



STATE PRELIMINARY PAGEANTS TO MISS BLACK USA

2026/2027

LOCAL CONTESTANT

INFO GUIDE

COLUMBUS DAY
WEEKEND

**PAGEANT INFO:
OCTOBER 9-12, 2026**

CITY | VENUE TBA

**THE OFFICIAL
SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE PRELIMINARY
PAGEANT TO
MISS BLACK USA**

Graphics By: **A. Van Dyke Productions, LLC.**

avandykeproductions.com | pageants@vdalexandria.com



WELCOME TO THE PREMIERE PAGEANT *for* WOMEN OF COLOR

I am so grateful to welcome you to a new era of the Miss Black South Carolina USA Pageants!

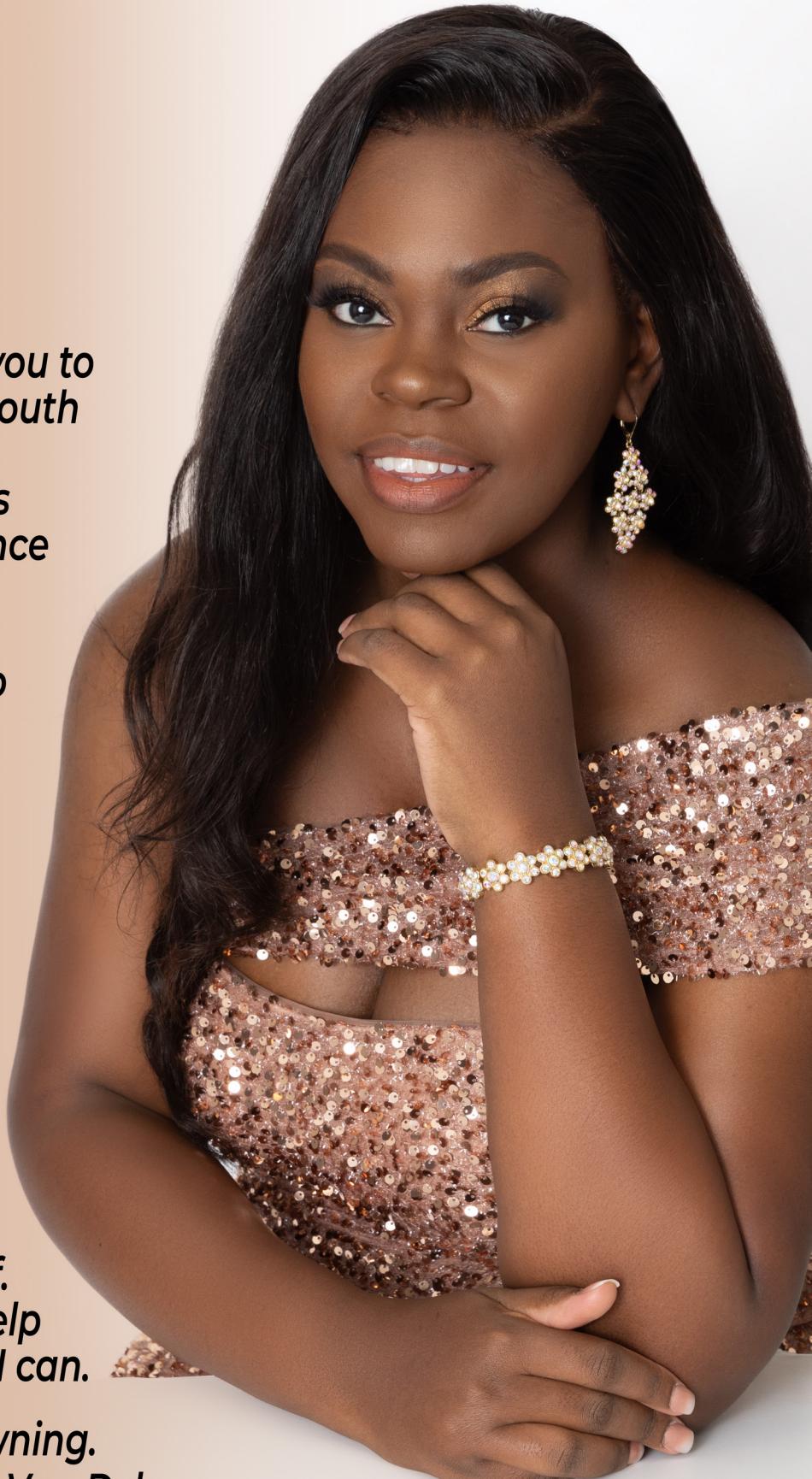
Your journey to the crown has officially begun. This experience will be one of challenges, self-discovery, and glam.

