

Miss Birmingham's Teen Miss Cahaba Valley's Teen Miss Hidden River's Teen

Dear Teen and Parents:

Let me take this opportunity to tell you that we at the Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River Organization and the Covered Bridge Organization are absolutely delighted that you have chosen to compete in our Teen competition – an official preliminary to Miss Alabama's & Miss America's Teen!

Each Teen Contestant must be between the ages of 13 and 18. If the contestant is 18 years old, she may choose to compete in either Teen or Miss.

As a franchise of the Miss Alabama Competition and part of the Miss America Organization – the largest source of educational scholarship money to young women – the ultimate goal of the Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River Competition is to offer educational scholarship awards the winners and runners up. Not only do we offer scholarships at the Miss level, but each Teen winner will have her Miss Alabama's Teen entrance fee paid by our organization and will have opportunity to win a multitude of scholarships to Alabama colleges and universities at the state competition. We crown three (3) winners and your entrance fee of **\$175** per teen contestant assists in achieving our scholarship goals.

Enclosed is the packet containing all entry forms, competition information, deadlines, and Rising Star information.

If you have any questions about any portion of the competition, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to seeing you at the competition and getting to know you as we move toward crowning Miss Birmingham's, Miss Cahaba Valley's and Miss Hidden River's Teen winners – one of whom could become Miss Alabama's and Miss America's Teen!

Remember – compete only with yourself and do it better than the time before!

Warmest Regards,

Mrs. Victoria



Style Scholarship Service Success

Victoria Seale Sims

Executive Director

Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River

www.missbham.com missbham@gmail.com

Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's Miss Hidden River's | Miss Covered Bridge's Teen

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE PACKET

2024 Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's | Miss Hidden River's | Miss Covered Bridge's Teen
November 5, 2023 * Thompson High School * 2 PM * Tickets: \$20 General Admission

Every Contestant must register with Miss America here: <https://www.club.missamerica.org/alabama-miss-america-registration-page>

New for 2024!

Health & Fitness:

- Teen Contestants **must** wear **red** Rebel Athletic Wear for local Health & Fitness competitions. This phase is comprised of a modeling walk and *is no longer a fitness routine*. You may purchase your choice of fitness wear from the pieces available on the Rebel Athletic website: <https://www.rebelathletic.com/mao.html>

Important! Use the Miss Alabama code when checking out: **MOAAL2023**

Instructions on how to apply the discount are in a separate link on the Become a Contestant page

- Contestants must also submit a fitness introduction - 2-3 sentences on why you are heart healthy. This introduction is on the Contestant Information sheet in this packet and will be read onstage as you model fitness wear.

Interview:

- **Teens will now have a 10-minute interview (formerly 6 mins)**. Each Contestant is introduced by the panelist chair, will take her position, and immediately present **a brief 30-second introduction/Community Service Initiative (CSI) overview**. See Competition Events for more details.

The format for paperwork has also changed and samples are included in this packet. Do not mail items other than the ones listed below. Do NOT require a signature!

Important! **Deadlines for the various items along with the format (email or mail) to send are in the checklist below:**

EMAIL to
missbham@gmail.com

Deadline
October 26th

MAIL to
513 Saint Lauren Way
Birmingham, AL 35242

Deadline
October 28th

<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Interview Fact Sheet</u> <i>Word or PDF only</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Contract
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Community Service Essay</u> <i>Word or PDF only</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$175 Entry Fee <i>Made out to Miss Birmingham</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Headshot Photo</u> <i>High Resolution</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Rising Star Information and \$35 Fee</u> <i>per Rising Star, Made out to Miss Birmingham</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Rising Star Name & Photo</u> <i>Where Applicable</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Contestant Information Sheet</u> <i>Notarized Copy</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Talent Music</u> <i>MP3 or MP4 Format Only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Contract & Copy of Birth Certificate		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Contestant Information Sheet</u> <i>Talent & Fitness Introductions are on this Page</i>		

Mandatory Local Orientation via Online Meeting: October 29, 2023 – 2 PM CST
(Link will be sent after the October 28th Deadline)

After October 28th, all Contestants will be emailed an updated competition day schedule.

Miss Birmingham | Cahaba Valley | Hidden River | Covered Bridge

Miss Birmingham's | Cahaba Valley's | Hidden River's | Covered Bridge's Teen

CONTESTANT INFORMATION SHEET

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

School/University: _____

SECTION A: ELIGIBILITY

I have registered to compete on the Miss America Website <https://www.club.missamerica.org/alabama-miss-america-registration-page>

Age: _____

As of the date of this preliminary

Date of Birth: _____

Enclose a copy of your official birth certificate

SECTION B: TALENT PRESENTATION

Type of Talent (i.e., Vocal, Dance, Piano, etc.): _____

Name of Talent Selection: _____

Type of microphone preferred:

Cordless

Lavalier

Microphone with Stand

None

Talent Introduction:

Provide a short 2-3 sentence introduction for your talent presentation below:

