in the pageant program book!**

Please mail your ad design with this form or e-mail it to MJBaver@hometownu.com.

- _____ **\$200.00.....full page** _____ **\$ 50.00.....1/8 page**
- _____ **\$125.00.....1/2 page** _____ **\$ 25.00.....business card**
- _____ **\$ 75.00.....1/4 page**

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ (Name & Title)

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

Make Checks Payable to: Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization

Mail completed form and payment by February 1, 2019 to:

Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization, 232 West Main St., Kutztown PA 19530

Questions? Contact Marilyn Baver or Donna Schlouch, Co-Executive Directors at missberkscounty@aol.com

**Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization's Program Book
Patron's Ads**

\$10.00 Per Ad – Single line up to 75 characters with spaces

1. _____
2. _____
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**Make Checks Payable to: *Miss Berks County Scholarship Organization*
Patron Ads due by February 1, 2019**