

Contestant name: _____

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

Contestant Checklist

Applications MUST be postmarked on or before Monday, July 14, 2025 - NO exceptions! All materials required in the application must be received at that time, including talent flash drive, picture for the newspaper, and completed application. Photogenic pictures (if you choose to enter that category) are to be turned in at registration.

Documents:

- ____ Information Sheet - page 2
- ____ Application and Contract - pages 3&4
- ____ Medical Information Form - page 5
- ____ General Information - page 6
- ____ Competition and Personal Appearance Rules – page 7
- ____ Community Involvement Information Sheet - page 8
- ____ Scholarship and Award Rules and Procedures - page 9
- ____ Competition & Production guidelines - page 10
- ____ Competition Rules and Guidelines - pages 11&12
- ____ Scholarship Claim Form – page 13 (to be kept and used if you were to place or win)
- ____ Proof of Age – Birth Certificate/Driver's License
- ____ Head and Shoulder Photograph for newspaper (PICTURE CANNOT BE LARGER THAN WALLET SIZE.)
can be black and white or color
- ____ Two, 2 Minute Music flash drive for your talent presentation
- ____ Entry Fee \$85.00 or \$200 in cash sponsorships
- ____ Photogenic Entry (\$10/1, \$15/2, \$20/3)
- ____ Program ads

NO PERSONAL CHECKS ACCEPTED

We accept cash or cashier's check/money order payable to: The Marion Popcorn Festival. We also accept payment by Credit Card with additional fees, please contact Kari for details.

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



The Marion Popcorn Festival Pageant Application

Miss Marion Popcorn Scholarship Pageant

Information Sheet

Full Name of contestant _____

Age _____ (must have graduated from high school and be no older than 26 as of August 2nd, 2025)

Birth date _____

Home address _____

Home City, State, Zip _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Email address _____

Father's name _____

Mother's name _____

I understand by signing below that I am applying to be a contestant to The Miss Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship pageant. 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.

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.

Signature _____ date _____

Contestant name: _____

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

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 26 years as of August 2nd, 2025.
2. I will be attending _____ (school) located at _____ (complete address) in the fall of 2025 or graduate from _____ college in _____.
3. I am not now and I have never been married, nor have I had a marriage annulled.
4. I am not pregnant now, and I have never been pregnant. I am not the adoptive parent or legal guardian of any child.
5. I am of good moral character and I have not been involved at any time in any act of moral turpitude.
6. I have not been charged with multiple minor or petty offenses in the last twenty-four months. I have never been convicted of any criminal offense and there are no criminal charges presently pending against me.
7. 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.
8. I understand that inappropriate social media behavior will not be tolerated by the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program. I am attesting by my signature that I have not posted any type of social media; either photos, videos, inappropriate language, or any other actions that would be considered inappropriate behavior. I also understand that if any such materials are brought to the attention of the Marion Popcorn Scholarship Program that I am in danger of losing my title. I agree that it is at the sole discretion of the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program to determine the consequences of any such action.
9. I am in good health, and can participate in the competition without causing a health risk to myself or anyone else.
10. I do not consume any illegal substances or abuse alcohol or other dangerous substances.
11. 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.
12. I understand that if, at any time, facts concerning my eligibility to participate in the competition or my reign as a title holder or runner-up should change, the Marion 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.
13. I authorize the use of my name, likeness, photographs, and pictures for advertising, news, and promotional uses.
14. 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.

Signature _____ date _____

Contestant name: _____

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

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 remains the property of the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program in perpetuity.

IV. Entry Fees

1. All applicants are required to pay an \$85.00 entry fee (can be sponsored) to participate in the Miss Marion Popcorn Festival competition. **If you raise \$200 in sponsor fees your entry is FREE!** The optional photogenic competition is \$10 for one photo/\$15 for two photos/\$20 for three photos. The fee is due and payable with the complete application packet and must be postmarked on or before Monday July 14, 2025 for application to participate in the program.

2. Refunds will NO LONGER 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 August 2026). If at any time, 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 at the time of this application)

Contestant name: _____

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

Medical Information Form

*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 2025 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 waiver 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 and Marion City Schools 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

Contestant name: _____

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

General Information

Contestant's name: _____ DOB _____

How do you want your name listed in the program book and on the Facebook page:

_____ age on August 2 , 2025 _____

Home address, city, state, zip _____

Home town _____

home phone _____ cell phone _____

Email address _____

(That you or a parent check regularly)

Parent/guardian names as you want them listed on the facebook page:

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

Parents names: _____

Your high school _____

What year did you graduate? _____

Your college _____ major _____

College status as of August 2, 2025 - freshman sophomore junior senior

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 a flash drive * 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 at the time of this application

