

**Miss Birmingham's
& Miss Cahaba Valley's
— Outstanding —**

TEEN

Dear Outstanding Teen and Parents:

Let me take this opportunity to tell you that we at Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley are absolutely delighted that you have chosen to compete in the Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen competition – an official preliminary to Miss Alabama's & Miss America's Outstanding Teen competitions – and we are planning a day that should prove to be fun, exciting and enjoyable for all!

Each Outstanding Teen candidate must be a resident of Alabama, be between the ages of 13 and 18, and must not have graduated high school

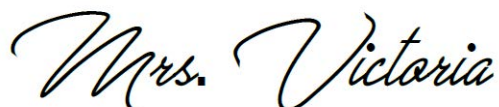
As a franchise of the Miss Alabama Competition and part of the Miss America Organization – the largest source of educational scholarship money to young women – the ultimate goal of the Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Competition is to offer educational scholarship awards to the scholarship preliminary winner and runners up. We crown **two (2) winners** during the pageant and your entrance fee of **\$175** per candidate assists in achieving our scholarship goals.

Enclosed is the packet containing all competition information, our required local checklist, entry deadlines, instructions, 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 pageant and getting to know you as we move toward crowning Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen winner who could one day become a future Miss Birmingham, Miss Cahaba Valley, Miss Alabama and even Miss America!

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

Warmest Regards,



Victoria Seale Sims
Executive Director, Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley

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★PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE PACKET★

2023 Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Competition
November 6, 2022 * Venue TBA * 1:30 PM * Tickets: \$15 General Admission

The following steps and items are required to compete in this local preliminary competition:

1. EVERY CANDIDATE MUST REGISTER WITH MISS AMERICA [HERE](#)
2. Register with Miss America for Miss Birmingham/Miss Cahaba Valley [HERE](#)
3. Completed items emailed or mailed, as noted below

E-mail Deadline: October 26, 2022

Resume
Social Impact Essay
Copy of Outstanding Teen Contract Acknowledgement
Talent Music (MP3 or MP4 Format)
Candidate Headshot Photo
Rising Star Headshot Photo
Ad Photos (if applicable)
Copy of Birth Certificate
Parent DL or Proof of Residence

US Mail Deadline: October 29, 2022

Local Miss BHM/CV OT Contract
Entry Fee of \$175
Rising Star Contract & Entry Fee of \$35 (if applicable)
Outstanding Teen Contract Acknowledgement (signed & notarized)
Ad Fees (if applicable)

Mandatory Local Orientation via Online Meeting: October 30, 2022 – 2 PM CST

Candidates will select their competition order & we will answer any questions you may have at this time.
The meeting link will be sent after the October 26th Deadline

AFTER the October 26th Deadline passes, all candidates & parents will be e-mailed an updated Competition Day schedule along with the fitness video

IMPORTANT ➡ All contracts should be reviewed thoroughly by each candidate and her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) prior to the competition to ensure a proper understanding of what is expected as the potential titleholder of Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen

Entry/Eligibility Requirements:

1. You must be between the ages of 13 and 18
2. You must be 13 years of age on or before the date of the first day of the state Competition, must not be older than eighteen (18) years of age on or before December 31st of the year you would compete in the state finals. To avoid doubt, you cannot turn nineteen (19) at any time during the calendar year in which you could complete in the state competition (Jan 1-Dec 31)
3. You must not be eligible to compete in Miss Alabama/Miss America the year you would compete in the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Competition
4. You must be a United States citizen
5. You must either live or attend school legally within the state of Alabama
6. If you will be a senior in high school during the current school year, you may compete in the Miss Birmingham's Outstanding Teen Competition only if you meet all other eligibility requirements

Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Candidate Checklist

Candidate Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____

Candidate E-mail Address (required): _____

Parent E-mail Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Parent Cell Phone: _____ **Candidate** Cell phone (required): _____

☺ **I Have a Rising Star:** YES: RISING STAR NAME _____ NO
(check one)

E-MAIL THE FOLLOWING TO MISSBHAM@GMAIL.COM by **OCTOBER 26th**:

- Headshot Photo** in high resolution JPEG or PNG format for Program Book & Judges Book
- Confirmation of registration on the Miss America website for BOTH titles
- Resume
- Social Impact Statement
- Scanned Copy of State Contract Acknowledgement** (signed & notarized version to be sent via US Mail)
- Talent Music in MP3 or MP4 format ONLY (other formats do not work well with iTunes and will not be accepted)
- Candidate** Name, Address & CELL PHONE Number *(in addition to parent's or legal guardian's)*
- Scanned Copy of Official Birth Certificate
- Copy of Parent's or Candidate's Driver License OR Copy of Utility Bill showing Alabama address as proof of residency
- OPTIONAL** Photo Contest Photo in high resolution JPEG or PNG format. *Include the size of ad (1/2 page or full page) and statement that accompanies photo in the program book*
- Rising Star Name, Parent Name & Photo (if you have a Rising Star)

MAIL THE FOLLOWING VIA US MAIL (**NOT PRIORITY OR EXPRESS**) TO BE RECEIVED AT THE ADDRESS BELOW BY **OCTOBER 29th**:

- 1 Completed Copy of this page – Candidate Checklist**
- \$175 Entry Fee - Check or Money Order made out to Miss Birmingham
- Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Contract *(signed & notarized)*
- Candidate Information Sheet
- Publicity Consent Form *(signed & notarized)*
- State Contract Acknowledgement *(signed & notarized)*
- Fees for OPTIONAL Photo Competition – Check/Money Order to Miss Birmingham

Mail ONLY notarized documents & entry fees that will complete your entry packet to:

Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen – CANDIDATE NAME
513 Saint Lauren Way
Birmingham, AL 35242

DO NOT SEND EXPRESS OR PRIORITY! DO NOT REQUIRE A SIGNATURE!

