

# America's *Ultimate Queen*



## 2023 At-Large Handbook

# Welcome!

We are so excited to have you join the America's Ultimate Queen family!! In this handbook, you will find everything you need to know for Pageant weekend! We are here to help you prepare for the pageant from competition information to entry forms. It is IMPERATIVE that you completely read and understand the information in this handbook. A detailed timeline for pageant weekend will be provided to you closer to the pageant date. We are beyond excited for you to join us at nationals where we will be handing out a CASH PRIZE to the new America's Ultimate Queen! If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to your national directors,

Alyson Nicely and Nikita Klotzsche.

Facebook Messenger: America's Ultimate Queen

Email: [AUQPageants@gmail.com](mailto:AUQPageants@gmail.com)

## Table of Contents:

Page 2 - Welcome Letter
Page 3 - Meet the Directors
Page 4 - Competition Details
Page 5 - At-Large Details
Page 6 - Age Divisions
Page 7 - Required Areas of Competition
Page 9 - Off Stage Optionals
Page 11 - On Stage Optionals
Page 13 - Nationals Timeline

# Meet the Directors



## Alyson Nicely

Alyson has been involved in Pageantry for over 20 years. She is passionate about what Pageants can bring to women of all ages. She has worked with several volunteer organizations and different systems. She is a certified Pageant judge, coach, director and mentor. She lives by the motto of "We are all Queens crown or not." Her main focus is encouraging and building all women up! Alyson is the mother of 4 handsome boys and is now learning everything she can about basketball and football. She is beyond excited to reboot America's Ultimate Queen as this was her first pageant system that she won over 20 years ago! Don't hesitate to reach out to Alyson if you have any questions!

## Nikita Klotzsche

Nikita's pageant journey began at 18-years-old when she decided to push herself out of her comfort zone and compete. Since then she has held a handful of titles such as USA National Miss Johnson County 2018, Ms. Indianapolis 2020, USA National Miss Indianapolis 2021, and Sr. Queen of Queens 2021 with the Miss Indianapolis Pageant. Over the past 2 years,

Nikita has added Pageant judge and Pageant director to her list of accomplishments. Nikita is very active in volunteering and supporting her community. When she isn't working, Nikita is spending time cuddling her fur babies. She is beyond excited to grow AUQ and encourage women to be the best version of themselves!



# Competition Details

## NATIONAL PAGEANT DATE:

April 28 - April 30, 2023

## NATIONAL PAGEANT LOCATION:

The location will be in central Indiana. The exact location will be shared closer to the pageant date.

## OPTIONAL COMPETITIONS

If one of your optional scores is higher than your Opening number/Introduction score then that score will be replaced with your highest optional score. Directors reserve the right to change or add awards at any time, without notice.

America's Ultimate Queen (AUQ) required each contestant to be a resident of the United States and a natural-born female. AUQ welcomes all contestants, however, if you require assistance with your competition, please bring along someone that can help. AUQ staff is limited and may not be available to help. AUQ is a natural competition. Therefore, we ask that attire and makeup be age-appropriate. AUQ asks that there be no pro-am dancing while on stage.

# *At-Large Details*

Being an at-large contestant means we do not currently have a state competition in your state of residence! Securing an at-large title allows you to represent your state at the 2023 America's Ultimate Queen National Pageant!

## **DIRECTORS**

While you may not have a director that is a resident of your state, you won't be director-less! Our national directors, Alyson + Nikita, will be available to answer any and all questions that you may have.

## **AT-LARGE CONTESTANT PACKAGE**

- Entry Fee to Nationals
- Rhinestone State Crown
- Rhinestone State Sash

## **AT-LARGE PAYMENTS**

A deposit of \$175 is required to secure your spot and get your state crown/sash. The remaining balance is due by 2/10/2023.

# Age Divisions

Age divisions are based on contestants' age and marital status as of June 1, 2023. America's Ultimate Queen has a total of 9 age divisions. These divisions are split into Junior and Senior age groups. A contestant can not move to a different category for any reason. The Junior and Senior Divisions will have different interview forms, so please make sure to fill out the correct form.

