

Contestant name: _____

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

Contestant Checklist

Applications **MUST** be postmarked on or before JULY 6th 2011- NO exceptions

All materials required in the application must be received at that time, including talent CD's, picture for the program, academic information, photogenic pictures (if you choose to enter that category), etc.

Please print your name at the top of each page.

Documents:

- _____ Application and Contract (Page 2 & 3)
- _____ Medical Information Form (Page 4)
- _____ General Information (Page 5)
- _____ Competition and Personal Appearance Rules (Page 6)
- _____ Community Involvement Information Sheet (Page 7)
- _____ Scholarship and Award Rules and Procedures (Page 8)
- _____ Production Rules and Guidelines (Page 9)
- _____ Proof Of Age – Birth Certificate/Driver's License
- _____ Head and Shoulder Photograph for program
- _____ Two 2 Minute Music CD's for your talent presentation
- _____ Transcript(s) or Grade Report(s) from most recent school year,
if you want to be considered for an Academic Award
- _____ Entry Fee \$50

Make checks** payable to: Miss Marion Popcorn Scholarship Program

Please print your name on the contestant line at the top of each page

***there will be a \$50 returned check fee. Any returned checks and applicable fees must be paid by cash or certified check 7 business days prior to the date of the competition or contestant will be ineligible to compete. If a check is returned following the competition any scholarship monies will be held until payment is received in full.**

In the event that an outstanding amount is owed to the Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program from a prior year, those fees must be paid in full by cash or certified check before a current application will be accepted for the 2011 competition. The MMPFSC reserves the right to require all fees for future competitions then be paid in cash or by certified check.

All information must be mailed to Sheryl M. Rhoades c/o Heart of Ohio Mentoring – 790 Kenton Avenue, Marion, Ohio 43302 and questions emailed to: sherylmhoades@hotmail.com or telephone (740) 360-2591.

Application and Contract

I. Introduction

1. In seeking to participate in the Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program, each contestant must understand and accept the requirements of the program, rules for contestants, and rules and procedures for using scholarship funds.
2. By signing this application and contract and submitting it to the Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program, the contestant (or legal guardian) represents and agrees that all facts and representations contained in this contract and application and attachments are true and accurate.

II. Eligibility

1. I am currently _____ years of age. I was born on _____, _____.
Contestants must have graduated from high school and be no older than age 24 years as of August 6, 2011.
2. I will be attending _____(school) in _____.(city and state) in the fall of 2011.
3. I understand that, in order to compete, I must reside in, Marion, Delaware, Hardin, Morrow, Union, Crawford, or Wyandot County, Ohio.
4. I am a citizen of the United States of America, or I am legally residing in the United States.
5. I am and have always been female.
6. I am not now and I have never been married. I am not currently and I have never lived with a boyfriend.
7. I am not now pregnant, and I have never been pregnant. I am not the adoptive parent or legal guardian of any child.
8. I am of good moral character and I have not been involved at any time in any act of moral turpitude.
9. I have never been convicted of any criminal offense with the exception of a minor traffic violation (i.e. speeding tickets, etc.)
10. I have never performed any act or engaged in any activity or employment that is or could reasonably be characterized as dishonest, immoral, or indecent.
11. I am in good health, and can participate in the competition without causing a health risk to myself or anyone else.
12. I do not consume any illegal substances or abuse alcohol or other dangerous substances.
13. I do not have any legal obligations that would prevent or limit my participation and appearances in the competition or at the Marion Popcorn Festival.
14. I understand that if, at any time, facts concerning my eligibility to participate in the competition or my rein as a title holder or runner up should change, the Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program committee shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to determine that I am not eligible to participate in competition or continue my reign.
15. I agree to make myself available for all Marion Popcorn Festival activities and events. This includes, but is not limited to, the Popcorn Festival parade, entertainment events, and sports events.
16. I agree to allow the Marion Popcorn Festival scholarship committee to act for me and my interests in making commitments for appearances and scheduling events.
17. I authorize the use of my name, likeness, photographs, and pictures for advertising, news, and promotional uses.
18. I UNDERSTAND THAT IF THIS APPLICATION WAS RECEIVED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL, THAT I MAY NOT MAKE ANY ALTERATIONS TO THIS OFFICIAL DOCUMENT. I WILL BE BOUND BY THE RULES AND REGULATIONS AS STATED IN THE OFFICIAL MISS MARION POPCORN FESTIVAL DOCUMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

Application and Contract (continued)

Commitments for service as Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

III. Obligations and Agreements

1. I understand and agree that the grant of scholarships by the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program is subject to the terms and conditions of the scholarship rules and procedures attached to this application. By signing this application and contract, I agree to be bound by those rules and procedures. I understand that all scholarships, monetary awards, and prizes awarded are forfeitable in the event that I breach this contract or fail to perform any duties that I may have as a contestant or title holder. Any and all scholarship and monetary awards will be sent after the Marion Popcorn Festival.
2. All photographs, video tapes, audio tapes, motion picture films, or other recordings or reproductions made of me, whether "still" or "live", and my name, likeness, photographs, pictures, physical depiction, title and endorsements rights as a contestant, participant, or title holder remain the property of the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program in perpetuity.

