



**2024 MARTIN COUNTY FAIR & YOUTH LIVESTOCK SHOW  
MISS MARTIN COUNTY FAIR SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT**

**January 19, 2023, 7:00 P.M.  
Lyric Theater, downtown Stuart, FL**

Proudly Sponsored by:



**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Applications Available Online: [www.martincountyfair.com](http://www.martincountyfair.com)

Mandatory Orientation: November 29, 2023 @ 6:30 pm

Deadline for Applications: November 22, 2023

Miss Martin County Fair Scholarship Pageant is sponsored by Eberst Law.

The Martin County Fair Association will conduct the pageant through the selection of five finalists and a crowning ceremony of the 2024 Miss Martin County Fair Queen and her court at the Lyric Theater, downtown Stuart, on January 19, 2024.

- A. LIMITED NUMBER OF CONTESTANTS: The contestants will be limited to twenty, who will be accepted on a first-come basis. All applications will be kept on file if any of the twenty applicants drop out prior to November 29, 2023. After this date, no contestant shall be replaced.
- B. FILING OF APPLICATIONS: Applications can be obtained on the Martin County Fair website, [www.martincountyfair.com](http://www.martincountyfair.com). A completed application must include a 4x6 photograph (head shot) of the applicant, \$50.00 entry fee, a copy of utility bill that matches address on application and current copy of District report card, minimum 2.0 GPA, can either be emailed or hand delivered to the Fair Office, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy, Stuart, on or before 5:00pm, Wednesday, November 22, 2023.
- C. AGE, SEX AND SCHOOL STATUS: The applicant must have been born a female who must be either a Freshman, Sophomore, or a Junior attending a high school, a home school program, or attending a post-secondary education or training within the Martin County School District.
- D. PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS: The Martin County Fair Association will determine the eligibility of the applicants as related to residence, age, schooling, and other general rules, as described, of the contest. Each applicant will be informed of her acceptance or rejection as a contestant after November 25, 2023.
- E. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES AND REGULATIONS: The applicant's signature and initials on the application will be considered as evidence that the applicant has read all the rules and regulations of the pageant. The applicant agrees to abide by all rules and regulations and understands that the information provided will be verified. Applicants **must** attend all announced meetings and rehearsals. Failure to follow this rule without just cause will be cause for elimination from the contest.
- F. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY: Former Miss Martin County Fair Queens are not eligible to compete.
- G. PERSONAL STATUS: An applicant must be single (never married).
- H. MORAL CHARACTER: Applicant or contest must never have been arrested and have not been suspended or expelled during the current or previous school year.
- I. PRIOR CONDUCT: Applicant must have never performed or engaged in any act, activity or employment that is or could reasonably be characterized by the Martin County Fair Association Executive Director as dishonest, immoral, or indecent. Social media is considered an activity and will be examined for all contestants.
- J. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE QUEEN AND MEMBER OF THE COURT: After the final selection of the queen and members of the court, the queen and members of the court will be responsible and required to participate in all activities during the 2024 fair, running February 9th- 17th, 2024. The queen is also required to participate in all events scheduled by the Martin County Fair Association until a new queen and court are selected. The queen and each member of the court shall portray good conduct, good

morals, and good manners. They will conduct themselves with dignity and always be a credit to the Martin County Fair Association. Failure to follow this rule will be considered cause for dismissal. If at any time, actions or behavior is inconsistent to the Martin County Fair Association, disciplinary action or removal of title will be at the sole discretion of the Martin County Fair Association Board of Directors.