SECTION C: HEALTH AND FITNESS PRESENTATION: CONTESTANTS MUST WEAR RED REBEL ATHLETIC WEAR

<https://www.rebelathletic.com/mao.html>

Use the Miss Alabama code when selecting items and checking out: MOAAL2023

Fitness Introduction:

Provide a short 2-3 sentences describing *how you are heart healthy* to be read during your fitness presentation below:

Miss Birmingham | Cahaba Valley | Hidden River | Covered Bridge
Miss Birmingham's | Cahaba Valley's | Hidden River's | Covered Bridge's Teen
CONTESTANT INFORMATION SHEET

SECTION D: ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY

By signing this Local Contestant Contract Acknowledgment of Understanding and Statement of Eligibility, I agree to abide by the complete Miss Alabama Local Contestant Contract. I understand all terms and conditions of this application and the complete Miss Alabama contract together with its attachments, as I request acceptance of my application to participate in Miss Alabama preliminaries.

Contestant Signature: _____

SECTION E: NOTARY SECTION

Sworn and subscribed to before me this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Notary Public of _____ Signature: _____

SECTION F: DIRECTOR'S SECTION

I have verified eligibility requirements for this contestant and this contestant may participate in this local competition pursuant to the terms of the complete Miss Alabama Local Candidate Contract and all attachments and the Local Preliminary Contract for my local competition.

Director's Signature: _____ Date _____

Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's Miss Hidden River's & Miss Covered Bridge's Teen

Competition Items to Bring & Opening Number Attire

★*Important!* Local Orientation

Local Orientation will be conducted via online meeting on Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 3 PM CST. **This meeting is *mandatory* for all Contestants so mark your calendars!**

If for an unavoidable reason you are unable to attend, you must notify the Director of the reason at least 24 hours in advance, and your parent may attend in your place. The expectation is that you understand what was discussed and send the Director an email to that effect.

Opening Number Attire

- Black Pants & a Black OR White Top – Sparkles are fine!
 - If the top is strapless, wig tape OR double-sided tape *must* be used to secure the bodice to ensure no wardrobe malfunctions happen
 - Coordinating shoes of your choice that you can dance in.
 - **NO Boots & NO Wedges**

Items You MUST Have with You on Competition Day

- Hard Copy of the Completed 2023 MAO State & Local Contestant Contract – the director will send in the hard copy of this contract to Miss Alabama if you are selected as one of our titleholders – **REQUIRED**
- Talent attire, props and a **backup copy of your talent music on your phone** (no exceptions)
- Competition wardrobe including all jewelry, shoes, and undergarments
- List of current obligations and Class Schedule – include information and dates for all extracurricular activities (including sorority, sports, church, etc.) and any family obligations – the winner will be asked for this the night of the competition
- All clothes, makeup, and other competition necessities
- **Robe** to wear backstage - **REQUIRED**

Other Important Things to Remember

- Please wear *comfortable* clothes when you arrive & remember that parents and friends MUST leave after helping unload
- No Contestants may leave the competition venue during competition day
- No outside hair or makeup artists are allowed – be prepared to do your own hair and makeup
- Dressing Room moms will be available to assist you & keep everyone on track for the next event – please be sure to thank them during the day
- All meals, water & snacks will be provided by the Miss Birmingham Organization
 - If you have specific food allergies, you may bring your own food/snack items; you MUST inform the Dressing Room Moms upon your arrival
- Please label anything that you wish to keep – *any items left without a label cannot be returned. If you realize an item has been left after the competition, please e-mail the director promptly*
- Please bring an electrical power strip, a lighted mirror and/or a full-length mirror
 - The competition will provide a limited number of power strips so please make sure to label any that you bring with you to the venue
- Garment racks are provided by the competition for hanging costumes and gowns
- **Dressing Room space is LIMITED – BRING ONLY NECESSARY ITEMS**

Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's

Miss Hidden River's & Miss Covered Bridge's Teen

Competition Events & Information

Each Contestant is judged by the selection panel immediately after each event. The score will range between 1 and 10. The high and low scores for each Contestant are discarded in each area of competition.

The three (3) Contestants with the highest overall scores at the end of the competition will be named Miss Birmingham's, Miss Cahaba Valley's, and Miss Hidden River's Teen, respectively.

The Phases of Competition are listed below in order:

★NEW for 2024★ Private Interview with Judges - 30%

New for 2024: Each Contestant is introduced by the panelist chair, will take her position, and immediately present a **brief 30-second introduction/Community Service Initiative (CSI) overview**. Questions may range from current events to personal goals and interests and may be taken from the contestant's resume and CSI essay. At the 9-minute 30-second mark, the panelist chair will inform the contestant of the remaining time. The Contestant may choose to use the time to finish her response to the last question asked or proceed in a closing statement.

Wardrobe: Fashionable attire suitable for a professional job interview.

On-Stage Question/Conversation (OSQ) - 10%

A single question from **the Delegate's Community Service Project (CSI)** will be asked and the response should be no longer than 30 seconds.