IV. Entry Fees

1. All applicants are required to pay a \$50.00 entry fee to participate in the Miss Marion Popcorn Festival competition. The fee is due and payable on or before July 6th, 2011 for application to participate in the program.
2. Refunds will only be issued if requested in writing and the request is received by the Program Director by July 22, 2011. After that date, no refunds will be issued.

I understand that if I am to receive the title or place as a runner up in the competition that the facts of eligibility will continue to remain effective until the 2012 pageant date. If at anytime, my eligibility may come into question, The Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Committee in its sole discretion, will have the right to revoke my title, and or any prizes or monetary award I may have received as well as suspend me from any future Miss Popcorn competitions.

On the basis of all these statements and agreements, I request the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program accept my application to participate as a contestant in the Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program competition. I agree to comply with all terms and conditions of this application and contract in its entirety, together with all attachments.

Contestant Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date
(required if contestant is not 18 years old prior to July 6, 2011)

Medical Information Form

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

***Please be advised that any information provided on this form will be used for the sole purpose of seeking medical care, if necessary, while the contestant is under the supervision of The Miss Marion Popcorn Scholarship Committee. The information will not be used for any other purpose and shall be kept in strict confidence.**

Contestant name: _____ DOB: _____

Home address: _____

Who should be called in case of an emergency: _____

Phone: _____ cell: _____

Medical insurance company name: _____ policy #: _____

Employer or group name: _____

Physician name: _____

List allergies: _____

List any medical conditions and or medications that an emergency doctor should be informed of:

This authorization is valid until September 15, 2011 or one year from the date of the pageant if the aforementioned contestant shall receive the title of Miss Marion Popcorn Festival or one of the runners up for the title. After the designated expiration date this document will be shredded unless the document was previously used to accommodate medical care. This document serves as a wavier of privacy rights for the disclosure here on and I understand this document may be shared with medical professionals, if necessary. This document may be in the possession of Miss Marion Popcorn designees as necessary. I understand it is the responsibility of contestants/parents/guardians to inform the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program if allergies or medical conditions are discovered after the completion of this authorization.

I understand that contestants/parents/guardians are responsible for all medical/dental expenses incurred during the time in which a contestant participates in Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program activities and Marion Popcorn Festival are not responsible for any such expenses.

I certify that the above information that I have provided is true and accurate.

Pre-authorization for medical treatment regarding contestants below the age of 18:

I hereby authorize Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program to seek emergency medical care for _____ . I also authorize physicians, health care providers, registered nurses, and emergency responders to provide emergency medical care.

Contestant Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

Required if the contestant is under the age of 18 OR if the insurance policy covering the contestant is in the name of the contestant's parent/guardian.

General Information

Contestant's name: _____ DOB _____

How do you want your name listed in the program book and in the newspaper
_____ age on August 6,2011 _____

Home address, city, state, zip _____
(your home address must be in the eligible jurisdiction of competition)

Home town _____ home phone _____ cell phone _____

Email address _____
(that you or a parent checks regularly)

Parent/guardian names as you want them listed in the newspaper:

For example:

John and Mary Smith of Marion

John Smith of Marion and Mary Smith of Marion

John Smith of Bucyrus and Mary and Bill Jones of Marion

John and Jane Smith of Columbus and Mary and Bill Jones of Bucyrus

Your parent's names _____

Your high school _____

What year did you graduate _____

Your college _____ major _____

College status as of August 7,2010 freshman sophomore junior senior post-graduate

What are your plans after graduation _____

What will your talent presentation be (vocal, dance, dramatic reading, etc.) _____

What song _____

***you must provide 2 copies of your 2 minute music on cd * see production
guidelines sheet**

***you must provide proof of age (a copy of birth certificate or driver's license)**

Contestant Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date
If contestant is under the age of 18 by Aug. 6, 2011

