 **Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant 2018**

**Rene’ Green, Colorado State Pageant Administrator**

**5500 N. Lariat Dr., Castle Rock CO 80108**

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***www.colosenioramerica.com***

Dear Interested Applicant:

The Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant (MCSAP) appreciates your interest in being a Contestant in the **2018 Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant.** Following is some information to assist you before proceeding with the official application process.

**Pageant Information**

* Date: **Saturday, May 26, 2018**, 2 p.m.
* Location: Lone Tree Arts Center,10075 Commons Street, Lone Tree CO 80124
* Tickets for family and friends: $25
* The MCSAP will provide applicants with the official 2018 MCSAP Contestant and Agreement packet, either by e-mail, mail, or through access to the MCSAP Official Website *www.colosramerica.com*.

**Requirements:**

* Applicants must be 60 years of age or older by the date of the Pageant.
* Applicants must be a resident of the State of Colorado.

**Deadlines and Timelines**

* **March 1, 2018** -Applicants must pay an entry fee of $200 in full in check or money order made out to MCSAP. No credit cards can be accepted. The entry fee must accompany a copy of the signed Agreement and be given to a recruiter at initial meeting or mailed to Rene’ Green, Colorado State Pageant Administrator, at 5500 N. Lariat Drive, Castle Rock, CO 80108.
* **April 1, 2018**
  + Application must be completed, signed, and submitted to the MCSAP by e-mailing to renemcsap@gmail.com. Applications must be submitted in Microsoft Word electronic format. If unable to provide electronically, contestant must notify MCSAP as soon as possible. If contestant sends handwritten or .pdf version of application and it must be typed into Word format by the MCSAP, a $25.00 fee will apply. **Late applications will not be accepted.**
  + A head and shoulders photograph of contestant in .jpeg format must be e-mailed to sharimcsap@Q.com. If unable to provide this photograph, contestant must notify MCSAP as soon as possible.
* **April 14, 2018** - Rehearsals begin at Aurora Center for Active Adults, 30 Del Mar Circle, Aurora CO 80011. They will continue every Saturday through **May 19**. Contestants who are using recorded accompaniment must bring two copies of their accompaniment C.D. to the first rehearsal along with two copies on USB.
* **May 25, 2018** - Final dress rehearsal at Lone Tree Arts Center.
* **May 26, 2018** - 2018 Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant at Lone Tree Arts Center.

**Notifications**

* All communication with contestants will be by e-mail and contestant must provide an e-mail address to the MCSAP for use in receiving information. If contestant does not have a personal e-mail address, they must provide an e-mail address of a friend or family member who will be willing to accept e-mail on behalf of the contestant and ensure the contestant receives all information.
* Upon completing Application and Agreement Packet, the MCSAP will notify the Applicant on whether they are accepted for the Pageant. If the MCSAP does not accept the application, the entry fee will be returned. The MCSAP reserves the right to deny any application.
* Upon acceptance of application, contestants will be notified of all dates for rehearsals, dress rehearsals, interviews, stage rehearsals, and pageant. It is highly recommended that contestants attend all rehearsals.
* Prior contestants may request to re-compete in the pageant. However, priority consideration will be given to "new" contestants. The Board will determine how many contestants will be selected for each annual pageant.
* Prior applicants who have been rejected as contestants may only reapply by petitioning the MCSAP Board in writing. The Board has the final decision to accept or reject any applicant.

**Contestant Preparation**

A. Clothing: All clothing worn in the Pageant must be approved by the Production Manager. Contestants will be expected to provide their own clothing, shoes, jewelry, and accessories for each of the following:

1. Competition Gown: A long formal evening gown that is well fitted, modest, and flattering to the wearer and reflects what an elegant adult woman would wear.

2. Cocktail Dress: A cocktail dress or other semi-formal attire is generally worn.

3. Interview Outfit: A business suit, dress, or skirt and top combination that would be suitable to wear to a job interview is worn when contestants’ interviews with the judges.

4. Talent Outfit: An outfit fit for the talent being performed. Costumes should be modest and reflect the personality of the performer.