Contestant Name

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; the decision of the judge's is final. Any questions concerning the judging will be directed to the judge's chairperson. In the event of a tie for queen or runners-up, the interview will break the tie, followed by talent if needed.
 4. 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.
 5. Contestants are responsible for their own transportation to the rehearsal, competition, and Marion Popcorn Festival events.
 6. The Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program Committee, the Marion Popcorn Festival and Marion City Schools are not responsible for accidents or injuries, nor are they responsible for lost or stolen personal items.
 7. A contestant may only win the title of Miss Marion Popcorn Festival one time.
 8. Dress rehearsal is mandatory. If a contestant cannot attend the dress rehearsal, prior permission must be granted by the program director.
 9. 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.
 10. 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.
 11. **Poor attitudes or discipline problems will not be tolerated.**
 12. No disruptive behavior by contestants or family members will be tolerated.
 13. Chaperones will be selected by the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship program committee.
At no time will a boyfriend be considered as a chaperone.
 14. 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.
 15. Miss Marion Popcorn Festival and her court are encouraged to participate in any fundraising efforts or community service projects, designated by the Marion Popcorn Festival and the Marion Popcorn Festival Pageant Committee.
 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 flash still photography will be permitted during the competition. If someone is videotaping, no lighting will be allowed and must be set to not interrupt the official program or block the view of any audience members. NO BACKSTAGE PHOTOGRAPHY WILL BE PERMITTED. 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/Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

Contestant name: _____

Competition & Production Guidelines

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

Contestants must turn in 2 competition a flash drive. 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 the 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 that will reveal inappropriate clothing or nudity. This will result in a zero score for that portion of the competition. Eyewear is excluded from this rule.
 - 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 handheld 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

_____ Contestant Signature Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

(If contestant is under the age of 18 at the time of this application)

Contestant name: _____
Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

Competition Rules and Guidelines

Festival Theme: Poppin' to the Music

Pageant venue/details: Saturday August 2, 2025
Marion Harding High School
Cafetorium

Registration 1:00 to 1:30PM
Pageant to start at 2:00PM

Pageant contact: Ashley Wilson phone: (419) 834-5599 email: pageants@popcornfestival.com

Entry deadline: All forms, cd's, fees and photos (except for photogenic entry) must be postmarked by Monday July 14, 2025 and mailed to:

Marion Popcorn Festival
PO Box 1101
Marion, Ohio 43302

Categories:

● **Interview 30% of total score**

A panel of judges will interview each contestant for a period of 8 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 by 4:30 PM in the dressing room. NO ONE may be with you during the interview time. 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 competition and production guidelines (page 10) for detailed information regarding talent portion of the competition.

● **Beauty (formal 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 outfit can be of your choice. Have fun with this category. It should be something that promotes the Popcorn Festival, popcorn and/or the theme – Poppin thru the Decades. There will be no description read during your outfit so it is important that the judges and audience can clearly see the relevance to popcorn and the festival. There are no props allowed during this category other than those you can 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 question will be general in nature.

Contestant name: _____

Miss Marion Popcorn Festival

Competition Rules and Guidelines Continued

● Photogenic

This is an optional category. This category will have one winner who will receive a prize.

This is an 8 X 10 photo and can be color or black and white. This does not have to be a professionally taken photograph. The criteria for judging will be: quality of photograph, clarity of the individual in the picture, pose, smile, and personality. NO AI generated photos.

All photos will be returned to you. The photos and fees are to be turned in at the dress rehearsal on August 2nd. You may enter one photo for \$10, two photos for \$15 or three photos for \$20.

● Program ads

\$75- Whole page ad including photo

\$50 -Half page ad

\$35-Quarter page ad

\$15.00- Business Card

**If the \$200 sponsorship fee was raised, all ads are free!!

Court size is at the discretion of The Marion Popcorn Festival Pageant Committee.



**MARION POPCORN FESTIVAL
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CLAIM FORM**

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM INFORMATION

Scholarship Program Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program

Executive Director: Kari McDorman

Phone Number 740-816-5473

Scholarship requests are to be mailed to:

Marion Popcorn Festival
PO Box 1101
Marion, Ohio 43302

Or emailed to: pageants@popcornfestival.com

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD INFORMATION

Scholarship Awarded:

Amount: \$

Date Scholarship Expires:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 30 TO RECEIVE AWARD

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT INFORMATION

Scholarship Recipient:

Phone Number:

Address:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

As a recipient of the scholarship listed above, I understand and agree that its use is subject to the guidelines set forth by the Marion Popcorn Festival Scholarship Program for use of this scholarship.

Recipient Signature: _____ Date: _____

SCHOLARSHIP CLAIM INFORMATION

Intended use of scholarship_____

You must attach a bill or receipt as proof of the scholarship use

University/College_____

Address:_____ City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Amount of Scholarship Requested:_____ Due Date:_____

Instructions/Comments:_____

Recipient Signature:_____

Scholarship Fulfilled Information:

Date Paid:_____ Payment Method_____

Treasurer Signature:_____ Date:_____