**Preparation Information for Miss BHV/Miss Moline and Miss BHV’s Teen Competitions**

Welcome! I am so excited you are here and look forward to getting to know each and every one of you! You have officially become part of history competing for Miss Blackhawk Valley/ Miss Moline and Miss Blackhawk Valley’s Teen!

**Important Dates**

Paperwork due October 29th by midnight

Rehearsal November 5th at Rockridge High School

Interviews November 5th at Rockridge High School

Competition November 5th at Rockridge High School @ 5pm

**Eligibility**

To become a participant for the next Competition Cycle

(starting May 2023) you must meet all criteria as shown below:

* For Miss America – birth years 1996 – 2006
* For Miss America’s Teen – birth years 2010 – 2006
* Be a United States citizen
* Be a female
* Meet residency requirements for competing in your city or state

\*Miss Moline is CLOSED to those who reside/attend school/work in the 309/815 area codes.

\*Miss Blackhawk Valley is OPEN.

\*We are only offering ONE teen title, Miss Blackhawk Valley’s Teen, and this is OPEN.

**Opening Number:**

Introductions/opening number (NOT judged) will be done in a cocktail dress of any style and color. Shoes and jewelry can be whatever color the delegate wishes. All delegates will complete their On-State Conversation phase of competition in this outfit, so be mindful of what you are choosing as the question/discussion is judged. There will be a simple dance/walking pattern during opening number.

**Dress Rehearsal and Competition Day:**

Interviews will be the morning/early afternoon of Sunday, November 5th at Rockridge High School. Contestant order and time for interview will be determined at a later date once all delegates are signed up. Rehearsal for competition will be completed the day of. Please be prepared for a busy day. Lunch will be provided, but feel free to bring personal snacks/drinks if desired. A complete schedule will be given to you once all delegates are confirmed.

Pageant will be held at Rockridge High School at 5pm.

Rockridge High School

14110 134th Ave W, Taylor Ridge, IL 61284

**Miss America/ Miss Blackhawk Valley Fee:**

Please use the link shared here to register and pay the mandatory annual Miss America **$39.99 membership fee** (teen and miss). You MUST do this prior to competing.

<https://www.club.missamerica.org/miss-america-registration-illinois-page>

Miss Blackhawk Valley/ Miss Moline and Miss Blackhawk Valley’s Teen delegates will be required to pay a **$100 entry fee** to compete. Please bring cash or a check payable to Miss Blackhawk Valley Scholarship Program the day of competition. We will collect first thing in the morning.

**People’s Choice Voting:**

Bring cash to vote for your favorite delegate the night of the competition! This will be voted on by the public and cash will be placed in the delegate’s jars at the competition. The delegate who has the most money wins this award and a scholarship.

**Community Service Initiative**

Delegates are required to select a community service initiative that has relevance in her community or society at large and about which she feels passionately about. She will write a one-page essay about this issue. The essay must be typed and will be included in the Judge’s Books.

Instructions/layout: [CSI](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ccdenn%5CDocuments%5CMiss%20BHV%20ED%20documents%5CMiss%20Candidates%5C24%20CSI%20%281%29.pdf)

**Fact Sheet**

Delegates will prepare a fact sheet in a style laid out by the Miss America Organization and will be included in the Judge’s Books.

Instructions/layout: [FACT SHEET](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ccdenn%5CDocuments%5CMiss%20BHV%20ED%20documents%5CMiss%20Candidates%5C_24%20FACT%20SHEET%20REV2-11-23%20%281%29.pdf)

**Paperwork:**

The following should be submitted on **October 29th by midnight** to missblackhawkvalley@gmail.com.

* Register with MAO & pay the $39.99 membership fee
* Pay $100 Miss BHV/Moline and Miss BHV’s Teen entry fee (bring day of competition)
* [Delegate Application](https://form.jotform.com/212407020528141) (please try to get this in first)
* Headshot
* Contract with necessary attachments (will be emailed contract)
* Fact Sheet
* Community Service Initiative essay
* Music for talent, if desired

**\*PLEASE EMAIL ALL DOCUMENTS TOGETHER IN ONE EMAIL\***

It is imperative you check what needs to be completed so all documents arrive together, minimizing the risk of losing an email with a required piece of paperwork. In general, this makes it much easier to navigate through all paperwork for each delegate. Thank you!

**Phases of Competition/Scoring**

* **Interview/ 30% of the score**

**Miss:** There will be a 10-minute private interview with the delegate standing behind or next to a podium before the panel of judges. There will be a 30 second opening prepared by the delegate regarding her CSI, 9 minutes of press style questioning by the judges, ending with the option of a 30 second closing.

