

MS. SENIOR CALIFORNIA OF AMERICA, INC. PAGEANT INFORMATION AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS



We invite women who have reached the “Age of Elegance” – 60 years or more – to share the “Elegance Experience” and accept the recognition waiting for them in their Community, State and Nationally. You may participate in any of the Preliminary Pageants, regardless of your California county of residence.

Pageant Profile

- 1) You may choose to participate in one (or more) Preliminary Pageants which will be held in several locations in California. Please see the list of Preliminary Pageant dates, locations, venues and Director contact information on the Become a Contestant page of our website.**
- 2) Contestants must be a citizen of the United States of America.**
- 3) The top three (3) women from each Preliminary Pageant will be selected to compete in the Ms. Senior California of America State Pageant. Effective November 6, 2010, any Ms. Senior State Queen from any state, including California, may not enter or re-enter a California Preliminary Pageant.**
- 4) At the Ms. Senior California State Pageant, one woman will be selected to represent California at the Ms. Senior American Pageant held in Atlantic City, New Jersey in October of the same pageant year.**
- 5) The woman crowned “Ms. Senior California” at the State Pageant will make television, publicity, and promotional appearances; participate in radio and media interviews, and appear at other high-visibility events as she represents the State of California during her reign.**
- 6) The newly-crowned Ms. Senior California will receive: Ms Senior California crown and sash, and expenses-paid participation in the Ms. Senior America Pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey.**

**Meet other California Senior Women
and share the “Age of Elegance Experience”**

PROCEDURE FOR JUDGING

- Interview:** Judges meet with each contestant individually. Each judge rates the contestant based on personality, charm, conversational skills and her ability to meet the ideals of Ms. Senior America. **(30% of your score)**
- Evening Gown:** Contestants are judged on poise, grace, stage presence, and an ability to project the “Age of Elegance” in this category of the Pageant. **(20% of your score)**
- Philosophy of Life:** This segment of the Pageant seeks the woman with inner beauty and wisdom – proving that true beauty is a matter of “insight” as well as “eyesight.” **(20% of your score)**
- Talent:** This is an integral part of the Pageant as it demonstrates that talent does not diminish with age. We encourage talent in the Arts, Dance, Vocal, Drama and other creative endeavors. **(30% of your score)**

Penalties will be assessed in the California Preliminary Pageants and the Ms. Senior California of America, Inc. Pageant for any contestant who exceeds the specified time limit for the Philosophy of Life and Talent portions of the Pageants. (The time limits are: **35 seconds for the Philosophy of Life** and **2 minutes 45 seconds for the Talent** portion. Exceeding the time limit will affect your score and could preclude you from being one of the top finalists.)

Preparation for the Interview (30%)

The Interview will last 5 minutes total. Each judge will ask you one question. Be succinct in your response and mindful of the 5-minute total time allotment. Following are sample questions similar to those you may be asked in the interview. You'll not be asked either one of these questions – they are samples only.

- If you had a magic wand, what would you use it for to change the world?
- If I were to write a book about you, what would the title be and why?

Preparation of Philosophy of Life Statement (20%)

Your Philosophy of Life statement should be developed from a deep introspective of your life – please do not make it a biography. Allow this to be a review of the truth and principles developed over a lifetime of living, loving, caring and sharing. It should represent the ideals that have shaped you as a person and helped you accept and improve your life and the lives of those around you.

This summarized statement cannot take longer than 35 seconds to deliver, or points will be deducted. Please rehearse your Philosophy of Life (by speaking it out loud) and ask someone to time your presentation for compliance to time limit. Please allow for possible audience laughter and applause when timing your statement. Your Philosophy of Life should encourage, inspire and provide insight to an audience. If you are one of the two (2) finalists in any Preliminary Pageant, your Philosophy of Life will be the platform you communicate to any and all media and commercial sponsors. Therefore, you must be ready to put your Philosophy of Life into action. The presentation of the Philosophy of Life will be given orally during the Evening Gown segment of the Pageant.

Preparation for Modeling of an Evening Gown (20%)

Most importantly, choose an evening gown you feel is most becoming to you! It is not about “how this gown looks on a movie star”, but about how you feel when you are wearing it! The judges should see you as a confident woman of elegance who reflects an inner beauty and grace that comes with life experiences representative of The Age of Elegance.

Talent Performance (30%)

Talent comes in many different forms; creative dance, instrumentalist of any genre, vocalist of any genre, stand-up comedian, monologue, tap dance, etc. Choose the talent that will showcase you as an individual performer. You may choose to use “props;” however, these props must be relevant to the talent you are sharing. Please be advised that there can be no other vocals on your CD; your own vocals, vocals of someone else, humming, etc. Dancers may not have taps on their CD track. A penalty will be assessed if you have vocals or taps on your CD. Additionally, no lip synching is allowed. Points will be deducted if your talent performance time exceeds 2 minutes 45 seconds.