

# Miss Birmingham

## 2011 Miss Birmingham Pageant Application Information

**\*PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE PACKET\***

**Application Packets should be received no later than October 25, 2010**

**\*\*USE THE CHECKLIST ON PAGE 8 TO MAKE SURE ALL ITEMS ARE INCLUDED IN YOUR RETURNED APPLICATION\*\***

Only *completed* applications are accepted meaning that all checklist information must be *included* in the original packet in order to be considered complete.

**All completed application packets will be accepted through the deadline!**

**Applications are NOT accepted by fax or email – only by MAIL!**

### **Application Packet Documents:**

1. Application Information
2. Application Instructions
3. Opening Number Attire
4. Rising Star Information *\*NEW\**
5. **Checklist For All Documentation**
6. Competition Information
7. Talent Request Form
8. Pageant Day Schedule
9. Publicity Release Form\*
10. 2011 Miss Birmingham Local Contestant Contract\*
11. 2001 Miss Birmingham Scholarship Rules\*
12. 2010-2011 Miss America State and Local Contestant Contract\*\*
13. Community Service Questionnaire\*\*
14. Contestant Resume Instructions & Sample\*\*
15. Contestant Platform Essay Instructions & Sample\*\*

**\*All local pageant forms are listed on the Miss Birmingham website – [www.missbham.com](http://www.missbham.com)**

**\*\*The State Contract, Community Service Questionnaire, Contestant Resume Instructions & Sample, and the Contestant Platform Essay Instructions & Sample are located on the Miss Alabama website – [www.missalabama.com](http://www.missalabama.com)**

(A link to the Miss Alabama forms is provided on the Miss Birmingham website)

### **2011 Miss Birmingham Entry Requirements:**

1. You must be a U.S. citizen and must be one of the following: a) a resident of, b) a full-time student in, or c) work full-time in **Alabama** for at least 6 months prior to your entry in the pageant. You are required to provide proof by producing one of the items listed in the residency requirements of the contract.
2. You must be a high school graduate by the date of the Miss Alabama Pageant in June 2011.
3. You must be at least 17-years-old as of November 7, 2010 & no older than 24-years-old on December 31, 2011.
4. You must comply with all guidelines set forth in the state & local contract set forth by the Miss America Organization as well the Miss Birmingham local contract.
5. You must not be under contract to endorse any product, firm, or corporation.

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Application Instructions

1. **State and Local Contract** - This is the official Miss America local preliminary contestant contract with Miss Alabama and with Miss Birmingham. This contract should be completed as you would complete a job application. You are responsible for knowing the contents of this contract.

If you will be only 17-years-old on November 7, 2010, **a parent or legal guardian must sign this contract**. All contestants are strongly encouraged to read the State and Local contracts and to also have their parent or legal guardian read the contracts as they are legally binding for both the Contestant and the Pageant Organization(s).

The best way to complete the state and local contracts is to download Adobe Reader<sup>®</sup> to your PC or MAC.

- a. Replace **Type Organization Name** with BIRMINGHAM
  - b. Replace **Competition** with BIRMINGHAM
  - c. Replace **Name** with YOUR LEGAL NAME
  - d. Replace Competition State with ALABAMA
  - e. Replace **Title** with BIRMINGHAM
  - f. Replace the **first Y** in section 1.2 with 10
  - g. Replace **Place** in section 1.2 with BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
  - h. Replace **Date** in section 1.2 with NOVEMBER 7
  - i. Replace the second Y in section 1.2 with 11
  - j. Replace the second Y in section 1.3 with 11
  - k. Complete all other applicable blanks, including age and eligibility information and the fact sheet
    - l. A copy of your driver's license and your health insurance card is required
2. **\$50 No-Show Fee** - There is a \$50 deposit required for entry. A CHECK should be included with your completed application made payable to Miss Birmingham Pageant. This check will be returned to you the day of the pageant during orientation.
  3. **Official Copy of Birth Certificate** – A pink or blue official copy of your birth certificate is required to verify your age. Please note that this should be an official COPY – NOT the original birth certificate. You may obtain a copy of your birth certificate from any Alabama Department of Health office.
  4. **8 Copies of Contestant Resume** – Your resume cannot be longer than one typed page using a 10-12 point Times New Roman font. Copies will be given to the judges to use for interview questions.
  5. **8 Signed & Dated Copies of Platform Essay** - The Miss America, Miss Alabama, and Miss Birmingham Organizations encourage the young women who participate in the program to a) become involved in the community, b) to develop a Platform, and c) to speak out on issues surrounding communities and the nation. Please choose an issue that you personally feel strongly about AND with which you can affiliate a National 501(c)-3 (non-profit) organization. Your platform essay cannot be longer than one page.

