

Welcome to the Arizona State Finals!!

## ARIZONA STATE HANDBOOK

### SPECIAL INFORMATION AND ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS!

Please keep this information for reference. If you have any questions in regard to any of the below, please refer to the number when calling the state office or your local director so we can answer your questions quickly. Any question you have is important - so don't hesitate to call!

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Keep your schedule with you at ALL TIMES, and refer to it often. Check in with your Group Leader at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled event. **BE ON TIME!!** We won't wait for you!
2. Please remind your family and friends, Arizona Cinderella is a **non-smoking convention**. Absolutely NO SMOKING in the Ballrooms or event areas at anytime.
3. **OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER AND VIDEO PRODUCTION** This year we once again welcome back Video Producer -Wayne Lundeborg of LC-Fotografia, and are excited to also have him serving as our pageant photographer! Please note, in today's world of technology, it's tempting to use your cell phones to capture video and photos of your daughters on stage. However, NO VIDEOGRAPHY or PHOTOGRAPHY is allowed during competitions. We expect that all chaperones will set good examples and abide by this rule. Mr. Wayne and his company do a wonderful job capturing high quality video and photo of your participants. You will receive a video package for free. You can purchase a photo package directly from Mr. Wayne during the week. You can email Wayne at wayne@lc-fotografia with all your questions.
4. Crowns and banners, may be worn ONLY at our CINDERELLA BALL on Thursday. Crowns and banners from your highest honors achieved in Cinderella may be worn then - no other time. NOTE: Formal/semi formal attire is expected at Welcome Banquet, Cinderella Ball & Awards Breakfast for everyone in attendance.
5. The **Cinderella Boutique** will be on site with branded Cinderella merchandise. Boutique hours will posted on the door.
6. All participants and chaperones MUST be registered at the host hotel through AZ Cinderella throughout the pageant week. No Exceptions! **ARIZONA CINDERELLA WOMAN** participants must also be registered at the hotel Sunday thru Friday. Participants CANNOT be a chaperone for other Cinderella participants.
7. **CONDUCT:** At all official Cinderella events, the emphasis is placed on the participants and adults displaying good manners and grooming. Also, listening to and acknowledging instructions, adjusting to conditions, maintaining discipline and dependability, and MOST IMPORTANT...displaying excellent sportsmanship AT ALL TIMES! Any parent, director, coach, teacher, guest or participant who conducts themselves in an unsportsmanlike or unladylike manner (before, during or after any pageant or event) will be subject to **immediate dismissal** from the Cinderella Scholarship Program. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES will be allowed in or around the staging areas or meal functions. SMOKING BY PARTICIPANTS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Young ladies, chaperones and guests are asked to use common sense and are reminded that we are a youth development program.
8. **LOST & FOUND:** Arizona Cinderella will not assume responsibility for lost articles, tickets or personal property. All lost and found articles will be turned into the Cinderella Boutique/Ticket Person or Hotel Security.
9. **PERSONAL CARE:** Arizona Cinderella will not assume responsibility for accidents or personal care of the participants. This is the responsibility of the official chaperone.
10. **SOUVENIR GIFTS:** One of the many highlights of pageant week is the "Souvenir Gift Exchange". Each participant should bring souvenir gifts to share with other participants in YOUR age division, JUDGES, STAFF and ROYALTY. This is a special fun part of the pageant. Gifts should be a small token, donated to you or hand-made, simple, inexpensive and thoughtful (key chains, pens, pencils, note pads, candy, hair barrettes, etc.). Each gift should be personalized with a tag including the name, city, and best wishes. Gifts will be distributed by chaperones during INTERVIEWS on MONDAY, and the girls receive their goodie bags as they leave the Prince Gilbert Party! Tots, Mini, Miss & Teen need approximately 80 Gifts / Arizona Women need approximately 50.

## MEAL PARTIES AND TICKETS

1. WELCOME BANQUET, CINDERELLA BALL and AWARDS BANQUET are semi-formal events for not just our Cinderella Girls, but for their family and friends as well. Chaperones and guests should also dress appropriately. Slacks and nice tops are also acceptable for adults. Please NO jeans, shorts or flip-flops.
2. Meal parties call for casual dress or casualwear...Each meal party allows for OPTIONAL theme dress. For Example: Wild Wild West Party - western wear, jeans, cowboy hats, etc. Cindy Fair, - the 2026 Cindy Fair will have a 50 Year Celebration theme! Come dressed in your best Blue/White/Orange Casual Wear! Prince Gilbert Autograph Party and Show - pink or green attire with frogs or Cindy T-Shirts.
3. You MUST have your dinner ticket or name badge to get into the meal parties. Additional dinner tickets will not be for sale during the week. If you plan to have additional guests, you must pre-purchase meal tickets and submit with paperwork. Children 2 and under may sit on a lap and share your plate. Children 3 and up will need their own meal tickets. NO ONE is admitted into meal parties without a ticket... NO EXCEPTIONS!!
4. Chaperones and guests: Your name badge is **YOUR TICKET**. You must wear it to get into the preliminary events and Grand Finals. All seats for preliminary events are \$10.00. Grand Finals \$25.00 The best value is to purchase a TICKET PLAN for \$50.00.
5. At the **Prince Gilbert Autograph Party**, bring your autograph poster ( T-shirt, hat, autograph book or whatever you want signed by your friends) Also, bring a pen!! If you have posters and wish to hang them in your room for the week, please NO duct tape, tacky putty, pins, gluesticks, etc... please use only masking tape!