Wardrobe: OSQ is completed immediately following the Opening number in Opening Number attire.

Health & Fitness - 20%

This phase of competition is where the Contestant showcases her commitment to health and fitness initiatives. A contestant's discipline and commitment to being physically healthy is a key to success in all other areas of life, and the rigors of representing the Miss America program is a national titleholder.

Wardrobe: Miss America **mandates** that competition attire be purchased from the Rebel Athletic product line, from the the Miss America Go-Red line of fitness wear. Shorts, skorts, leggings and any style top may be worn. Delegates are not required to purchase new attire for each competition!

Note: *All fitness wear choices must cover the intended part of the body fully to avoid any wardrobe 'malfunctions'.*

Performing Arts Talent or HERStory - 20%

Each Delegate will perform a talent presentation **not to exceed 90 seconds (1 minute 30 second)**. Talents may include but are not limited to – vocals in every medium, dance in all forms, gymnastics, baton, circus arts, instrumentals, and drama. The talent competition distinguishes each delegate's skills and personality, interpretive ability, technical skill level, stage presence, the ability to capture the audience's attention, and totality of all elements. *There will be no repeated talents in the competition. If two delegates wish to perform the same song, the first Delegate returning all completed paperwork will reserve that song.*

Wardrobe: Costume of the delegate's choice that is appropriate and in good taste for the chosen talent.

Evening Gown - 20%

Allows judges to have a look into how the Delegate exhibits her own personal style, attitude, personality, grace presence and confidence. Scoring is based on how the delegate carries herself, not on the actual gown she is wearing or the perceived cost of that gown.

Wardrobe: Evening wear of the Delegate's choice, with complementary shoes and accessories

Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's

Miss Hidden River's & Miss Covered Bridge's Teen

Competition Day Rules

- 1. RESPECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS:** Treat everyone involved with the competition the way you want to be treated. Our volunteers have put in a lot of work to get everything ready for today. Make sure you thank them!
- 2. HAVE FUN, MAKE FRIENDS AND SMILE!**
- 3. NO VIDEOS OR PHOTOS IN THE DRESSING ROOMS – NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- 4. CELL PHONES:** Cell phones are strictly prohibited in the dressing rooms. Phones may be used outside the dressing room during breaks. At all times, cell phones must be on silent/vibrate during competition day
- 5. NO FRIENDS OR FAMILY ALLOWED BACKSTAGE, IN DRESSING ROOMS, OR IN THE HALLS OUTSIDE OF THE DRESSING ROOMS**
- 6. NO OUTSIDE HAIR OR MAKEUP ARTISTS ALLOWED:** You should come to the competition prepared to do your own hair and makeup.
- 7. NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED IN THE AUDITORIUM OR DRESSING ROOMS:** We want to avoid spilling anything and respect the facility guidelines. All food & drinks will be provided for you by the competition in a designated area.
- 8. PAY ATTENTION DURING REHEARSALS:** We have a tight schedule and much to cover in a short period of time.
- 9. TALENT MAY BE REHEARSED TWICE ONLY:** Each Contestant will receive a scheduled time allotment to rehearse her talent selection through twice. If any Contestant chooses to forfeit one or both rehearsals, the next Contestant will be called and the missed rehearsal may be completed at the end of all rehearsals only with the express consent of the Director, and only if time permits.
- 10. BE PREPARED:** Know your resume/fact sheet & community service essay – copies of these items are provided to each judge for use during the interview. Be familiar with current events & social issues.

Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's Miss Hidden River's & Miss Covered Bridge's Teen

Tentative Competition Day Schedule

The times below are TENTATIVE – the schedule is subject to change based on participation and a final schedule will be sent to all contestants and parents after the deadlines have passed.

Important!★ **LOCAL ORIENTATION** will be held via *online meeting the Sunday prior to the Competition – October 29, 2023 at 2 PM CST*. During this mandatory meeting, competition order will be selected & the director will answer any questions you have!

7:15	7:45	Contestants Arrive & Unload Parents must leave after unloading! <i>Please do not arrive earlier than 7:15</i>
7:45	8:30	Production Rehearsals (opening number, health & fitness, onstage question & evening gown)
8:30	9:30	Talent Rehearsals
9:30	1:00	Interviews
11:30	1:30	Lunch Compliments of Miss Birmingham/Miss Cahaba Valley
1:00	1:30	Teen Opening Number & Rising Star Rehearsal
1:55		All Contestants Backstage & Ready
2:00		Teen Competition Begins!

Below is a **tentative** schedule for talent rehearsal and interviews – please note – *this schedule is subject to change depending on the number of Contestants*. **After** October 29th, all Contestants will be e-mailed an updated competition day schedule.

While you are waiting for your talent rehearsal time or your interview – you will have time to get ready for your next event, eat, and get to know the other Contestants!