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Application Instructions

6. **Proof of Residence** - To compete in this or any official Miss Alabama Scholarship Preliminary pageant, you must have:
1. Lived in the state of Alabama for at least six months prior to your entry into the pageant; OR
  2. Have completed at least one semester as a full-time student (12 semester credit hours) in Alabama; AND be presently enrolled; AND be attending classes on a full-time basis at an accredited college or university in Alabama; OR
  3. Been employed in the state of Alabama, full-time (at least 40-hours per week) for at least six months.

You are required to provide proof of your residency by providing a copy of one of the following items in your completed Application Packet:

1. Driver's license, automobile registration, current lease, or other official document that establishes residency for six months prior to the date of the pageant (Be dated on or before May 7, 2010); OR
2. College transcript from the qualifying college or university showing enrollment as of May 7, 2010; OR
3. Name, address, and phone number of current employer, along with job title and dates of employment.

Please note that you may be asked to provide additional proof if you are selected as Miss Birmingham 2011.

7. **Talent Request Form** – The same music or song cannot be used by different contestants during the pageant. The first contestant with completed application requesting a specific song will reserve that song for competition. In case of duplication, the second contestant will be notified that a different selection must be made.
8. **8 Copies of a Headshot Photograph on 8 ½ x11 Paper** – Please make black & white copies on good quality copier paper – **the pictures must be clear and not grainy** as they are used for the Judges' books and ***will not be returned to you.*** Copies of a professional headshot are preferred. Please write your name in pencil on the back of each copy.
9. **Community Service Questionnaire** - Please complete the community service questionnaire information accurately as this information will be reported to the Miss Alabama Organization. ***\*NEW\**** This form should include both your individually selected platform service information and Children's Miracle Network, which is the national platform of the Miss America Organization
10. **Proof that Service Requirement for Children's Miracle Network has been met** – Please **print and send a copy** of your Personal Page from [www.missamerica4kids.org](http://www.missamerica4kids.org) website showing the total amount of money raised by you for CMN, along with your Community Service Questionnaire.

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Opening Number Attire

## Pageant Theme

Our 2011 pageant theme will be extremely colorful and fun!

Though our theme will not be patriotic this year, we will still be asking each contestant to write/make a holiday card for our soldiers serving overseas with supplies we will provide. These will be mailed to our military in time for the 2010 holiday season!

## Opening Number Attire

- Well-fitting jeans (not too tight; not ultra low rise)
- A **solid brightly colored top (red, pink, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, etc.)** (NOT strapless, NOT a tube top & NOT multi-colored or black & white)
- Heels you can dance in (sandals, peep toe or pumps – no boots & no wedges)

## Items You MUST Have With You on Pageant Day

- Talent practice attire & all props
- 2 copies of your talent CD in case there was a problem with the ones received in your application packet (this has happened before so please make sure you bring *2 extra copies*)
- Notebook & pen
- **List of current obligations and Fall 2011 Class Schedule – include information and dates for all extracurricular activities and any family obligations**
- All clothes, makeup and other pageant necessities
- Robe to wear backstage

## Other Important Things To Remember

- Please wear comfortable clothes when you arrive & remember that parents and friends MUST leave after helping unload
- No contestants may leave the pageant venue during pageant day
- No outside hair or makeup artists are allowed – contestants must be prepared to do your own hair and makeup
- All meals & snacks will be provided
- If you have specific food allergies you may bring your own food/snack items; you MUST inform the pageant Director upon your arrival
- Please label anything that you wish to keep – any items left without a label cannot be returned
- Please bring an electrical power strip, a lighted mirror and a full length mirror

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Rising Star Information

## **Miss Birmingham's Rising Stars**

Each contestant in Miss Birmingham will have a Rising Star the day of the pageant. The Contestant may choose her own Rising Star, or one will be assigned to her on Pageant Day. The onstage presentation of the Rising Stars will follow the Evening Gown 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 contestants who compete in it.

