Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant

Welcome to the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Young Miss Pageant!

In this packet, you'll find information about practices, the pageant schedule, outfit requirements, pageant rules, the sponsor fees, and the necessary forms to participate in the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant. This packet can be found on Jo Daviess County Fair's website as a fillable form and may be emailed to Director, Tiffany Vrstal at tvrstal@gmail.com.

Fundraising - Fundraising is an important part of the Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant. As the costs of hosting the pageant continue to increase each year, the support of our contestants through fundraising helps ensure we can continue providing a high-quality and memorable experience for everyone involved. **We strongly encourage all contestants to participate in the annual fundraiser. Please make all fundraising checks payable to Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant.** Thank you for your support!

Practices – Each contestant is required to attend the full final week of rehearsals and at least seventy (70%) of all other practices, training, and rehearsals. Typically, practice is held two nights a week until the final week and is broken down into two categories: stage presence and dance, and is held on separate nights. Stage presence covers everything from introductions, the various walks, practicing speeches, and everything in between. Practice reminders:

- Show up on time and ready to practice
- Bring water and a snack
- Dress for the weather
- Bring appropriate practice shoes
    - **NO FLIP FLOPS OR BARE FEET** on stage due to nails and splinters
- Cell phones should be kept on silent and/or left in cars. Cell phone use is only permitted during breaks. It's important to keep attention directed to our practices to get out on time.

Final Week Practices

- Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday's practices typically run anywhere from 5:30–9 p.m. at the Grandstands. A more detailed practice schedule will be provided.
- Monday night the committee provides pizza around 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday night is a full dress rehearsal**. Show up wearing the dance outfit. The amount of time this practice takes depends on you! Show up ready to go, pay attention throughout the night, hit your marks, and keep things moving.
- Wednesday night is potluck night – your division will be assigned an item to bring.

Lastly, remember that how you practice is how you perform. Smile, speak confidently, look up and out, and show enthusiasm and poise along the way. Come pageant night, you'll be thankful for the muscle memory!

Interviews/Luncheon – This will take place at the Warren Community Building, and we will inform you during the final week of practice when to be there for your interview. The committee provides a small luncheon (usually consisting of Subway sandwiches, fruit, etc.) to snack on before/after your interview.

- Be dressed in your "Sunday's Best", a nice dress and cardigan, nude tights, and closed-toed shoes.
- Remember to look presentable; this is an interview.
- If you are going to wear makeup, please do so minimally. Look professional, but remember you are 9-11 years of age. The judges want to see your natural beauty. Lastly, please have your hair done before the interview.
    - Book morning hair appointments that will allow your hair to be completed before Noon.
    - If you plan on switching hairstyles between the interview and the pageant, make sure you can do it on your own.
- No cell phones, smart watches, fitness watches, etc., may be worn or kept on your person once interviews have started. These items will be turned over to the committee member(s) covering the interviews/luncheon to prevent discussion of the interview questions/process among contestants.

After the Interviews/Luncheon

Once you've completed your interview, you may not stay with the remaining contestants; again, this is to prevent the discussion of the interview questions/process among contestants. At this time, you may get something to eat and relax. The time is yours!

You are to be at the campers/backstage at the fairground by 5:30 p.m. sharp!

Camper Etiquette

- Be respectful, these campers have been donated for our use. We are lucky to have them!
- No family, friends, or boyfriends in the campers at any time.
    - A family member may assist in bringing your items to the camper, but will have to leave immediately afterward.
- No hairspray or glitter in any of the campers.
    - Also, there is to be no use of baby oil, only non-glitter lotion.
- Please check with committee members if the restrooms are available to be used inside the campers.
- Clean up after yourselves – do not leave items behind, they will be thrown away.
    - It's a good idea to label your belongings so they don't get mixed up with someone else's belongings. The campers can get a bit tight with multiple girls.
    - Bringing your things in a small basket/tote/bag can help keep things organized.