TEEN

Orientation, Opening Number & What to Bring Competition Day

★New! Local Orientation

To free up time, Competition Orientation will be conducted via online meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 2 PM CST. This meeting is mandatory for all candidates so mark your calendars!

Opening Number Attire

- BLACK Pants & RED, WHITE, BLUE or GOLD top – NOT Black
 - **NO Midriffs showing!**
 - If 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

- Talent attire & all props
- **Copy of your talent on CD or on your phone** – just in case there was a problem with the file received in your emailed packet (this has happened before, so the extra copies are essential)
- Competition wardrobe to include shoes & jewelry
- List of current obligations and school schedule – include information and dates for all extracurricular activities (including school, dance, cheer, sports, church, etc.) and any family obligations – the winner will be asked for this list 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 and attending Candidate orientation – **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- No Candidates may leave the Competition venue during Competition day – you will be in very good hands & will have lots of fun!
- No outside hair or makeup artists allowed
- Dressing room moms will be there to assist you as needed and keep everyone on track – please be sure to thank them during the day
- All meals, snacks & water will be provided by the Miss Birmingham organization – **NO FOOD OR DRINK WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE DRESSING ROOM OR THE AUDITORIUM**
- If you have specific food allergies you may bring your own food/snack items; however, you **MUST** inform the Competition Director upon your arrival
- Please label anything that you wish to keep – *any items left without a label cannot and will not be returned. If you find an item has been left after the Competition, please notify the director via e-mail immediately upon discovery.*
- Please bring an electrical power strip, a lighted mirror and a full length mirror
- A limited number of hanging racks and power strips are provided for Candidates
- **Dressing Room space is LIMITED – BRING ONLY NECESSARY ITEMS**

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Competition Information & Scoring

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

The two (2) Candidates with the highest overall score will be named the winners of Miss Birmingham's Outstanding Teen and Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen.

The Phases of Competition are listed below in order:

Private Interview – 25%

Your private interview will last 6 minutes. During private interview, Judges can ask you questions on a span of subjects including your social impact essay and your resume. Know what is happening around you and within you. Be prepared. Judges will be asking questions related to your resume, community, school, social issues and current events as they pertain to your age in our society.

Wardrobe: Candidates should wear attire suitable for a job interview – skirt, pants or dress with coordinating shoes – NO SUITS. *If the Candidate wears hose, please ensure they are the correct skin color or a coordinating color to the outfit, if opaque.*

Physical Fitness – 15%

The physical fitness portion is designed to show a Candidate's youthful vitality. A short and simple fitness routine video will be e-mailed to Candidates after the notarized/mailed document deadline has passed. This routine will be reviewed with the Candidates the day of the Competition, but each Candidate is expected to practice it at home before the Competition date once the video is received. This routine will be performed by all Candidates during the fitness competition.

Wardrobe: Candidates will wear black cheerleading shorts or running shorts (such as NIKE dry shorts) or black skirt, with a solid brightly colored t-shirt (other than black or white) – NOT a sports bra top – NO spaghetti straps – with tennis/running shoes OR Keds. The shirt color is the Candidate's choice – no slogans, logos, or other print may be on the t-shirt – the shirt must be plain and solid color & **MUST** cover the stomach.

Talent – 35%

Each Candidate will perform a talent presentation not to exceed 90 seconds.

Talents may include but are not limited to – vocals in every medium, dance in all forms, gymnastics, baton, instrumentals, and drama. The talent competition distinguishes each Candidate's skills and personality, interpretive ability, technical skill level, stage presence, and totality of all elements (e.g., costume, voice, choreography).

Wardrobe: A costuming choice that is appropriate and in good taste for the chosen talent and age of the Candidate.

Evening Wear & Onstage Question – 25%

The Evening Wear/On-Stage Question competition is designed to assess the Candidate's beauty, poise, grace, and commanding stage presence, as well as for the Candidate to make an on-stage statement of her interests, opinions, and aspirations in answer to a question selected for her. You will be asked ONE onstage question. The question will be on a current social issue. Each Candidate will draw her question from a bowl and will have 30 seconds to answer the question.

Wardrobe: Dresses should be floor length formal, well fitting, and appropriate for the age of the Candidate, with appropriate shoes. Please practice walking in your dress and shoes so you are comfortable on competition day.

