HCNYC BEAUTY PAGEANT - MISS HMONG USA 2023 APPLICATION

Welcome and thank you for your interest in the 2022 – 2023 Miss Hmong USA pageant with Hmong Cultural New Year Celebration, Inc. (HCNYC). We are excited to host our fifth annual pageant competition at the largest Hmong New Year in the US. We are seeking young, confident women who have a strong passion for the Hmong-American community. This individual must have strong leadership skills, understand rich history and traditions, skills to articulate their platforms eloquently, and be a positive role model for our future generation. She must continually set goals to promote and preserve the Hmong-American culture. We are looking for the best Contestants to compete and ultimately represent the Miss Hmong USA title.

HCNYC is a non-profit organization, located in Fresno, CA and was formed to provide scholarship programs, preserve cultural traditions, and social opportunities for the greater Hmong-American community.

To be eligible to compete as a contestant at the 2023 Miss Hmong USA, you must meet all qualification requirements and complete this Pageant Contestant Application package. Please read these forms thoroughly, provide all necessary documentations as requested, and submit the completed application package with your $400.00 application fee before the deadline.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact the HCNYC Pageant Chairperson to address your questions. We wish you the very best and see you soon!

Event Manager:
Mai Kerr (559)355-6353 or maikerrthao89@gmail.com Email is preferred

Hmong Cultural New Year Celebration, Inc.
2120 N. Winery Ave, Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93703

PAGEANT CONTESTANT QUALIFICATIONS

☐ Female of Hmong descent
☐ Between 18 – 30 years old (proper ID required)
☐ Never been married and/or divorced
☐ Never given birth to a child
☐ Not currently pregnant
☐ Never had a criminal record (Misdemeanor and/or Felony)
☐ Never posed nude on social media, print, and/or film

**IMPORTANT DATES - ALL EVENT DATES ARE SUBJECTED TO CHANGE**

Friday, October 28th, 2022 Application, back-up documents, fees, early deadline.
Sunday, November 6th, 2022 Application, back-up documents, fees, late deadline.
Saturday, November 12th, 2022 Meet and greet / Orientation in Fresno, CA
Friday & Saturday, November 26-27th, 2022 Retreat / Team Bonding / Promo Recording
Dates TBD Training and Rehearsals
Thursday, December 29, 2022 Grand Opening Ceremony
Friday, December 30, 2022 Introduction, Opening Walk/Dance, Talent, & Platforms
Saturday, December 31, 2022 Final question, Winning Individual Hmong outfit, crowning
Sunday, January 1, 2023 Final Day - Meet & Greet pageant winners

REQUIREMENTS

1. Orientation
   Orientation to meet the Contestants and answer any questions, has been scheduled for November 12, 2022. The location and time will be determined by the Pageant Team at least five (5) days before the orientation. For those that live outside of Fresno, a conference call will be set-up for your convenience.

2. Meet and Greet
   You must be present during the Meet and Greet session in Fresno, CA. For those that live outside of California, please make all necessary and appropriate arrangements to arrive on time. If you should require transportation, please coordinate with the Pageant Team to assist with transportation.

3. Training and Rehearsals
   You must be prepared to participate in all training and rehearsal sessions, which will be determined and scheduled by the Pageant Team. Your attendance and participation will be crucial to your success by being prepared and ready under any circumstance.

4. Grand Opening Ceremony
All Pageant Contestants must attend the opening ceremony on Thursday, December 29th, 2022, from 7:00am to noon.

5. Meet and Greet Pageant Winners
If you should be crowned Miss Hmong USA 2023 and First Runner-Up, you are required to appear the following day at the Hmong Cultural New Year Celebration to meet the patrons and news media outlets for interviews.

6. HCNYC Sponsored Evening Event
If you should be crowned Miss Hmong USA 2023 and First Runner-Up, you are required to attend the New Year evening event sponsored by HCNYC. During this event, you may be asked to provide a short statement on your future goals as Miss Hmong USA.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Miss Hmong USA Title Winner: $10,000 with crown and sash
First Runner Up: $2,000 with tiara and sash
Second Runner up: $1,000 with tiara and sash

Disclaimer: If the number of competitors do not meet a 10 girl minimum, first place prize will drop to $6,000.

