



## **Competition Scoring Criteria & Phases of Competition**

*IMPORTANT NOTE: State & Local leadership must impart to all Miss America/Miss America's Teen delegates that categories and scoring percentages may change at the National Competition*

### **Number of Panelists**

The State and Local Organizations may choose a panel with at least 5 and no more than 7 members. Olympic Scoring System to be used, — subject to the “missing” (former ‘sick’) judge rule— high and low scores are dropped. At least one (1) panelist must be a novice to the program (more are preferred), meaning they have never served as a judge/panelist in local, state, or a national level competition.

### **Local Miss/Teen and State Miss/Teen Values** *(less than 9 contestants no final ballot\*)*

#### **Single Night/Preliminary Night**

- Private Interview 30%
- Talent/HERStory™ 20%
- Health & Fitness 20%
- Evening Gown 20%
- On Stage Conversation 10%

#### **Final Night Values**

- Composite Score (multi) 30%
- Talent/HERStory™ 20%
- Health & Fitness 20%
- Evening Gown 20%
- On Stage Conversation (Semi Finalists) 10%



## **Private Interview- 30%**

**Wardrobe:** Delegates Choice - Stylish Interview Attire (age appropriate)

**Timing:** 30 second opening, 9-minute Q&A, optional 30 second wrap up or closing statement.

### **Fact Sheet & Community Service Initiative (CSI) Statement:**

- State/Local Organizations will use the same Fact Sheet throughout the competition year.
- Community Service Initiative (CSI) submission is a one sheet document in which the delegate responds in a short essay regarding her personal CSI.
- Sample of the Fact Sheet and CSI will be provided.

### **Procedures**

- Format decided must be uniform for all delegates.
- The delegate may be seated at a table or standing at a podium.
- Each delegate is introduced by the panelist chair and will take her position and immediately present a brief 30-second introduction/CSI overview. Once the CSI intro is completed, the panelists begin the interview.
- At (9:30) nine-minute thirty second mark, timekeeper indicates (30) seconds remaining for interview. The Panelist Chair will inform the delegate of remaining time and delegate may choose to use the time to finish her response to the last question or proceed in a closing statement.
- At the 10-minute mark, the timekeeper stands, and the head panelist indicates the interview time is up. Concluding that delegate's private interview phase.

### **Purpose - Allows Insight Into the delegate's:**

- Ability to fulfill the qualifications, responsibilities, duties, and term of the titleholder.
- Personal qualities and attributes relevant to the titleholder position.
- Commitment to her community service initiative or CSI.
- Ability to express her own beliefs in an authentic and relatable manner.
- Sense of accomplishments /goals above and beyond the fact sheet.
- Spontaneity, intelligence, sense of humor, charm and charisma.
- Authenticity and ability to answer questions in a conversational, unrehearsed manner.
- Ability to serve as a role model and if she is reflective of her generation. Updated April



## **Health & Fitness - 20%**

### **Wardrobe:**

Director or delegate's choice of fitness outfit, silhouettes outlined by MA style guide, but determined at local/state level. Examples of Fitness Wear options include yoga/dance/athletic wear. Judges to evaluate the following: Overall First impression of a Dynamic Presence, Radiates Health, High Energy, Engaging Vitality, and a Sense of Confidence.

### **Procedure:**

- The organization will present each delegate in a pre-blocked, high energy stage routine with movement and posing.
- Each delegate will not exceed 20-30 seconds.
- No props are allowed.
- State competitions may include, during Health & Fitness, LED video footage of the delegate representing their health & fitness initiative; and/or a voice over of the same.

### **Purpose:**

This phase of competition is where the delegate showcases her commitment to health and fitness initiatives. At the local/state organization discretion this phase may include a voice-over on her experience with self-care and health goals, and related initiatives, or a health/fitness statement. A delegate's discipline and commitment to being physically healthy is a key to success in all other areas of life, and the rigors of representing the Miss America or Miss America's Teen program as a national titleholder.

### **Allows Insight Into:**

- The delegate's comfort and confidence level on stage.
- The delegate's overall impression of health and fitness commitment.
- On stage presentation and energy, comfort in front of an audience, confidence.
- The ability to gauge the audience's impression of the contestant.
- The delegate's spontaneity, and lack of "robotic" stage presentation;
- Ability to determine if delegate could serve as national health/fitness ambassador.



## **Performing Arts Talent/HERStory™ - 20%**

**Wardrobe:** Delegate's Choice – Performance Arts Talents or HERStory™ Presentation.

**Timing:** Up to 90 seconds.

### **Purpose:**

To underscore the Miss America and Miss America's Teen commitment to supporting performance arts education initiatives and women's individual efforts in dance, music, opera/vocal, drama, magic, oratory, and circus arts.

### **Procedure:**

- The organization will present each delegate's talent not to exceed 90 seconds per delegate.

### **Performance Talent Requirements:**

Talent must be approved by National office or previously approved as listed on the most recent "Approved Performance Talent List" OR be in compliance with the guidelines for the HERStory™ stage presentation. HERStory™ guideline sheet to be used.

### **Allows Insight into the delegate's:**

- Preparatory, performance or storytelling skills.
- Overall presentation skills and ability to deliver a captivating presentation. ● Interpretive ability and entertainment value relative to the category of performance art.
- Stage presence, on-stage personality, and personal connection to her story. ● Allows a look at the totality of the performance elements of on-stage presentation. ● Ability to capture the attention of an audience while performing on stage.



## **Evening Gown-20%**

**Wardrobe:** Delegate's Choice of Evening Wear - Appropriate for Red Carpet.

**Timing:** State/Local choice of timing to music.

**Choreography:** State/Local choice of blocking, choreography and timing.

### **Purpose:**

Delegate will publicly present her sense of Style wearing an evening gown in a fashion suitable for an appearance as Teen/Miss Local or State. Part of a titleholder's role is to attend galas, fundraisers, awards shows and other formal events. This often involves walking a red carpet, posing for press photographers, modeling in fashion shows, promoting various national fashion designers who partner with Miss America or Miss America's Teen programs.

Local/State programs are to create an elegant runway/stage experience set to music appropriate for this phase of competition.

### **Allows Insight into the delegate's:**

- Ability to capture attention on stage, and individual stage presence.
- Comfort, confidence, and composure.
- Overall impression of ability to represent the Miss America or Miss America's Teen Organization at a high-profile event.
- Scoring is based on how the delegate carries herself/performs in this phase of competition, not on the actual gown she is wearing or the perceived cost of that gown.



## **On Stage Conversation - 10%**

**Wardrobe:** Delegate to be in Opening Number Outfit

### **Preliminary Purpose:**

This question to be asked immediately following any opening presentation/choreography. This should be the first phase of any preliminary competition each night.

### **Questions:**

The preliminary conversation question should be a single question asked onstage regarding the Delegate's Community Service Initiative (CSI) and response should not be longer than 30 seconds. An overview must be provided by either a host or the contestant with a brief summary of the individual CSI PRIOR to any question.

### **Allows Insight into the delegate's:**

- Commitment to the Service point of the crown.
- Unique perspective on community service and its local impact.
- Desire to create interest in her community service initiatives.
- Brings the interview to the stage in an interactive engaging way to showcase each delegate.
- Highlights intelligence, personality, charisma, and aptitude for the titleholder's opportunity.
- Allows a look at the sense of composure in presenting ideas on stage.
- Allows a look at interactivity with the panelists and the audience.

*\*This alternate wardrobe option shall only be exercised if the opening look is classified as a costume and is deemed inappropriate by the Director for the Preliminary Night On Stage Conversation.*