

# America's *Ultimate Queen*

Indiana - Ohio - Midwest



# 2024 Contestant 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.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to your state directors:

Alyson Nicely and Nikita Klotzsche.

Facebook Messenger: America's Ultimate Queen - Indiana, Ohio, & Midwest

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

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# 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. On top of being a State & National Director for America's Ultimate Queen, Nikita also works full-time at All The Rage as the Store Manager, Buyer, and Marketing Director. When she isn't working, Nikita is spending time cuddling her fur babies: Pepper, Blu, & Luna. She is beyond excited to grow AUQ and encourage women to be the best version of themselves!

# Competition Details

## STATE PAGEANT DATE:

October 6-8, 2023

## STATE PAGEANT LOCATION:

The pageant will be in central Indiana. The exact location will be shared closer to the 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) requires each contestant to be a resident of Indiana 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.

# Age Divisions

Age divisions are based on contestants' age and marital status as of June 1, 2024. 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, city & state, contestant 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 each judge. This will be a round-robin-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 area of competition! 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.



# 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.

Entry Fee: \$50

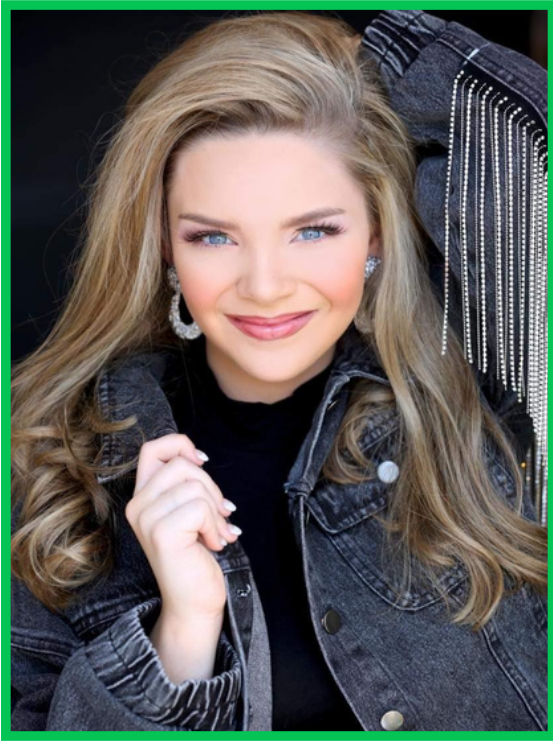
### Role Model

At registration, submit a binder or scrapbook showcasing the ways you are an exceptional role model. This book can outline leadership roles, academic achievements, school performance, 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.

Entry Fee: \$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

## Non-Performance Talent

Do you have a talent that can't travel or can't be performed on a stage? This optional is for you! Contestants will submit a 2-minute video on a flash drive at registration. The video will contain will showcase the contestant's talent. Talents may include sewing, painting, etc.! This optional is judged on natural beauty, video quality, and video presence. There will be one overall winner who will receive a special award.

\* If your talent can be done on-stage, you must enter the on-stage talent optional.

Entry Fee: \$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.

Entry Fee: \$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.

Entry Fee: \$100





## Platform Speech

Contestants will give a 2-minute speech on stage sharing their platform. Use this time to go into detail on why you chose your platform and how you work to promote it. 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.

Entry Fee: \$100

## 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.

Entry Fee: \$75



# State

## Standard Entry Fee - \$350

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

### Judging

40% interview

25% Evening Gown

25% Runway

10% Opening Number/Intro

\* 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 \*