Contestant	Talent Time	Interview Time
1	8:30	9:30
2	8:33	9:40
3	8:36	9:50
4	8:39	10:00
5	8:42	10:10
6	8:45	10:20
7	8:48	10:30
8	8:51	10:40
9	8:54	10:50
10	8:57	11:00
Judges' Break – Interviews Only		
11	9:00	11:20
12	9:03	11:30
13	9:06	11:40
14	9:09	11:50
15	9:12	12:00
16	9:15	12:10
17	9:18	12:20
18	9:21	12:30
19	9:24	12:40
20	9:27	12:50
Doors Open 1:30 PM Competition Begins at 2:00 PM Tickets - \$20 General Admission		

Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's Miss Hidden River's & Miss Covered Bridge's Teen Rising Star Information

Rising Stars

Each Contestant in Miss Birmingham's | Miss Cahaba Valley's | Miss Hidden River's Teen may have a Rising Star the day of the competition. The Contestant may choose her own Rising Star, or one may be assigned to her on Competition Day (subject to participation).

On Competition Day, Rising Stars will be presented onstage and introduced by Miss Alabama's Teen, directly following the Evening Gown Competition

Rising Stars are girls between the ages of 7 and 11 who are interested in getting to know about the Miss Alabama program and the Contestants who compete in it. We encourage you to choose your own Rising Star – the Miss Alabama office has a list at the ready of young girls who would like to take part. You may contact the office for that list at 205.871.6276.

An electronic photo (300 dpi minimum resolution) of EVERY Rising Star for the Program Book must be sent via e-mail to missbham@gmail.com no later than October 26th.

If a Contestant wishes to choose her own Rising Star, the Rising Star forms (located on the Miss Birmingham website) and the **fee of \$35** should be included with the rest of the application packet documents. These must be received at the Miss Birmingham address no later than October 28th.

Contestants who do not turn in Rising Star information with their entry packet may have one assigned to them on competition day (*subject to participation*).

The Rising Stars paired with the winners will be crowned the respective winner's Rising Star(s) and go on to accompany her winner to Miss Alabama's Teen in March.

All Rising Star information along with a detailed Rising Star schedule may be found on the Rising Stars page of the Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River website:

www.missbham.com/Rising_Stars

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Miss Hidden River's Teen
Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement**

As a Contestant in the Miss Birmingham's/Cahaba Valley's/Hidden River's Teen Competition (*hereinafter the "local organization"*), I agree to the following terms:

1. I attest that I am a citizen of the United States, that I reside in the State of Alabama, am not married, have never been married, am not now and have never been pregnant, and that I am not now and have never been involved in any act of moral turpitude in which criminal charges are pending.
2. I verify that I reside at the following address:

3. I verify with my birth certificate or valid Alabama Driver License or US Passport that I meet the age requirements of the Miss America's Teen organization. If eighteen (18), I certify that I *choose* to compete as a Teen rather than a Miss. I am currently _____ years of age, my birthday is _____, and I am in the _____ grade at _____ (name of school).
4. I agree to send a \$175 *non-refundable* Entrance Fee to Miss Birmingham's Teen as part of the eligibility requirements to be a Contestant in Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's/Miss Hidden River's Teen. This fee entitles me to compete for **all three** titles.

If named Miss Birmingham's Teen or Miss Cahaba Valley's Teen or Miss Hidden River's Teen, (*hereinafter the "titleholder"*), I understand and agree as the titleholder to the following terms:

I. General:

- a. Understands that her year of service is the period beginning the date she is crowned and ending the date she crowns her successor.
 - i. Should she be selected as Miss Alabama's Teen, her year of service as the titleholder will end on the date she is crowned Miss Alabama's Teen
- b. Understands that holding the title of Miss Birmingham's, Miss Cahaba Valley's or Miss Hidden River's Teen is a job and as such, all preparation, appearances, functions and service initiatives must be given proper attention and priority
- c. Understands that the Executive Director and Board are a supportive body, and will collaborate and assist each titleholder throughout her year of service to be her best at all times
- d. Will actively listen to advice from the Executive Director and Board, and have interactive discussions regarding furtherance of her personal community service initiative, appearances, interview skills, fitness, and talent presentation
- e. Understands that the local organization will strive to help the titleholder represent the community to the best of her ability
- f. Understands that she represents the the local organization and the Miss Alabama's Teen organization *at all times*, and will conduct herself appropriately
- g. Understands that she must always be gracious and respectful to the Executive Director and Board, the public, friends, family, chaperones and sponsors. *There will be no exception to this rule*
- h. Will maintain proper attitude wherever she may be – at school, attending an extracurricular activity, at a retailer, during interview practice, or at any appearance
- i. Will refrain from the use of profanity or other inappropriate language and all inappropriate conduct/behavior during her year of service – both public and private, including in the use of social media (as defined in §IV below)
 - i. Inappropriate conduct/behavior is defined as: *any conduct or behavior that includes, infers or implies sexual content of any sort, profanity, abbreviations that indicate profanity or bias, gossip, or politically-biased, racially-biased, sexually-biased or gender-biased behavior, language, material or content*
- j. Will not use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco throughout her year of service
- k. Will maintain a healthy lifestyle, good physical fitness, and healthy eating habits throughout her year of service

