 **Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant 2019**

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

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

**720-384-6249 (C) 303-814-8221 (H)**

**renemcsap@gmail.com**

***www.colosenioramerica.com***

Dear Interested Applicant:

Are you interested in becoming a contestant at the 25th Anniversary of the Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant? Below is a brief checklist to help you to determine if you are ready to complete in the **2019 Pageant.** More complete information follows:

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dates in 2019** | **Item** |
|  |  | Requirements: Must be 60 years of age or older at time of the pageant and be a resident of Colorado for at least 6 months |
|  |  | Have a current working e-mail address for which to receive communications from Pageant staff |
|  |  | Read and understand Contestant Agreement and Application Form and be willing to abide by rules (available at www.colosramerica.com) |
|  | January 8 | Attend a recruitment meeting (optional but highly recommended). Meet members of the Cameo Club and have any of your questions about competing answered. |
|  | March 1 | Submit $200 contestant fee and signed Contestant Agreement |
|  | March 1 | Contact friends and family to determine if they wish to place ads in the Pageant Program Booklet. Business ads also accepted. (Optional) |
|  | April 1 | Submit signed Contestant Application and head and shoulders high-quality photograph to Pageant Staff. |
|  | April 1 | If you are disabled, provide Pageant staff with a description of disability and discuss any accommodations that you might need during rehearsals or pageant |
|  | April 13 thru May 18 | Rehearsals – Every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Must attend majority of rehearsals. Be prepared to practice all aspects of pageant during rehearsals. |
|  | April 20 | Must display talent act and provide recorded accompaniment for your talent act (if needed) |
|  | April 20 | Provide attire for pageant, including evening gown, cocktail dress (in red, white, or blue), interview outfit, and talent costume, plus all shoes, accessories, and jewelry |
|  | April 20 | Provide any needed items or props for talent performance |
|  | May 1 | Final day to submit advertisements for Pageant Program Booklet |
|  | May 24 and 25 | Pageant weekend – Available both days for judge interviews, dress rehearsal and pageant |

If you feel you can meet these dates and are willing to complete all forms and will enjoy meeting other contestants, work with Pageant staff, and grow more poised and confident each week, please contact:

***Rene’ Green, Colorado State Pageant Administrator, renemcsap@gmail.com***

***303-814-8221 (home); 720-384-6249 (cell)***

**MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION ON ABOVE ITEMS**

**Requirements:**

* Must be 60 years of age or older by the date of the Pageant (proof of age shown on driver’s license or state identification card).
* Must be a resident of the State of Colorado for at least 6 months.

**E-Mail Address:** Most communication will be by e-mail. If you don’t have a personal e-mail, arrange for one to be set up or ask a friend or family member to receive email for you.

**Recruiting Meeting:** A recruiting meeting will be held with current MCSAP Board Members and Cameo Club members on **Tuesday, January 8, at 11:30 a.m.** at Rendezvous Restaurant at Heather Gardens, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora. Contestants may ask any questions about being a contestant in the pageant and may talk with current members (who have all been contestants in the past) about their experiences. This meeting is optional but is highly recommended if you are unsure about your decision on whether to compete. Please call Rene’ Green at 720-384-6249 to let her know if you plan to attend.

**Forms, Fee, and Photo**

* Contestant Agreement: Read and sign form and either give to a recruiter at a one-on-one meeting, or mail to Rene’ Green, Colorado State Pageant Administrator, 5500 N. Lariat Drive, Castle Rock, CO 80108. **Due by March 1, 2019.**
* Contestant Fee: Pay contestant fee of $200 in check or money order (made out to MCSAP). No credit cards can be accepted. **Due by March 1, 2019.**
* Contestant Application: Totally complete form in electronic format (Microsoft Word preferred). E-mail to Rene’ Green ([renemcsap@gmail.com](mailto:renemcsap@gmail.com)) **AND** to Shari Ortiz ([sharimcsap@Q.com](mailto:sharimcsap@Q.com)). If you cannot provide your application in this format, please call Shari Ortiz (303-410-1604) to determine how best to submit your application form. **Due by April 1, 2019. Late applications will not be accepted.**
* Contestant Photograph: Submit contestant photograph in .jpeg format by e-mailing to sharimcsap@Q.com. Photographs should be high quality head and shoulders only and show contestant at best advantage and suitable for publication in the Pageant Program Booklet. If you cannot provide photograph in this format, please call Shari Ortiz (303-410-1604) to determine how to submit your photograph. **Due by April 1, 2019.** (Note: If required, a photographer may be made available at a contestant rehearsal.)

