



Contestant Packet

Thank you so much for your interest in competing In the Miss YCHS Pageant. We are extremely excited about this being the 11th pageant in the history of YCHS. Miss YCHS is a character education

program. The goal is to promote service, confidence, communication skills, poise, grace, and give a platform for the young women at YCHS to have a voice and to showcase their talents. We hope that this will be an exciting journey for you and a day you will never forget! Good luck!

This packet contains very important information to make the Miss YCHS Pageant as memorable as possible. Please pay attention to important dates, requirements, and deadline contained in the packet.

Important Dates & Deadlines

Pageant Interest Meeting	Wednesday, August 26 th & Friday, August 28 th During FLEX in H115
Registration Deadline	Friday, September 4 th Registration Form & Fee – submit online (go to www.missychs.com to complete)
Bio Recording Deadline Talent Music Deadline (Miss YCHS Only)	Wednesday, September 23 rd Submit Bio Presentation Recording/Miss YCHS Division Talent Music - submit online (go to www.missychs.com to complete)
Headshot Day Ad Sales Deadline	Wednesday, September 30 th - Headshot Appointment (you will be assigned an appointment time between 4:00pm-7:00pm) - Follow up and make sure all of your ads have been submitted and paid for online
Training during FLEX	Sept. 17 th (H115)– Session concerning upcoming deadlines, ad information, bio tips, headshot tips, talent music tips, and more. Bring your questions to this session! Oct. 28 th & Nov. 4 th (Aud) – Pink Wear/Passion Statement training (encouraged to attend both sessions) Nov 11 th & 13 th (Aud)– Evening gown training (encouraged to attend both sessions) Nov. 19 th (Aud)– General extra practice
"PAGEANT WEEK!" Pageant Training/Rehearsals (All Rehearsals are in the YCHS Auditorium) <i>NOTE: This rehearsal schedule gives you a good idea of the time/rehearsal requirement/commitment. The rehearsal may be adjusted depending on the number of contestants registered and/or how much we are able to accomplish during flex.</i>	<u>Monday, November 16th</u> 3:45pm-5:15pm - All 9th graders and others in the Miss YCHS Pageant for the 1st time. 5:15-6:45pm - All Contestants <u>Tuesday, November 17th</u> 3:45pm-5:15pm - ALL contestants (bring shoes for all events and categories) 5:20pm-7pm - Talent rehearsal for all Miss YCHS contestants <u>Wednesday, November 18th</u> 3:45pm-6:30pm All Contestants <u>Thursday, November 19th - Dress Rehearsal Day!</u> 4:30-8pm Dress Rehearsal (All contestants)
	<u>Sunday, November 22nd – Pageant Day!</u> - Approx. 1pm – Miss YCHS Interviews 3:00pm The Miss YCHS Pageant!

Eligibility

- ✓ Permanent record must reflect that the student is a female student at YCHS on track for graduation, with respectable attendance records.
- ✓ At least a 2.0 GPA.
- ✓ Parent Permission
- ✓ No charges, behavior contracts, or major behavioral offences in the recent past.
- ✓ Approval of school administration (all registered names will be given to YCHS administration for participation approval)
*If potential contestants have had school discipline referrals, they or their parents will need to contact school administration to see if the student is eligible for entry.

Requirements

- Each Contestant should submit their Registration form and fee (\$55).
 - Submit Registration Form and pay Registration Fee online using the payment link in the Registration Form.
- Contestants should be available for all pageant rehearsals, and Pageant day.
 - Please work it out with coaches/sponsors if you play sports, have club meetings, or have any other after school obligations so that you can attend the very few pageant rehearsals we have. This schedule is very minimal compared to other high schools that rehearse for 2-4 weeks!
- Each contestant is expected to turn in a minimum of 4 Ad Sales for the pageant program.
 - Ads may be purchased by family members, friends, or businesses.
 - Advertising prices and instructions are included in this packet.
- All Contestants MUST submit a Contestant Bio Recording by the due date.
 - Contestants will submit an audio recording of their own voice presenting their bio. Explicit instructions are given on the online submission form.
 - Contestants that do not submit a Bio Recording will only have music played during their evening gown walk or will not participate in that portion of competition.
- All Senior Miss YCHS contestants MUST submit their talent music (if they require music) by the due date.
- All Contestants will have their Headshot taken on the designated day.
 - There is no makeup date for this date.
 - If a contestant does not show up for their headshot the student's headshot WILL NOT be included in the program book and other promotional media – name only. Headshots from other sources will NOT be accepted.

