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**SILENT AUCTION GIFT BASKET DESCRIPTION**

Miss Texas and Miss Texas’ Outstanding Teen candidates are asked to bring a gift basket of items or an item to be “auctioned off” during the Miss Texas Competition week. All proceeds go directly toward the Miss Texas Scholarship Foundation. ***This is not mandatory and we don’t expect you to pay for anything.*** Items collected can be from community businesses and stores who would love to donate a gift to go in your “hometown basket”. It’s a great way to show off your community! This could be the title you represent or your own hometown. The items will be placed on tables and displayed, and bids will be taken all week. Bidding will close before Miss Texas Finals. If you have any questions, please submit a question on the Question Box at the top of the candidate portal.

Submission: During Miss Texas/Miss Texas Outstanding Teen check In

**SILENT AUCTION BASKET/ITEM:**

* Be creative; remember to make it a fun basket!
* The more unique the basket, the better!
	+ Examples: spa packages, recipe books, lamps, autographed footballs, event tickets – let your imagination be your guide!
	+ Many times, the baskets contain items that are products from the area, such as area company products, gift certificates, tourism books, and college/university items.
	+ Typically businesses in your area are willing to donate items for your basket.

**IDENTIFY YOUR BASKET CLEARLY:**

* Attach your photo to your basket (Miss & Teen no larger than 5x7) with your name and title on it.
	+ This may be tied to your basket or in a small frame to put in front of the basket. Remember we have very limited display space
* Provide a list of each item in the basket (list should include):
	+ Your title and name
	+ Name of basket if it has one
	+ List each item in the basket
		- How much each item is approximately worth
* The total approximate value of basket
* Finally, wrap the basket in cellophane and tie top with a ribbon/bow so items will be secure

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**THINGS TO CONSIDER** when planning your silent auction items:

Think of your title and who you represent. You do not have to spend money for your basket items. Go see your supporters or local sponsors for gifts, gift certificates, items of interest or whatever you wish to support your theme.

* You do not have to do just a basket. Example: If your title area has a large lighting factory in it, a unique lamp could be a big hit.
* Think what your title represents or a favorite passion you have, and you can go with that theme.
* Consider the size because there is limited presentation space on the Silent Auction Table at Miss Texas.
* Put your Miss and Teen Photos on the gift basket (usually attached to the basket so everyone knows that it is your basket)
* Put a list of the items in large type and approximate dollar amounts of all the items in the basket.
* The baskets will be presented in a designated room at the host hotel. We can’t be sure of the lighting, so please make sure your list can be read even in low light.
* Put wrapping on the basket so your items can’t be removed (cellophane, tulle or something you can see through).
* The items will be placed on tables at the host hotel and displayed during Miss Texas week.
* Bids will be taken all week.
* Bidding will close right after the Miss Texas Gala on Friday night.

There are many videos on YouTube, the basket association site and other videos posted online. Here is one that I think is helpful.

<http://livewellnetwork.com/Deals/episodes/Designing-Holiday-Gift-Baskets/8892579>

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 **MISS TEXAS SILENT AUCTION**

Please think outside the box. Tickets, trips, high end items, original artwork, gift certificates for chain hotels or restaurants are all desirable items. Please don’t donate something that only someone in your hometown would be able to use. If you bring a gift basket, it is important to list the items inside the basket, so the prospective bidder understands the true value. Please do not bring perishable items unless they will last longer than a week. All proceeds go to the Miss Texas Scholarship Foundation.

Items should be brought to competition week check-in. There will be a designated spot to deliver the items.

The form at the bottom needs to be SECURELY attached to the item to prevent lost or unidentified items.

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE VALUE!!!**

If you need to ship your basket, please let us know. Please attach the information form below to the item you are shipping or to the basket you are bringing to check in

Please make sure you attach a photo no larger than a 5x7.

 **It is preferred that items be hand delivered during check in.**

Candidate Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Item Description: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Valued at $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Item donated by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 *(Use this only if you didn’t purchase the item. For example: a local business or individual donated it for you. Ex. “Courtesy of Jane’s Dresses”)*