Welcome to the Florida U.S. United Preliminary Pageant!

We will be honoring females age 7 and older for their personal, professional, and community achievements. Our pageant will showcase each contestant on her own merits and personality. We focus on the individual inner beauty of each contestant, as well as her individual achievements, community involvement and personal strengths and talents. The 2025 Florida U.S. United Pageant will host its State Pageant March 1-2, 2024 at 7pm at the Little Haiti Cultural Center in Miami, Florida. This pageant is a two-day event open to females ages 7 and older who live, work, have property in or go to school in Florida. Queens from this pageant will advance to the U.S. United National Pageant which will be held July 16-20, 2025 in Atlanta, Georgia. Below is very important information about the pageant. Please read the information in its entirety. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

MEET YOUR DIRECTOR:

LaTequa Mills is an, author, speaker, confidence and pageant coach, former pageant queen and the current Florida director of the US United pageant system. As a natural teacher and encourager she has spent countless hours mentoring girls and women to achieve their fullest potential in every area of their lives. With over a decade of experience in pageantry, and a knack for bringing out the best in everyone she encounters, LaTequa's goal is for every woman to learn to embrace her invisible crown. Her desire will always be to teach Queens to shine as brightly as a diamond in the sun especially because we are from the best and the brightest Sunshine State.



ENTRY DEADLINE:

The pageant's entry deadline is February 1, 2025. This is when all applications and

paperwork and fees must be turned into the Pageant Office. If you know someone that would like to compete, please urge them to go ahead and submit their application.

ALL FEES MUST BE paid in full by February 1, 2025.

FEE PAYMENT & DELEGATE REQUIREMENTS

Your Pageant fee is as follows:

\$25.00 (non-refundable) Application fee (due at registration)

Once accepted, applicant must submit \$100 Delegate Fee immediately.

- Balance of \$200 is due by February 1st, which will complete the delegate's \$325 Participation Fee.
- Fees can be made via cashapp (\$tequamills), zelle (305-527-1355) or paypal (<u>floridausu@gmail.com</u>, please include 3% fee)
- Complete and document at least 2 public/community service appearance each month (virtual or in person between October 1st -February 1st) and post to your personal social media pages with the hashtags #floridausu, #floridausunited, #pageantwithapurpose

You may pay your fees through Paypal.

The Paypal address is floridausu@gmail.com.

Divisions:

All divisions will compete in Personal Interview, Fun Fashion, and Evening Gown

Little Miss: 7-9 (no makeup allowed)

Junior Teen Miss: 10-12 (lip gloss and mascara allowed)

Teen Miss: 13-17 (natural makeup only)

Miss: 18-29

Ms.: 30-45

Elite Ms.: 45 and older

Miss Plus: 18-29 and size 16+

Ms. Plus: 30 and older, and size 16+

COMMUNICATION & UPDATES

Official Communication & updates will come via email and our Official Florida Contestants Facebook Group. Please provide the Florida office your Facebook Profile and Instagram Profile information so that you can connect with us and receive real time information and updates.

If you need to contact us by phone, you may call us at 305-527-1355 or email us at floridausu@gmail.com

STATE PAGEANTS

- 1st Runner-Ups in each division will be offered the opportunity to compete in the national U.S. United pageant as an At-Large Participant.
- If you competed in the U.S. United national competition in 2023-2024, you will be afforded the option to compete in the U.S. United pageant At-Large.

Prize Package:

- Official StateCrown
- Official State Embroidered Sash
- Official Ceptor
- Crown Pin
- National Finalist Package
- Other gifts and prizes may be added upon receipt from sponsors
- Pageant Coaching

QUEEN'S CONTRACT

Each delegate will sign a queen's contract. These contracts spell out, in detail, what is expected of you. All winners ages of 7 and older are required and MUST compete in the national pageant in July 17-20, 2025 in Atlanta. Florida is a preliminary state pageant for the U.S. United National Pageant. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN RELINGUISHMENT OF STATE TITLE. STATE SASH, CROWN, AND TROPHY MUST BE RETURNED IN THE SAME CONDITION IT WAS PRESENTED. A \$350 FINE WILL ALSO INCUR AND WILL BE PAID TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE. State Royalty also must register for the national competition, as well as ensure payment of a \$195 deposit towards her national finalist package. A \$100 payment is due after crowning and BEFORE you sign your state contract. The balance of \$95 is due within 7 business days. The fee may be paid through Paypal, Cash App or Zelle to the national office. If paying via PayPal, the fee must be paid to the national paypal address (legacypageantsus@gmail.com and MUST include the 3% Paypal fee. Paypal fees not paid when submitting your deposit will be added to your national balance fee.

