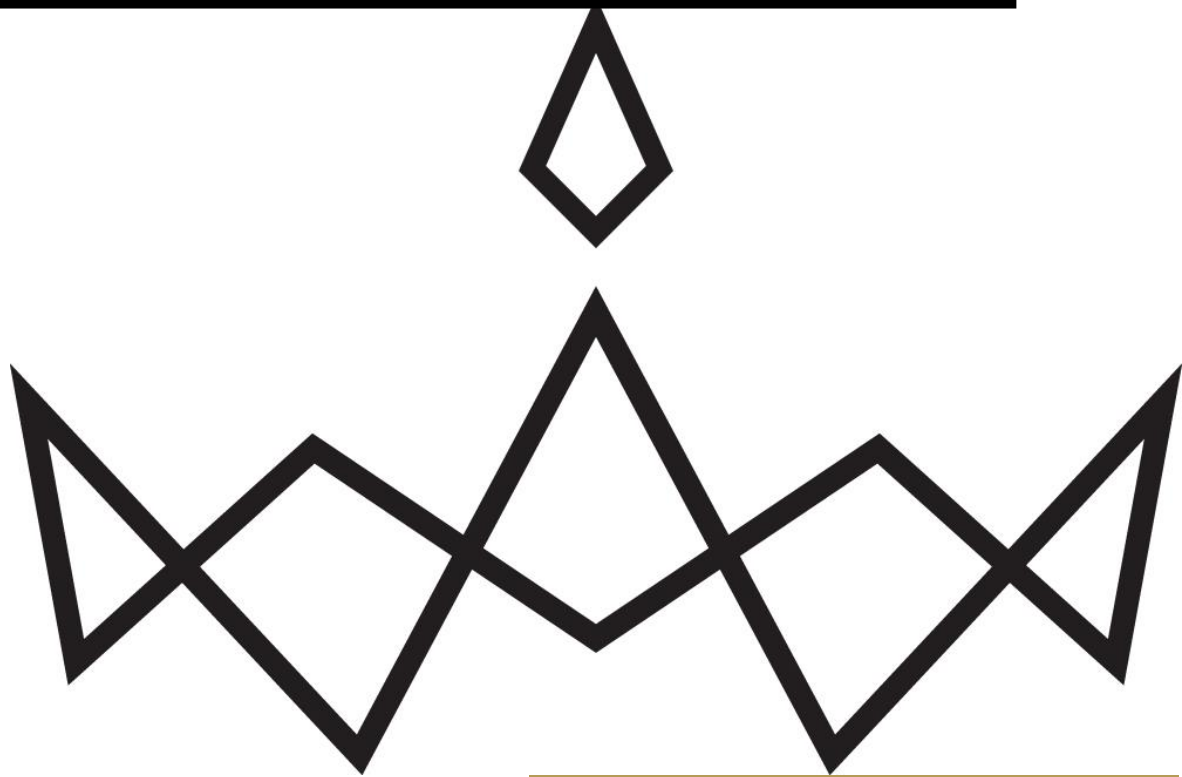


2024

# Miss Northern Suburbs



Kristen Hadap and Robin Ruchti  
Executive Directors  
Updated August 2023

# Miss Northern Suburbs

August 2023

Dear Contestant,

We would like to welcome you as a participant in the 2024 Miss Northern Suburbs Competition. The competition will be held on November 25, 2023, at the Gorton Community Center 400 East Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045. We thank the Gorton Center for being our venue this year.

We will provide more information closer to the competition date regarding the schedule for the day of the competition. Please reserve the entire day for the competition. There will be a mandatory closed rehearsal (contestants only) Friday, November 24, 2023 at 6:30pm at the Gorton Center. This rehearsal is when we will go through the modeling patterns for each category, opening number and talent tech. The opening number will be a simple dance routine with walking patterns to introduce the contestants. The outfit will be a black dress and heels for Miss contestants and red dress and heels for Teen contestants. Included with this letter are some guidelines to help you prepare in each category.