## JUNIOR DIVISIONS

Princess - ages 7-9

Preteen - ages 10-12

Jr. Teen - ages 13-15

Teen - ages 16-19

## SENIOR DIVISIONS

Miss - ages 20-29

(unmarried, with or without children)

Mrs. - ages 20-40

(married, with or without children)

Ms. - ages 30-40

(unmarried, with or without children)

Elegant - 41-50

Elite - 51-up

# *Required Competition*

## Opening Number/ Introduction

We will teach all contestants a simple walking pattern with some arm movements for the opening number. Immediately following, contestants will begin their introductions.

Introductions must include the contestant's name, age, number, and a fun fact. All contestants will wear an Emerald Green Cocktail outfit. The outfit can be a cocktail dress, romper, or jumpsuit. Remember to keep outfits and makeup age-appropriate.

## Interview

All contestants will complete a 5-minute interview with the judges. This will be a panel-style interview. Contestants are asked to wear business professional interview wear.

Remember to keep outfits and makeup age-appropriate. No political or religious questions will be asked. Questions will be pulled from the interview forms submitted.





## Runway

Strut the runway in a red carpet style outfit. Anything goes for this optional! Your outfit can be a cocktail dress, hi-low dress, a jumpsuit, or a romper. Have fun with it!

## Evening Gown

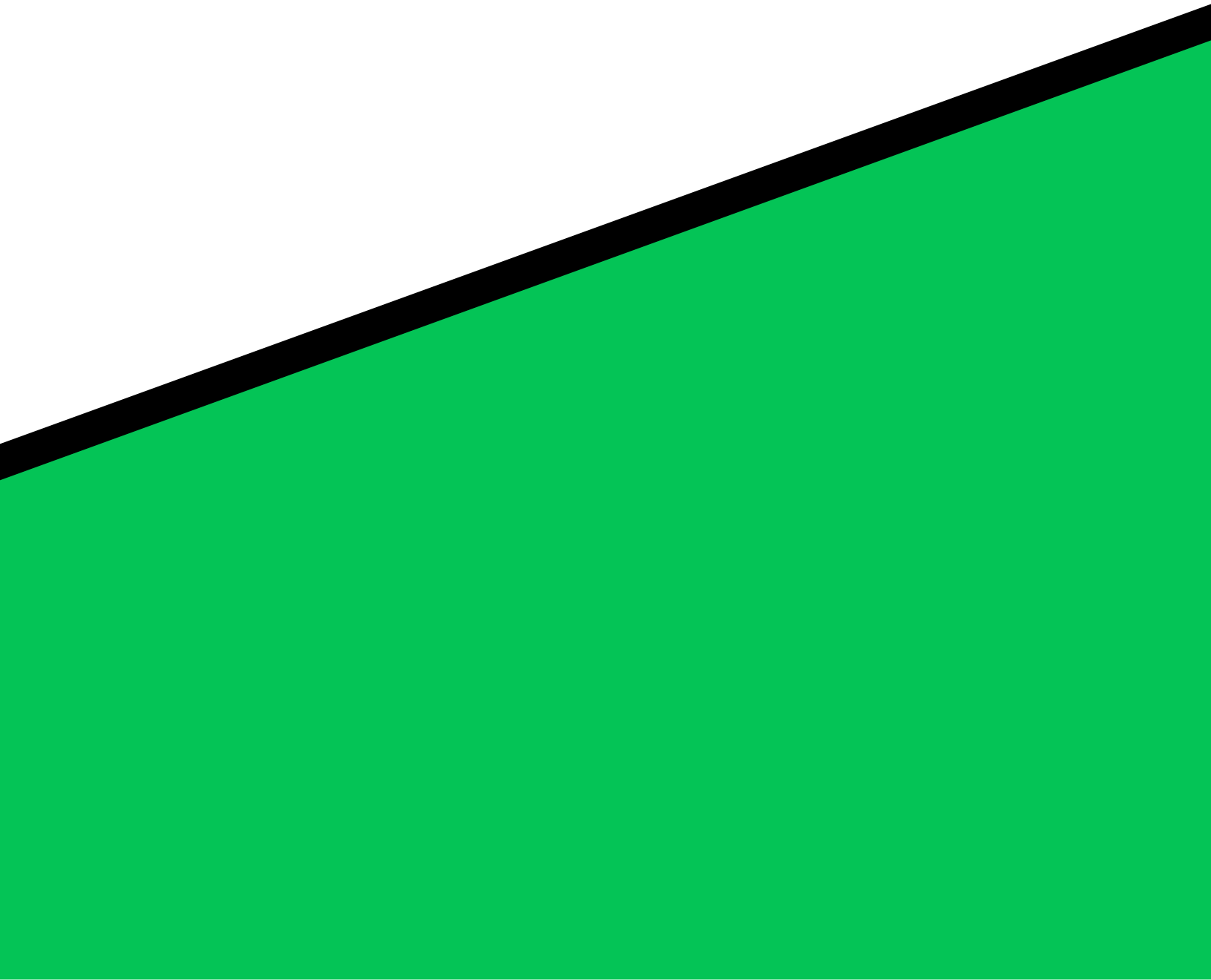
Our evening gown competition is where you can showcase your style. Wearing a floor length gown, take the time to shine on stage! Dresses must be age-appropriate.