## TALENT COMPETITION - TOT PERSONALITY

1. **MUSIC:** - Please upload your talent music to the Drop Box Link found in the registration paperwork. (Preferred) You may also submit on a USB (must be .mp3 format). Make sure to label with your name and age division. You can submit music with your registration packet or at pageant check-in. Make sure it is the ONLY TRACK submitted. ABSOLUTE TIME LIMIT is 2 1/2 MINUTES. Any talent exceeding the time limit will be disqualified from talent awards and Top 5. All talents are timed.
2. **COSTUMES and PROPS:** Costumes should be befitting of the age division and not be suggestive in nature. Two-piece costumes are permissible; however, as always in Cinderella, we stress good taste and a standard of modesty. Props must be an integral part of the talent presentation and used by the participant during the performance. Props must be small enough to be carried on stage by 2 stage hands. No stage decorations will be allowed. We strive for professional talent presentations as this is not a dance competition. Tights are highly recommended.
3. **TOT PERSONALITY:** Simple partywear or interview type dresses are appropriate. Practice sitting still, feet crossed at ankles and hands in lap. Spontaneous, natural answers are best. Also practice speaking clearly--not too fast, and loud--however not yelling! Not all questions will come off of the Biographical Sketch submitted with paperwork.

## MODELING COMPETITION

1. No hats or props will be allowed for any Cinderella girl Modeling. Cinderella is NOT a "fashion clothing show." Flaunting an overly expensive wardrobe is not what we look for. Clothes must be age appropriate. We look for a natural, unaffected, wholesome, polite, personable girl to represent our program.
2. Cinderella is not a modeling competition; however, party dress and casualwear presentations give a girl the opportunity to demonstrate her poise, confidence, grace and ability to follow directions. Judges are advised to note girls should move to the paced modeling music when the "dings" indicate her to continue to the next place on stage. Each modeling presentation starts and ends with a "harp sweep." During casualwear, each girl will introduce herself by giving her name, age and hometown at the second "x". Teen and Arizona Woman participants give an in-depth self-introduction, including their interests, aspirations, accomplishments, etc. Check with your local director for modeling workshops in your area as well as what to say during casualwear introductions. Modeling music is available from the Cinderella International HQ (225-344-7631).

## PHOTOGENIC ON THE STATE LEVEL

1. PHOTOGENIC is mandatory on the State level and will be judged separately and prior to interviews. YOU MUST SUBMIT an 8" x 10" PHOTO. Color or Black & white. The picture will be reduced to 1 1/2" x 2" in the official program book. Photogenic will be judged by the original photos. Pictures may be of the head & face or head & shoulders. Pictures MUST be vertical. Photos will be disqualified if they are larger than specified or horizontal. Make sure to carefully label your photo with your name and division. Hats are allowed, but not recommended. Hands on the face are allowed but not recommended.

### **COVER GIRL INFORMATION and ADVERTISING INCENTIVE**

1. Additional Advertising is NOT mandatory; however, you might want to take advantage of this special recognition and gift incentive. Girls selling 3 pages of ads receive a \$65.00 Gift Certificate to spend in our Cinderella Boutique. Any girl selling a minimum of a half-page ad (\$80.00) is eligible for the COVER GIRL title and award in her age division.
2. Anyone from your community, local businesses and merchants, family and friends may place ads in the State program book. Advertisers may be congratulating their winner, wishing her luck or whatever they desire for advertising. Advertisers should submit their own ad copy and artwork.
3. INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS may appear on a full page or half page ad only. Full page ads are \$150. Half page \$80, quarter page \$50. See Advertising Form in your State Packet for details. When submitting ads, please DO NOT tape, glue or staple photos to ad work. Upload ads to the Drop Box found on the State Paperwork.