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

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- l. Will not drastically change her physical appearance (hair color or length, weight gain or loss, etc.) without first discussing with the Executive Director and Board. If ordered by a physician for health reasons, she will discuss with the Executive Director
- m. Agrees to use sponsored gift certificates for photographs, wardrobe, and other items; will discuss with and obtain approval from the Executive Director if a sponsor is not preferred
- n. Will provide the Executive Director with professionally photographed, high-resolution digital (minimum of 300-dpi resolution) competition headshots both with and without the crown, within three (2) months, or 90 days of being crowned Miss Birmingham's, Miss Cahaba Valley's, or Miss Hidden River's Teen. No publicity, press releases, autograph pads, etc. can be generated without these photo(s)
- o. Will meet with the Executive Director *no less than every other week* (either by phone, video conference, or in person) during her entire year of service
- p. Thank-you notes will be written and mailed within 24 hours of an appearance and within 24 hours of receiving any donations from sponsors or gifts from supporters, including those sent by the Executive Director and Board
- q. Understands that if any information submitted to either the local organization or Miss Alabama's Teen is determined to be untrue – the title, the right to compete in Miss Alabama's Teen, and all prizes will be forfeited, and any prizes must be returned to the local organization in full by the former titleholder
- r. Understands that any regression from or failure to comply with the rules set forth in this contract and the state contract she has already signed can result in the title and the right to compete in Miss Alabama's Teen being forfeited

II. Communication:

- a. Understands that all communications and decisions will be made solely between the titleholder and the Executive Director (with a copy to and consultation of the parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) *where appropriate*)
- b. Will monitor texts and e-mails and will respond **promptly** (within a *maximum* of 8 hours) to all communication from the Executive Director and Board
- c. Will consistently communicate with the Executive Director for her entire year of service
- d. Will communicate and develop relationships with her Rising Star, Miss and Teen sister titleholders
- e. Will let the Executive Director know immediately if she feels uncomfortable with any appearance, wardrobe selection, talent selection, etc., and will bring any other concern to the immediate attention of the Executive Director so that a satisfactory resolution may be reached for all parties involved

III. Preparation:

- a. Understands that the local organization will provide ample preparation opportunities for the Miss Alabama's Teen competition. The titleholder must be willing and available to utilize these opportunities to develop her skills for success
- b. Will make herself available to take part in preparation opportunities provided by the local organization
- c. Will consult the Executive Director regarding any questions concerning state paperwork deadlines, appearances, wardrobe selections, competition events and performance requirements
- d. Will actively promote her community service initiative throughout her year of service to make a difference in the Birmingham and Cahaba Valley communities, in addition to her home town
- e. Will attend weekly interview practice leading up to the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition, as scheduled by the Executive Director
- f. Understands that parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are welcome and encouraged to attend weekly interview practice for visibility, but are expected to remain in the background unless called upon
- g. Will not have any type of coaching or outside help, advice, or influence in preparing for the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition, with the exception of talent coaching, **unless disclosed and approved in writing by the Executive Director**
- h. Understands that her talent selection for Miss Alabama's Teen must be approved by the Executive Director:
 - i. Each titleholder must discuss and perform her selection for, and obtain the Director's approval, prior to Miss Alabama's Teen Contestant Orientation in March

IV. Social Media:

- a. Will create and maintain a titleholder account for FaceBook and Instagram

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Contestant Initials: _____

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- b. Will post regularly to these social media accounts for fundraisers, community service initiative endeavors, appearances, and Miss Alabama's Teen social media calendar posts and competition information
- c. Will be added as an editor of the official FaceBook page for local organization and will post regularly to the local organization page as well as her titleholder and personal pages to ensure consistent publicity during her year of service
- d. Understands that *any and all* Social Media accounts - such as TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Linked In, Twitter and Facebook - are public forums, that the reputation of the winner and the competition is affected by the content posted, and all accounts (personal and titleholder) will be monitored for content by the Executive Director
- e. Will promptly accept the Executive Director and each Board Member as a friend or follower
- f. Understands that use of inappropriate material on either personal or titleholder social media accounts is **strictly prohibited**:
 - i. Inappropriate material is defined as: *any post, tweet, text, meme, video, or photo – shared or authored – that includes or contains sexual content, profanity, abbreviations that indicate profanity or bias, or politically-biased, racially-biased, sexually-biased or gender-biased material and/or content*
 - ii. Any posts containing such material should be immediately removed from personal accounts prior to the Miss Birmingham's /Cahaba Valley's/Hidden River's Teen competition
 - iii. All social media accounts should remain free of questionable posts and inappropriate material during her entire year of service
- g. Should inappropriate content be discovered by the Executive Director or Board, the titleholder will be notified to remove it immediately. Should the titleholder fail to comply or repeatedly use or post inappropriate content, this may result in the removal of her title by the Executive Director and Board