- K. **ABDICATION OR DISQUALIFICATION:** In the event the queen should abdicate her title or become disqualified, the first runner-up shall become the queen and assume all required duties. In the event the first runner-up or a court member should abdicate or become disqualified, no successor will be named nor will a new court member be appointed. **In case of any abdication or disqualification of the reigning queen or member of the court, said queen or court member may be asked to return all gifts and gratuities that she has received in relation to the event. Any unused scholarship after 12 months will be forfeited.**
- L. **JUDGING PROCEDURE:** Announced decisions will be final. Judging will be based on interview, personality, stage presence, confidence, response to emcee and delivery. Scores will be kept confidential and then kept for one (1) year in the Fair Office.
- M. **CLOTHING/DRESS/APPEARANCE:** Each contestant must furnish their own clothing and accessories, including casual wear, and formal wear (evening gowns, pant suits, cocktail dresses). The Pageant Committee will provide additional guidance pertaining to attire. **WARDROBE GUIDELINES:** Selection of pageant wardrobe (evening gown, interview outfit, etc.) should be age appropriate. No plunging necklines, no cut outs, cannot be see through or sheer, nor can it be super short or revealing. **NO** jeans with holes, no shorts, and no strapless tops. **FORMAL WEAR:** a two-piece outfit is acceptable but must be tasteful, no cut outs or midriff exposure. Slits must be no higher than 3 inches above the knee; nothing too low cut in the front (no low-cut V-neck (deep plunging) tops. Shoes should coordinate with the dress, keep the style, and be tasteful. No stiletto or heels taller than 4 inches. Proper undergarments must be worn at all times. Earrings, necklaces, rings, and bracelets are acceptable. No visible tattoos or body piercings (except ear piercings) will be allowed. Inappropriate clothing as demonstrated by the above guidelines will result in a minimum 10-point deduction from your score or disqualification.
- N. **CONSENT OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS:** An applicant under eighteen years of age must have signed permission from a parent or legal guardian to participate in the contest. The signature of the parent or legal guardian on the application will be considered as their consent.
- O. The dressing rooms will be closed to everyone except contestants and pageant directors. Rehearsal is closed to everyone except participants and pageant directors. Interview night is closed to everyone except participant and pageant directors.
- P. **GIFTS AND INCENTIVES:** The Martin County Fair Association will provide the following gift incentives included, but not limited to:
  - a. Wardrobe provided for Fair events by the Pageant Committee
    - i. This will consist of a shopping trip after the pageant prior to the fair events.
  - b. Crown for the queen
  - c. Trophies and sashes for each five finalists
  - d. Other gifts and incentives

Q. SCHOLARSHIPS: The Martin County Fair Association will award Scholarships as follows:

- 2024 Queen: \$1,400.00
- 2024 First Runner-up: \$1,200.00
- 2024 Court (3): \$1,000.00 for each of the three Court winners.
- 2024 Miss Congeniality: \$500

The scholarships will be issued to the college of their choice or post-secondary education or training facility upon receipt of official registration. All scholarships must be used within two years of serving on the court.

- R. Anyone participating in this pageant by way of entry hereby agrees and consents to the use of any picture of contestant in any or all publications, TV, publicity brochure, internet, etc., that the Martin County Fair Association may desire.
- S. Failure to attend any one of the mandatory meetings listed below may result in disqualification from the pageant.

## **MANDATORY MEETINGS**

**ORIENTATION:** Orientation for the 2024 MMCF Pageant contestants will be on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at 6:30pm, at a predetermined location to be included in welcome email.

**DANCE REHEARSALS:** TBD at Orientation.

**PERSONAL INTERVIEW:** Interviews will be held at the Palm Cove Yacht Club, 262 SW Palm Cover Drive, Palm City, on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 6:00pm. All contestants are required to meet with the judges. Contestants will be notified of the exact time of interview. Interviews start at 6:30pm, you are expected to arrive no later than 30 minutes prior.

**PAGEANT NIGHT:** 6:00pm, Friday, January 19, 2024, at the Lyric Theater, 59 SW Flagler Ave, Stuart, FL, 34994. Contestants must be on the premises no later than 4:30 PM.

