

INFORMATION FOR

Mrs. Texas United States® 2009:

April 24-26, 2009

Fort Worth

THE PAGEANT will be very glamorous, exciting and entertaining for you and everyone who attends. It will truly be a very memorable experience and could lead to new opportunities in your life should you desire. MRS. TEXAS UNITED STATES® 2009 will win thousands of dollars in cash and prizes and will represent our state in the national pageant July 2009 in Las Vegas. The Mrs. United States® pageant is in its 23rd year celebrating married women and their contributions to their communities and families. It truly is the premiere pageant for married women! The reigning MRS. TEXAS UNITED STATES® 2008 is 32 year-old Wendy Grandell, who won the title as Mrs. DFW on April 27, 2008. Our 2007 winner was 37 years-old, our 2006 winner was 28 years-old and our 2005 winner was 45 years-old. Most of our contestants have made the Top 10 at the national level! We have had winners of all ages and backgrounds, from stay-at-home moms to those who work full-time outside the home. Having children is not a prerequisite.

THE DIRECTORS are Erika and Matt Lafata. Erika (Howe) and her business partner at the time from 1998-2002, Melissa King (Malton), were both successful local directors formerly for Miss Texas USA™ and Miss Texas Teen USA™ (Donald Trump's Miss Universe® Organization). During their 4 years as local directors, they guided their local winners back-to-back to become Miss Texas Teen USA™ in 2001 and 2002...one of which went on to become 3rd runner up to Miss Teen USA® 2001. Erika is also the former Mrs. Texas United States® 2000. Between them, they have over 40 years experience, touching on every facet of the pageant industry!

THE COMPETITION is divided into three categories, all categories bearing equal weight: Personal Interview, Fitness in Swimwear (new this year: one or two piece) and Evening Gown. The judges will be looking for the all-around winner. She may not be the most outstanding in one category, yet she will score highly in all three categories. The judging is based on poise, personality, intelligence, and beauty. There is no talent competition and no experience is necessary.

In addition to choosing the new MRS. TEXAS UNITED STATES® 2009, awards will be presented to 4 runners-up, the Most Photogenic Winner, Best Smile, Swimsuit Winner, Supermodel With Style Award, (who will receive a spread in

pageant industry's premier publication, *Supermodels Unlimited Magazine!*) and Congeniality Award.

WHEN? Friday through Sunday, April 24-26, 2009. Host hotel is the Fort Worth Hilton Downtown and the final show is at the Scott Theatre (Fort Worth Arts Center)

COMPETITION WARDROBE - You will be required to furnish your own competition wardrobe:

1. Evening Gown – There are no specific requirements regarding the gown other than it should be full length, fit you well, and compliment your own coloring and physical features. Cost of gown is not a consideration when being judged.
2. Personal Interview Dress/Suit – For the judges' personal interviews (panel-style), you will need a daytime dress or pants suit.....something similar that you would wear to a job interview. Jewelry should be kept to a minimum!
3. One or Two Piece Swimsuit – Ideally, this should be a one color, basic suit that compliments your figure and own coloring. You will need to provide a sarong or wrap, close as possible to color of your swimsuit, and hose are optional. High heeled flesh colored or clear sandals or closed toe shoes are recommended. Jewelry should be kept to a minimum. Rhinestones on suit allowed. NO CUT OUTS. Accent colors are acceptable.
4. Opening Number Outfit - For Opening Number, attire TBD. This will not be a complicated opening number, but more choreographed walking and posing. This will either be a cocktail dress or something more casual. More information to come soon!

FEES AND WHAT THEY COVER – The regular entry fee is \$750, which is a \$145 decrease from previous 4 years. Contestants had the option to early-register and take advantage of additional savings. The MRS. TEXAS UNITED STATES® 2009 pageant is the *best value* for your pageant experience! The fee **covers your shared accommodations with another contestant at the host hotel** for Friday and Saturday nights (you have the option to get your own room at your own expense), your lunch & dinners starting Friday night through Sunday lunch, satin embroidered sash with your choice of available titles, ½ page in the souvenir program book, complimentary husband's ticket to the show, ticket for your husband to at least one special outing, and contestant gifts upon arrival. Your entry fee is inclusive for all activities during the weekend. The only other fee required is that you sell at least 6 tickets at \$35 each to the final show on Sunday, which will be in a very classy theatre setting.

Please note: should you want to have a crown for appearances, you will be given the style number and vendor to order at your own expense; they are approximately \$30. The pageant will give you an embroidered satin sash with your title on it within 4-6 weeks of receipt of your deposit.

Should you win, your entry fee and travel along with a spending allowance are covered the week of Mrs. United States® in Las Vegas. State contestant handbook & other pertinent information will be sent to you as soon as available so you may begin preparing for your experience. At least one outing is planned for one of the nights with your spouse. In 2008, the pageant treated contestants and husbands to a Fiesta Dinner Cruise on the catamaran "Chamonix II" on Lake Lewisville. Additionally, they went on a second outing the second night of their stay in Frisco to the Frisco RoughRiders Ballpark to watch the Texas Rangers' minor baseball league time in action. *Both events were included for both contestant and spouse!*

Your family and friends can stay at the hotel at a special discounted rate, which you will receive information about once a contestant.

PAGEANT RELATED FEES may be obtained from a sponsor, group of sponsors, family, friends, husband's or your company, or paid by yourself personally. Contestants pay their fees all of these ways. Any donation from a company is 100% tax deductible as an advertising expense, as you can list them on your ad page. Very important: **All fee payments are totally non-refundable- absolutely no exceptions, so please don't ask.** On occasion, we have allowed registered contestants to carry over their entry fee to the follow year in some approved circumstances.

PHOTOS – When you receive your sash approximately 4-6 weeks after your deposit is submitted, please take a snapshot of yourself showing your full sash title and email to us for the website. Also, by March 15, 2009, you must provide your competition headshot (different from the sash shot)—a **color 5”X7”** digital image of a photo of yourself via email. **It must high resolution**, and it must be a head and shoulder or face shot **ONLY**, printed vertically (no crown or sash).

PLEASE NOTE: We do not requiring hard copies of photos anymore.

DEADLINES AND PAYMENT PLAN INFORMATION:

(note: payment plan not applicable with early entry discount)

Immediately- Deposit with application of **\$300 to secure your local title**; sash will be ordered. You will receive it approximately 4 weeks of receipt of your deposit. You can then start making appearances and tell your community about your “quest for the crown”. You can email your application or send in the mail.

Within 30 days of deposit: \$225 payment #2

Within 60 days of deposit or March 15, 2009, whichever comes first: \$225 final payment #3

** Please note that failure to meet payment plan deadlines can result in forfeiture of title and all payments made up to that point and you will have to return your sash. It is EXTREMELY important to make ALL payments on time!*

DISCOUNTS:

Early entry discounts have been available to contestants who registered and paid in full their entry fee by certain dates.

- Discounts are given for the runners-up (varying from \$200 to \$100 off) and ALL former contestants from 2005-2008 pageants produced by Queen Bee Productions (\$50 off).

Final Deadline to enter and all fees due: March 15, 2009. Late entries after this date are subject to a \$100 additional charge. ****Remember the later you wait to enter, the less chance you will get the title you want. As soon as you become a contestant, you can start promoting your title! ****

Please make checks payable only to:

QUEEN BEE PRODUCTIONS

(credit/debit cards accepted via Paypal ID: MrsTexasUnitedStates@tx.rr.com)

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