

2011
Little Miss Marshall-Putnam
Fair Pageant

Contestant
General Information
Packet

Little Miss Marshall-Putnam Fair Pageant
General Information

**IF CHOOSING TO BECOME A CONTESTANT FOR
LITTLE MISS MARSHALL-PUTNAM FAIR**

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The pageant will include **NO MORE** than 20 Little Miss contestants. Only the first 20 completed entry packets (completed application, \$20.00 entry fee, one copy of 4"x 6" or smaller head shot photo, signed Release & Waiver of Liability & Indemnity Agreement, and signed copy of Official Rules), will be accepted. In the event that less than 20 completed applications are received, the **final entry deadline will be TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2011**. If you turn in your completed application prior to this date, you will be notified by the Pageant Committee prior to the Contestant Meeting on Tuesday, June 14th, as to whether or not you are one of the 20 contestants that will be competing in the pageant.

In the event that your completed entry packet was not one of the first 20 received, you will be given a full refund of your \$20.00 entry fee. However, if you are chosen as one of the 20 contestants & you later decide not to compete in the pageant, you will not receive a refund.

In addition to the above entry requirements, all contestants will be asked to sell or purchase 5 books of raffle tickets @ \$5.00 per book.

REHEARSAL REQUIREMENTS

A Contestant Meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 14th. A rehearsal will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, July 5th. Please arrive at least 5 minutes prior to rehearsal start time each night. If you are going to be late, please contact Meredith Hattan at 815-579-9344 or the Fair Office at 309-364-2814 in advance.

June 7th – Your completed entry packet is due no later than this date (signed copy of Official Rules, signed Release & Waiver of Liability & Indemnity Agreement, completed Emergency Contact information form, completed & signed application, \$20.00 entry fee and one copy of 4" x 6" or smaller head shot photo).

June 14th – There will be a contestant meeting in the Hunt Building at 6:00 pm for all 2011 Contestants. A group photo will also be taken for the local newspapers at this meeting. Please dress your daughter in a nice sun dress for this photo. We will also be drawing for reserved Pageant Night seating at this meeting. Each contestant will have the opportunity to select & reserve their 2 free reserved seats for Pageant Night. Parents – please have your cell phones turned off or set to vibrate during rehearsal and keep all talking to a minimum.

July 5th – we will meet in the Hunt Building at 6:00 pm for a **MANDATORY** rehearsal. At this rehearsal, contestants will be coached in walking on stage, and answering questions on stage. Parents – please have your cell phones turned off or set to vibrate during rehearsal and keep all talking to a minimum. This will help the contestants focus on what's happening on stage, and will help to shorten rehearsal time. At this rehearsal, each contestant will receive 2 free pageant admission wristbands to be given to their parents or guardians. These wristbands must be worn on July 6th to receive free admission to the pageant. Please be aware that if you choose to give these 2 free admission wristbands to grandparents or anyone else, or if the bands are forgotten the night of the pageant or lost, parents or guardians will be required to purchase additional wristbands to enter the pageant.

PAGEANT DAY TIMELINE – JULY 6TH

Approximately 3:30 pm – Interviews with the judges will begin at the Farm Bureau building (more specific times will be provided to you at a later date). Please have your daughter completely dressed in the outfit she will be wearing on stage that evening. After interviews have concluded, your daughter is free to go until the evening's competition.

5:45 pm – All Little Miss contestants **MUST** be at the staging area of the Hunt Building (dressed and ready to go on stage) no later than 5:45 pm.

IF YOU BECOME LITTLE MISS MARSHALL-PUTNAM FAIR

FAIR WEEK

Fair Week is grueling, hot, dirty, and sometimes the down time is considered boring. Now having said that– **Fair Week is also what you choose to make of it!!**

Fair Dates: Wednesday July 6th – Sunday July 10th. We would like for your daughter to be at the Fair every evening to open the nightly grandstand events (times will be given to you) and to also attend other events scheduled for her by the Pageant Committee. This schedule will be discussed with you and your daughter on the night of the pageant.

Chaperones: The Pageant Committee will provide you and your daughter with an official chaperone during her scheduled events at the Fair, but, **in addition to this chaperone, a parent or guardian MUST accompany her AT ALL TIMES for supervision while she is on the Fairgrounds.** Supervision can be fulfilled by anyone over 21 years old.

Official Duties: Your daughter's duties are to serve as one of the official hostesses of the 2011 Marshall-Putnam Fair. A list of scheduled activities for her to attend will be provided to you by the Pageant Committee. Any other Fair events that you wish for your daughter to attend that have not been scheduled for her by the Pageant Committee must be brought to the Committee in advance for approval. Please do not take it upon yourself to have your daughter attend events without the Pageant Committee's knowledge and approval. This is partly for her safety, and so that the Pageant Committee knows where she is at all times while on the fairgrounds.

During times that your daughter is not scheduled to appear at any Fair events, we highly suggest you take her home to rest and freshen up before returning to fulfill her duties at the opening of the nightly grandstand events.

Attire: The Fair weekend is usually very hot, so please dress accordingly. Casual summer clothes are appropriate during the day, but please make sure that midriffs are not showing at any time. Another important element to your daughter's attire is footwear. Sandals or flip-flops can be worn, but please have a pair of closed toe shoes for her to wear, as she may be making trips down to the barn areas, and will be very glad to have something to cover her feet.