The Pageant – Will start at 6:30 p.m. with The Star Spangled Banner, followed by a short Director's speech and then a welcome by the current Queen. Each girl will go on stage to introduce themselves; "Contestant # ___, Name, Hometown." And will go back into their dance spot and perform a non-judged dance production. Once the dance is over, each contestant will walk on individually for the swimsuit competition. Below is the complete pageant schedule.

National Anthem
Welcome by: Queen, Jr. Miss, Young Miss
Jr. Miss Contestant Introductions
Queen Contestant Introductions
Jr. Miss & Queen Contestants Dance Routine
Young Miss Contestant Introductions
Young Miss Dance Routine
Introduction of Princesses
Princesses Dance Routine
Queen Contestant Swimsuit Competition
Jr. Miss Evening Gown Competition
Young Miss Evening Gown Competition
Queen Contestant Evening Gown Competition
Jr. Miss Fish Bowl Questions
Queen Contestant Speech Competition
JUDGING OVER
Princesses Coronation and Dance
Introduction of Visiting & Former Queens
Final Walk/FUN WALK "Hand Clap"
Farewell Speech by: Young Miss
Final Walk
Coronation of the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Young Miss
Farewell Speech By: Junior Miss
Final Walk
Coronation of the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Jr. Miss
Farewell Speech By: Queen
Final Walk
Coronation of the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Queen

Introductions – You will be asked to introduce yourself and answer two predetermined questions on stage. Practice your introduction, speak clearly and confidently.

Outfit Requirements - All outfits must be approved by the Director.

No platform pumps/heels are permitted under any category.

Interview – covered under the Interview/Luncheon section of this packet.

Evening Gown – An evening gown is required. We ask the gowns to be more form-fitting than puffy, as our stage is small and they take up a lot of space. Please avoid high slits (no more than 3" above the natural knee) as they are not ladylike when you step back to walk forward. Additionally, make sure there is no cleavage shown and no cut-outs. All gowns must be floor-length. Earrings, a necklace, and 1 bracelet may be worn. High-heeled shoes are required for this portion of the pageant. They can be your choice. Strappy shoes seem to be easier to walk in, but please make sure you can walk in them.

If the Director or pageant committee believes you are having difficulties walking in your shoes, they will inform you and can possibly help find a different pair of shoes for you.

Judging - You will be judged on a possible 100 points.

- Interview skills – 30 points
- Facial beauty – 15 points
- Evening gown – 10 points
- Communication skills – 30 points
- Stage presence – 15 points

The dance is not judged, but remember to smile! The judges are still looking at you.

Interview – A personal 4-minute interview with the 3 judges so they can learn about you, your personality, qualities, and attributes. No reason to worry, we will have mock interviews at the practices to prepare for this situation.

Evening Gown Competition – Stage presence portion of the competition. Judges look for facial beauty, grace, poise, and confidence.

Communication Skills (Introductions) –The Young Miss will be assisting the Queen & Jr. Miss in promoting the County fair, Jo Daviess County, and Agriculture, how she relates to a crowd is very important.

Judges will observe how each contestant shows enthusiasm throughout the entire night.

Jo Daviess County Fair – The Young Miss, 1st and 2nd Runners-up, Miss Congeniality and People's Choice nominees are required to attend events with the new Queen for a minimum of 2 days. Failure to do so will result in the pageant committee determining whether or not the individual may compete in the pageant the following year.

Volunteer Hours – Each crowned division winner is required to complete volunteer hours throughout their reign; a breakdown of this is located below. After each quarter, the Young Miss, Jr. Miss, and Queen will have a sheet to track and turn in volunteer hours to the Director. This sheet must be signed and dated after each event. Volunteer events must be approved by the Director. After each event, a picture must be sent to the Director to be uploaded onto the pageant's Facebook page. We volunteer not only to get our name out into the community but also to give back to our communities for how much they contribute to our Pageant!

Quarter Breakdown:	Division Hour Requirements
August 5th – October 31st	Young Miss – 2 hrs/quarter = 8 Total
November 1st – February 1st	Jr. Miss – 4 hrs/quarter = 16 Total
February 2nd – May 2nd	Queen – 7 hrs/quarter = 28 Total
May 3rd – August 4th	

Examples of what counts: pancake breakfasts, Christmas walks, food stand, steak dinner, or race volunteer, breakfast with Santa, other events listed in the newspapers. Parades count for 30 minutes.

