

Miss Sparta Pageant Contestant Schedule
Pageant Practices, Prep Week, Pageant and Butterfest Weekend

Saturday, April 2	Informational Meeting
April 15	Contestant Application Due
Saturday, April 30	11:30am-1:30pm First Practice Contract Due (If not turned in already)
Saturday, May 7	11:30am-1:30pm
Saturday, May 14	11:30am-1:30pm <u>Happy ads are due by this practice. No Exceptions.</u>
Saturday, May 21	11:30am-1:30pm
Saturday May 28	11:30am-1:30pm

Prep Week

Please note that Sunday/Monday optional practices may be added.

Tuesday-Thursday (5/31-6/2) 5-10pm

Friday, June 3 - 5pm-10:00pm? Dress Rehearsal

Be sure that you have all of your outfits, shoes, etc. for dress rehearsal. After dress rehearsal, there will be a pizza party.

Saturday, June 4 1:00pm Little and Jr. Miss Sparta Pageant at the Senior High School Auditorium.

Saturday, June 4 - Miss Sparta Pageant

Contestants will need to arrive in the afternoon to have interviews and prepare for the pageant. Reminder that once contestants arrive they will not be allowed to leave prior to the pageant.

All contestants are also expected to attend events on Wednesday-Sunday of Butterfest in order to qualify for their scholarship money. Please check the website schedule for more information.

The Miss Sparta Pageant is proud to serve as a local festival pageant for

Miss Wisconsin

Happy Ads

Happy ads are one of the largest fundraisers for the pageant. Each contestant is asked to sell these ads to friends and family, wishing the best of luck to a contestant. They are available in 4 sizes, 1/8 page (\$15 business card size), 1/4 page (\$25), 1/2 page (\$40) and full page (\$75). A photo may be included for any size larger than 1/8 page. Please make sure that the ad is spelled correctly and laid out just as you want it printed in the book. If the publishers are not sure of something or if it will fit correctly or not, they will make the final decision on the ad. One idea might be to create a Facebook group, first announcing that you are running for the pageant, and just letting everyone know that happy ads are available. That way, you can contact numerous friends/family members quickly and get the information out. We will need the ads and the ad money no later than the rehearsal date noted in the contestant schedule. Ads can also be ordered online at MissSparta.com/happy-ads. We also ask that contestants contact local businesses to sell happy ads to them. A proof will be available at one of the practices for you to view.



Sparta Butterfest Fan Favorite

During intermission of the pageant, Sparta Butterfest will hold a "Fan Favorite" competition. Audience members will be able to purchase votes for their favorite contestant for \$1 each and money raised will go to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Once the votes are tallied, we will award the Fan Favorite award a trophy. The winner will be announced at the reception. This is meant to be an award, not a title, and as such, the Fan Favorite award recipient, should they not be on royalty, will participate in the Butterfest Events only as a contestant, not as a member of the royalty.

Tickets and Books

Tickets and program books can be ordered in advance. Tickets for the pageant are \$10 for adults and \$6 for students/children. If your friends/family are also interested in attending the Little/Jr. Miss Sparta Pageant, they may save \$5 by purchasing a combo ticket for \$15. Books can be ordered at practices in advance of the pageant. Books ordered in advance are \$3, \$4 at the door.



Miss Sparta Pageant



Miss Sparta 2015 Alex Lira

1st Princess Christina Weaver

2nd Princess Emily Phillips

The Miss Sparta Pageant is an organization that exists to provide scholarships to young women and name a representative for Sparta and Butterfest, who will attend local events and be a positive role model within the community.

MissSparta.com • MissWisconsin.com

misssparta@live.com

SpartaButterfest.com

Preliminaries

Should any more than twelve contestants apply and submit contracts for the Miss Sparta Pageant, a preliminary competition will be held. Contestants will each prepare a two minute public presentation on a topic of their choosing to present to the judges. They will also partake in a 5-minute long interview with a panel of judges. The judges will then narrow the pool of contestants in half plus one (i.e. if we have 12 contestants, we would narrow to 7). These finalists will then go on to compete for the title of Miss Sparta. Should a finalist for some reason become unavailable to run, the next contestant will be allowed to run for the pageant. Following preliminaries each contestant will start fresh. We will have a new set of judges for the final pageant so that each contestant has an equal chance. If less than twelve contestants submit applications, there will be no preliminary competition and every contestant will compete in the pageant in all four categories of competition. The pageant reserves the right to open for more applications until we have reached 12 contestants.

