



**MISS
WEST DEPTFORD
TOWNSHIP**

**SCHOLARSHIP
PAGEANT**

**OFFICIAL
HANDBOOK**

(REVISED 06/2023)

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MISS WEST DEPTFORD TOWNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANTS

Welcome to the Miss West Deptford Township Scholarship Pageants. The purpose of these pageants is to allow young women of West Deptford Township an opportunity to showcase their talent, make new friends through the spirit of competition and most importantly, HAVE FUN!

The purpose of the Miss West Deptford Scholarship Pageants is to provide scholarship money to young women of West Deptford Township. The pageant is sponsored by West Deptford Township, however, it relies on monetary donations from local businesses to provide the scholarships each year.

The Tiny Miss, Little Miss and Miss Teen pageants are sponsored by the Miss West Deptford Township Scholarship Pageant and are held as a fundraiser for the Miss West Deptford Scholarship Fund. They provide an opportunity for young ladies to participate in the glamour and excitement of pageantry, however they are just for **FUN!**

This booklet will provide all the necessary information you need to participate in a West Deptford Pageant. If you have questions about anything or need additional information, please contact Amy Leso by phone 856-384-8878 or e-mail - MSWDPAGEANT@yahoo.com.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- All contestants must be female residents of West Deptford Township.
- All contestants must be of age for her division as of the day of the pageant.
(The date will change from year to year.)
- Contestants who are 16 years old as of the day of the pageant, entering her senior year of high school and will be 17 years old by October 1st are required to compete in the Miss West Deptford Pageant.
- Contestants may not be married at time of competition or marry during her reign.
- No contestant may hold a current title (local, county, state or national) from another pageant consisting of competition of any combination of the following: Personal Interview, Swimsuit, Sportswear, Casual Wear, Talent, Gown Modeling, Poise & Composure.
- Current title holders from other pageants are NOT eligible to compete in the West Deptford Pageants until a minimum of **350** days after the date she earned her current title has passed.
- All current titles from other pageants must be relinquished as of July 1st and cannot be reclaimed. A formal letter is required.
- Titles awarded for non-pageant events such as Homecoming Queen, Prom Queen, Peach Queen, Etc, do not restrict anyone from competing for a title in West Deptford.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES:

Tiny Miss West Deptford (ages 4-7)

- Personal Interview - 40%
- Sportswear Modeling - 30%
- Party Dress Modeling - 30%

Little Miss West Deptford (ages 8-12)

- Personal Interview - 35%
- Sportswear Modeling - 15%
- Talent - 35%
- Party Dress/Gown Modeling - 15%

Miss Teen West Deptford (ages 13-16)

- Personal Interview - 35%
- Casual wear Modeling - 15%
- Talent - 35%
- Gown Modeling - 15%

Miss West Deptford (ages 17-22)

- Personal Interview - 35%
- On-Stage Question - 15%
- Talent - 35%
- Gown Modeling - 15%

PAGEANT REQUIREMENTS:

-All clothing should be age appropriate.

-Order of contestants will be assigned by the pageant committee.

-All contestants in the pageant will need to purchase a Pageant T-shirt for the Interview/Opening Number. Contestants must also wear white shorts, white socks and white sneakers.

-Miss Contestants will need to wear professional business attire for the Interview and On-Stage question and Pageant T-Shirt for the Opening Number.

-Miss Teen contestants will need to create a casual wear outfit which includes blue denim long pants or Capri pants, a top and appropriate shoes and accessories. No tube tops, strapless tops or mid-drift exposure is permitted.

Tiny Miss and Little Miss contestants will need to create an age appropriate Sportswear outfit. This outfit should express her personality. No tube tops, strapless tops or mid-drift exposure is permitted. No swimwear is permitted.

-All contestants will need to have an age-appropriate party dress/gown and talent costume. (*No Talent for Tiny Miss*)

-Hair and make-up should also be age appropriate and are the responsibility of each contestant.

-All contestants will be issued a number button that is to be worn on the left hip during all phases of competition. This button must be returned at the conclusion of the pageant or the contestant will be charged a \$2.00 replacement fee.

-Although there is no entry fee for these pageants, each contestant is asked to sell a minimum of \$50.00 in ads or boosters.