**If a contestant wishes to choose her own Rising Star, the Rising Star forms (located on the Miss Birmingham website) and fee of \$50 should be *included* with the rest of the application packet documents and received by the Miss Birmingham Pageant no later than October 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**Contestants who do not turn in Rising Star information with their entry packet will have one assigned to them on pageant day.**

The Rising Star paired with the winner of Miss Birmingham 2011 will be crowned Miss Birmingham's Rising Star and go on to accompany Miss Birmingham to Miss Alabama in June.

On Pageant Day, Rising Stars will participate in the Opening Number, do a craft and have fun with their Contestant!

Each Rising Star will receive a goody bag and be introduced by Miss Alabama in their onstage walk at Miss Birmingham. The winner's Rising Star will have her \$350 fee to Miss Alabama paid by the Miss Birmingham Pageant.

All Rising Star forms along with a detailed Rising Star schedule may be found on the Rising Stars page of the Miss Birmingham website:

[www.missbham.com/Rising\\_Stars](http://www.missbham.com/Rising_Stars)

## 2011 Miss Birmingham Pageant Day Rules

**NO ONE IS ALLOWED BACK STAGE,  
IN DRESSING ROOMS, OR IN THE  
HALLS OUTSIDE OF THE DRESSING  
ROOMS  
OTHER THAN CONTESTANTS AND  
PAGEANT OFFICIALS!**

MISS BIRMINGHAM STRIVES  
TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF EACH CONTESTANT  
IN ALL PAGEANT DIVISIONS  
AND PROVIDES **PAGEANT MOMS**  
TO ASSIST WITH CLOTHING, HAIR, MAKEUP  
AND OTHER CONTESTANT NEEDS

AT ANY TIME DURING THE DAY, IF WE FIND A PARENT, FRIEND, OR  
SOMEONE ELSE WHO IS NOT A PAGEANT OFFICIAL IN A RESTRICTED AREA  
(AS NOTED ABOVE) THE CONTESTANT ASSOCIATED WITH THAT PERSON  
WILL BE IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED AND DISMISSED  
(DEPOSIT CHECK WILL NOT BE RETURNED)

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Pageant Day Rules

1. **RESPECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS!** Treat everyone involved with the pageant 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 AND SMILE!**
3. **NO VIDEOS OR PHOTOS DURING THE PAGEANT.** NO ONE can take pictures or videos during the pageant due to Miss Alabama pageant rules. There is an official videographer and you may purchase a pageant DVD from them for a set price (typically \$25 - \$50).
4. **NO FRIENDS OR FAMILY ALLOWED IN DRESSING ROOMS OR BACKSTAGE!**
5. **NO OUTSIDE HAIR OR MAKEUP ARTISTS ALLOWED.** You should come to the pageant prepared to do your own hair and makeup.
6. **NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED IN THE AUDITORIUM.** We want to avoid spilling anything on contestants' attire or belongings and respect the facility guidelines. All food & drinks will be provided for you by the pageant in a designated area.
7. **PAY ATTENTION DURING REHEARSALS.** Excess chatter will NOT be tolerated as we have much to cover in a short period of time. Please keep talk backstage and during the pageant to a minimum and remember to speak *very softly* backstage and in the green room.
8. **TALENT MAY BE REHEARSED TWICE ONLY.** Each contestant will receive a scheduled time allotment to rehearse her talent selection through twice. If any contestant chooses to forfeit one or both rehearsals, the next contestant will be called and the rehearsal may be completed at the end of all rehearsals only with the express consent of the Director, and only if time permits.
9. **THANK YOU NOTES** – We ask that each winner write Thank You notes to sponsors and donors as soon after the pageant as possible, using the address list we will provide for you.
10. **CELL PHONES MUST** be turned OFF or SILENT during the pageant and must not be used by contestants during pageant day except during breaks.