V. Miss Alabama's Teen Required Paperwork, Photographs & Functions:

- a. Will meet all deadlines set forth by the Miss Alabama's Teen competition for all state materials, including but not limited to paperwork, photos, community service information, transcript, talent music, and contracts
- b. Will provide the local Executive Director a copy of the folder contents received at Miss Alabama's Teen Orientation via email and/or Google Drive
- c. Will send electronic copies of all state required paperwork (resume, platform essay, etc.) to the Executive Director, and understands that all required items must be approved *before* submission to Miss Alabama's Teen
- d. Will review all photos taken for use at the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition with the Executive Director
- e. Understands that all photos used for the state program book ads must be approved by the Executive Director before being submitted to the Miss Alabama's Teen Office
- f. Will arrive at *all* Miss Alabama's Teen required functions (orientation, workshop, other appearances, etc.) *at least* 15 minutes prior to start time or at the time set forth by the Director and agreed to by the titleholder
- g. Will immediately text or call the Director and the Miss Alabama's Teen event coordinator (where applicable) if unforeseen circumstances will make her tardy to any function or prevent attendance. *There will be no exception to this rule*

VI. Wardrobe:

- a. Will provide her own wardrobe for appearances and all phases of competition in Miss Alabama's Teen
- b. Will provide the Executive Director and Board with a budget for her competition wardrobe to ensure that any recommendations are within that budget
- c. Understands the competition wardrobe is comprised of clothing for all competition phases, appearances and rehearsals during Miss Alabama's Teen weekend, including shoes, jewelry and undergarments
- d. Understands that appropriate undergarments are expected to be worn at all appearances and during rehearsals and competition at Miss Alabama's Teen. *There will be no exception to this rule*
- e. Understands that all wardrobe choices for the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition must be approved by the Executive Director:
 - i. Agrees to promptly schedule wardrobe shopping trips with the Executive Director and/or Assistant Director
 - ii. Will not purchase any item for state competition without prior approval from the Executive Director
 - iii. Understands that approval may be obtained electronically with proper photos of the selected item sent via text to the Executive Director while shopping, and receiving approval prior to purchase

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- iv. Understands that any changes to the approved state competition and appearance wardrobe must be communicated to the Executive Director immediately and approval of new selections obtained by the titleholder
- f. Will properly groom each item and return it to the sales floor or sales representative while shopping. No clothing will be left in the dressing room
- g. Will promptly schedule alteration appointments with a pre-approved alterations individual or company as soon as possible after purchasing her competition wardrobe
- h. Will purchase needed wardrobe items selected no later than *February 10th* of the year she will compete in Miss Alabama's Teen

VII. Appearances:

- a. **Will arrive dressed appropriately with appropriate hair and makeup at least 15 minutes prior to any engagement or at the appointed time prior to an appearance as set forth by the Executive Director. *Tardiness is not acceptable***
- b. Will immediately text or call the Executive Director if unforeseen circumstances will make her tardy to any appearance. *Leaving late is not considered an unforeseen circumstance and will not be considered an acceptable reason for tardiness*
- c. Will seek out and discuss all appearance opportunities with the Executive Director
- d. Understands that all appearances must be cleared and approved by the Executive Director before each is scheduled
- e. Understands that for her protection, a parent, a member of the local organization, or an approved alternate chaperone must accompany the titleholder on any official appearance
- f. Will provide her own transportation to and from scheduled appearances unless the Executive Director has made other arrangements
- g. Will properly prepare herself to successfully meet the requirements of all approved appearances
- h. Will properly rehearse and prepare for any presentation of her talent during her year of service – including any/all appearances and the Miss Alabama's Teen competition
- i. Will never take advantage of the host's hospitality at an appearance or other function
- j. Will never give the impression that she is sick, tired, or bored during any appearance, and will maintain interest, enthusiasm, and sparkle during the entire appearance event, even as she is walking to her vehicle
- k. Will not cancel any appearance for any reason other than illness or school requirements
 - i. The Executive Director must be informed immediately if a conflict in scheduling arises
 - ii. The titleholder will write a letter of regret and offer to reschedule immediately if any appearance must be rescheduled or canceled
- l. Will not refuse or decline any appearance request prior to discussing with the Executive Director
- m. Will make required appearances listed below as scheduled by the Executive Director or the Miss Alabama's Teen Board. *Under no circumstances may the titleholder cancel any of the following (with exception of extreme illness or school obligations discussed with the director prior to the scheduled appearance):*

- Helena Christmas Parade (1st Saturday in December)
- Miss Alabama's Teen Contestant Orientation (January)
- Miss Birmingham's/Cahaba Valley's/Hidden River's Teen Boot Camp and Local Wardrobe Approval with Executive Director (late January or early February)
- Miss Birmingham's/Cahaba Valley's/Hidden River's Teen - Best Wishes Reception (as scheduled)
- Miss Alabama's Teen Competition (March)
- Miss Birmingham, Miss Cahaba Valley & Miss Hidden River Best Wishes/Sendoff Reception (May)
- Teen Night at Miss Alabama (late June/early July)
- Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's/Miss Hidden River's Teen Competition – to crown successor (1st Sunday in November)
- Other appearances as scheduled by and at the discretion of the Executive Director or the Miss Alabama's Teen Board