Note:
1. Additional awards (non-monetary) may be added to the competition and announced at any time.
2. In the case that there is a tie for one of the three (2) titles, a second question will be provided by the judges.

SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS

All Pageant Contestants are encouraged to ask for sponsorship and donations from family, friends, businesses, and other non-profit organizations. In the case that the HCNYC representatives or Pageant Team successfully secure a Sponsor for you, the check shall be written directly to HCNYC Inc. All Sponsors must complete a Sponsorship form and submit their form and checks payable to HCNYC, Inc. A donation form will then be issued to you by HCNYC upon request for the amount of the registration fee.

In the event that, if any of the Contestants should withdraw from the competition, at any time, they must return all sponsorship money immediately.

REGISTRATION

The registration fee is $400.00, non-refundable. The purpose of this non-refundable fee will insure HCNYC, Inc. and the Pageant Coordinators that you are committed and plan to complete the competition. In return, HCNYC, Inc. will provide to you the following:

- One Sash
- One (1) matching outfit
- Pageant Contestant ID Badge
- Admission tickets for your parents and MUA/Hairstylist (4 tickets) for the days of competition

RESPONSIBILITIES

Miss Hmong USA 2023 and First Runner-Up are required to participate in HCNYC, Inc. activities where appropriate. Coordination and timely scheduling shall ensure that Miss Hmong USA fulfills her duties and responsibilities to HCNYC, Inc. and the greater Hmong American community.

In the event that you are not able to fulfill your duties or forfeit your title, HCNYC, Inc. has the right to denounce the winner, recapture the title, crown, and sash. If this should occur, the title, crown, and sash shall be given to the First Runner-Up.

Miss Hmong USA 2023 - Responsibilities
1. Volunteer and attend annual HCNYC Hmong New Year.
2. Volunteer and attend HCNYC meetings as requested.
3. Volunteer, organize and facilitate the annual organization event as requested.
4. Will act and behave at her utmost behavior towards the Hmong community.
5. Without prior consent from HCNYC, she shall not engage herself in any activities promoting the title of “Miss Hmong USA”
6. Will serve as respectable role models for the Hmong Community.
7. Will participate and help with local agencies and organizations as requested by HCNYC.
8. Will speak and attend community events during the crowning year as requested by HCNYC.
9. Will maintain her same marital status (and not become pregnant) during her reign. (If married, the winner will be denounced.)
10. Will give a farewell speech and crown the next successor.
11. If you win the Miss Hmong USA 2023 title, you are not allowed to compete in any other pageant or represent any other title until your reign is over.

Miss Hmong USA 2023, and First Runner Up and Second Runner Up - Responsibilities
1. Volunteer and attend annual HCNYC Hmong New Year
2. Volunteer and attend HCNYC meetings as requested.
3. Will act and behave at her utmost behavior towards the Hmong community.
4. Will be a good role model for all Hmong youths and adolescents.
5. Will participate and help with local agencies and organizations as requested.
6. Will speak and attend community events during crowning year.
7. Will stay single during her reign. (If married, winner will be denounced.)
8. Will crown the next successor.
BRIBERY

You agree to abstain from bribery in any form, whether monetary, valuable goods or services to anyone in the Hmong community, whether family/clan related. You shall not participate in any bribery to increase your chances of becoming Miss Hmong USA 2023.

If you are involved in any activity of bribery, we reserve the right to terminate your candidacy with or without your prior knowledge.

CRITICISM

By signing this agreement, you shall remain open-minded about any comments, judgments and criticism about your physical appearance, choice of costume apparel, modeling and speech made by the trainers, stylists, and Pageant Team. If you should have a concern, please share your concerns with the Pageant Team or HCNYC Executive Director. All comments are confidential and shall be addressed as appropriate.

DISPUTE RESOLUTIONS

By signing this agreement, you agree to dispute any problems, issues, or difficulty with the competition or pageant committee representatives with the Pageant Coordinator FIRST. If a resolution is not settled, then the pageant coordinator will direct a resolution from the Executive Director. If the issue cannot be resolved, then the Executive Director will present the dispute to the Board for final resolution.