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Contestant Checklist

Must be 17 – 24 years of age

Contestant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Talent: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School/University: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt Size (check one):  Adult Small  Medium  Large  XL

☺I have a Rising Star:  YES  NO

- 2 Completed Copies of this form, the Miss Birmingham Contestant Checklist
- Miss Birmingham Local Pageant Agreement (*signed & notarized*)
- Miss Birmingham Scholarship Rules (*signed & notarized*)
- Miss Alabama Standard Contract (*signed & notarized*)
- Contestant Resume (8 *signed* copies)
- Platform Essay (8 *signed and dated* copies)
- 8 copies of a good quality headshot photo for the Judges book. Photos will NOT be returned. Do NOT send original. Make black & white copies on good-quality 8 ½ x 11 copier paper.
- Pink or Blue Official Copy of Birth Certificate\* Do NOT send original!  
\*Miss Birmingham contestants must be 17– 24 years of age and live, work, or attend school in Alabama
- Community Service Questionnaire with CMN Information Included
- Self-addressed envelope for return of your birth certificate after the pageant *\*NEW\**
- Proof of Children’s Miracle Network Service Requirement Met (copy of your personal page from [www.missamerica4kids.org](http://www.missamerica4kids.org))
- E-mail photo in JPEG format for the Program Book to: [missbham@hotmail.com](mailto:missbham@hotmail.com)
- \$50 No-Show Deposit Check made out to the Miss Birmingham Pageant
- Completed Rising Star Forms and \$50 Entrance Fee (if you are choosing your own Rising Star)
- Talent Request Form (Typed 10 second introduction for your talent)
- 2 Copies of Talent Music on CD Only! **Also Bring 2 copies of your Talent CD with you to the pageant!**
- Yes, I am entering the Photo Competition (judged separately) **Deadline October 25<sup>th</sup>**
- Ad Sales (**checks and Ads deadline October 25<sup>th</sup>**)

**All above items must be received no later than October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Miss Birmingham Pageant office for your application to be complete.**

MAIL completed packets with name clearly printed on envelope to:

Miss Birmingham Pageant – *Your Name*  
513 Saint Lauren Way  
Birmingham, AL 35242

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Contestant Checklist

Must be 17 – 24 years of age

*Application packets are not complete until everything is received!*

**EVERYTHING SHOULD BE MAILED TO  
THE MISS BIRMINGHAM PAGEANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
VICTORIA SEALE**

**WE DO NOT ACCEPT APPLICATIONS PACKETS BY FAX OR E-MAIL  
ONLY BY U.S. MAIL  
PLEASE DO NOT REQUIRE A SIGNATURE IF SENDING PRIORITY MAIL!**

## **Mailing Address:**

Miss Birmingham Pageant – *Your Name*  
513 Saint Lauren Way  
Birmingham, Al 35242

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**TO ENSURE YOUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE ANY MISSING INFORMATION,  
PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- State and Local Contracts
- Miss Birmingham Contract
- Miss Birmingham Scholarship Rules
- Publicity Release Form
- Platform Essay
- Contestant Resume
- Talent CD

**BE PREPARED!**

**ALL CONTRACTS SHOULD BE REVIEWED THOROUGHLY BY EACH  
CONTESTANT AND HER PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO ENSURE A  
PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS EXPECTED AS THE POTENTIAL  
TITLEHOLDER OF MISS BIRMINGHAM 2011 AND MISS ALABAMA 2011**

**KNOW YOUR PLATFORM AND YOUR RESUME!**

**COPIES OF THE PLATFORM ESSAY & RESUME WILL BE GIVEN TO EACH  
JUDGE FOR QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED IN YOUR INTERVIEW**

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Competition Information

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

The Top 5 names at the completion of the competition will be resubmitted to the judges who will each individually assign a ranking to the top five contestants. This final ballot determines the winner.

The Phases of Competition are listed below in order:

## **Interview - 25%**

The panel of judges meets with each contestant for a 10 minute private interview. Questions may range from current events to personal goals and interests. Questions may also come from the contestant resume and platform essay. Criteria used for scoring the interview include: overall first impression, personal appearance, personality, intellect, vocabulary and grammar, and responses in context.

The interview no longer requires an opening statement. Judges are given 9 ½ minutes to ask a variety of questions. At that point, the contestant has a brief opportunity (30 second maximum) to clarify an earlier answer or make a final statement.

**What to Wear:** Contestants should wear business attire suitable for a professional job interview – NO PANTS.

## **On-Stage Question – 5%**

The on-stage question ballot is scored after the contestant answers the on-stage question based on a current issue. Judges keep in mind the qualities and attributes necessary to fulfill the duties of Miss Birmingham, Miss Alabama and Miss America.

