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MS. NEW JERSEY SENIOR AMERICA PAGEANT 2025 "The Age of Elegance"

Dear Contestant.

Welcome! The forms for entering the *Ms. New Jersey Senior America Pageant* are included. Our Application Fee is \$300.00, and your payment includes:

- New Jersey Cameo Club dues for the balance of 2025
- One (1) copy of the souvenir Program Journal
- One (1) breakfast and Two (2) lunches at Harrah's.

Once we receive your check, payable to Ms. New Jersey Senior America, Inc., along with proof of age, you are well on your way to becoming a contestant in the 2025 Ms. New Jersey Senior America Pageant. Your application and payment will secure your position, and you will be assigned a mentor to guide you through the preparation process. We will be here to support you every step of the way. Remember, the application must be returned to me by March 15, 2025! In addition to the application fee, each contestant must sell at least \$200 in advertisements for the pageant journal. These advertisements will appear in your keepsake program book! We will provide you with instructions on selling the ads. Tickets for the Pageant will also be available for advance sale.

The Pageant will be on Thursday, May 29, 2025 at Harrah's Resort and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ! Rehearsal will take place the day before, on Wednesday, May 28.

The Pageant consists of four (4) categories:

Interview—counts for 30% of your score. It consists of five minutes (5:00) with five (5) distinguished judges and is conducted on the morning of the Pageant. The interview is based partially on your application, which the Judges will receive before the Pageant. We ask the Judges <u>not</u> to ask political, religious, or current controversial questions.

Talent counts for 30% of your score. You have two minutes and forty-five seconds (2:45) to showcase your talent. Please note that if this time is exceeded, the timer will assess a penalty of -3 points.

Evening Gown—counts for 20% of your score.

Philosophy of Life (recited)—counts for 20% of your score. It lasts a maximum of thirty-five seconds (0:35). If a contestant exceeds the time limit of 35 seconds, the timer will assess a penalty of -2 points.

The ranking includes five (5) titles: Queen (Winner), 1st Runner-up, 2nd Runner-up, 3rd Runner-up.

You will be invited to our <u>Contestant's Luncheon and Orientation</u> at the <u>Clarion Hotel</u> on Route 37 in Toms River in April. You will receive an invitation in March. At that time, you will be introduced to the Board of Directors of <u>Ms. NJ Senior America</u>, <u>Inc.</u>, and the other Contestants.

The **prize** for the Ms. New Jersey Senior America Queen includes the Registration Fee for the National Pageant, *Ms. Senior America*, to be held at *Tropicana Hotel & Casino* in October. There is also a *cash prize for the winner and her court*. The winner (*Queen*) also appears in many parades and events and is the highlight of all our events. She must comply with the appearance requirements of our *New Jersey Cameo Club Showcases*.

Our Ms. New Jersey Senior America Pageant is one of the best in the country, and we have representatives from various states who attend. Many New Jersey Queens have placed in the top 10 in the national Ms. Senior America Pageant in recent years, which is a great accomplishment. In 2017, Carolyn Slade Harden won Ms. New Jersey Senior America and then the title of Ms. Senior America.

Everyone is a *winner* in our organization! Once you compete in the Pageant, you are invited to continue performing throughout the State in diverse venues as a member of our fabulous *New Jersey Cameo Club*, the service wing of *Ms. New Jersey Senior America*. We are one of the country's most active and progressive *Cameo Clubs*.

For more information, visit our website and our Blog at:

<u>www.newjerseysenioramerica.org</u> <u>www.msnewjerseysenioramerica.blogspot.com</u>.

Welcome to the New Jersey Senior America family!!

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at any time!

Sincerely,

Johanne Santori, State Administrator

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