B. Photograph: A high-quality head and shoulders photo in .jpg format must be e-mailed to sharimcsap@q.com by April 1, 2018, for placement in the Pageant Program Booklet. These photographs should show the contestant at best advantage. The MCSAP may provide a photographer to take photographs at a scheduled rehearsal for contestants who may require it.

C. Brief Biography: A brief, 50 to 75 word biography must be e-mailed by April 1, 2018 to sharimcsap@q.com, for placement next to the contestant's photograph in the Pageant Booklet.

**Judging Criteria**

A. Interview - 30% of score: Each contestant will have a **5 minute** private interview with the judges as part of the competition. The judges will have reviewed your application form and may ask general questions or those related to information in your application. The judges evaluate the contestants on charm, personality, and conversational ability. The interview portion of the competition will be held on a separate date and location from the theater venue.

B. Evening Gown - 20% of score: The Pageant's philosophy is that "clothes do not make the woman but rather, the woman makes the clothes." The judges will observe the poise and grace of each contestant wearing formal attire.

C. Philosophy of Life - 20% of score: Each contestant will present a **35-second** statement of their Philosophy of Life. Points will be deducted from contestants who go over the time limit. The judges use this to evaluate the true beauty that comes from within. Contestants are encouraged to practice this recitation to project sincerity and conviction, and be an inspiration to the audience, family, and friends.

D. Talent - 30% of score: Each contestant will present a **2 minute, 45 second** talent performance. Points will be deducted from contestants who go over the time limit. Talent may be drawn from music, art, dance, comedy, recitation, or any other talent that will be entertaining to the audience. You must have a talent to enter the Pageant. The MCSAP will not assist you in creating a talent, but will provide you assistance in refining or enhancing your talent.

**Talent Criteria**

A. Accompaniment: If talent requires a musical accompaniment or recorded music, it must be provided on two separate USB drives preferred. They must be good quality, contain only the music used in the performance, and will not be returned. Names and titles of music must be clearly marked on the USB’s (CD's). Technical assistance will be available upon request. If the contestant prefers a live accompanist, a single accompanist playing one instrument will be allowed. A piano will be available at rehearsals and on the Pageant stage. Accompanist fee is the responsibility of the contestant.

B. Timing: Talent timing starts from the moment the musical accompaniment, routine, act, speaking, etc. starts. It does not include setting up, walking onto the stage or exiting the stage. All of the allotted time need not be used, but points will be deducted for going over the time limit.

C. Display: Certain simple items may be placed on stage for use as display or props. They should be small and should be set up so the stagehands can readily move them onto and off of the stage. MCSAP will not be responsible for loss or damage to props/display items. Actual stage sets and audio/visual displays are not permitted. Contestants must transport items to and from the theater. Display items must be approved by the MCSAP.

D. Microphones: Hand-held, stand-held, and personal remote microphones are available.

E. No pyrotechnic displays, fire or open flames allowed.

**Rehearsals**

A. Rehearsals will begin **Saturday, April 14, 2018,** and be held each successive Saturday until the date of the Pageant. They will be held at Aurora Center for Active Adults, 30 Del Mar Circle, Aurora CO 80011. A rehearsal schedule including time, location, and items to be brought to the rehearsals will be provide to contestants in advance.

B. Contestants are encouraged to attend all rehearsals not only to practice and enhance their routines, but also to receive staging instructions and advice on attire, makeup, poise, grace, etc. This is also a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know other contestants.

C. As a courtesy to everyone involved, contestants are asked to arrive promptly and be prepared and ready to rehearse.

D. Interviews with the judges will be held on **Friday morning, May 25, 2018**, at a time and location to be announced, and then a final stage rehearsal will be **Friday evening, May 25, 2018,** from 12:30 to 7 p.m. (the day before the Pageant) at the theater venue. All contestants should be fully prepared to run through each aspect of the Pageant **within time limits.**Everyone must arrive promptly in order to work with stage and sound crew.

If you are interested in becoming a contestant in the **2018 Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant** or would like additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Rene’ Green

Rene’ Green, Colorado State Pageant Administrator

Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant

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