**What to Wear:** The On-Stage question is completed after the Opening number in the Opening Number attire.

## **Lifestyle & Fitness in Swimsuit - 15%**

Criteria for scoring the swimsuit/fitness competition include: overall first impression, statement of physical fitness and health, and sense of confidence. The swimsuit (a modest one-piece or two-piece) and the young woman wearing it should complement each other. Contestants may not be on stage longer than 20 seconds.

**What to Wear:** Modest one or two-piece swimsuit. Absolutely NO thongs or string bikinis (a string bikini ties on the sides or has only strings connecting the front & back panels)! Suits should be well lined and have a built-in bra! Shoes should complement. Oil or Lotion is NOT permitted. We strongly recommend the use of Firm Grip or some other product to keep the bottoms in place. NO PANTY HOSE!

## **Talent - 35%**

Each contestant 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 contestant's skills and personality, interpretive ability, technical skill level, stage presence, and totality of all elements (e.g. costume, voice, choreography). There will be no repeated talents in the pageant...if two contestants wish to perform the same song, the first contestant returning all completed paperwork will reserve that song.

**What to Wear:** A costuming choice that is appropriate and in good taste for the chosen talent. Please note – Talent must be completed within 90 seconds.

## **Evening Wear - 20%**

Criteria for judging the evening wear competition include: overall first impression, sense of confidence, personality and stage presence, posture, grace, appropriateness of the evening wear, and sense of attractiveness. The Evening Wear ballot is scored after the contestant models.

**What to Wear:** An appropriately fitting floor length evening gown, with complementary shoes and accessories

# 2011 Miss Birmingham Talent Request Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Talent Category in which you will perform – please be specific:

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Name of Selection: \_\_\_\_\_

Composer or Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Will You Use CD Accompaniment Track?  Yes  No

Will You Use Props?  Yes  No

Type of Prop: \_\_\_\_\_

Microphone Preference:

- Stand
- Hand Held
- Lavalier
- Instrument  Piano  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- No Mic

## TALENT INTRODUCTION (30 Words or Less – Please Type or Print Clearly)

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# 2011 Miss Birmingham Tentative Schedule

- @ 9:30 – 10:00 – Arrive & Unload Pageant Attire
- @ 10:00 – 10:40 – Orientation (you will draw your contestant number during this time)
- @ 10:45 – 11:15 – Opening Number Rehearsal
- @ 11:20 – 12:30 – Talent Rehearsal for Contestants 14-26
- @ 11:30 – 1:00 – Lunch will be available
- @ 12:30 – 5:10 – Interviews
- @ 12:30 – 1:00 – Evening Gown & Swimsuit Walk-through
- @ 1:00 – Rising Stars Arrive
- @ 1:30 – 3:30 – Miss Birmingham’s Outstanding Teen Pageant
- @ 3:50 – 5:00 – Talent Rehearsal for Contestants 1-13
- @ 5:00 – 5:30 – Rising Star Rehearsal & Opening Number Run-through
- @ 5:30 – Dinner
- @ 6:30 – Miss Birmingham Pageant!

Below is a **tentative** schedule for talent and interviews – please note – *this schedule is subject to change depending on the number of contestants.*

While you are waiting for your talent rehearsal time, or your interview – you will have time to meet your Rising Star, get ready for your next event, eat, and get to know the other contestants!

Contestant	Talent	Interview
1	3:50	12:30
2	3:55	12:40
3	4:00	12:50
4	4:05	1:00
5	4:10	1:10
6	4:15	1:20
7	4:20	1:30
8	4:25	1:40
9	4:30	1:50
10	4:35	2:00
11	4:40	2:10
12	4:45	2:20
13	4:50	2:30
<b>Judges Break 20 mins</b>		
14	11:20	3:00
15	11:25	3:10
16	11:30	3:20
17	11:35	3:30
18	11:40	3:40
19	11:45	3:50
20	11:50	4:00
21	11:55	4:10
22	12:00	4:20
23	12:05	4:30
24	12:10	4:40
25	12:15	4:50
26	12:20	5:00
<b>Judges Break – 1 Hour</b>		