## **THE COMPETITION**

**PHASE ONE:** The personal interview will take place Thursday, January 18, 2024. Personal Interviews will begin at 6:30pm. All contestants are required to be there by 6:00pm. All contestants are required to meet with the judges. Each interview will last approximately seven (7) minutes. The attire for this interview is career dress (business type dress, suit, or pant suit). The same outfit must be worn for the Public Speaking Competition of the pageants. In this division, the contestants will be judged on their personal interview only, with no relation to their other qualifications. The criteria for this division are as follows:

The Young lady selected as the Martin County Fair Queen will represent the Martin County Fair Association, both locally and elsewhere. Her overall appearance and her personality will be observed for desirable traits. She should be able to speak effectively and should be well versed in information concerning the Martin County Fair Association. In responding to questions and in discussion of the industry she expects to represent, she should portray sincerity, enthusiasm, friendliness, and congeniality.

## **THE PAGEANT**

**OPENING: PERFORMANCE-DANCE:** The contestants will participate in a choreographed dance number. This dance number is for entertainment only and will not be judged.

- Attire: To be discussed at mandatory meeting.
- Dance rehearsals will be announced at the mandatory meeting.

**PHASE TWO:** The contestants will be judged on *Career Dress* as they are introduced with short bios, with no relation to their other qualifications. The criterion for this division is as follows:

- Career dress is defined as a business type dress, suit, or pant suit (same outfit from interview).
- In this division, the contestant will be judged on poise, posture, stage presence, and stage personality.

**PHASE THREE:** A continuation of the competition begins with this phase. The contestant will now be judged on *Public Speaking*, with no relation to their qualifications. The attire is to be *formal wear*.

- In an opening introduction of the contestant, the contestant will answer one of the twenty predetermined questions given to them at the mandatory meeting. Each contestant will have a maximum of two minutes to answer the one stage question. Question will be drawn out of a predetermined container.
- Contestant will be judged, in part, on the effectiveness of her speaking voice, proper grammar and diction over the microphone. (A -1-point deduction will be taken off the score for every second over the allotted time limit).
- Stage Presence, each contestant will be judged on her walk, carriage, general presentation, posture, and stage personality.
- Overall, look on the stage, each contestant will be judged on her poise and choice of attire.
- No props can be used.

**PHASE FOUR:** The contestants will be judged on the Evening Gown Competition, with no relation to their other qualifications. The criteria for this division are as follows:

- Stage presence: Each contestant will be judged on her walk, carriage, general presentation, posture, and stage personality.
- Overall look on the stage: Each contestant will be judged on her beauty and poise.

The judges will score the contestants separately for each phase of the competition. Neither judges, chairman, nor auditor should disclose any information concerning the scores. In the case of a tie, in the tabulation of semifinalists, the auditor will inform only the chairman of the judges' committee of the tie vote. The judges will then be involved in breaking a tie vote. Neither the judges, the chairman, nor the auditor should disclose any information concerning the tie vote, or the way it was resolved, except as indicated above.

After the ballots have been tabulated and points awarded in each division, the auditor will prepare a list of the names of the contestants for the elimination in random order. Contestants are not to be listed in the order of points received.

## FINAL ELIMINATION

**Impromptu Public Speaking** 30 points

**Overall Look** 40 points

**Stage Presence** 30 points

**Impromptu Public Speaking:** She will be judged on her ability to speak effectively in public, her speaking voice and her diction over a microphone.

**Overall Look on the Stage:** Each contestant will be judged on her beauty, poise, and appearance in her gown.

**Stage Presence:** Each contestant will be judged on her walk, carriage, general presentation, posture, and stage personality. The judges will score the contestants and record these scores on their ballots. From the judge's tally sheet, the auditor will determine the five finalists who received the highest number of points. In case of a tie, the scores from the preliminary competition will be used to break the tie. From these finalists, a queen, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th runners-up.

**Miss Congeniality:** The title of Miss Congeniality will be voted on by all contestants. This title will go to the girl whom her peers feel exudes the qualities of someone who is always present, prompt. A girl who other girls can always expect a smile, positive comments, or a good laugh from. Results of vote will be confidential until judging is complete. Votes will be due prior to pageant start.