

# Welcome to the *Central States U.S. United Pageant!*



We are very excited to welcome you to our inaugural pageant! Our pageant features contestants ages 7 and older in the areas of interview, fun fashion, and evening gown. We focus on each girl's inner beauty, individual and community achievements, and personal merits alongside her individual strengths and talents.

**The Central States U.S. United pageant will take place March 17-28, 2023, at the Relics Event Center in Springfield, Missouri.** This is a two-day pageant open to females who live, work, have property or attend school in **Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, or Oklahoma.** Winners from this pageant will proceed to Atlanta, GA for the special 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary **U.S. United national pageant which will be held July 26-30, 2023, at the Hilton Atlanta Airport Hotel.** Below is important information about the Central States pageant. Please read the information in its entirety and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Our email is [centralstatesusunitedpageant@gmail.com](mailto:centralstatesusunitedpageant@gmail.com), and our phone number is 417-448-0190. Emily Gallup, Miss U.S. United 2019 and U.S. United Queens' Ambassador, 2021 is your Central States Director.

## Venue Information:

The 2023 Central States U.S. United pageant will be held at the **Relics Event Center at 2015 W. Battlefield in Springfield, MO**. All rehearsals and phases of competition will be held at this location on the south end of Springfield. Another location will be announced shortly for orientation, registration, and our Pink Pajama Party which will take place on March 17, 2023.



Relics Event Center features an open floorplan with stained glass accents, elegant old-world décor with back lit stained glass interior doors and eclectic light fixtures selected from various shops throughout Europe. It features over 9,000 square feet of space and has a seating capacity of 500, so invite your friends and family to cheer you on! Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$10 by emailing the name of everyone in your party to [centralstatesusunitedpageant@gmail.com](mailto:centralstatesusunitedpageant@gmail.com) and sending the money via PayPal to the same email. Tickets may also be purchased at the door for \$12.

## Fees:

*The entry deadline for this pageant is February 15, 2023*

All applications, paperwork and fees must be paid to the Central States U.S. United pageant office.

***All fees must be paid in full by February 15, 2023.*** There will be NO exceptions. All fees are non-refundable.

### The fee schedule is as follows:

\$25 application fee

\$350 pageant fee\*

The total fee is \$375 and may be paid via PayPal to

[CentralStatesUSUnitedPageant@gmail.com](mailto:CentralStatesUSUnitedPageant@gmail.com)

Your fee includes entry to the welcome orientation and Pink Pajama Party, as well as other pageant sponsored surprises which may occur throughout the weekend!



\*On January 1, 2023, the fee will increase to \$375 for a total of \$400

On February 1, 2023, the fee will increase to \$400 for a total of \$425

## Divisions:

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

Little Miss: 7-9

Junior Teen Miss: 10-12

Teen Miss: 13-17

Miss: 18-29

Ms.: 30-45

Elite Ms.: 45 and older

Mrs.: 21 and older, married and living with spouse

Miss Plus: 18-29 and size 16+

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



## Phases of Competition:



### Personal Introduction (10%) and Personal Interview (30%)



Contestants should wear a business suit or business dress. You should look as if you are going to a job interview or an appearance. Please be mindful of the length of your outfit. Personal Introduction is 20 seconds at the start of your interview and should be an age-appropriate introduction for the judges to get to know you and your platform if you have one.

You will be judged on your oral communication skills, charisma, poise, projection of personality, and the sincerity of your answers.

### Fun Fashion (30%)



This is an outfit you feel projects your personality. You will be judged on poise, personality, charisma, and overall presentation. Have fun; this is your chance to let your personality SHINE!

This outfit may NOT be an evening gown; however, you may wear a high/low or cocktail dress. Should you choose to wear a hat, please ensure your entire face is visible to the judges.

### Evening Gown (30%)



Contestants must wear a floor-length gown. **The price of the gown is not important.**

You will be judged on poise, elegance, eye contact, overall presentation, and grace on stage.

Your gown should fit well and not be too tight, too long, or too short. Make sure it complements your figure and is age appropriate.

## Other Clothing Needed:

**Opening Number:** Pink cocktail dress (any shade,) clear or nude shoes

**Group Photo:** Dark blue jeans (no holes,) fashionable pink top

**Pink Pajama Party:** Pink pajamas

**Contract Signing:** Cocktail dress of your choice

**Rehearsal:** Fashionable and comfortable outfit

**Individual Photoshoot (optional):** Outfit of your choice. We will have an official photographer offering individual photo sessions during the pageant.

Each contestant is being offered a 20% discount at Natalie M. in Leawood, KS to help with her wardrobe needs and prepare her for our regional pageant.