MEDIA RELEASE

By signing this agreement, I grant permission to HCNYC to capture photos and videos of me and use them for any legal use including but not limited to: publicity, copyright purposes, illustration, advertisement, and web content. Furthermore, I understand that no royalty, fee or other compensation shall become payable to me by reason of any use.

TERMINATION

HCNYC, Inc. reserves the right to terminate your candidacy at any time if YOU or YOUR PARENTS engage in the following activities:

1. Threats against HCNYC, Inc. Board Members, Department Chairs, coordinators, staff, and/or volunteers.
2. Threats against other Contestants and family/friends of Contestants
3. Fraud
4. Bribery
5. Solicitation
6. Criminal Acts of any kind

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I understand that in the event that I am unable to perform the duties above, become married either legally or culturally, or become pregnant, I shall notify HCNYC immediately. I will forfeit my crown and title as Miss Hmong USA and must turn it over to HCNYC immediately. At that time, first runner-up will assume the title and role as Miss Hmong USA.

I acknowledge that all the information I am providing in this application is true. I understand that if I knowingly provide false information, engage in behaviors such as nudity, or any unlawful activities, HCNYC reserves the right to revoke my crown at any time. I acknowledge that all events, including fundraisers, or activities, appearances as Miss Hmong USA, HCNYC must be notified and approved by HCNYC. HCNYC reserves the right to deny any events, activities and/or appearances as Miss Hmong USA.

LIABILITY

Upon signing this Agreement, I acknowledge that I have read all the parts in this document and that I agree to abide by its policies and terms as discussed in the contract. I understand there will be consequences, even the possibility of termination, if I fail to follow the policies. I release HCNYC, its employees, volunteers and agents from any and all liability, damages and claims whatsoever for any injury or harm that may occur before, during or after the event(s). I agree that I will make no claim or demand of HCNYC, its employees, volunteers or agents if any injury or accident occurs during or traveling to and from a HCNYC event(s)/project(s) and understand that HCNYC is not responsible for any transportation or reimbursement of traveling or transportation.

SIGNATURE

Print Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________ Date: ____________

PAGEANT CONTESTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name: _________________________ Last Name: _________________________

Street Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: __________________ Zip Code: __________

Country: __________ Mobile Phone: ___________ Alt. Phone: ___________

Email: ________________________________________________________________

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Facebook Link:
Twitter:

DOB: ___________________________ Age: __________________________

Height: ___________________________ Weight (lbs):__________________

Shirt (S/M/L/XL): ___________________________ Bust (Inches): ____________

Waist (Inches): ___________________________ Pant (S/M/L/XL): ________________

Hips (Inches): ___________________________ Shoe (Ex: 6, 6.5, 7): ________________

EDUCATION AND OCCUPATION

High School: ___________________________ City/State: ________________

College/University: ___________________________ City/State: ________________

Major: ___________________________ Date Graduate: __________________________

Occupation: ___________________________ City/State: ________________

FAMILY INFORMATION

Father/Guardian: Full Legal Name: ___________________________

Contact Number: __________________________

Mother/Guardian: Full Legal Name: ___________________________

Contact Number: __________________________

AMBITIONS

Please describe your present and future ambitions and how you plan to achieve those goals. (250 words or less)

____________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________
Please tell us one fun fact about you. (1-2 sentences only)


What makes you proud to be a Hmong American Woman? (150 words or less)


VOLUNTEER
List your volunteer activities.


SKILLS
What skills do you have?


TALENT
What talents do you possess, and tell us how long you have been practicing your talent? (250 words)
INTEREST AND HOBBIES
Please describe your interest and hobbies. (250 words)

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH
Compose a 1–2-minute acceptance speech in preparation of the chance you are chosen as the 1st Place Winner.

Please include the following with your submission:

1. Photo (full body and headshot)
2. Valid Driver’s License
3. Birth Certificate
4. Biography (500 words or less)
5. Payment Application Fee - $400 (Payments can be made via Check, Paypal or Cash)

Please send your applications to the HCNYC Office

Attn: Mai Kerr Pageant Application
HCNYC, Inc.
2120 N. Winery Ave, Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93703