Competition and General Appearance Rules

1. The Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program Committee designs, plans, and facilitates the rules and competition for Miss Marion Popcorn Festival.
2. Five to seven people will be assigned to judge the competitions based on the rules of competition as defined by the Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship committee.
3. Two people will be assigned to audit the judge's scores.
4. The decision of the judge's is final. Any questions concerning the judging will be directed to the judge's chairperson.
5. **Each contestant is asked to provide their own backstage mom to assist the contestant with changing clothes etc. The backstage mom may NOT be the contestant's mom or stepmom. We suggest a friend or other relative. The backstage mom is required to be over the age of 18. Only ONE backstage mom will be allowed per contestant and it MUST BE a female.**
6. Contestants are responsible for their own transportation to the rehearsal, competition, and Marion Popcorn Festival events.
7. The Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program Committee and the Marion Popcorn Festival are not responsible for accidents or injuries, nor are they responsible for lost or stolen personal items.
8. A contestant may only win the title of Miss Marion Popcorn Festival one time.
9. Dress rehearsal is mandatory. If a contestant cannot attend the dress rehearsal, prior permission must be granted by the program director.
10. No duplicate talent presentations will be allowed. The contestant who submits their paperwork first will be allowed to perform the selected talent presentation to the music of their choice.
11. No smoking or alcoholic beverage consumption is allowed by contestants while on festival grounds or while in any form of representation of the Marion Popcorn Festival.
12. Poor attitudes or discipline problems will not be tolerated.
13. No disruptive behavior by contestants or family members will be tolerated.
14. Chaperones will be selected by the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship program committee. At no time will a boyfriend be considered as a chaperone.
15. The title holder and her court (attendants) will have their crowns and sashes available to wear at all events. Crowns and sashes will not be worn on the festival grounds or anywhere else, unless a chaperone is present.
16. Clothing will be in good taste and modest. Title holder and her court will be informed of the appropriate clothing to wear at the parade and entertainment events.
17. No visible tattoos or body piercing, except earrings are permitted.
18. No flash still photography will be permitted during the competition. If someone is video taping, no lighting will be allowed and must be set to not interrupt the official program or block the view of any audience members. **NO BACK STAGE PHOTOGRAPHY WILL BE PERMITTED.** There will be time allotted at the end of the competition for photos of the contestants. All press has first priority to photographs immediately following the competition due to publishing deadlines.

I understand and agree to comply with the competition and personal appearance rules. I understand that failure to follow the rules may result in disqualification from the competition.

Contestant Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date
(Required if contestant is not 18 years old by Aug. 6, 2011)

Community Involvement Information Sheet

Full Name:
Hometown:
Date of birth:

Education:
(list all schools attended
And courses of study)

Scholastic/Career Ambition:

Scholastic honors:

Extra curricular activities:

Community activities:

Accomplishments:

Leadership roles:

Other interesting facts:

Why do you want to be Miss Marion Popcorn Festival?

Use this sheet as a guide. Answer all questions. Please return no more that 2 typed pages. Make sure to include ALL activities and awards, no additions may be made after the application deadline. Attach your most current, official grade report or transcript, with a clearly marked cumulative GPA as well as the GPA scale (e.g. 3.8 on 4.0 or 5.3 on 6.0 scale) if you want to be considered for an academic achievement award. The academic award will be based 50% on the academic GPA and 50% on community involvement.

Scholarship Rules and Procedures

1. Scholarships may be expended for tuition and related expenses, room and board, books, training, tutoring, and other educational expenses as approved by the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program Committee.
2. Requests for scholarships are processed upon receipt of your written request. All requests must include statements or invoices with remittance address. Credit Card receipts will not be accepted unless accompanied by the original receipt showing method of payment and detailed listing of the purchase.
3. If the time required for processing the request extends beyond the due date, the contestant may submit proof of payment and request direct reimbursement.
4. Scholarships may be used for outstanding student loan obligations provided the loan is not in default and provided the student has satisfactorily completed the coursework for which the loan was obtained. Contestants must submit documentation for the school or lender that shows that the contestant is either the primary or secondary payer of the loan obligation.
5. Contestants must use their scholarships within one calendar year. The year begins on the date of the Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Competition. If funds are not requested during this period, the scholarship will be forfeited.
6. Miss Marion Popcorn Festival and her court are required to attend popcorn festival events, as stated in the contract and application. Specifically relating to attendance, full scholarship awards will not be given, if the title holder or court member does not attend all required events during Marion Popcorn Festival weekend. The title holder and court are required to attend and participate in the Marion Popcorn Festival parade, and the entertainment events held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings of the Marion Popcorn Festival weekend. One fourth of the total scholarship awarded will be deducted for each missed event. The Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program Director has the sole discretion to approve any missed function in the event that the contestant is unable to attend due to an academic related occasion. However, all attempts must be made by the contestant to attend required festival function.
7. Requests for scholarship payment should be mailed to:
MARION POPCORN FESTIVAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
Attention: Sheryl M. Rhoades
c/o Heart of Ohio Mentoring
790 Kenton Ave.
Marion, Ohio 43302