PLEASE NOTE** A state queen's contract will not be valid the \$195 deposit to the national office is not paid when due. This deposit will be deducted from her national fee.

Competition Wardrobe and Judging Guidelines

Personal Interview – 40%

Contestants may wear a business suit, pantsuit, jumpsuit, or business dress. You should look as though you are going to an upscale event, job interview or making an appearance. Please be mindful of the length and fit of your outfit, the quality of material of your outfit and your undergarments. You will be judged on your oral communication skills, confidence, poise, charisma, projection of personality and sincerity of your answers. The judges will select questions from the list of questions located on the contestant information page on the national website.

Outfit of Choice - 30%

This is an outfit of choice that best reflects your personality. You may use accessories. Should you choose to wear a hat, PLEASE be sure your full face is visible to the judges at all times. You will be judged on poise, personality, charisma, overall presentation, and confidence. Have fun, let your personality shine! This outfit SHOULD

NOT be an evening gown; however, you may wear a dress with a high/low hemline. Contestants in the Little Miss and Junior Teen Miss should have their mid-section covered. No cutouts.

Evening Gown – 30%

Contestants should wear a floor length gown. The price of the gown is not important. You will be judged on poise, grace/elegance, overall presentation, eye contact, and confidence while on stage. Be sure your gown fits you well and is not too tight, too long or too short.

Make sure it compliments your figure and is age appropriate.

Other Clothing Needed at Preliminary

Comfortable clothes for rehearsals.

Pink attire for Breast Cancer Pink Gala

Orientation/registration outfit as chosen by the State & National Office.

All outfits and shoes should be age appropriate

State Optional Competitions and Fees

Scores from optional competitions have no bearing on the division winner. Contestants are not required to enter the optional competitions

Talent Competition (optional \$20.00 fee)

The Talent Competition is an optional competition and does not affect the overall outcome of the pageant. Talent must not be longer than 3 minutes.

You will turn in your CD, or jump drive (if applicable) at registration. Please be sure to write your name and division on your CD/Jump drive. CD/jumpdrive should be in a jacket or case to prevent scratching or damage. Also be sure to bring a backup CD/kjump drive. It is your responsibility to pick up your CD from the DJ after the talent competition. CD should contain ONLY the song you will be performing.

Photogenic Competition (optional \$20.00 fee)

Contestants in this competition should submit no more than 2 photographs. You should bring them with you and turn in at registration. Please be sure you pick them up before the pageant. Photos will not be mailed. Photographs should be at least a 4 X 6 and no larger than an 8 X 10 and may be either in color or black and white. Photos should be professional and not a snapshot. Photos CANNOT be older than three years.

Community Service Scrapbook (optional \$20.00 fee)

You should bring your scrapbook with you. Please be sure to pick this up after the

pageant. Your scrapbook should showcase your activities in your community and should be arranged by the most recent activities first.

People's Choice

The People's Choice is chosen based on the contestant that brings in the most money in ads, Patron's List, and the money collected in the People Choice boxes the day of the pageant. The People's Choice winner will receive a trophy and a sash.

Portfolio (\$20 fee)

Contestants who enter this competition will present a modeling portfolio of 5-10 photographs.

Rip The Runway (\$20.00 fee)

Contestants who enter this competition will model an outfit of her choice. Judges will be looking for a young woman/woman with style, poise, modeling ability, choice of outfit.

Cover Girl (\$20.00 fee)

Contestants who enter this competition will submit up to 2 photos to be judged. Winner will have her photo printed on the program book cover. Photos will need to be judged ahead of time.

Best In Attire Optionals (\$10 each/\$20 for all three)

Each contestant may choose up to 3 Mini Optional competitions. These include Personal Interview Attire, Fun Fashion Attire or Evening Gown.

All winners are required to join the national delegate facebook group once they are crowned on the state level. This is where you will receive national updates and be able to communicate with the executive director and staff. You will also be required to become a member of your state's facebook group.

Please be sure to visit our national website at www.usunitedpageant.com