General Pageant Rules & Expectations

1. Contestants must participate in the grade level listed on their official YCHS transcript. If a student's academic status should change during the year, please contact Mrs. Brooks.
2. The Miss YCHS Pageant requires high moral standards; therefore, any contestant or winner caught engaged in such acts as drinking/drugs, smoking, swearing, or in gross infraction of school/district expectations, etc. will be immediately disqualified at the discretion of the pageant sponsor and/or school administration.
3. Good sportsmanship is required at all times. Failure to show good sportsmanship (including parents and guests) will result in the disqualification of the contestant, without refund and with forfeiture of any and all awards received. It may also result in contestant not being allowed to compete in the pageant the following year. This includes texting and all social media outlets before, during, or after the pageant. Security will remove any guests who are disruptive during pageant night.
4. All judges' decisions are final. Speaking with the judges is prohibited. If any families, friends of the contestants, or the contestants themselves are caught violating this rule, the contestant will be disqualified.
5. Registration fees are non-refundable (even if the contestant does not follow through with the pageant).
6. Friends, parents, and pageant coaches are NOT allowed during ANY rehearsals/workshops (virtual or in person), including the Dress Rehearsals – Contestants and Pageant crews ONLY.
7. Phones & Cameras are NOT permitted during ANY rehearsals/training sessions, in the dressing room (ever), on Headshot day, and on Dress Rehearsal day. Taking pictures & video is strictly prohibited. Contestants caught violating this rule will be disqualified.
8. Contestant Chaperones should not have phones or cameras out at any time in the dressing room. Contestant Chaperones caught violating this rule will be removed from the dressing room for the rest of the pageant. Contestants & Chaperones may be asked to store their phones in a secure location outside of the dressing room before entering the dressing room.
9. The Miss YCHS Pageant and the host building are not responsible for any missing items.
10. Raising financial support (by selling ads) is expected. At no time will the judges know who raised any funds until it is announced on the stage during the awards ceremony.
11. Judges score sheets and tabulation forms will not be available to contestants and/or parents following the pageant.
12. Contestants should let family/friends know that all contestants will be unavailable until after pictures and media opportunities following the pageant.
13. Missed rehearsals may result in a contestant not being able to fully participate in opening number, a category of competition, or the awards presentation.
14. Contestants may NOT perform as guest talent for the event.

Competition Categories/Divisions/Awards

Miss Freshman, Miss Sophomore, Miss Junior, & Miss Senior Divisions	
<u>Competition Categories:</u> Passionate Pink Wear/Passion Statement Presentation (40%) -Evening Gown/Bio Presentation (60%) -Ad Sales	<u>Possible Awards:</u> -Miss Freshman, Miss Sophomore, Miss Junior, Miss Senior -Runners-Up (for each grade) -Miss Spirit of YCHS (for each grade – based on ad sales)

Miss YCHS Division (12 th grade only)	
<u>Competition Categories:</u> -Passionate Pink Wear/Passion Statement Presentation (15%) -Evening Gown/Bio Presentation (25%) -Private Interview (30%) -Talent (30%) -The Spirit Award – Ad Sales	<u>Possible Awards:</u> -Miss YCHS -Runners-Up -Miss Spirit of YCHS (based on ad sales)

Possible Divisions Changes

In the event that we do not have a sufficient number of contestants per grade level, the divisions will be as follows: (Note: We have not had to do this as of yet.)

- All 9th-12th grade contestants will compete as one division called Junior Miss YCHS
- No change will be made to the Miss YCHS division mentioned above.

In the event that we do not have a sufficient number of 12th grade Miss YCHS contestants – ALL Seniors will be eligible for the Miss YCHS title and will complete a private interview with no talent competition.

Judging Criteria

- There will be at least 3 qualified judges.
 - Every attempt is made to secure judges with backgrounds in pageantry, performing arts, public speaking, business, the beauty industry, education, or Miss America circuit certified judges.