**Advertisements in Pageant Program Booklet:**

* When you meet with a recruiter, you will receive a copy of a Pageant Program Booklet. This will give you ideas on the types of contestant support advertisements or business advertisements that we publish.
* Ads are the following prices:
  + Full page (5” wide x 7” long) - $125
  + Half page (5” wide x 3-1/2” long) - $60
  + Third page (5” wide x 2-1/4” long) - $40
  + Fourth page (2-1/4” wide x 3-1/4” long) - $30
  + Business card (3-1/2” wide x 2” long) - $30
* Submit all advertisements, preferably in .jpeg format, to Shari Ortiz, sharimcsap@Q.com. Although we prefer ads to be submitted in final format, Shari may be able to assist you in completing an ad if you are having difficulty. (Note: Dark or metallic business cards do not transfer well to our format.) **Due by May 1, 2019.**

**Pageant Information**:

* Pageant: **Saturday, May 25, 2019**, 2 p.m., PACE Center Theater, 20000 Pikes Peak Avenue, Parker, Colorado. All contestants must arrive at 12 noon**.** Contestants should not travel to the theater with family because no one is allowed backstage except production staff. Attendees will not be seated in the theater until 1:30.
* Contestant Walk-through of Venue: Will be held within the 2 weeks prior to the Pageant at a date and time to be announced.
* Contestant Interviews with Judges: **Friday, May 24, 2019,** Parker Senior Living by Morningstar, 18900 E. Main Street, Parker, CO. Times to be announced. (Note: During rehearsals, contestants have an opportunity to practice interview skills in front of a mock panel of judges.)
* Final Stage Rehearsal: **Friday, May 24, 2019,** 1 to 6 p.m., at the theater venue. All contestants must attend and should be fully prepared to run through each aspect of the Pageant **within time limits.**Everyone must arrive promptly to work with stage and sound crew.
* Tickets for family and friends: $25. All tickets to be purchased through the PACE Center Box Office in advance as tickets are often sold out and will not be available at the door.

**Rehearsals**

* Rehearsals are held at Aurora Center for Active Adults, 30 Del Mar Circle, Aurora CO 80011, every Saturday, from 11 a.m. through 3 p.m., beginning **April 13 through May 18, 2019**.
* Rehearsals will cover all aspects of the Pageant. You will receive training in each aspect of the areas on which you will be judged: Private Interview, Philosophy of Life, Evening Gown, and Talent. You may choose what you wish to do for each area, but Production Staff will be available to give you hints and advice. We will cover: walking and utilizing the stage to your best advantage, how to showcase your evening gown, how to modulate and project your voice, makeup, poise and confidence, etc. We will also help you to develop your talent act so it is most effective and pleasing to a large audience of 300 to 400 people. One rehearsal will be dedicated to doing Mock Interviews, so you may receive feedback on your interview skills.
* Contestants are encouraged to attend all rehearsals not only to practice and enhance their routines, but also to receive staging instructions and advice. This is also a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know other contestants.
* As a courtesy to everyone involved, contestants are asked to arrive promptly and be prepared and ready to rehearse. You should provide your own snacks and drinks.
* Disabilities: We are happy to provide accommodations as needed to contestants to ensure they are safe during rehearsals and pageant. Some disabilities might be: difficulty walking, tremors causing difficulty holding items, balance issues, hearing or sight issues, etc. Please feel free to discuss your disabilities privately with our Production Staff. We will help you work around any difficulties. (Note: If you will need an escort to take you backstage, to and from dressing rooms, or on and off stage, you may be asked to provide your own escort.)

**Talent Criteria**

* 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 the allotted time need not be used, but points will be deducted for going over the time limit.
* Props: Certain simple items may be placed on stage for use as display or props. They should be small and pre-set so the stagehands can readily move them onto and off 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 Production Manager.
* Microphones: Hand-held, stand-held, and personal remote microphones are available.
* No pyrotechnic displays, fire or open flames allowed. No glitter or floor rosin is allowed by the pageant venue.

**Accompaniment:**

* Recorded Accompaniment: If talent requires a musical accompaniment or recorded music, it must be provided on two separate USB drives. They must be good quality, contain only the music used in the performance (no backup singers), and will not be returned. You cannot have a Disney song due to copyright issues. Names and titles of music must be clearly marked on the USB’s (CD's). Technical assistance will be available upon request. **Due by April 20, 2019** (unless an extension is granted by Pageant Staff)**.**
* Live Accompanist: 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.
* Technical Assistance: One of our Production Staff will assist you in ensuring you have the best quality accompaniment available and work with you to ensure it does not exceed the time allowed for talent.

**Clothing, shoes, jewelry, and accessories:**

* Contestants supply all clothing and costumes. Stage attire should reflect what an elegant adult woman would wear.
* The Production Manager approves the apparel to ensure it is fitted, modest, tasteful, and flattering to the wearer. **Due by April 20, 2019** (unless an extension is granted by Pageant Staff)**.**
* Competition Gown: A long formal evening gown.
* Cocktail Dress: A black cocktail dress or other semi-formal attire.
* 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 interview with the judges.
* Talent Outfit: An outfit fit for the talent being performed. Costumes should be modest and reflect the personality of the performer.
* Shoes should reflect contestant personality and compliment the outfit. However, shoes should be comfortable to wear for long periods of time while standing or walking. Some shoes with quite high heels do not give contestant a smooth and graceful walk while on stage. Shoes are extremely important to the comfort of the contestant during rehearsals and on pageant day. Please be thoughtful in the selection of your footwear.
* Jewelry should complement the outfit. It is suggested you “bling” up your outfits as small pendants or earrings are “lost” to view while under bright lights on stage and are not apparent to the audience. Larger, shiny jewelry can be seen better while on stage. We do not encourage wearing expensive jewelry on stage as the Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant cannot be held responsible for loss or damage.

**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. They also will ask questions to determine the contestant’s thoughts about becoming the 2019 Queen. 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 her 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.

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