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE TERMS OF THESE RULES REGARDING THE AWARDING OF SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THE MARION POPCORN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. I UNDERSTAND THAT IN CORRELATION WITH THE RULES OUTLINED IN THE APPLICATION AND CONTRACT ANY SCHOLARSHIP MONIES MAY BE REVOKED IF I DO NOT ABIDE BY THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

_____ Contestant's Signature

_____ Parent/Guardian Signature and Date
(Required if contestant is under the age of 18 on Aug. 6, 2011)

Competition & Production Guidelines

- The time limit for talent competition is 2:00 minutes or less.

Contestants must turn in 2 competition cd's. Cassette tapes will not be accepted. If a contestant is not using cd accompaniment she must turn in 1 tape of her talent for timing purposes (ex. Piano, monologue, etc). The cd must have contestant's name on both the jewel case and the actual cd. Also there may only be 1 song on the cd.

- A contestant may pre-record herself as a back-up vocalist or instrumentalist and use that tape to accompany her live talent performance here. However, it cannot be announced to the judges that the accompaniment tape contains any performance by the contestant. She will be judged solely on what she is doing live, and no exceptions will be made to this. A talent cannot be performed electronically.
- If a contestant wishes to perform a double talent, i.e. singing and dancing, or singing and playing piano, she must do both live on stage. She will only receive points for what is done live.
- There can be no duplication of a talent act among the contestants. This is determined on a first come, first served basis. The first contestant to register her talent with the program director is the one who will have preference.
- A contestant may not include in a vocal medley the same song another contestant is planning to sing as a solo or as part of a different medley. The same song, though, may be played on a musical instrument by a second contestant or used as accompaniment for dance
- A contestant will be the only individual on stage during the actual presentation of talent.
- **NO disrobing of any kind on stage – this includes removing any type of costume, etc during any portion of the competition. Any disrobing of any sort will automatically result in a zero score for that portion of the competition. Eyewear is excluded from this rule. This includes removing jackets, etc.**
- Any props that a contestant has on stage must be used and provided by the contestant. The local pageant is not responsible for providing any props. No props will be permitted unless they are absolutely functional as part of the contestant's talent presentation. ! A contestant may not use any of the following:
 - No mood setters or background enhancers
 - No props that imitate those used in a Broadway or screen version of her music
 - No props that require excessively large stage areas and complicated setting up
 - No use of motion pictures, slides or projections of any kind
 - No live animals
 - No props involving safety hazards such as: fire batons, sword twirling, knife throwing, archery, etc.
 - No additional person or person on stage with the contestant

If you require a vocal microphone, or are playing an instrument that will require a microphone, indicate your preference.

Wireless microphone on a stand _____

Wireless hand held microphone _____

if you do not indicate your preference, our production crew will make that determination.

I have read, understand and agree to follow the production rules and guidelines set forth.

Contestant Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date
(If contestant is under the age of 18 on Aug. 6, 2011)

Miss Popcorn Instructions:

Hello and welcome to the 31st annual Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program. We are so pleased to have you participate in this very special event. Not only are we awarding many wonderful scholarships and prizes, but the queen and her court will reign over the 31st annual Marion Popcorn Festival. The festival is a nationally known event and thousands will visit Marion to enjoy the free entertainment, great food, fun, arts and crafts, and many specialty events.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Contestants will be judged in five (5) categories

We have a separate panel of judges who will judge Interview during the day of Aug. 6th and the remaining categories will be judged by a different panel during the evening's competition on Aug. 6th.

- **Interview 30 % of the total score**

A panel of judges will interview each contestant for a period of 10 minutes. These interviews are conducted the morning of the program. Please arrive for your interview to check in at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time. Interviews will be timed by an independent person in the interview room. Appropriate dress is what you would wear for a professional job interview. After your interview, you may leave the school but **MUST** return for the evening competition by no later than 5:00 PM in the dressing room. **NO ONE** may be with you during the interview times.

All interview questions will be based upon the Marion Popcorn Festival and the application information submitted by the contestant.

You will be notified by email of your scheduled interview time.

- **Talent 30 % of the total score Please see the detailed information in the packet on talent.**

- **Beauty (Evening wear) 20 % of the total score**

The dress for this category may be full length or street length formal wear.