Passionate Pink Wear/Passion Statement

- *Appearance, attire & fit, grooming
- *Poise, presence
- *Personality, sincerity, charm, charisma, wit
- *Presentation content
- *Walk technique
- *Voice, vocabulary, grammar

Evening Gown/Bio Presentation

- *Appearance, grooming
- *Appropriateness & fit of gown
- *Poise, grace, elegance
- *Walk technique
- *Voice, vocabulary, grammar

Spirit of YCHS

- *Raised most \$\$ in ad sales

Miss YCHS Only (12th grade only)

Interview

- *Appearance, attire, grooming
- *Poise, presence
- *Voice, vocabulary, grammar
- *Personality, sincerity, charm, charisma, wit
- *Intelligence
- *Ability to think quickly
- *Sense of values, strength of character

Talent

- *Maximum time of 2 min.
- *Execution, skill, technical difficulty
- *Confidence, discipline, dedication
- *Showmanship, facial expressions, stage personality
- *Interpretation of selection
- *Attire and proper fit
- *In good taste – no suggestive lyrics or movements

Wardrobe Guidelines

On occasion, contestants may end up to wearing the same gown or part of attire than another contestant. This should not hinder either contestant from wearing the planned attire. The only time contestants will be on stage at the same time is at the end during the awards ceremony. By that time the judging is completed. To prevent this from happening you can talk to dress shops concerning exclusivity for our pageant (some offer it, some do not).

NUMBER BUTTONS – Contestants will wear their number button each time they are seen on stage in each type of clothing. If contestants do not want to use the pin on the number button they MUST figure out a way to adhere their number button to their attire.

OPENING NUMBER OUTFIT – This is not a judged portion of the competition, but it IS the first impression!!!
*Pageant T-Shirt (provided) *Black Capri Leggings (mid-calf) *White no-show socks *Predominantly White Tennis Shoes

PASSIONATE PINK WEAR - Contestant is to wear a trendy outfit that shows off her sense of style with the theme of the color PINK!

- Must be in good taste. (Age-appropriate for a high school girl-Nothing too short, too tight or too low cut)
- Please make sure that you accessorize your outfit to enhance the overall look. Accessories such as hats, jewelry & shoes can most definitely make or break your outfit.
- Business casual to cocktail attire – as long as the theme is PINK!
 - No jeans except PINK jeans.

EVENING GOWN – A floor-length evening gown that shows off sense of elegance & style.

- Must be a formal gown that is classy and in good taste. (Age-appropriate for a High School pageant-nothing too tight or too low cut, and no midriff showing)
- Strapless gowns must be tasteful. No low cut, extreme plunging necklines, or over exaggerated cleavage (sheer fabric or lace can be added in the chest area to make the gown be more age appropriate).
- Gowns can have a slit, but nothing higher than mid-thigh.
- No Flats! Shoes must be dressy high heels. Make sure that you can walk in them!
- Gowns should flatter your figure. (body style/build, coloring, hair, etc.)
- *NOTE: High School Pageant judges are notorious for deducting points for gowns that are not age or pageant appropriate (watch cleavage, slits, nude fabrics, cutouts, low backs, etc.).*

PRIVATE INTERVIEW – Miss YCHS Contestants ONLY - Contestant is to wear a dressy business outfit. A skirt suit or a pants suit is suggested.

- Must be dressy (professional) & in good taste. First impressions & looking the part are important!
- Skirts/dresses should not be any shorter than mid-thigh.
- No Jeans, jeggings or leggings are allowed to be worn for interview.
- No Flats! Shoes must be heels of some sort...they don't have to be really high if you don't want them to be, just a High Heel of some sort always looks best...accessories & shoes are what can make or break your outfit!

TALENT – Miss YCHS Contestants ONLY - Outfits should enhance & compliment your routine.

- You MUST be in FULL Costume on the day of talent rehearsal. No changes in talent performance or in talent costume may be made without the approval of the Pageant Director after the rehearsal.
- The Pageant Sponsor, Pageant Director, and YCHS School Administration has the authority to assign performance changes or dismiss the performance altogether if the performance is not school appropriate.
- Costumes can be leotards, skirts, etc. but contestants MUST wear well-fitted undergarments such as bloomers.
- Understand that costumes that are too tight, too short, and not age appropriate will cause points to be deducted from individual score
- From time to time student may present like or same talents. The sponsor will ensure students with same or like talents will NOT perform back to back

Dressing Rooms & Contestant Chaperones

You will be allowed to have one female in the dressing room with you on the day of the pageant to help you change and prepare – your Contestant Chaperone.

- This person will be allowed to go back and forth from the dressing room to the auditorium with their assigned wristband.
 - Contestant Chaperones will need to re-enter and exit the auditorium each time using the rear spectator doors.
 - Chaperones WILL need to purchase an event ticket if they plan on sitting in the auditorium at anytime during the pageant.
- Contestant Chaperones are NOT allowed backstage, in the staging areas, or in the wings of the stage at any time.
- No males will be in the dressing room at any time.
- No significant others will be in the dressing room at any time.
- Contestant Chaperones should not take ANY pictures while in the dressing room at any time. Pictures may be taken out in the hallway.
- The YCHS Band Room will act as the dressing room (another space may be added depending on the number of contestants).