## On-Stage Question

All contestants will pull a question from a bowl. Questions will be age-appropriate and contestants will have 30 seconds to answer. No political or religious questions will be asked.



# Optional Competitions

## Off Stage



### Photogenic

Submit your favorite photo into our photogenic competition! Photos are judged on clarity, natural beauty, and overall appearance. There will be one overall winner who will win a special award.

Price: \$50

### Heart of Service

At registration, submit a binder or scrapbook showcasing the ways you give back to your community. This book can contain photos, letters of recommendation, service awards, etc. This optional will be judged on overall presentation, amount of service, and quality of the pages. There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

Price: \$50



## Model Portfolio

At registration, submit a binder of 6-10 photos. These photos should be 8x10 photos in a variety of poses, outfits, and camera angles. This optional will be judged on overall presentation, facial beauty, and image quality. There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

Price: \$50

## Actress

Contestants will submit a 2-minute video on a flash drive at registration. The video will contain the contestant creating a commercial for AUQ. This optional is judged on creativity, overall appearance, natural beauty, and acting ability. There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

Price: \$50

## Covergirl

Submit a photo for the chance to be on the cover of the 2024 National program book.

There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

Price: \$50

## Spokesmodel

This optional is awarded to the contestant who sells the most tickets for the 2023 National finals. There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

Price: \$50

# *Optional Competitions*

## *On-Stage*

### **Swimsuit/Fitness**

Strut your stuff on-stage for our swimsuit/fitness optional. Junior divisions will compete in fitness wear, Senior divisions will compete in swimsuits, This optional is judged on facial beauty, confidence, and stage presence. Judges will mark off points for outfits that are too mature/revealing. There will be one overall winner who will win a special award.

Price: \$75

### **Costume**

Our costume optional is anything that you can think of! It can be a fun custom outfit, an actual costume, something you create, or an outfit that impersonates something or someone that you love. This optional is judged on creativity, facial beauty, and modeling ability. Hand-held props are allowed. No stage props, pro-am dancing, or live animals are allowed. Custom music is allowed but must be provided on a flash drive at least 2 weeks before the pageant date. There will be one overall winner who will win a special award.

Price: \$75

## Speech

Contestants will give a 60-second speech on stage answering, If you are selected as America's Ultimate Queen you will be a role model for women of all ages. What does being a role model mean to you?

This optional is judged on facial beauty, stage presence, and content of speech. There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

Price: \$75

## Talent

Contestants will have 2 minutes to perform their talent. There is no specific list of talents that you must stick to - be you! This optional is judged on facial beauty and stage presence. There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

Price: \$75



## Casual Wear

Take the stage and express your personality in the outfit of your choice! This optional is judged on facial beauty, confidence, and stage presence. Judges will mark off points for outfits that are too mature/revealing. There will be one overall winner who will win a special award.

Price: \$75



# *At-Large Contestants*

## **At-Large Entry Fee - \$550**

This entry fee covers all required areas of competition, state crown, and state sash. It also includes entry into the following side awards: Director's Choice, Miss Congeniality, Best Interview, and State Service Award.

## **National Judging Breakdown**

40% interview

20% Evening Gown

20% Runway

10% Opening Number/Intro

10% Onstage Question

\* If one of your optional scores is higher than your Opening number/Introduction score then that score will be replaced with your highest optional score \*