For the nightly Grandstand events, we would like your daughter to dress a little nicer, since she will be introducing herself to the entire Grandstand audience. A nice summer dress, skirt & blouse, or nice pants & blouse are appropriate for these occasions. There will be a Grandstand show every night of the Fair (Thursday – Sunday) so please plan accordingly. She does not need 4 different outfits.

Miscellaneous: Your daughter's day will begin according to her schedule of events for each day, and after she has introduced herself at the nightly Grandstand events, she will be dismissed from her official pageant chaperone to enjoy the Fair, or to go home & get some rest. If your family chooses to stay longer at the Fair, a parent or guardian must be with the Little Miss at all times.

If you choose to stay on the fairgrounds between your daughter's scheduled events, her chaperone may take her back to the Fair Office to cool off, freshen up, and start writing her Thank You notes to the Pageant donors. Please use this weekend to form friendships with the other royalty & their families. The memories your daughter will make this weekend will last a lifetime. Remember to bring your camera every day.

Please remember that your daughter is the Little Miss Marshall-Putnam Fair, and not Miss Marshall-Putnam Fair. What this means is that although she is a special part of our royalty, she is not the top crown holder, so please remember to respect the position of Miss Marshall-Putnam Fair at all times. Do not try to have your daughter "fill her shoes" or diminish her role in any way with words or actions.

OTHER EVENTS THROUGH THE YEAR

LOCAL PARADES

There are several parades throughout Marshall and Putnam counties that you may choose to have your daughter participate in. A list of these local parades can be provided to you by the Pageant Director. We do not require your daughter to participate in any parades, so if you choose to do so, please understand that you will be responsible for everything included in participating in the parade. This includes being responsible for contacting the parade contact person to register for the event, paying any entry fees (if applicable), providing your own transportation to and from the parade site, and obtaining your own transportation for your daughter to use in the parade (including being responsible for having the necessary personal insurance coverage in the event of an accident or other mishap). Candy is optional, but if you choose to throw it during the parade, you will be responsible for the expense of purchasing the candy. You may want to have magnetic signs made for use during the parades, but these will be at your expense (approximate cost is \$50.00). The magnetic signs are used to display your daughter's name & the Little Miss Marshall-Putnam Fair title, and they can make for a wonderful keepsake.

If you do decide to participate in any parades, you must notify your Pageant Director so that she is aware of your daughter's public appearance as Little Miss Marshall-Putnam County Fair. Be sure to have your daughter wear a nice outfit, her crown and sash. Sunglasses should be taken off when the parade starts. Bring sunscreen and a water bottle for the parade and don't be late!

COUNTY FAIR DAY

Friday, August 12th

State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL

County Fair Day is held Friday, August 12th on the Director's Lawn at the State Fair in Springfield. County Fair Day is when all County Fair Queens meet at the State Fair and represent their county. Your daughter is not required to attend, however, if you would like for your daughter to attend, you will be responsible for reserving and purchasing any meal tickets (including anyone else attending with your daughter) by Sunday, July 10th. Approximate ticket cost is \$8.00 per person. If attending County Fair Day, your daughter must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, and you will be responsible for providing her transportation, and for paying any parking fees, along with any other expenses for the day.

If choosing to attend, your daughter will need to wear a nice sundress with her crown and sash. A camera, fan, a change of clothes and shoes can be carried in a tote bag. You will register your daughter at the Queen's table and then she is free to mingle with other royalty. This is a great opportunity to take pictures for her scrapbook. Lunch is generally around 11:00 am. The governor of Illinois "sometimes" will show up for photos with the County Fair Queens and other royalty. If he does not commit, then photos may be taken with the Illinois Director of Agriculture. A Pageant Directors meeting will be held that day also, so your daughter's Pageant Director may be attending as well.

Please remember, this is another opportunity for your daughter to represent the Marshall-Putnam County Fair, so please have her dress and act accordingly. Depending on your schedules, some royalty have made a "day" at the state fair by changing clothes and walking around the grounds.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

As some of your daughter's many gifts upon winning, she will receive a crown, crown pin, and two sashes. These items are hers to keep after her reign has ended. If any of these provided items are lost or damaged, it is the responsibility of the family of the Little Miss to replace these items at your own expense, if desired. Prior approval of any replacement items must be obtained from the Pageant Committee before purchasing any items.

If Miss Marshall-Putnam County Fair chooses to participate in the Miss Illinois County Fair Pageant in January 2012, your daughter is welcome to attend some of the weekend's activities to support her. Attendance is not required of your daughter, but if she would like to attend, you will be responsible for all expenses incurred during the weekend, including all admission tickets and her transportation to and from the event in Springfield, IL. Once again, please remember that a parent or guardian must be with her at all times. If you would like more information about the Miss Illinois County Fair Pageant, please ask your daughter's Pageant Director.

OTHER EXPENSES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Expenses paid by Fair Board / Pageant Committee:

- Thank you notes for Pageant Donors, including postage
- Sitting Fee for Official Portrait (donated by a photography studio)

Expenses Little Miss Marshall-Putnam Fair will be responsible for:

- Meals and drinks during Fair week
- Mileage / fuel / parking expenses for events attended throughout your daughter's reign
- Camera, film & photo processing expenses throughout your daughter's reign
- Photos from donated photo session, if desired
- Entry fees and all other expenses for any other pageants entered either during or after your daughter's reign
- Basket Raffle items to be raffled off for fundraising for the following year's local Pageant (approx \$75)
- Any and all other expenses not listed as paid for by Fair Board / Pageant Committee