Headshots

- Contestants will be given a Headshot appointment time.
- All Headshots will be taken by the same photographer.
- Additional headshots cannot be submitted for use (for the program or for ads).
- Attire should be dressy to business-casual.
- The picture will ONLY show your face/hair, neck, and shoulders down to just below the chest area.
- The Headshot may appear in black & white and/or color. White, pastels, or other light colors should be avoided.
- These Headshots may be used in any Pageant publishing including promo signs, media, Official Miss YCHS Facebook page, Pageant program book, etc.
 - Tip: Wear a neckline, a color, and accessories that are eye catching and flattering to your face shape, skin tone, and features.

Tickets/Program Books

Tickets

- This event is NOT general admission. Spectators will purchase a particular seat on a particular row.
- TicketLeap will be our electronic ticket provider (same as in years past).
- Ticket sales will be open to contestants' families first, and will then open to the community and school.
 - Tickets: \$15 – Front section of auditorium, \$12 middle section of auditorium, \$10 back section of auditorium

Program Books

- Program books are wonderful keepsakes from the contestant's time in the pageant.
- The Program Books will contain all contestant Headshots, order of the pageant, and all ads sold.
- Program Books will be available to purchase for \$20 on the evening of the pageant. Only a limited number will be available.

Communication

Pageant Coordinator & Director – Mrs. Laura C. Brooks Email: lbrooks@york.k12.sc.us Room H115

Email Communication:

The Contestant and parent emails you provide on your electronic Contract/Application will be added to an email distribution list for the Miss YCHS Pageant. You will receive updates regularly.

Text Communication:

The Contestant and parent phone numbers you provide on your electronic Contract/Application will be added to our Miss YCHS Remind* Text group. You may also sign up NOW by using the following instructions: Text @missychs to the number 81010.

Website:

Please access all Pageant documents at www.missychs.com

Expectations of Miss YCHS & other “Crown Winners” Beyond Pageant Night

- Miss YCHS and all other “Crown Winners” :

 - Should plan to be an entry for the York Christmas Parade, Hickory Grove Christmas Parade, and possibly others. The sponsor will complete the entry registration for each parade and will communicate expectations.
 - Should be prepared for other appearances and opportunities through the year. The sponsor will communicate what these may be. These “Crown Winners” should make every attempt to fulfill this role as an ambassador.
 - Are expected to confirm and communicate about possible appearances throughout the year.
 - Should ONLY wear their crowns/sashes when in full pageant hair and makeup wearing planned attire unless the sponsor deems otherwise.
 - Should NOT wear their crowns/sashes unless attending a preapproved, planned, pageant sanctioned appearance.
 - Are encouraged to take ownership and exercise leadership skills by submitting ideas for appearances or participation in service projects for sponsor approval.
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If Miss YCHS and any other “Crown Winner” are in violation of not upholding the expectations above, the student may have to relinquish their title and awards or not be allowed to appear or participate in the pageant following year.

Miss Spirit of YCHS Ad Competition!

Our young ladies have the opportunity to explore their community, community leaders and businesses to participate in a advertisement competition! Each contestant is given the opportunity to connect with local businesses by selling advertisements for the Pageant Program. Parents and businesses can show their support for the Miss YCHS Pageant or a particular contestant by purchasing an ad to appear in the Miss YCHS Pageant Program.



Ad forms are to be filled out and paid for online at: <https://forms.gle/znD5F5vczJpyNR57>

TYPES OF ADS

Business Ads:

Full Page - \$100

Half Page - \$75

Quarter Page - \$50

- Businesses should submit logos/artwork in the online form to be included with their ad.
- NO pictures of contestants may appear in a business ad. This includes group pictures or a contestant pictured at a business.
- Hardcopy ads such as business cards turned in will NOT be accepted - ALL artwork should be uploaded electronically in the form.

**The Miss YCHS Pageant reserves the right to create the business ad using logos, graphics, text, etc. found on business website or social media sites if artwork is not submitted for the ad by the deadline.*

Personal Ads:

Full Page - \$100

Half Page - \$75

Quarter Page - \$50

- Personal ads will include a "Special Message" from the purchaser, and the contestant's Official Pageant Head Shot.
- No other photos will be accepted or included with personal ads except the Official Pageant Head Shots.
- Predetermined layouts/artwork are not accepted with personal ads.