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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 & SMILE!**
3. **NO FRIENDS OR FAMILY ALLOWED BACKSTAGE, IN DRESSING ROOMS, OR IN THE HALLS OUTSIDE OF THE DRESSING ROOMS**
4. **NO OUTSIDE HAIR STYLISTS OR MAKEUP ARTISTS ALLOWED.** Be prepared to do your own hair and makeup.
5. **NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED IN AUDITORIUM OR DRESSING ROOM.** All food & drinks will be provided by the Competition in a designated area.
6. **PAY ATTENTION DURING REHEARSALS!** We have a very tight schedule and want to ensure each Candidate learns what is required during the time allotted.
7. **TALENT MAY BE REHEARSED TWICE ONLY.** Each Candidate will receive a scheduled time allotment to rehearse her talent selection through twice. If any Candidate chooses to forfeit one or both rehearsals, the next Candidate will be called and the forfeited rehearsal may be completed at the end of all rehearsals only with the express consent of the Director, and only if time permits.
8. **BE PREPARED!** Remember, each title is a job that you will hold for a year. Know your resume & social impact essay – copies of these items are provided to each judge for use during interview. Be familiar with current events & social issues as they pertain to your age group.
9. **CELL PHONES:** Cell phones are strictly prohibited in the dressing rooms. Candidates will need to check cell phones with the dressing room moms at the door of the dressing room and may only use them outside the dressing room and/or during breaks outside the dressing room.

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TENTATIVE Schedule

Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen runs to a very tight schedule, but the Candidates always have fun and there is never a dull moment!

Therefore, **ORIENTATION** will be held via online meeting the Sunday prior to the Competition – **October 30, 2022 at 2 PM CST**. During this mandatory meeting, competition order will be selected & the director will answer any questions you have!

- @ 8:00 Arrive & Unload Competition Attire – doors will not be opened prior to this time
- @ 8:30 Production Rehearsals
- @ 9:15 Talent Rehearsal
- @ 10:15 Interviews
- @ 11:30 Lunch
- @ 12:30 Opening Number/Rising Stars Run-through
- @ 1:30 Miss Birmingham's / Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Begins!
- @ 6:30 Both Teen Winners Perform their talent at the Miss Birmingham/Cahaba Valley Competition

A TENTATIVE talent and interview schedule is below subject to change based on participation. **After October 26th, Candidates & parents will be e-mailed an updated competition day schedule and the fitness routine video.**

While Candidates are waiting for their turn to rehearse talent or interview time, they will have an opportunity to get ready for the next event, eat lunch, practice the fitness routine, and get to know the other Candidates.

Teen Candidate Number	Talent Rehearsal Time	Interview Time
1	9:15	10:15
2	9:18	10:21
3	9:21	10:27
4	9:24	10:33
5	9:27	10:39
6	9:30	10:45
7	9:33	10:51
8	9:36	10:57
9	9:39	11:03
10	9:42	11:09
10 Minute Break for Judges (Interview Only)		
11	9:45	11:30
12	9:48	11:36
13	9:51	11:42
14	9:54	11:48
15	9:57	11:54
16	10:00	12:00
17	10:03	12:06
18	10:06	12:18
20	10:09	12:24
Competition Begins at 1:30 PM		

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Rising Stars

RISING STARS

Each Candidate in Miss Birmingham's / Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen is encouraged to have a Rising Star the day of the Competition.

On Competition Day, Rising Stars will be presented and introduced onstage by Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen directly following the Evening Gown/Onstage Question 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 Candidates who compete in it at the Outstanding Teen & Miss levels. We encourage you to choose your own Rising Star – but if you don't know a young lady between those ages, 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 high-resolution headshot photo of the Rising Star for the Program Book must be sent via e-mail to missbham@gmail.com no later than October 26th

If a Candidate chooses her own Rising Star, the Rising Star forms (located on the Miss Birmingham & the Miss Cahaba Valley websites) and the entry fee of \$35 should be included with the mailed documents along with the RS Introduction sheet.

The Rising Stars paired with the winners of Miss Birmingham's Outstanding Teen & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen will be crowned the respective winner's Rising Star and go on to accompany her winner to Miss Alabama's Outstanding 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 & the Miss Cahaba Valley websites:

www.missbham.com/Rising_Stars

www.misscahabavalley.com/Rising_Stars

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State Contract Acknowledgement Instructions

1. **State Contract Acknowledgement** – All sections of the Contract Acknowledgement must be completed:
 - a. Section A – Eligibility – Enter your age and Date of Birth in the appropriate fields. To compete in this or any official Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Scholarship Preliminary Competition, you must:
 1. Live in the state of Alabama
 2. Be between the ages of 13 and 18 (non-HS graduate/equivalent)
 3. Not be eligible to compete in the Miss America Competition in the same year you would compete in the Outstanding Teen Competition

NOTE: You may be asked to provide additional proof if you are selected as Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen.
 - b. Section B – Talent Presentation – Complete all information about the talent selection being performed. Please note that your introduction must be 10 seconds or less, and must be written legibly
 - c. Section C – Notary Section
 - d. Section D – Director's Section (completed by local Director upon receipt)
2. **\$175 Entry Fee** – There is a \$175 entry fee. We crown 2 winners in one Competition, giving each Candidate twice the opportunity to win. A check or money order made payable to *Miss Birmingham* should be included with your completed notarized documents. This fee goes directly to the Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Scholarship Fund.
3. **Official Copy of Birth Certificate** – A scanned official copy of your birth certificate is required to verify your age. Please note that this should be a COPY – NOT the original birth certificate

Download & Complete the MALOT State Contract using the link on the **Become a Candidate!** page of the local Miss Birmingham or Miss Cahaba Valley Website(s), or the Miss Alabama/MALOT website at **MALOT Competition Forms**. Each winner will be required to complete the full state contract in order to compete in Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen

Name of Local Competition: _____

Name of Candidate: _____

E-Mail Addresses: Candidate: _____ Parent: _____

Parent Telephone: _____ Parent Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Hometown: _____

SECTION A: ELIGIBILITY

I have registered to compete at:
https://shop.missamerica.org/products/miss-america-competition-membership-yearly-subscription?pr_prod_strat=copurchase&pr_rec_pid=6580060487860&pr_ref_pid=6689967505588&pr_seq=uniform

Age as of the date of preliminary: _____ Date of Birth: _____ (Enclose a copy of birth certificate.)