**Teen:** There will be a 9.5 minute private interview with the judges. There will be a 30 second opening prepared by the delegate regarding her CSI and 9 minutes of press style questions by the judges. There is NOT a closing for teens.

Wardrobe is your choice of stylish interview attire.

* **Talent or HERstory/ 20% of the score**

This is a performance lasting 90 seconds. Delegate may wish to use music during her talent but is not required.

Please view the approved talent list here:

* **On-Stage Conversation/ 10% of the score**

The question will be regarding the Miss America/ Miss America’s Teen mission, brand, or the 5 pillars (style, success, scholarship, service, sisterhood). They will NOT be political or divisive. Answer should not exceed 15-20 seconds. The delegate will wear the opening number attire.

* **Evening Gown/ 20% of the score**

Delegates will model in an evening gown of her choice.

* **Health and Fitness/ 20% of the score**

ALL ITEMS (top and bottoms) must be purchased through Miss America’s new partnership, REBEL ATHLETICS for this phase of competition. Shoes can be any color, but white is preferred. There will be NO fitness routine to perform. Rather the delegate will perform a high energetic walk with movement and poses in fitness attire. This showcases the delegate’s commitment to fitness and health initiatives, #MissAmericaFit. Miss America has partnered with the American Heart Association to raise awareness of women’s heart health.

View and purchase the Miss America RED Rebel collection here:

<https://rebelathletic.com/collections/curated-styles-for-miss-america-organization>

**Code of Conduct**

* The delegate named Miss Blackhawk Valley will serve for an entire year. She will represent the Miss Blackhawk Valley Scholarship Program with her teen and princess(es), and they will make appearances, performances and parades as arranged or approved by the Miss Blackhawk Valley staff during the year of service with the accompaniment of (one) BHV board member or an approved, trusted adult. Some of which have already been reserved for our new titleholders and it is highly important you make a strong effort to attend these appearances
* She will be professional in all appearances made and will be respectful of all organizations with whom she visits
* She will be a role model and mentor to the Outstanding Teen and Miss Blackhawk Valley Princess(es)
* Miss Blackhawk Valley will always possess high moral standards and professionalism
* She will sign a contract with the Miss Blackhawk Valley Scholarship Program as well as Miss Illinois and must abide by any and all standards and rules included in these contracts
* Delegates, titleholders, family, and friends will be respectful of the time and efforts provided by the Miss Blackhawk Valley Scholarship Program as we are all volunteers with other full-time obligations
* The Miss Blackhawk Valley Scholarship Program is an official Miss America preliminary competition. Miss Blackhawk Valley will compete for Miss Illinois in June 2022. The Miss Blackhawk Valley Board will be responsible for her preparation and will assist in the paperwork, wardrobe selection, interview, and other areas of preparation
* Be aware that not all expenses are covered by Miss Blackhawk Valley when it comes to wardrobe, hair, makeup, travel, etc. Miss Blackhawk Valley will be responsible for her wardrobe for appearances, but will be given a generous wardrobe allowance for the Miss Illinois competition by the Miss Blackhawk Valley Scholarship Program as part of her prize package
* She will advocate for her social impact initiative throughout her year. These community service appearances will be sought out by the titleholder herself and should be a focus during her year of service. All appearances must be preapproved by our Board, however.
* Miss Blackhawk Valley will not be involved in any explicit behavior during her year of service, and she will not promote malicious, slanderous, negative, harmful, or other degrading behavior against the Miss Blackhawk Valley, Miss Blackhawk Valley’s Outstanding Teen, Miss Illinois, Miss Illinois’ Outstanding Teen, Miss America, or Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Organizations whether that be verbally, written, or otherwise
* She will be responsible for sharing her year through social media via the titleholder Instagram and Facebook accounts. Be mindful that all content shared on personal social media accounts directly reflects the titleholder, the Miss BHV, Miss Illinois, and Miss America organizations as a whole. Use the internet wisely before posting. Distasteful content is prohibited.
* All the delegates will receive a scholarship. Miss will also have the opportunity to compete for additional scholarships, such as Community Service if she so wishes to. Miss Blackhawk Valley will assist you to obtain these scholarship funds whether it be a cash scholarship from our organization or directing you to the Miss Illinois/ Miss America website for scholarship retrieval paid out by those organizations. However, it is the delegate’s responsibility to obtain necessary documentation and items in order for us to pay out the scholarship(s)
* The Miss Blackhawk Valley Board is here to help you. Should a problem or concern ever arise, please initiate communication promptly to resolve any issues. We are here to support you fully during your year and to assist in making this year memorable and beneficial
* Failure to abide by all rules and regulations as stated in this code of conduct and local/state contracts will result in disciplinary action, as determined on a case-to-case basis by the BHV team

**Contact Information**:

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Please contact us if you have any questions!!

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