 **Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant 2020**

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

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

**720-384-6249**

[**renemcsap@gmail.com**](mailto:renemcsap@gmail.com)

***ColoSrAmerica.com***

Dear Interested Applicant:

Are you interested in becoming a contestant at the 26th Annual Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant? Below is a brief checklist to help you to determine if you are ready to complete in the **2020 Pageant.** More complete information follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dates in 2020** | **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); |
|  | No later than May 15 | submit $250 contestant fee and signed **Contestant Agreement;** |
|  | Any time | contact friends and family to determine if they wish to place ads in the Pageant Program Booklet. Business ads also accepted. (Optional but strongly encouraged); |
|  | No later than June 1 | submit signed **Contestant Application** and head & shoulders high-quality photograph to Pageant Staff; |
|  | June 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; |
|  | June 13 thru July 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; |
|  | June 20 | must display talent act and provide recorded accompaniment for your talent act (if needed). No Disney songs allowed because of copyright issues. (see talent info); |
|  | June 20 | provide attire for pageant, including evening gown, little back cocktail dress, interview outfit, and talent costume, plus all shoes, accessories, and jewelry (**need these for rehearsal**); |
|  | June 20 | provide any needed items or props for talent performance (need these for rehearsal) – Final day for Music on USB – MP3 format (need 2 copies); |
|  | No later than July 1 | final day to submit advertisements for Pageant Program Booklet; |
|  | July 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***](mailto:renemcsap@gmail.com)

***720-384-6249***

**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.

**Forms, Fee, and Photo**

* **Contestant Agreement Form and Contestant Fee:** 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. The fee is $250 in check or money order (Made out to MCSAP). **Pageant Recruitment will be open till the first 14 contestants are received and no later than May 15, 2020.**
* **Contestant Application Form and Photograph**: 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 Rene Green (720-384-6249) to determine how best to submit your application form. **Accepted at any time, but no later than June 1, 2020.**

**Contestant Photograph:** Submit contestant photograph in .jpeg format by e-mailing to [sharimcsap@Q.com](mailto:sharimcsap@Q.com) and cc’ing ReneMCSAP@gmail.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. **Accepted at any time, but no later than June 1, 2020.** (Note: If required, a photographer may be made available at April Recruitment luncheon and the first 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
  + 1/4 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.) **Accepted at any time, but no later than June 15, 2020.**

**Pageant Information**:

* 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, July 24, 2020,** 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, July 24, 2020,** 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.
* Pageant: **Saturday, July 25, 2020**, 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.
* Tickets for family and friends: $25. All tickets to be purchased through the PACE Center Box Office in advance or online. Please buy ahead of time as tickets are often sold out and will not be available at the door.

**Rehearsals**

* Rehearsals 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 **June 13 through July 18, 2020**.
* 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 can 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: If any, may be simple items placed on stage for use as display or props. They should be small and pre-set (example- items a lady can pick up and carry in her own 2 hands – no wagons or luggage carts needed) 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. REMEMBER – you are the talent not the props! All items must be approved by the Production Manager.
* No Gymnastic Equipment or Aerial equipment will be permitted.
* No pyrotechnic displays, fire or open flames allowed. No glitter or floor rosin is allowed by the pageant venue.
* Microphones: Hand-held, stand-held, and personal remote microphones will be provided.

**Accompaniment:**

* Recorded Accompaniment: If talent requires a musical accompaniment or recorded music, it must be provided on two separate USB drives with a MP3 format. They must be good quality, contain only the music used in the performance (no backup singers), and will not be returned. You cannot use a Disney song due to copyright issues. Names and titles of music must be clearly marked on the USB’s. Technical assistance will be available upon request. **Due no later than June 20, 2020** (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. Contestant will assume the risk of accompanist not arriving and or running over on time.
* 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 and staff approves the apparel to ensure it is fitted, modest, tasteful, and flattering to the wearer. **No glitter on any clothing.** Sequins and beads are allowed. **Due by June 20, 2020** (unless an extension is granted by Pageant Staff)**. You will be required to wear your pageant gown at a rehearsal to make sure you can walk, move, and are comfortable (as much as possible). Nothing worse than finding the day of the pageant your gown is too long. Highly suggested you use this time so you can make needed changes if necessary!**
* Competition Gown: A long formal evening gown.
* 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.
* Little Back Cocktail Dress - A black dress, probably in your closet already, for the introductions on stage.
* 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. (Be sure to break in new shoes prior to Pageant Day)
* 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 2020 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, however we will aid in refining or enhancing your talent.

Please call or email me if you have any further questions.

Thank you again for your interest in the Ms. Colorado Senior America Pageant. It is an amazing experience that you and your family will be proud of the rest of your life.

René Green

Rene’ Green, Colorado State Pageant Administrator

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