RULES & REGULATIONS:

- The decision of the judges is **final**.
- No late applications will be accepted.
- All required paperwork must be submitted by the due date or points will be deducted.
- All clothing, props, music choices must be approved by the pageant committee prior to the date of the pageant. Dates for approval will be provided to you.
- All contestants must attend all scheduled meetings and rehearsals.
- Contestants must be interviewed at the assigned time or points will be deducted.
- Time limit for talent presentations is 90 seconds. Talent selections or songs may not be changed after July 1st.
- All music for talent presentations must be submitted prior to the pageant for approval and timing. Dates will be supplied.
- Talent presentations/clothing can not be changed after they have been approved.
- Talent introductions will be written by the pageant committee based on information supplied on information forms.
- The runway **may not** be used by contestants during talent presentations or modeling. Contestants are only to use the runway under the direction of the pageant committee.
- Hairpieces **may** be worn for talent competition as part of a costume but **may not** be worn for any other portion of the pageant.
- All contestants must have a chaperon backstage during the pageant and dress rehearsal. The chaperon must be female, over the age of 18 and not be the mother of any contestant. Only "Tiny Miss" contestants may have her mother with her.
- Dressing rooms will be assigned by the pageant committee.
- No food is permitted in the dressing room.
- The pageant committee reserves the right to prohibit any contestant from participating in the pageant for poor conduct prior to the pageant and will remove a title from anyone who does not represent the Township of West Deptford PROPERLY. Contestants, parents and chaperons are expected to exhibit proper behavior at all times as indicated in the "Code of Conduct"

-The title of “Miss (TINY, LITTLE, TEEN) West Deptford Township” is that of a role model and her behavior should reflect that of a role model for other young women her age. Since it is impossible to list each and every behavior that could be determined as inappropriate, the pageant committee reserves the right to review individual situations as they arise and make decisions on a contestants’ eligibility to hold a West Deptford title. Questions regarding eligibility should be directed to Amy Leso, Pageant Director or Mrs. Susan Schramm, Pageant Chairman. If Miss West Deptford Township’s title is revoked by the pageant committee for any reason, it will be awarded to the first runner-up. Scholarship money must be paid back in full if the title is revoked during the first six months. If the title is revoked during the last six months, a percentage of the scholarship money will need to be paid back. The pageant committee will make all final decisions regarding scholarship awards. The pageant committee will also determine if additional scholarship money will be awarded to the first runner-up and determine her eligibility to compete in the Miss West Deptford Pageant in the future.

AWARDS & WINNERS:

-Winners in each division (Tiny, Little & Teen) will receive \$100.00 cash/gift card, a crown, sash and some special appearances with Miss West Deptford Township.

-First and Second Runners-up may also receive \$50.00 cash/gift card.

-Special awards for individual category winners (Tiny, Little & Teen) are given at the discretion of the pageant committee and may vary from year to year.

-Titles awarded each year will be at the discretion of the pageant committee.

-The winner of the Miss West Deptford Scholarship Pageant will receive a \$1000.00 scholarship award, a crown, sash, and is required to make numerous appearances. The scholarship award will only be awarded after a college tuition bill is submitted to the pageant committee. Failure to submit this information will result in the loss of scholarship money.

-Runners-up in the Miss West Deptford Scholarship Pageant will also be awarded scholarship money based on donations from local businesses. Scholarship awards will also only be issued when a college tuition bill is submitted to the pageant committee.

-Winners in each division will also be issued a pair of magnetic signs with the winner's name and title on them to be used during the parades. They are the property of the pageant committee and must be returned at the end of the year. A fee will be charged if they are returned damaged.

-Winners are responsible for providing cars to ride in for any parades approved by the pageant committee.

-ALL appearances for title winners are arranged by the pageant committee.

WINNER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The winner of the Miss West Deptford Township Scholarship pageant is responsible for representing the Township throughout the year. A list of dates will be made available as soon as possible.
- The winner is also responsible for contacting local businesses through letters and visits to raise the scholarship money awarded each year.
- The winner may also be required to perform her talent at several functions throughout the year.
- Miss West Deptford Township is often given the privilege of hosting the pageant each year.
- The winners of the Tiny, Little & Teen pageants **MAY** be asked to accompany Miss West Deptford Township at local events or parades, however, the pageant committee reserves the right to exclude them from any appearance. These appearances are a privilege, not a right, and at times only Miss West Deptford's presence is requested. Please remember that the scholarship pageant is the main event and Miss West Deptford Township is the official representative.
- Pageant winners may not schedule their own appearances. All appearances are scheduled through Amy Leso. Crowns and sashes should not be worn without consent of the pageant committee. This includes parades, events, talent presentations and appearances at other pageants.
- When representing the township at any event, appropriate attire must be worn. Jeans, shorts, T-shirts, sneakers, FLIP-FLOPS or other inappropriate attire is not permitted. The only exception is the official "Green Pageant T-shirt." The pageant committee reserves the right to send a representative home from any event for inappropriate attire or conduct.
- Current title holders (Tiny Miss, Little Miss, Miss Teen or Miss West Deptford) may not compete for another Local, County, State or National title during the year of her reign. If she chooses to do so, she must relinquish her West Deptford title and may not reclaim it at any time. Any title holder who relinquishes her title during the year of her reign, will not be permitted to participate in the next three (3) consecutive West Deptford Pageants and may not compete for the same title that was previously earned. Participation in other pageants should take place after she has given up her West Deptford title. It is the belief of the West Deptford Pageant Committee that ALL title holders, from any organization, should honor the commitment that she makes to the title that she earns.