SECTION B: TALENT PRESENTATION

Type of Talent (Vocal, Dance, Piano, Etc.): _____

Name of Talent Selection: _____

Type of microphone preferred (if available): Cordless Microphone with stand Lavalier

Will you be using props? Yes No If yes, please describe: _____

Please write a short 2-3 sentence introduction for your talent presentation:

By signing this Local Candidate Contract Acknowledgment of Understanding and Statement of Eligibility, I agree to abide by the complete Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Local Candidate Contract for 2021-22. I understand all terms and conditions of this application and complete Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Local Candidate Contract together with its attachments, as I request the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition, Inc., to accept my application to participate in the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Preliminaries for 2021-22.

Candidate Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

SECTION C: NOTARY SECTION

Sworn and subscribed to before me this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

Notary Public of _____ Signature: _____

SECTION D: DIRECTOR'S SECTION

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

Director's Signature: _____ Date: _____

CANDIDATE CHECKLIST

**ALL ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE DEADLINE TO BE
CONSIDERED A CANDIDATE FOR EACH COMPETITION.**

CHECK EACH COMPETITION FOR DEADLINE.

EMAIL the following items to the local preliminary director before the deadline.

- Scanned copy of birth certificate (PDF format)
- Your **RESUME** and **SOCIAL IMPACT INITIATIVE** (PDF format) along with your **HEADSHOT** to the director to forward to judges.
- Supplemental Information Form (this form)

In addition to the above, email ONE of the following to the local preliminary director:

- Copy of Candidate or Parent Driver's License displaying current address (**ONLY** if claiming eligibility to compete as an Alabama resident.), or
- Copy of Electric Utility Bill displaying current address (**ONLY** if claiming eligibility to compete as an Alabama resident.) or,

NEEDED FOR TALENT (Email to the local preliminary director before the deadline):

- MP3 or MP4 of your talent music.

BRING THE FOLLOWING WITH YOU TO EACH COMPETITION YOU COMPETE:

- 27 Page State Contract filled out in its entirety for the FIRST PRELIMINARY you enter.** If you compete in more than one preliminary, you will bring the 27-page original contract with the supplemental competition pages added to it for each preliminary you enter. Example: If you entered your fifth preliminary, you would bring the 27-page contract from your first preliminary and the two pages from the other four preliminaries you entered. This becomes your record for Miss Alabama of the number of preliminaries you have entered for the competition year. The new contract does **NOT** require a notary. You will also need to bring this contract with you to the preliminary. **If you win, this becomes your state contract.**

Make sure your contract has all the required documents attached (Driver's License, front and back of insurance card, etc. . . .)

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Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

As a Candidate in the Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen's Outstanding Teen Competition, I agree to the following terms:

1. I attest that I am a citizen of the United States State of Alabama, am not married, have never been married, am not pregnant, have never been pregnant, 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 that I meet the age requirements of the Miss America's Outstanding Teen organization. I will turn 13 years of age before the first day of competition for Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen's Outstanding Teen pageant, and I will not turn 18 years of age before July 31st of the calendar year in which I will compete in Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen's Outstanding Teen, unless I will *not* be a high school graduate by July 31st of that same calendar year. I attest that I have not graduated from high school, nor have I received my GED/Equivalency. I am _____ 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 as part of the eligibility requirements to be a Candidate in Miss Birmingham's / Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen's Outstanding Teen. This fee entitles me to compete for **both** titles.

The following items of this contract have been read and understood by (name of Candidate) _____ and her parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) _____.

If named Miss Birmingham's Outstanding Teen or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen's Outstanding Teen, I *understand* and *agree* to the following terms:

I. General:

- a. Understands that her year of service is the twelve month period beginning the date she was crowned and ending the date she crowns her successor. Should she be selected as Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen, her year of service as Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen will end on the date she is crowned Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen
- b. Understands that the Executive Director and Board are a supportive body, and will collaborate and assist Miss Birmingham's and Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen throughout her year of service to be her best at all times
- c. Will actively listen to advice from the Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Executive Director and Board, and have interactive discussions regarding furtherance of her personal platform, appearances, interview skills fitness, and talent presentation
- d. Understands that the Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Organization will strive to help the titleholder represent the community to the best of her ability
- e. Understands that she represents the Miss Birmingham's and Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Organization and the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Organization *at all times*, and will conduct herself appropriately
- f. 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*

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

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Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