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

**Miss Birmingham's Teen
Miss Cahaba Valley's Teen
Miss Hidden River's Teen
Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement**

The undersigned Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's & Miss Hidden River's Teen Contestant will:

- By submission of the application agree that the Contestant lives and attends school in the state of Alabama
- Turn 13 years of age before the first day of competition for Miss Alabama's Teen, and no older than age 18
- Provide a \$175 check or money order made out to *Miss Birmingham*, as the entry fee for the Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's/Miss Hidden River's Teen competition
- Allow the local organization to post photographs and name on their public website (www.missbham.com)

I, _____, a Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's/Miss Hidden River's Teen Contestant, and _____, her Parent or legal Guardian, by initialing each page and signing below, *attest that we have read this agreement and contract in its entirety*, and understand all conditions, rules, and regulations set forth therein. We further understand that if found in violation of any part of this contract, the Executive Director has the authority to revoke the title of Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's or Miss Hidden River's Teen and a successor will be named to compete in the Miss Alabama's Teen Competition as Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's or Miss Hidden River's Teen. In addition, all awards, scholarships, and prerequisites pertaining thereto will be returned and passed on to the successor, who will receive all of the benefits to which I/she would have been otherwise entitled.

SIGNATURE PAGE DIRECTLY FOLLOWS

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

**Miss Birmingham's Teen
Miss Cahaba Valley's Teen
Miss Hidden River's Teen**
Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement - Signature Page

The Contestant and her parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) understand the terms and conditions of this contract and hold harmless agreement and are signing this document without duress and are entering this contract and agreement freely and without reservation.

Contestant Legal Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

I agree not to hold the local organization, designated venue and parent organization, the Miss Alabama's Teen or Miss America organizations, or anyone affiliated with the local competition/competition responsible for any personal injury, loss of items, or damage while attending the competition/competition.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian Date _____

Notarize document here. The notary must include the raised seal or official stamp.

My commission expires:

Sworn to me this _____ day of _____, 20____

Signature of Notary

**Miss Birmingham's Teen
Miss Cahaba Valley's Teen
Miss Hidden River's Teen
Contestant Information Sheet**

All Fields Required – Please Type or Write Clearly

CONTESTANT NAME: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____ AGE: _____

PARENTS' NAME (s): _____

PARENTS' E-MAIL ADDRESS*: _____

***Please list an e-mail address that is checked frequently**

PARENTS' HOME PHONE*: _____ CELL PHONE*: _____

***Please list a cell phone number where you may be reached on Competition Day**

PARENTS' HOME ADDRESS: _____

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____

GRADE: _____



COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE (CSI) ESSAY

Miss America's Community Service Initiative (CSI) is an integral part of the interview phase of competition, supporting one of the branded elements of Miss America as outlined by the "Four Points" of the crown. The "Four Points" are Style, Scholarship, Service and Success. CSI is specific to the SERVICE point of the crown.

The CSI initiative allows you, as a participating Delegate, to showcase and deploy your interests and creativity, to outline a plan or effort to engage within your local community or state existing programs. You may also design your own program for your community or state.

This ONE PAGE submission in a font style of your choice, font sizes from 11-14 only, should include the following:

- Your name and local title must be in the upper lefthand corner.
- A description of your Community Service Initiative passion or interest
- Why you chose this particular initiative
- How you've partnered or will partner with local/state communities to create momentum
- Any social media or marketing strategies that will best support your CSI
- Any activities you have planned or participated in with respect to this CSI

Use of Graphics

You may use "header only" graphics approximately ½ inch from the top of the 8.5 x11 page. Graphics may include existing organizations' logos, taglines or other creative efforts. You may use bullet points within your essay.

Signature and Date REQUIRED

Please sign and date your submission at the bottom righthand corner. No submissions will be accepted without your signature. Electronic signatures are acceptable.

Name: Jane Smith
Title: Miss Local Title

Celebrating Cultural Diversity and Inclusiveness

It is imperative that this nation face and embrace its cultural diversity. While many people have talked about this issue, I believe that most of them have only paid lip service to the true necessity of what needs to be addressed related to this issue. There is a false truth in merely accepting and tolerating cultural diversity. I intend to prove that in order to accept and understand people of other cultures; one must be willing to step out of a personal cultural comfort zone and identify the origin of their prejudice. I will specifically focus on three areas: Children, Communities, and Businesses.

The title of Miss America, combined with the national media already looking at the surface of this issue, will allow me to create the national awareness that must exist. Currently, the term “Cultural Diversity” is well known in the halls of institutions of higher learning and, perhaps, even in the public school classroom because of the need for some to be politically correct. But, in order for us to make a true change in attitudes and behaviors of Americans, we must move beyond talk and into action and policy changes.