- **Popcorn Wear 10 % of the total score**

This is a new category and replaces the casual/sportswear category from previous years. This outfit can be any of your choice. Have fun with this category. It should be something that promotes popcorn and/or the Marion Popcorn Festival. There will be no description read regarding your outfit so it is important that the judges and audience can clearly see the relevance to popcorn and the festival. There are not props allowed in this category other than those you carry while modeling your outfit.

- **On Stage Question 10 % of the total score**

Contestants will draw questions on stage and judging is based upon the contestant's ability to speak and answer the question appropriately without prior knowledge of the question. The questions will be general in nature.

Tie breakers – When each contestant comes to complete their interview, at the close of their interview they will be provided a brief written quiz on the Marion Popcorn Festival. All answers may be found in the information on the Marion Popcorn Festival Web Page. www.popcornfestival.com

In case of any ties in any category of awards, including winner and runner-up totals, the scores of the contestants in the quiz will determine the tie breaker. The quiz scores do not count for any other portion of the judging.

The overall high score will be crowned Miss Marion Popcorn Festival and there will be 4 runners-up selected. Each of these individuals will receive a scholarship and prize package. These individuals will reign at the Marion Popcorn Festival 2011. Miss Marion Popcorn Festival will receive a \$1,000. scholarship and the 4 runners-up will receive scholarships based upon the scholarship funds raised.

There will be a winner in each of the categories judged and the winner of each category will receive a prize or cash award.

The competition events will all take place at the Grant Middle School building (the old Harding High School) in Marion, Ohio. You will enter on the west side of the building. I will be emailing each of you separately with your contestant number (which will be drawn at random).

A mandatory dress rehearsal will be conducted at the school the evening of Friday, Aug. 5th. This is MANDATORY and you must bring your clothing to this rehearsal, with the exception of your interview clothes. This rehearsal will begin at 5 PM with Lynnelle Jamison teaching the opening number.

We will be running through the entire program. You will do one run through, only, on your talent. If you would like a 2nd talent run-through, you will need to be ready to do so in the gym at 4PM on the day of the pageant, Aug. 6th. **You will be offered a second run-through at that time IF time is available but is not guaranteed.**

- We ask that you select one person to be your “backstage mom”. Please make sure your person is over the age of 18. It CANNOT be your mother or a stepmother but could be a friend, sister, aunt, etc. We want parents in the audience to enjoy the show. The backstage person MUST BE A FEMALE. If you cannot find someone to serve as your backstage person, please let me know. You need to provide the name of that person to me, at your earliest convenience.

No one else will be allowed in the dressing room area at any time. NO EXCEPTIONS...If someone wants to send flowers or a gift backstage they are to give it to the ticket takers at the door and they will get the gift backstage.

- As you know, your talent music time restriction is 2 minutes. The music production person is instructed to cut off the music at 2 minutes, so if yours is longer, be aware.

SPECIAL NEW EVENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS:

We are doing several new projects this year.

#1 – We are awarding a “People’s Choice” cash award this year. We have set up with Fahey Bank to accept donations in a contestant’s name. Individuals or businesses can make a deposit in your name at Fahey Bank SOUTH, **ONLY**(Just south of the Southland Mall). They merely

need to say this is People's Choice votes Miss Popcorn. They need to provide your name with the deposit. The votes are all in money, dollars, change or any amount and the ONE contestant who receives the most money in their account will receive one-half of the TOTAL cash raised and the other half goes for the support of the Miss Popcorn Scholarship Program. The one winner in Miss Popcorn will be announced that evening at the crowning. (There will be a separate winner in the Ms. Popcorn group)

#2 – This year we are also including a Photogenic Category for judging. This category will have one winner and will receive a prize package, which may include a cash prize. This category will NOT be included in overall scoring and will have no impact on the totals for judging Miss Popcorn and the runners-up. You may enter up to 3 photographs (they will be returned to you). They may be color or black and white and should be 5" by 7" or 8" by 10". They are to be unframed. The charge for each photo entered is \$5.00. This category will be judged by a professional photographer and one winner will be selected. The criteria for judging will be: quality of the photograph, clarity of the individual in the picture, pose, smile and personality.

Remember, your backstage mom will have free admission to the pageant, which is why I need their names. All other persons will be required to purchase a ticket. All tickets are \$10., each, for adults and \$5., for children aged 10 and under. Tickets are available to purchase at the door the evening of the event. Doors will not open until 6:30 PM, no exceptions. Also, you may NOT mark off reserved seats for people who are attending. The front two rows are reserved for the photographer, festival officials, returning queens, and interview judges who return to see the event.

Again, thank you and get ready for a very special event!

Sheryl M. Rhoades, Director
Miss/Ms. Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program