- g. Will maintain immaculate personal grooming and proper attitude wherever she may be – at school, attending an extracurricular activity, at a retailer, or at a scheduled appearance
- h. 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 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, gossip, or politically-biased, racially-biased, sexually-biased or gender-biased behavior, language, material or content*
- i. Will remain alcohol, drug, and tobacco free throughout her year of service
- j. Will maintain a healthy lifestyle, good physical fitness, and healthy eating habits throughout her year of service
- k. Will not drastically change her physical appearance (hair color or length, weight gain or loss, etc.) without first discussing with the Director and Board, unless ordered by a physician for health reasons
- l. 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
- m. Will provide the Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Director with professionally photographed, high-resolution digital (minimum of 300-dpi resolution) competition headshots both with and without the crown, within 45 days of being crowned Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen. No publicity, press releases, autograph pads, etc. can be generated without these photo(s)
- n. 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 as Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen
- o. Thank-you notes will be written within 24 hours of an appearance and within 24 hours of receiving any donations from sponsors or gifts from supporters
- p. Thank-you notes will be written and mailed for any gifts received during Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen weekend, including those sent by the Miss Birmingham's & Cahaba Valley Director and Board
- q. Understands that if any information submitted to either Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen or Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen is determined to be untrue – the title, the right to compete in Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen, and all prizes will be forfeited, and any prizes must be returned to the Miss Birmingham's Scholarship Organization in full by the former titleholder
- r. Understands that any regression from 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 Outstanding Teen being forfeited

II. Communication:

- a. Understands that all communications and decisions will be made solely between Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen and the Executive Director (with a copy to the parents/legal guardians)
- b. Will monitor texts and e-mails and will respond promptly to all communication from the Executive Director and Board members
- c. 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 Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Board will provide ample preparation opportunities for the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition. The titleholder must be willing and available to utilize these opportunities to develop her skills for success
- b. Will consult the Director regarding any questions concerning state paperwork deadlines, appearances, wardrobe selections, competition events and performance requirements
- c. Will promote her social impact initiative throughout her year of service to make a difference in the Birmingham and Cahaba Valley communities
- d. Will attend weekly interview practice leading up to the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition, as scheduled by the Executive Director

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

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- e. Will not have any type of coaching or outside help, advice, or influence in preparing for the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition, with the exception of talent coaching, **unless disclosed and approved in writing by the Executive Director**
- f. Understands that her talent selection for Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen must be approved by the Miss Birmingham's Executive Director:
 - i. Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen must discuss and perform her selection for, and obtain the Director's approval, prior to Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Candidate Orientation in March

IV. Social Media:

- a. Will at a minimum, create and maintain a titleholder account for FaceBook and Instagram, and will post regularly to these accounts for fundraisers, personal platform endeavors, appearances, and Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen information
- b. Will be added as an editor of the official FaceBook page for either the Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Scholarship Organization and will post regularly to her respective page as well as her titleholder and personal pages to ensure consistent publicity during her year of service
- c. Understands that Social Media accounts such as 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
- d. Will promptly accept the Director and each Board Member as a friend or follower
- e. 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, or photo – shared or authored – that includes or contains sexual content, profanity, abbreviations that indicate profanity, 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 & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen competition
 - iii. All social media accounts should remain free of questionable posts or inappropriate material during the entire year of service as Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen
- f. 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 Outstanding Teen Required Paperwork, Photographs & Functions:

- a. Will meet all deadlines set forth by the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition for all state materials, including but not limited to paperwork, photos, community service information, transcript, talent CD, and contracts
- b. Will provide the Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Executive Director a copy of the folder contents received at Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Orientation via email and/or Google Drive
- c. Will arrive at all Miss Alabama's Outstanding 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 Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen
- d. Will immediately text or call the Director and the Miss Alabama's Outstanding 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*
- e. Will send electronic copies of all state required paperwork (resume, platform essay, etc.) to the Executive Director, and understands that all items must be approved *before* submission to Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen
- f. Will review all photos taken for use at the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition with the Executive Director
- g. Understands that all photos used for the state program book ads must be approved by the Miss Birmingham's Executive Director before being submitted to the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Office

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

**Miss Birmingham's
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Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement

VI. Wardrobe:

- a. Will provide own wardrobe for appearances and all phases of competition in Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen
- b. Will provide the Executive Director and Board with a budget for her competition wardrobe to ensure that any recommendations from the Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen governing body are within that budget
- c. Understands the competition wardrobe is comprised of clothing for all competition phases, appearances and rehearsals during Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen week, including shoes, jewelry and undergarments
- d. Understands that appropriate undergarments are expected to be worn at all appearances as Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen, and during rehearsals and competition at Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen
- e. Understands that all wardrobe choices for the Miss Alabama's Outstanding 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 any changes to the approved state competition and appearance wardrobe must be communicated to the Executive Director immediately and approval of new selections obtained
- 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 January 31st of the year she will compete in Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen

VII. Appearances:

- a. **Will arrive neatly groomed and dressed appropriately at least 15 minutes prior to any engagement or at the appointed time prior to an appearance as set forth by the Director. *Tardiness is not acceptable***
- b. Will immediately text or call the 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 discuss all appearance opportunities with the Executive Director and understands that all appearances must be cleared and approved by the Executive Director before each is scheduled
- d. Understands that for her protection, a parent and member of the Board or an approved alternate chaperone must accompany the title holder on any official appearances
- e. Will provide her own transportation to and from scheduled appearances unless the Director has made other arrangements
- f. Will properly prepare herself to successfully meet the requirements of all approved appearances
- g. 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 Outstanding Teen competition
- h. Will never take advantage of the host's hospitality at an appearance
- i. 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
- j. 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. Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen will write a letter of regret and offer to reschedule immediately if any appearance must be rescheduled or canceled
- k. Will not refuse or decline any appearance request prior to discussing with the Executive Director
- l. Will make required appearances listed below as scheduled by the Executive Director or the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Board. *Under no circumstances may either winner 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)
- Annual Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen CMN Fundraiser
- National Pancake Day at IHOP in the Birmingham/Cahaba Valley Area (March)