<u>Community Give-Back Project</u> – This project is **mandatory** for the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Queen, Jr. Miss, and Young Miss. The Runners-up and other award winners are encouraged to assist when needed.

- This project is meant to give back to one (or several) of the towns in Jo Daviess County.
- The Queen will start to formulate project ideas and have them ready to present by October's meeting.
- November/December the project will be started.
- May/June is the deadline for the project must be completed.
- The pageant will help assist with start-up costs if there are any.
- The project cannot be counted for your regular volunteer hours that must be performed each quarter, but it is an additional year task.

Duties:

The Queen will formulate project ideas, present them to the committee, and follow the entire project through to completion.

The Jr. Miss will help the Queen with ideas and assist the Queen in completing the project.

The Young Miss can help formulate ideas, but must help with the actual project portion.

We encourage the newly crowned ladies to think outside the box and see where this pageant can make a difference in our County. We must give back to our local communities, as without them, we would not be able to keep this pageant going!

Example Community Give-Back Projects:

- Recycled Bottle Cap Bench
- Extensive Multi-Town Food Drives
- Extensive Multi-Town Animal Food Drives
- Multi-Town Coat & Glove Collections

Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Young Miss Pageant General Rules

1. Each contestant must be a U.S. Citizen, resident of Jo Daviess County, and live in the State of Illinois.
2. Each contestant must be at least 9 years of age at the time of the pageant and have not exceeded her 11th birthday by the date of the pageant.
3. Former County Fair Young Misses who have competed are not eligible to compete for the title a second time.
4. Each contestant is required to attend the full final week of rehearsals and at least 70% of all other practices, training, and rehearsals.
5. Each contestant must agree to be personally interviewed by the judges, to appear in formal wear and appropriate “Sunday’s Best” attire for the interview for the judging.
6. Each contestant must understand that the decision of the judging panel is final.
7. Each contestant must be available to serve alongside the Queen for the remainder of the Jo Daviess County Fair and represent Jo Daviess County throughout the year at events, parades, and festivals.
8. The contestant selected to be the Young Miss must be willing to abide by the following restrictions and perform the following duties during her reign:
    a. The Young Miss will not partake in drinking alcoholic beverages, use tobacco products (including vapes), or use any other illicit substances while representing Jo Daviess County at any function.
    b. The Young Miss will not enter into any other judged pageant during her reign.
    c. The Young Miss will represent the Jo Daviess County Fair at as many other area pageants and functions as possible. She will be chaperoned by the Pageant Director or by a chaperone approved by the pageant committee anytime she is attending a function.
    d. All personal appearances of the Young Miss must be approved in advance by the Pageant Director. All photographic sessions or pictures released depicting the Young Miss as the Jo Daviess County Fair Young Miss must be approved by the Pageant Director.
9. If the newly crowned Young Miss cannot fulfill all her duties or is found in violation of any of the aforementioned rules, she will immediately relinquish her title, crown, and all prizes received upon the direction of the Pageant Director. The first runner-up will then become eligible to hold the title.
10. Each contestant must provide a $40.00 sponsorship fee made payable to the Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant. Contestants may solicit only for the entry fee. Only 2 sponsors may be obtained. No other monetary support is to be solicited by the contestants. Each contestant’s sponsor will be recognized in the pageant program if the name of the sponsor is submitted before the preparation of the program.
11. If the contestant drops out before the night of the pageant or is unable to participate, your sponsorship fee will be considered a donation; no refunds will be given.
12. Each contestant must be of good moral character. Judges and the Pageant Director may use or view any form of social media when selecting candidates, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. If any contestant is found to have had any immoral or indecent acts, the contestant can be ruled ineligible to compete and the Judges will be informed.

Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Young Miss' Pageant Official Entry Form

Full Name _____ Contestant # Undetermine
FIRST MIDDLE LAST

Parent Name(s) _____ Division Select One

Hometown _____ **Age** _____ **Birthdate** _____

Height -____' -____" **Weight** _____ lbs **Eye Color** Select One **Hair Color** Select One
(No half sizes please)

Sponsor Name(s) _____

Education

School _____ Grade_____

Plans for When I Grow Up:

_____

Please list at least 5 items in order of importance under each of the following categories.

Hobbies, Interests, & Likes:

_____

_____

_____

High School, Community, & Church Activities:

_____

_____

_____

Special Honors Received:

_____

_____

_____

Emergency Contact Information

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Allergy Information
(We have a pizza night and a potluck night during the final week's practices and provide a luncheon for the contestants on the day of the pageant. We want all contestants to be able to safely participate.)

_____

_____

T-Shirt Size

☐ Youth Small ☐ Youth Medium ☐ Youth Large

☐ Adult Small ☐ Adult Medium ☐ Adult Large

Favorite Pizza

☐ Cheese ☐ Sausage ☐ Pepperoni

☐ Sausage & Pepperoni ☐ Supreme ☐ Taco

I hereby acknowledge that the personal data shown on this application is correct and that I have read and understand the Jo Daviess County Fair Young Miss Pageant General Rules. I understand the time, manner, and method of conducting the pageant are solely within the discretion of the pageant officials and that the decision of the judges is final. I hereby agree to comply with all the rules of the Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant. This application must be signed by both the contestant and at least one parent/guardian.

Contestant Name _____

Parent Names _____

Address _____ Contestant Phone _____

_____, IL _____ Parent Phone _____

Contestant Email _____ Parent Email_____

Contestant Signature _____ Date_____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Address (if different than the contestants) _____

***** DIRECTORS USE ONLY *****

Application Received _____ Sponsorship Fee Received _____

Picture Taken _____ Program Info_____

Photo/Video Form _____ Notes _____

Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant Photo/Video Permission Form

Dear Contestant, Parent/Guardian,

The Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant strives to highlight the many positive accomplishments of our young ladies and princesses. To do this, photographs are taken in individual and group settings during the month prior to, during, and at the pageant functions after the Jo Daviess County Fair. An individual photograph will be used of each Queen, Jr. Miss, Young Miss, and Princess contestant in the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant program, which will be required for entrance. All other photographs/videography may be used on the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant's Facebook page, Instagram, in the Flash and other local newspapers, as well as other pageant uses prior, during, and after the pageant and fair weekend.

We wish to notify you of this possibility and request that the Photo/Video Permission Form be completed for each child, indicating your preference below. Recognizing the sensitivity to children's photos/videos on the web, we've worded the paragraph below carefully. Please return forms to the Pageant Director within the first week of practices.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Vrstal, Pageant Director

I understand that photographs and videography of my child will be used only for pageant or fair activities. I understand that I will not be compensated for the use of my child's photography and or videography. I reserve the right to request that any photos of my child be taken off the website at any time should I deem it necessary.

Contestant Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

Parent Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Parent Signature _____

☐ YES, I give my permission for my child's photograph/videography to be used for the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant program. (This is required for entrance.)

☐ YES, I give my permission for my child's photograph/videography to be used for the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant Facebook/Instagram pages prior, during, and after the pageant and fair weekend, as well as in the Flash and other local newspapers or for other pageant uses.

☐ NO, I do not want my child's photograph/videography to be used for the Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant Facebook/Instagram pages prior, during, and after the pageant and fair weekend, as well as in the Flash and other local newspapers or for other pageant uses.

☐ I want to limit my child's photograph/videography to be use ONLY for _____.

Miss Jo Daviess County Fair Pageant Program Information

Division Select One

Contestant Number Undetermi Contestant Age at the time of the Pageant _____

Name (First, Middle, Last) _____

Hometown _____

Daughter of _____

Hair Color Select One _____

Eye Color Select One _____

Height Foot _____ Inches (no half sizes)

Born on _____

School Name _____

Grade for Fall _____

Select which school you'll be going to:

☐ Elementary ☐ Primary School ☐ Middle School

☐ Junior High ☐ High School ☐ College

Sponsored By:

_____

_____