We would like to thank you again for participating in the 2024 Miss Northern Suburbs Competition. If you have any questions, please contact us at [missnorthernsburbs@gmail.com](mailto:missnorthernsburbs@gmail.com). We look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

Kristen Hadap

Robin Ruchti

Co-Executive Directors

Miss Northern Suburbs Organization

# Miss Northern Suburbs

## Areas of Competition and Guidelines for Miss and Teen Contestants

### Private Interview (30%)

Each contestant participates in a **10-minute** interview with a panel of judges. Contestants will be introduced by the current titleholder and then will give a 30 second introduction of their community service initiative. Judges will then question the contestant for 9 minutes and then the miss contestants have 30 seconds to wrap up the interview and tell the judges something that was not covered during the interview. Interview for teen contestants will end after the 9-minute Q&A. The private interview provides the opportunity to learn as much as possible about the contestant's qualities and attributes to fulfill the titleholder position. Contestants are questioned in a variety of areas including their background as presented on their fact sheet, community service initiative, social issues, current events, educational and career goals, interests, hobbies and extracurricular activities. Scoring is based on communication skills, personality, intelligence, knowledge of community service initiative, personal appearance and overall "first impression". Interview attire should be age appropriate. Attire could include dress, skirt or slacks and a blouse or nice top. Business or pageant suits are not recommended.

### Health & Fitness (20%)

Each contestant will walk in a pre-blocked high energy routine with movement and posing. The wardrobe for this area of competition is the contestant's choice of Rebel x Miss America Collab Red Collection (mandatory) fitness outfit with her choice of socks and sneakers. Judges will evaluate the contestant's overall first impression of a dynamic presence, radiated health, high energy, engaging vitality and a sense of confidence.

### Performing Arts Talent/HER Story (20%)

The maximum time limit for the presentation is **90 seconds**. Some possible approved talents include all types of singing, dancing, instrumental music, gymnastics, baton twirling, dramatic or comedic monologues and HER Story (personal narrative). Please contact the local executive director with questions about your talent category being on the approved list. Scoring is based on overall "first impression"; entertainment value; interpretive ability; stage presence and on-stage personality; totality of all elements including music and costume will be evaluated.

### Evening Gown (20%)

Each contestant appears on stage in a gown of her choosing. This category allows a look into how the contestant exhibits her own personal style, grace, stage presence and confidence. Scoring is based on

overall “first impression”, sense of confidence; personality and stage presence; walk, carriage, posture, and sense of style (not the value of the evening wear).

### **On-Stage Conversation (10%)**

On-Stage Conversation brings the interview to the stage to showcase each contestant. Contestants will be asked one question on stage. Questions will be based on the brand, mission statement of Miss America or the four points of the crown (Style, Service, Scholarship, Success). The objective is to evaluate the contestant’s ability to be a spokeswoman for the brand and have engaging commentary on stage. Scoring is based on the contestant’s ability to handle pressure of speaking on stage, stage presence, commanding presence, relatability and answering the question in the context in which it was asked. The wardrobe for this category is the opening number dress.

## **Competition Rules**

### Backstage

1. Contestants must do their own hair and make-up and dress themselves when backstage. Parents, make-up artists, hair stylists, etc. will not be allowed backstage or in the interview waiting rooms.
2. Hostesses will be available to assist the contestants with their clothing, etc. backstage and in the interview waiting rooms.

### Performing Arts Talent/HER Story

1. Contestant’s talent must not be longer than 90 seconds. Only music track accompaniment is acceptable. Make sure the contestant’s name is in the title of the mp3 file before sending it to the Miss Northern Suburbs Organization.
2. There is to be no duplication of talent performances. All talent selections are on a first come first served basis.
3. “Live” accompaniment is not permitted. Only the contestant is permitted on-stage. No other person may be a part of her presentation though background vocals will be allowed as long as they don’t overpower the contestant.
4. Talent must be performed live with the judges; pantomime and lip-sync are not permitted.
5. No props. Any article brought on stage must actually be needed.
6. Tap dancers may not have accompaniment music with pre-recorded taps or tap sounds.

7. The sound engineer will not stop and re-start music track as a part of the contestant's performance. If contestant needs a ten second delay in her performance, then the music should include a ten second silent spot.
8. Background tracks will be approved by the Miss Northern Suburbs Organization.
9. Fire (fire ropes, fire batons, etc.), pyrotechnics, swords, knives or machetes, bow and arrow acts, and the use of live animals are strictly prohibited.