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

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- Free Cone Day at Dairy Queen in the Birmingham/Cahaba Valley Area (March)
- Miracle Treat Day at Dairy Queen in the Birmingham/Cahaba Valley Area (July)
- Make a Difference Day as scheduled by the Miss Alabama Office
- Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen's Outstanding Teen Best Wishes Reception
- Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Competition Boot Camp and Local Wardrobe Check/ Approval with Executive Director (usually the last weekend in January or first weekend in February)
- Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Best Wishes/Sendoff Reception (May)
- Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Candidate Orientation (January)
- Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition (March)
- Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding 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 Outstanding Teen Board

The undersigned Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Candidate will:

- By submission of the application agree that the Candidate lives and attends school in the state of Alabama
- Turn 13 years of age before the first day of competition for Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen's Outstanding Teen pageant, and will not turn 18 years of age before July 31st of the calendar year in which I will compete in Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen, unless I will not be a high school graduate by July 31st of that same calendar year.
- Not have graduated from high school, nor received my GED/Equivalency
- Provide a \$150 check as the entry fee for Miss Birmingham's and Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Pageant
- Allow the Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Competition to post photographs and name on the Miss Birmingham's & the Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen websites

I, _____, a Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen candidate, by initialing each page and signing below, attest that I have read this agreement and contract in its entirety, and understand all conditions, rules, and regulations set forth in the Miss Birmingham's/Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Local Contract. I further understand that if found in violation of any part of this contract, the Director has the authority to revoke the title of Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen and a successor will be named to compete in the Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Competition as Miss Birmingham's or Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding 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 would have been otherwise entitled.

SIGNATURE PAGE DIRECTLY FOLLOWS

Parent/Guardian Initials: _____
Contestant Initials: _____

**Miss Birmingham's
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Contract & Hold Harmless Agreement - Signature Page

The Candidate 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.

Candidate Legal Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

I agree not to hold the Miss Birmingham's Pageant Staff/Committee, Oak Mountain High School, The Shelby County Board of Education, The Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen Pageant, or Miss America Organization, Competitions/Pageant director/staff, or anyone affiliated with the competition/pageant responsible for any personal injury, loss of items, or damage while attending the pageant.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian Date _____

Notarize document here. The notary must include the raised seal.

My commission expires:

Sworn to me this _____ day of _____, 201_

Signature of Notary

Miss Birmingham's
& Miss Cahaba Valley's
— Outstanding —

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Candidate Information Sheet

All Fields Required – Please Type or Write Clearly

CANIDATE 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: _____

CURRENT GPA: _____
(If applicable)



Miss “Local's or State's” Outstanding Teen Organization - Instructions for Preparing the Judges Resume

Remember this is your opportunity to demonstrate to the judges why they should consider you for the position of Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen. You may list as many or as few items under each category as you desire. This one page, combined with your Platform Statement, and your Pageant Contestant Contract will comprise your entire application for the responsibility of becoming Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen. The judges will receive your resume exactly as it is submitted. ***Do not put your age on the Resume!***

1. Set margins for 1” on all four sides. The font style may not be any smaller than “10” and no larger than “12” point type, using the Times Roman font style.
2. With the justification set for left, type “**Name:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the tab key two or three times. Then, type your name as you wish the judges to know it. (If your name is Mary Deborah Smith and you want to be known as “Deborah Smith”, please type “Deborah Smith”).
3. Then, move to the next line and type “**Title:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the tab key two or three times. Then, type the “Local” title for which you are competing or the “Local” title that you hold for state pageants.
4. Then, move to the next line and type “**Hometown:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the tab key two or three times. Then type your hometown including the city and the state.
5. Double space down. Type “**Education:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the tab key two or three times. Then type your most recent school first. List in order with the most recent, all schools attended (high school, middle school, elementary school, Pre-K, etc.).
6. Double space down. Type “**Platform Issue:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the tab key two or three times. Type the title of your platform, making sure it lines up with the other information above it. Do not type anything other than the platform title.
7. Double space down. Type “**Scholastic/Career Ambition:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the tab key one or so times. Then type the type of degree/education you would ultimately like to achieve, making sure it lines up with the other information above it. Beneath that, list your career ambition.
8. Double space down. Type “**Talent:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the tab key two or three times. Type the type of talent you will perform and specific selection, making sure it lines up with the information above it. (e.g., Pop Vocal - “Rolling in the Deep”, Tap Dance - “Moves Like Jagger”, etc.)
9. Double space down. Type “**Scholastic Honors:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the space bar twice. Type your scholastic honors. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
10. Double space down. Type “**Leadership Roles:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;).
11. Double space down. Type “**Accomplishments:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;). ***Do not include any previous local titles held in the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Program or placement!***



Miss “Local's or State’s” Outstanding Teen Organization - Instructions for Preparing the Judges Resume

12. Double space down. Type “**Interesting Facts:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the space bar twice. Each item should be separated by a semi-colon (;). ***Do not include any previous local titles held in the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Program or placement!***
13. Double space down. Type “**Marketing Plan:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the space bar twice. In sentence form, explain how you would market the Miss Local’s or Miss State’s Outstanding Teen “brand”. Please include any relevant experience you have which may uniquely qualify you to serve in this position. Please be aware that a portion of the Miss Local’s or Miss State’s Outstanding Teen responsibilities includes marketing the Miss Local’s or Miss State’s Outstanding Teen program to potential sponsors, educational institutions, and organizations.
14. Double space down. Type “**Legacy:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the space bar twice. This should be typed in sentence form. Please write what your legacy, as Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen will be. This statement should answer the question, “A year after giving up your title as Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen, what will people remember about your year of service?”
15. Double space down. Type “**Why I should be Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen 20__:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), press the space bar twice. This should be typed in sentence form. Explain to the judging panel why you should be selected Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen and, more importantly, why you should be selected Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen this year.