You will have opportunities to impactfully serve your communities, while looking fabulous.

You will have legacies to continue, while building your own. The stage is set for you to display your talents, intelligence, and truest self in all your Black Gracefulness.

Embrace the essence of you, while using the opportunity to learn and improve yourself.

As a guide, I will be here to help you reach your goals as best I can.



*Yours In Crowning.
Alexandria "Alex" Van Dyke
Executive Director,
Miss Black Georgia & South Carolina USA Pageants*

A. Van Dyke
productions



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS **AGE DIVISIONS**

Is a natural born female and either attends school, college/university, is employed, or resides in the State of South Carolina
Is of African Descent (Black Or African-American)

Will compete in the national Miss Black USA Pageant, tentative August 2027, in Washington D.C., if crowned a South Carolina State Queen.
Must determine a social advocacy platform.

Must attend required engagements or events that pertain to preparation for the state pageant.

Must be ready, willing, and able to meet the time commitments & responsibilities of the one-year reign.

Must pay required fees, and submit paperwork, and deliverables by the specified deadlines to maintain eligible to compete in the state pageant, or risk fines or disqualification.

Must have outstanding sportsmanship.

Has never posed or been published nude in any format.

TALENTED TEEN DIVISION AGES 13-17 10 SPOTS AVAILABLE PER STATE	MISS DIVISION AGES 18-26 10 SPOTS AVAILABLE PER STATE	MS. DIVISION AGES 27-45 10 SPOTS AVAILABLE PER STATE
---	--	---

MS. DIVISION ONLY CAN BE MARRIED, SINGLE, OR DIVORCED, WITH OR WITHOUT CHILDREN. TEEN & MISS DIVISIONS CANNOT HAVE CHILDREN OR HAVE GIVEN BIRTH.

NO DIVISIONS CAN BECOME PREGNANT DURING THEIR REIGN.

AREAS OF COMPETITION

INTERVIEW (MISS & MS. DIVISIONS ONLY): 15%

EACH CONTESTANT WILL COMPLETE A ROUND-ROBIN STYLE INTERVIEW WITH A 3-5 PANEL OF JUDGES. INTERVIEW IS 4-5 MINUTES PER JUDGE. THINK SPEED DATING.

TALENT: 35%

TALENT IS EVALUATED ON ARTISTIC EXPRESSION, TECHNICAL SKILL, STAGE PRESENCE, PROFESSIONALISM, AND OVERALL PERFORMANCE. THIS SHOULD BE A LIVE SOLO PERFORMANCE AND FOCUS ON ENGAGING AND ENTERTAINING THE AUDIENCE.

TALENT SHOULD NOT EXCEED 1 MINUTE & 30 SECONDS. YOU HAVE A 15 SECOND GRACE BEFORE YOUR TIME STARTS. PROPS ARE STRONGLY DISCOURAGED, BESIDES FLAGS, BATONS, A PIANO/KEYBOARD, OR ITEM NEEDED FOR AN INSTRUMENT.

IF YOU ULTIMATELY NEED HELP SETTING UP, YOU MAY WANT TO RETHINK YOUR PERFORMANCE. PROPS THAT ARE ACCEPTABLE INCLUDE FLAGS, BATONS, RIBBONS, ETC. DRILL TEAM RIFLES, GLITTER, PAINT, POWDER, CONFETTI, OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR LOOSE MATERIALS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. DISROBING IS ALSO NOT ALLOWED.

FITNESS (NOT SWIMWEAR): 15%

FITNESS IS A KEY COMPONENT TO A SUCCESSFUL REIGN FOR A TITLEHOLDER OF ANY PAGEANT SYSTEM. WE ARE LOOKING FOR A YOUNG WOMAN WHO LEAD HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AS THEY WILL BE BRAND AMBASSADORS FOR VARIOUS COMPANIES AND NEED THEM TO PERFORM AT THEIR BEST. JUDGING CRITERIA IS BASED ON BODY CONDITION, STAGE PRESENTATION, OVERALL APPEARANCE, SPORTSWEAR SELECTION. CONTESTANTS ARE TO SELECT A FITNESS (THINK CUTE WORKOUT ATTIRE) ESEMBLE THAT BEST SHOWS OFF THEIR PHYSIQUE AND PERSONALITY.