1-Line Text Ads:

One Line Text - \$10

- 1-Line Text Ads will include a "Special Message" from the purchaser in 25 words or less.
- No photos will be included in this type of ad.

TURNING IN ADS & AD MONEY –

- All ads are to be ordered and paid for online. Contestants will NOT collect and turn in money.
 - Make sure all of your ads were electronically submitted using the link above.
 - Try to get confirmation from all businesses and individuals you asked about purchasing ads.
 - Ads that are NOT paid for will not appear in the Program Book.

Note: In case of printing error. In the event a paid ad that was properly ordered does not get placed in the Program Book, the sponsor will issue a full refund for the ad. If the add was a personal ad the sponsor will create an addendum at the contestant's or ad purchaser's request.

Tips to help you recruit ad sponsors -

1. Ask friends and family to "support you in the Miss YCHS Pageant by purchasing a PERSONAL ad for you." Your Official Headshot will appear with the buyers special message to you in the Program Book.
2. Ask businesses and/or business owners to "support you in the Miss YCHS Pageant by purchasing a BUSINESS ad from you." The artwork they submit will appear in the Program Book.
3. Read the letter on the next page.
4. Send the letter below via email or US mail to businesses, friends, and family.
 - a. You may also create your own letter with a personal touch from you! Make sure you include the link!!!!
5. Post on social media – use some of the contents below.
6. Visit businesses face-to-face!
7. NOTE: Ads will NOT be printed and will NOT be credited to the student unless ad payment is received.

Ideas of people to ask about purchasing ads:

Parent/guardian - Personal	Heating & Air - Business
Grandparents - Personal	Dance studios - Business
Aunt/Uncles - Personal	Auto Repair - Business
Cousins - Personal	Restaurants - Business
Banks - Business	Clothing Boutiques - Business
Hair salons - Business	Dress Shops - Business
Nail salons - Business	Churches - Business
Tanning salons - Business	Insurance Company - Business
Car dealerships - Business	Home Décor - Business
Dentists - Business	Construction - Business
Orthodontists - Business	Plumbing - Business
Wellness businesses - Business	Eye Doctors - Business
Massage Therapy - Business	Veterinarians - Business
Landscaping - Business	Farms - Business
Pools and Spas - Business	Gift Shops - Business
Photography - Business	Florists - Business
Law Offices - Business	Home Improvement - Business
Realtors - Business	Childcare - Business
Tires & Towing - Business	Groomers - Business



Dear Business Owner/Manager OR my Personal Friends/Family,

On Sunday, November 22nd, I will be competing in the 2026 Miss YCHS Pageant. The Miss YCHS Pageant is a character education program. The goal is to promote service, confidence, communication skills, poise, grace, and give a platform for the young women at YCHS to have a voice and to showcase their talents. I am excited about this journey I am about to embark upon and I'm looking forward to a day I will never forget!

In an effort to provide us with an experience that we will remember for many years to come, we invite your company to be a visible participant in our upcoming exciting and prestigious event. We are asking businesses/family/friends to support our Official Pageant program book. Last year's program book contained nearly 200 ads from all over the area! Your assistance as a sponsor will not only publicize your company but it also helps me, as a contestant, compete in the **ad sales competition** to possibly be crowned as "Miss Spirit of YCHS" for my division.

In addition to supporting the pageant and me as a contestant, you will also be reaching limitless potential customers from all around our region in an effort to provide the maximum possible exposure for your business!

We celebrate young, strong, committed women. By investing in the role models of today, we strengthen our collective tomorrows. As a sponsor, you will contribute to a hopeful future by helping one individual develop and refine personal attributes such as self-esteem, public speaking, and confidence that will assist throughout life.

Please support me and the Miss YCHS Pageant by filling out the Sponsorship for at:

Miss YCHS Ad Sale Competition - <https://forms.gle/znD5F5vczJpyNR57>



This form will also allow you to upload your ad artwork (businesses only) and pay for your ad as well. Hardcopy artwork and business cards will not be accepted.

My deadline for ad sales is September 30th, so please fill out the form and turn in payment by then, so that I may receive credit.

Thanks so much for your consideration!

Contestant Name

Contestant's/Parent's Contact Information

*The Miss YCHS Pageant - Laura C. Brooks, Pageant Director
lbrooks@york.k12.sc.us - 803-818-6247
York Comprehensive High School - 275 East Alexander Love Hwy, York, SC 29745*