Important Information Regarding the Contestant’s Judges Resume

Please remember that the entire form MUST FIT ON ONE PAGE using the Times Roman font style.

You must leave a 1” margin on all four side of the page. Use your best judgment on what is most important for the judges to know about you. Use your space wisely. Please review the example of what the resume format look like. Any variations from this format will be returned to you and will not be accepted. Your materials will not be retyped. The judges will receive your original work.

CHECK SPELLING AND GRAMMAR!!

This resume, your platform statement, and possibly a local pageant program book will be the only documents the judges will receive about you. By submitting these forms to your local teen organization, you certify that everything on your forms is true and accurate. If it is proven that any information on these forms is not true, correct, and factual, you risk losing your title.

Some spacing issues may arise. Simply follow the example provided. Depending upon the set up of your document, you may need to press the “tab key” fewer or more times than indicated above).

Do not attempt to change margins, font, size options, or deviate from the requested criteria as set forth in this document.

Use plain white paper for the document. Do not use paper with logos, crowns, names, decorations, or other embellishments. It will not be accepted if it is printed on anything other than plain white 8 ½” X 11” paper.



(Sample: Miss Local's or State's Outstanding Teen Contestant Resume)

Name: Deborah Smith

Title: Miss River Valley's Outstanding Teen

Hometown: River Valley, AnyState

Education: River Valley Senior High School
River Valley Junior High School
River Valley Elementary School

Platform Issue: Celebrating Inclusivity

Scholastic/Career Ambition: To obtain a Juris Doctorate
To become an Attorney specializing in entertainment law

Talent: Pop Vocal- "Rolling in the Deep"

Scholastic Honors: Honor Roll all report card periods; taking 3 Advanced Placement classes; National Honor Society; Perfect Attendance Award; French Award; Eleanor Roosevelt Cultural Diversity Award

Leadership Roles: Organized a teen volunteer group to entertain at a local nursing home; Secretary of Nostalgia Rotary Interact Club; Junior Varsity Cheerleading Captain 2012-2013; Lector and Song Leader at my church; elected state senator at State Girls' State Leadership Conference

Accomplishments: Rotary Student of the Year; Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Ambassador for my school; Fresh Face Agent Award at Odyssey Dance Competition; Placed at Nostalgia Talent Show 3 years; played Dorothy in my dance studio's production of "Hip Hop Oz"

Interesting Facts: I teach dance to 5-13 year olds; danced with the Disney characters in the ABC television special "Minnie's Magical Gathering"; modeled in the Frankie Girl Dance Costume Catalogue for the last three years; our family operates a dance studio in our home; I collect frogs of all types and shapes. Ribbit—I love it. I am the only girl with red hair of all my cousins, and I ran up the steps at our city's public library like Rocky Balboa did in the movie!

Marketing Plan: The best way to convince people to become involved in an organization is to provide them with evidence that the organization is successful in achieving its goals. The Miss AnyState's Outstanding Teen Program was created to give teens an avenue to develop their speaking skills and a forum to present their talents and viewpoints. As Miss River Valley's Outstanding Teen 2013, I would market the organization by making appearances and speaking at schools to demonstrate how the experience of being involved with the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Organization can help shape young women to become well-spoken, confident, and active in their communities.

Legacy: I want to be known as the River Valley's Outstanding Teen who changed the way that people perceive teenagers. Although teens do not always portray themselves in the proper light, I want the River Valley Area, the State of AnyState, my peers, and the Miss AnyState's Outstanding Teen Organization to reflect on my year of service as a River Valley's Outstanding Teen who proved that teenagers can make a huge difference in every community.

Why I should be Miss River Valley's Outstanding Teen 2015: I would be a good choice for River Valley's Outstanding Teen because I possess the speaking skills, talent, confidence and poise that it takes to be a local titleholder. Also, I would love to have the opportunity to utilize the title of Miss River Valley's Outstanding Teen to promote my platform of "Celebrating Inclusivity" throughout the River Valley and the state.

SAMPLE

Miss Alabama's
— Outstanding —
TEEN

Miss “Local’s or State’s” Outstanding Teen Organization - Instructions for Preparing Platform Statement

Please remember, this ONE (1) page, single-spaced document, combined with your Judges Resume and your Pageant Contestant Contract will comprise your entire application for the responsibility of becoming Miss Local’s or State’s Outstanding Teen. The judges will receive exactly what is submitted. Any items that do not meet the criteria or are submitted after the deadline will not be given to the judges. If your Platform Statement arrives on the day of the deadline, but does not meet the criteria, there will not be time to return it to you; **therefore, it will not be given to the judges.**

Contestants: Discuss your *personal* platform issue. In addition, explain how you will further the Miss “Local’s or State’s” Outstanding Teen Program and the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Program “brand” to the public.

(See sample Platform Statement.)