EVENING GOWN: 15%

THE EVENING GOWN COMPETITION IS THE MOST ELEGANT PART OF COMPETITION BUT IT IS ABOUT THE GIRL IN THE GOWN AND NOT THE GOWN ON THE GIRL. THE JUDGES WILL EVALUATE CONFIDENCE, POISE, POSTURE, STYLE, PERSONALITY, CHARISMA, GRACE, AND OVERALL STAGE PRESENCE. REMEMBER AGE APPROPRIATENESS WHEN CHOOSEING A GOWN. GOWNS MUST BE FLOOR-LENGTH.

ON-STAGE QUESTION: 20%

FINALISTS WILL HAVE 45 SECONDS TO ANSWER A QUESTION LIVE ON-STAGE. JUDGES WILL EVALUATE ON THE CONTESTANTS ABILITY TO THINK ON THEIR FEET TO FORM AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION ASKED. TOPICS INCLUDE COMMUNITY SERVICE, CURRENT EVENTS, OR SOCIAL ISSUES.



entry fee + PAYMENT DETAILS

entry fee: **\$1,000 + \$150 Ad Fee**

INCLUDES:

\$100 Application Due with Online Application
Official Entry to The State Competition
Contestant Welcome Package
Official Local Embroidered Sash & Crown
Rhinestone Pageant T-Shirt
Select Meals During Pageant Weekend
One Copy of the Pageant Magazine
Contestant Swag Bag
Tickets to Contestant Activities
Opening Number Dress from Marc Defang

SUGGESTED PAYMENT BREAKDOWN:

**DEPOSIT
\$180
DUE ASAP!**

**PMT 2
\$180
DUE
MARCH 30**

**PMT 3
\$180
DUE
APRIL 30**

**PMT 4
\$180
DUE
MAY 30**

**PMT 5
\$180
DUE
JUNE 30**

**AD PMT
\$150
DUE
JULY 30**

**DEADLINE FOR ALL FEES & MATERIALS:
JULY 31, 2026**

**A \$300 LATE FEE WILL BE ADDED
AFTER AUGUST 31ST**

**ALL FEES PAID THE THE MISS BLACK SOUTH
CAROLINA USA PAGEANT/A. VAN DYKE
PRODUCTIONS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE OR
TRANSFERABLE**



entry fee + PAYMENT DETAILS

entry fee: \$1,000 + \$150 Ad Fee



FEES DO NOT INCLUDE:

Travel, Hotel, Incidentallys, & Taxes, Parking Expenses
Photography or Videography of Competition Material
Individual Competition Wardrobe Pieces and/or Shoes, Accessories
Hair and Makeup Services for Pageant Weekend,
Appearances, or Events
Meals Not Covered by the Pageant

PAYMENT INFO:

Payments can be made through these platforms:



Square

Direct links to the above payment platforms, plus additional Pay-In-Four options will be available after official acceptance as a contestant.

Note that local regalia (sash & crown) is made to order and are not ordered until payment #2 is paid and confirmed. Allow 72 hours after payment # 2 is paid and confirmed before regalia is ordered. It takes approximately 3-4 weeks for production of the sash alone. Both sash & crown must be delivered to the state office for inspection before they are shipped out to you. However, local sashes & crowns will not ship until payment #3 is paid and confirmed. You will receive a courtesy email or message with tracking information once it has been successfully shipped to you. If you have not received an update, it is because we do not have one to provide just yet.

communication + SOCIAL MEDIA

CONTESTANT INFORMATION GROUPS

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

CONTESTANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CREATE, PARTICIPATE OR BELONG TO ANY OTHER PAGEANT GROUP OR GROUP CHAT THAT IS NOT AUTHORIZED BY THE MISS BLACK SOUTH CAROLINA USA PAGEANT, OR MISS BLACK USA, INC. IF ASKED TO JOIN OR IF INVOLUNTARILY ADDED TO ONE, PLEASE DECLINE AND NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR IMMEDIATELY. VIOLATION CAN BE GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION AND OUR FORFEITURE CLAUSE TO BE ACTIVATED WITHOUT EXPLANATION.



ALL communication about the pageant will be posted in the Band.us app. It is where you will download forms and documents, and receive reminders and information as it is available.
YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL CONTENT IN THIS PRIVATE SPACE.

Check these apps daily.

You will receive an invite to these groups, once your contestant deposit is paid and confirmed.

FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM. You will need access to join the econtestant fan pageas. These pages serve as a blog to document your reign. It is a great way to attract potential partners and sponsors.

LIKE & FOLLOW the Miss Black South Carolina USA Pageant Facebook & Instagram pageants
@officialmissblackscusapageant