## Optional Competitions:

Optional competitions are a fun way to showcase various talents.

**These competitions do not have any bearing on the divisional winner. Each contestant is automatically considered for the People's Choice and Spirit of Pageantry awards. Contestants are not required to enter optional competitions. Each winner will receive a trophy or commemorative award.**

### People's Choice: No fee

Each contestant is automatically entered in this competition and will bring a decorated container with her name and photo for the audience to select their favorite contestant.

### Spirit of Pageantry: No fee

Each contestant is automatically entered in this competition. At the end of rehearsal, contestants will discretely vote for the girl who best encompasses the pageant spirit.

### Best In: \$15

This is a separate score for the best interview, fun fashion, and evening gown style scores. Scores will be taken from the actual competition scores.

### Talent: \$15

Talent is limited to 3 minutes in length. You will turn in your CD (if applicable) at registration and should bring a spare copy of your music. Your CD should be kept in a sleeve or CD case with your name and division on both the CD and the cover. It is your responsibility to pick up the CD from the DJ after the pageant. These will not be mailed back.

### Community Service: \$15

Contestants participating in the Community Service optional will bring a scrapbook showcasing her contributions to her community. The scrapbook should begin with her most recent activities and will be picked up after the pageant. This will not be mailed back.

### Community Impact: \$15

Contestants list their community service hours over the past year. The contestant with the most hours will be awarded. \*NOTE: You may be asked to verify your hours.





### **Portfolio: \$15**

This competition involves submitting 5-10 photos in a physical modeling portfolio. You will be responsible for picking up your photos at the end of the pageant, as they will not be mailed back to you. These may either be in color or black and white.

### **Photogenic: \$15**

Contestants competing in this optional competition will bring 2 professional photographs to registration. You will need to write your name on the back of both photos, which should be at least a 4x6 and no larger than 8x10. You will be responsible for picking up your photos at the end of the pageant, as they will not be mailed back to you. These may either be in color or black and white and may NOT be older than 3 years.



### **Rip the Runway: \$15**

Contestants entering this competition will model an outfit of her choice which showcases her personal style. Judging will be based off poise, modeling ability, and choice of outfit.

### **Supermodel: \$30**

The contestant with the highest overall score in Portfolio, Photogenic and Rip the Runway. This fee includes entry to each of these optionals. The winner of this competition may also win the Portfolio, Photogenic, and/or Rip the Runway competitions independently as well.



## Division Awards/Titles:

All Central States U.S. United and Royal U.S.

United queens will receive:

Official state crown and embroidered sash

Trophy

Entry to the 2023 U.S. United 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pageant and all associated special events

Preparation for the national pageant from your regional director

20% discount, photoshoot, and a gift bag courtesy of Natalie M.



**Other prizes will be announced as sponsors confirm participation.**

**Continue to check the Central States U.S. United Facebook page for announcements and updates.**

**Winners are responsible for the \$545 entry fee to the national pageant; Your application and pageant fees (\$200) are waived.**

**Winners must obtain at least 60% of the total points to be able to advance to the national pageant.**

## Royal U.S. United

The Royal U.S. United pageant occurs alongside the U.S. United pageant and is reserved for contestants with less than 3 years of pageant experience. The phases of competition, scoring, and all other aspects of competition remain the same. Royal U.S. United queens will also progress to the national competition in Atlanta, GA July 26-30, 2023.

## State Queens Contract:



Each division winner will be required to sign a queen's contract immediately following the competition. This contract spells out, in detail, what will be expected of the titleholder. Failure to sign the contract will result in immediate forfeiture of the title and prizes.

**If a queen signs the Central States U.S. United contract and chooses not to compete at the national pageant, she MUST return her state crown and sash to the regional office within 7 business days and pay a fine of \$350.**

This clause is included in the state contract and will be enforced. Exceptions may apply depending on the circumstances.

Each winner will be required to compete in the national pageant July 26-30, 2023, in Atlanta, Georgia.

## Additional Information

Please note that we may make divisional and title adjustments prior to nationals based on total number of entries in a division.

Planning and budgeting are important. Please do not hesitate to ask for help, ideas, and suggestions for fundraising and budgeting as you plan your pageant journey.

Tattoos must remain covered during the pageant, rehearsals, orientation, and appearances.

One earring per ear is allowed. No other piercings will be allowed to be displayed during competition and appearances.

Videography and flash photography are not allowed. We will have an official photographer who will be selling photo packages.

We are so glad to have you join us at our pageant!

## A Special Thank You to our Sponsors:

Will Patterson Photography, official photographer



Natalie M. Studio, official wardrobe sponsor