My plan is to motivate the media and to partner with the National Conference for Community and Justice. This organization has chapters in every major city in the nation and, in many cases, those chapters have community leaders involved who can, with encouragement and challenging, bring this issue out of hiding and into the public light in each of those communities.

Obviously, the media and the NCCJ already exist. However, what is lacking is a lightning rod to draw attention to this issue. This is where the Miss America Organization steps into the lead. What better role is there for Miss America than to be an agent of change in organizing our nation to accept our differences and to create an environment that values each person on individual characteristics rather than on stereotypes or assumptions?

For years, Miss America was seen as a young woman who cut ribbons and appeared in parades. It is time for “Miss America” to step out of the convertible and *lead the parade*. Our country’s ethnic make-up is changing rapidly and our citizen’s fear of terrorism can explode already existing, but deeply hidden prejudices. I want to be the leader that this nation needs.

This nation needs this issue addressed now and through the already existing NCCJ and its local and state organizations combined with the power of Miss America, we can make a concrete difference now, which will change the direction and the future of our nation.

Signature/Date



Interview Fact Sheet Instructions

- **Must be one single page**
- **Font size 11-14**
- **Margins to be standard 1"**
- **Single line spaced typed responses**
- **May not include any graphics or photos**

See sample on next page.

Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River

OPTIONAL PHOTO CONTEST

★*OPTIONAL* Photo Competition:

Each year, we offer the opportunity for Contestants to submit photos that will be judged individually for the most photogenic Contestant overall. Contestants may submit as many different photo entries as they like, to show versatility. Each photo will be judged individually, and a winner selected prior to the competition.

The fees for this phase of competition are **\$100 for 8x10** and **\$50 for 5x7**.

All fees go toward the Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Scholarship fund

Competition photos will be placed in the **Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River Program Book** with your specified caption underneath, and you will receive a **complimentary** Program Book the night of the competition (\$10 value).

High Resolution Photos should be **emailed** to the Director at missbham@gmail.com by the deadline of October 26th to the address below.

ALL FEES may be paid by check – made out to Miss Birmingham & mailed to the address below

Miss Birmingham/Miss Cahaba Valley/Miss Hidden River – Photo Competition
513 Saint Lauren Way
Birmingham, AL 3524

Miss Birmingham Miss Cahaba Valley Miss Hidden River

Dear Friend:

The 2024 Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River Competition will be held Sunday, November 5, 2023. As an official Scholarship Preliminary to the Miss Alabama and Miss America Competitions, we are seeking contributions from the businesses, merchants, and corporations of our Metro Area community to make this year's competition a success for the young girls and women who compete for both scholarships and prizes.

Scholarships are a vital part of the Miss Alabama Competition experience and the proceeds from your advertisement will be used to provide the winners of Miss Birmingham, Miss Cahaba Valley & Miss Hidden River with funds to further their education as each goes on to represent our city in the Miss Alabama Competition.

The Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River Competition welcomes in-kind gifts as well as monetary donations. Below are our Program Book advertising rates and in-kind gift information.

Type of Ad or In-kind Gift	Price
Full Page	\$100
½ Page	\$50
In-Kind *	Gift Certificate

*All in-kind Contributors will be listed in the Program Book & a link to their website will be added to the competition's websites for one year

All Ads are to be received via e-mail *print ready no later October 26th*. The fee may be given to the Candidate or mailed to the address below:

Make checks payable to:

Miss Birmingham

Mailing Address:

Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River Competition – Ad Sales
513 Saint Lauren Way
Birmingham, AL 35242

E-mail to:

missbham@gmail.com

Deadline for receipt of all Ads and Fees is October 26th

All photos must be in JPEG, PNG or PDF Format and must be e-mailed to missbham@gmail.com

Thank You again for your support and generosity that makes the *Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley* a success!

Regards,



Victoria Seale Sims
Executive Director
Miss Birmingham | Miss Cahaba Valley | Miss Hidden River
www.missbham.com missbham@gmail.com

**Miss Birmingham
Miss Cahaba Valley
Miss Hidden River**

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MISS BIRMINGHAM & MISS CAHABA VALLEY & MISS HIDDEN RIVER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

NAME / BUSINESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

CONTESTANT: _____ DATE: _____

AMOUNT: \$ _____ CHOOSE: AD or DONATION

CHOOSE SIZE OF AD:

FULL PAGE – \$100

HALF PAGE – \$50

IN-KIND (GIFT CERTIFICATE)

Make checks payable to *Miss Birmingham*

NOTE: DEADLINE FOR AD SALES IS OCTOBER 26th

For further information text or email:

Victoria Seale Sims: 205.410.6410 missbham@gmail.com

RECEIPT OF PAYMENT

(To be given to purchaser)

Ad or Donation by _____

Submitted by _____

(Candidate Name)

Amount _____

Date _____

**Miss Birmingham
Miss Cahaba Valley
Miss Hidden River**

An Official Scholarship Preliminary to the Miss Alabama & Miss America Competitions