

Miss Texas

Scholarship Organization, Inc

MARCH 2020

[CLICK HERE FOR A STATEMENT FROM THE MISS TEXAS SCHOLARSHIP ORGANIZATION RE: COVID-19](#)

Miss Texas family,

We are thinking of you during this challenging time and want you to know that your safety, health and well-being are our top priority! We recognize each of our local teams may be experiencing unique challenges and hope that you will reach out if we can serve as a thought partner to help solve whatever you might be facing. Candidates, your local directors are an incredible resource - please work with them if you are experiencing difficulties.

Last week we joined a call with Miss America, MAO Teen and leaders from each state competition to support each other, especially those with exceptional hardships due to the impact of the virus. This week we held an optional webinar for our local teams and candidates to share a few updates from our team and address questions raised recently. We will continue to provide virtual opportunities to connect and share information and/or changes and appreciate your patience as we navigate this together. Below you will find a brief recap of Sunday's conversation. Looking forward to the day we will get to bring our whole Miss Texas family back together again!

- Miss Texas Scholarship Organization Leadership

The safety of our candidates, families, volunteers and supporters are of the highest importance to us. If we are unable to bring everyone together on April 24 – 26 due to COVID-19, then we will move to an online format. There are ALWAYS back up plans in place! You may continue to book a hotel at the Renaissance for Spring Seminar weekend (it is 100% refundable if cancelled). We will reach out early April and share any necessary information about the format and/or scheduling changes. This is a time where we must all be flexible, assume positive intent and work TOGETHER!

Whether we are in-person or virtual, please continue to hold the weekend of April 24 - 26 for Spring Seminar. We will be in touch with more information if it is moved online and will aim to provide as many of the currently planned components as possible. For example, instead of a "live" talent preview, we may ask each candidate to record and submit her talent video. Not only do we award a scholarship for the talent preview winners, but this ensures the production team has adequate time to review/make notes for lighting/staging, prop approval, etc.

Examples of just a few topics we typically cover during Spring Seminar

- Competition week schedule
- Talent preview
- Choreography/fitness routine
- Candidate placement selection
- Candidate handbook (including information regarding non-competition week events to prepare/pack for). Note: Competition wardrobe information may be located on the candidate portal.

Rest assured that our team is prepared with numerous back up plans in place regarding competition week. This is a truly unique time in history and we are optimistic about our competition week date at the end of June. One way or another, we WILL crown a new Miss Texas and Miss Texas' Outstanding Teen! We will be in touch if the dates are to shift, but for now we are still planning to host competition week June 20 - 27!



UPCOMING DEADLINES



Please be sure to visit the candidate portal and continue working on completing your paperwork by the deadlines indicated on the portal.

We recognize that there is a new format for the Miss Resume and the format is completely up to the candidate! In an effort to be more inclusive, MAO has encouraged candidates to create their own resume in whatever format they believe best reflects their personal brand and values. For example, Chandler's resume may not reflect YOU (or your candidate) so we aim to provide the creative freedom necessary for our Miss Texas candidates to represent themselves. Additional guidelines may be accessed through the candidate portal.

All indicated items are due online prior to Spring Seminar, with the exception of paperwork required to be submitted as a hard copy. If we are unable to gather in-person at Spring Seminar then we will ask that these items be mailed and postmarked by the due date. We will release that information as decisions are finalized.

This is a challenging time for everyone in different ways, however many of us are extremely fortunate while there are families and children across America struggling. Many candidates have asked how they can be serving as leaders while quarantined. We encourage candidates to follow best practices and continue social distancing to flatten the curve. Regarding volunteering: if you choose to volunteer with an organization in need, please prioritize the health and safety of yourself and others!

Consider virtual opportunities to be a leader. Work with your local team and think outside the box!

- Record/share your community program to reach people through YouTube, Facebook Live, etc.
- Partner with a school continuing to provide online learning and offer to be a virtual guest (read a book, share your social impact, etc.)
- Set up a time to live stream your talent and perform for a nursing home or other facility
- Consider what your social impact is focused on and identify a virtual activity which corresponds - film a healthy recipe, host a fitness class, share a mental health resource - get creative!
- Post and tag your favorite small businesses, restaurants, sponsors, etc. and encourage your network to support them

Do you have more ideas? Share them with each other and start a movement!



CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about COVID-19 symptoms, how to protect yourself and what to do if you are sick.

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