### **AWARDS and PRIZES**

1. OVERALL TOT, MINI MISS, MISS, TEEN and WOMAN receive: \$1,000 Cash Scholarship. \$500 College Scholarship is awarded to Tot through Teen Divisions. Royalty Trip (Value up to \$1,000), Luggage, Traditional Robe, \$150 Int'l Entry Fee, \$125 International Photogenic Fee, Custom Arizona Cinderella Jacket, 11" x 14" Color Portrait, Custom Embroidered Cinderella Banner, Arizona Rhinestone Pin, Cinderella Round State Crown, Three-foot tall official trophy, Custom Cinderella Scepter, Bouquet of Flowers. Lodging for the 2026-2027 Cinderella Tour, 2027 Arizona Finals Room & Meal Plans for winner & chaperone and many more surprises throughout the year.
2. OVERALL ALTERNATES receive: \$150 International Entry Fee, Custom Cinderella Trophy and College Scholarships (Tot through Teen Divisions) as follows: 1st Alternate - \$400; 2nd Alternate - \$300; 3rd Alternate - \$200; and 4th Alternate - \$100
3. TALENT / TOT PERSONALITY and CINDERELLA GIRLS receive: \$150 Int'l Entry Fee; \$125 Photogenic Fee, Custom Cinderella Trophy, Custom Round Crown, Custom Embroidered Banner, Bouquet of Flowers. 1st and 2nd ALTERNATES to these titles receive: \$150 International Entry Fee and Cinderella Trophy.
4. PHOTOGENIC & COVER GIRLS receive: \$150 Int'l Entry Fee; \$125 Photogenic Fee, Custom Cinderella Trophy, Custom Round Crown, Custom Embroidered Banner, Bouquet of Flowers. 1st and 2nd ALTERNATES to Photogenic receive: \$150 International Entry Fee and Cinderella Trophy.
5. Based on the number of participants in each division, the following will occur at Grand Finals:  
1-5 Participants – Division does not recompete  
6-9 Participants – Top 3 Called out to recompete  
10-19 Participants – Top 5 Called out to recompete  
20+ Participants – Top 10 Called out then Top 5 called out will recompete
6. CONGENIALITY - Good sportsmanship, friendliness and cooperation are essential during any competition. This award is one of the most important given by the pageant and is a tribute to the high ideals of the girls who participate in the state pageant. Voting will take place at the rehearsal for Final Night. This award is awarded in the Mini Miss through Woman divisions only. Judges award a "Miss Manners" in the Tot division. All girls receive: Trophy, Tiara & flowers. The Teen division award is in memory of BONA KUCIA and the teen winner will also receive a \$100 College Scholarship.
7. SPIRIT OF CINDERELLA - This award is in the memory of Cinderella Tot, JONNA SURATT and will be awarded in all age divisions at the judges' discretion. The judges are asked to seek out the special Cinderellas that have the inner beauty and the true meaning, or "spirit" of our program. All girls receive a Tiara, Trophy, and Flowers.
8. ARIZONA AMBASSADOR - In memory of KRISTIN KAY SMITH and DENISE SWARTZMAN. The Ambassador program is an award that carries the special message of what "Cinderella" really means. The Cinderella Ambassador is selected from the Cinderella Teen or Woman division. The girl selected will receive a Round Crown, Traditional Robe, Trophy and \$100 College Scholarship & join our Arizona Royalty. This award is selected by the Nurss Family and validated by judges.

9. OVERALL PHOTOGENIC - In memory of Denise's niece, ANGELA MARGARITE STAATS. One photo will be selected from all divisions. The winning photo, submitted from the head shots, will be awarded Round Crown, Banner, Trophy, and Flowers. This award is chosen by Angela's mother, Genene Staats.
10. ARIZONA SPIRIT OF CINDERELLA - The Overall Spirit Award is in loving memory of LORILEE ROBERTS, former Editor of Cinderella's Glass Slipper. Lorilee was a true Cinderella and we will never forget her love and passion for the Cinderella Program. The winner receives a Round Crown, Banner, Trophy and Flowers. This award is chosen by the judges.
11. SPECIAL AWARD RECOGNITION: Of special significance will be the NON-FINALIST AWARDS. These awards are for those who demonstrate outstanding performance in talent (Outstanding Tap, Outstanding Ballet, Outstanding Jazz, Outstanding vocalist, etc.). In addition to special talent recognition, there are also awards in each age division for Best Partywear Model, Best Casualwear Model, Best Interview, etc. These awards are at the sole discretion of the judges and all categories will not necessarily be represented. The above awards will be presented at the AWARDS BANQUET.

### **OVERALL WINNER Commitments and Expectations**

1. As an OVERALL AZ CINDERELLA STATE WINNER, you must attend the International Cinderella Finals in Dallas, TX in July. If any Overall Winner is unable to represent Arizona at the International Finals, the title will be passed down to the 1st Runner Up, or next highest alternate who is able to represent Arizona. The Arizona Ambassador is encouraged but not required to attend.
2. You must attend at least 8 local preliminary pageants across the state, as well as other trips and photoshoots throughout the year.
3. Overall winners and the Ambassador may not compete in other pageant systems after they've been crowned. If an overall winner is a current titleholder for another pageant system at the time of Cinderella crowning, that must be disclosed and approved by Arizona Cinderella. All Cinderella commitments mentioned above must still be honored.
4. Winners must abide by additional decorum expectations to be discussed at time of contract signing.