1. Set margins for 1" on all four sides. The font style may not be any smaller than “10” and no larger than “12” point type using the Times New Roman font style.
2. With the justification set for left, type “**Name:**” in **bold**. Following the colon (:), remove bold and hit the space bar twice. Then, type your name as you wish the judges to know it. (If your name is Mary Deborah Smith and you want to be known as “Deborah Smith”, please type “Deborah Smith”).
3. Double space down. Set your justification to “center”. Then type in **Bold and underline** the title of your Platform.
4. Double space down. With justification set for left and unbold, write what you feel is critical for the judge’s to know about your platform and why it is necessary for you to have the title of Miss “Local’s or State’s” Outstanding Teen to promote this issue. What you write will be what the judges know about your platform, your role in successfully dealing with this issue, and the role the Miss “Local’s or State’s” Outstanding Teen and the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Organizations may play in your plan.
5. Remember to include in the Platform Statement what **you** can do to get the message out and get more of your friends and other teens interested in the Miss “Local’s or State’s” Outstanding Teen Program and the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Program.
6. **Remember to single space the text that you are typing.**
7. This essay may include some of the following items (this is not to be meant as an exhaustive list):
 - A clear definition of your platform and the specific issues you wish to address
 - A plan on how you have or will create awareness of the platform
 - The way in which you have or will change attitudes regarding the issue
 - The way in which you have or will change behaviors related to this issue
 - The way in which your platform issue will move the Miss “Local’s or State’s” Outstanding Teen Program and the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Program forward
 - Your media plans
 - Your marketing strategy
 - How you propose to fund your ideas/plans
 - Any significant accomplishments you have made in regard to your issue.
8. At the bottom of the page, you **MUST** set the justification to the right. Type a line of 26 spaces. Below that line, you must type Signature/Date. Once you have printed the document, you must sign and date this document.

Miss Alabama's — Outstanding — TEEN

(Sample: [Miss Local's or State's Outstanding Teen Platform Statement](#))

Name: Deborah Smith

Celebrating Inclusivity

It is imperative that our 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 including all the family members at the table. 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, we must be willing to step out of our own personal cultural comfort zones and identify the origin of their prejudice. I will specifically focus on three areas: Children, Communities, and Businesses.

Currently, the term “Cultural Diversity” is well known in the halls of institutions of higher learner and, perhaps, even in the public school classroom because of the need for educators and learners 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 change in public policy.

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 I could step into the lead as Miss River Valley's Outstanding Teen, this summer as Miss AnyState's Outstanding Teen, and in August as Miss America's Outstanding Teen. What better role is there for a national titleholder 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?

Miss River Valley's Outstanding Teen, Miss AnyState's Outstanding Teen, and Miss America's Outstanding Teen should not be seen just as yet another pretty face. Yes, she should be attractive, and yes, she should attract the leaders of the future to pay attention to her. 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 our country needs to continue tackling this issue.

Signature/Date

MISS ALABAMA'S
OUTSTANDING
TEEN
SAMPLE

Miss Birmingham Miss Cahaba Valley

Photo Competition Rules

Each year, we offer the opportunity for contestants to submit photos that will be judged individually for the most photogenic contestant overall in each Pageant Division.

Contestants may submit as many different photo entries as they like in order to show versatility.

Each photo will be judged individually and a winner in each division selected prior to the pageant and announced the night of the pageant.

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

Competition photos will be placed in the Program Book with your specified caption underneath, and you will receive a **complimentary** Program Book the night of the pageant. The winner will also receive two season tickets to Miss Alabama in June!

Businesses may sponsor you by:

- Purchasing a full page ad to split with contestant - half the page advertises their business and the other half is the contestant photo competition ad
- Purchasing an ad but instead of using their logo, they allow you to use your photo and the caption is their advertisement. Examples of this caption are: ‘Best wishes to (contestant name) From: (name of sponsor’s business name) ‘

Please note that the Photo Competition is a separate category of competition and judged by an independent panel.

Deadlines for entry into the Photo Competition:

- **Photos - October 26th**
- **Fees - October 29th**

Photos must be high resolution JPG or PNG format & e-mailed to missbham@gmail.com

Checks should be made out to **Miss Birmingham** and mailed to:

Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Pageant – Photo Competition
513 Saint Lauren Way
Birmingham, AL 35242

Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Pageant

Publicity Consent Form

All Outstanding Teens & Rising Stars

I, _____, the Parent or Guardian of
(Print Parent or Guardian Name)

_____, a Rising Star or a Contestant in the
(Print Rising Star or Contestant Name)

Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen Competition or Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Competition, do hereby authorize the Miss Birmingham & Miss Cahaba Valley Scholarship Organization and anyone duly licensed or authorized by it, to televise, photograph, broadcast, make audio or video recordings, social media posts, authorized website entries or motion picture recordings of my child individually or as part of a group for use in official tweets, posts, or media offerings throughout the area and world. I agree that my child's name, likeness, physical depiction for any purpose in perpetuity, in an edited or unedited manner or fashion may be used as the Organization in its sole discretion shall determine.

All photographs, audio and video recordings containing any physical depiction, image or likeness of my child including, but not limited to, interviews, rehearsals, publicity events whether individually or as part of a group made for the use of advertising, trade and any purpose deemed necessary by the organization shall become the property of the Miss Birmingham/Miss Cahaba Valley Scholarship Organization.

Age Group (check one):

- Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Outstanding Teen (13-18)
- Miss Birmingham's & Miss Cahaba Valley's Rising Star (7-11)

(Parent or Guardian Signature)

Date: _____