Practices:

It is important that contestants attend all practices. This will be your chance to learn the opening number, get comfortable interviewing, run through your talents, and work on your speech. Work will not be considered an excuse for missing practice. Additionally, if contestants are employed, they may want to let their employer know they are running for Miss Sparta, as if chosen to be a part of the royalty, the contestant will have numerous commitments throughout the year. For practice, it is important that you wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and don't forget music/props for your talent and your speech. Be sure to bring your high heels also, as you will want to practice walking in them. Also, the practices are closed to anyone other than contestants and committee members. Parents, friends, coaches (whether they coach you in your talent area or not), etc. are not allowed to attend. Additionally, contestants will be asked to turn their cell phones on silent and have them put away during practice. Absolutely no cameras are allowed to be out at practice, with the only exception being a pageant committee member recording a contestant performing for that contestant to self-review. It is important that contestants are positive and paying attention to each other, as all contestants will spend a lot of time together, and those who are on the royalty will spend the entire year together.

Talents

Talents must be no longer than 90 seconds. They should be to a song that is appropriate for all audiences. Live accompaniment is not allowed. All talent songs must be provided to Bethany by the first practice. They can be emailed to MissSparta@live.com. Disney, Michael Jackson, The Beatles, as well as some other music will NOT be allowed.

The Application:

The Miss Sparta Pageant Application, Contract, and Agreement with the Miss Sparta Pageant are due on the date specified in your contestant schedule. The application must be completed online at MissSparta.com. Be sure that you are honest on your application. Also on the site, you will find helpful links for other documents and a link for your family and friends to print the happy ad order form and/or order ads online.

Outfits:

Prior to the final Saturday practice, you will need to have all of your outfits approved by the pageant committee. Please bring them to a practice so that we can see them ahead of time. Each contestant will need an interview suit of some sort for the interview, and public presentation. The interview outfit may be pants/skirt and top or a dress. For talent, outfits are up to the contestant, but try and have something that is appropriate and fitting to your talent. Also, be sure to find comfortable shoes for talent and practice in the entire outfit put together a few times. Many in the past have noticed problems with straps, pants too long, etc. by practicing in their outfits and it is much better if the problem can be solved prior to dress rehearsal. Outfits must be school appropriate and may not show midriffs. We ask that contestants who are dancing bring the proper shoes as well, as dancing barefoot on the stage, even at practice, will give contestants numerous splinters. For the evening gown competition, contestants will need to have a prom-style dress. Contestants will also need to have comfortable shoes, as walking on a stage can make you very nervous, and you will at least want to have comfortable feet. These shoes should also be brought to every practice so that you get used to walking in them. For opening number, the outfit varies each year based on the theme. In addition to all of the outfits, it is important that contestants be sure that they bring appropriate undergarments for each outfit. Bra straps should be hidden. **If you're looking for a new dress, please consider supporting Charlotte's Bridal in La Crosse as they are one of our pageant sponsors.**

Prep Week:

Prep week will take place the week leading up to the pageant. Each evening, you will have the chance to interview with a different set of practice judges, as well as run through your speech, talent, modeling, and opening number. This week will go much easier for you if you have your speech and talent ready to go by the second practice, as indicated in the Contestant Schedule.

Dress Rehearsal:

The evening of dress rehearsal will likely be a late night. We will run through the pageant EXACTLY as it will go on Saturday, which means running through the entire script. You will need to have all of your clothes with you for this practice so that we can be sure that everything will run smoothly. Following Dress Rehearsal, we will have a pizza party at the school. This will likely be a late evening.

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Social Networking:

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other social networking sites can be very useful throughout the process of competing for Miss Sparta. You can share photos with friends, invite people to the pageant, or even make a group so that your friends and family know about happy ads. While all of these are great ways to use these sites, you also need to be sure that what you have posted on these sites is appropriate. As a contestant, it is important that you maintain a status as a positive role model in the community. A large part of this relates to what you have posted on your Facebook/Instagram/Twitter, or other social networking sites. Please be sure that all pictures are appropriate and just keep that idea in mind when posting comments/statuses etc. We encourage you to use these sites for communication and the creation of a positive image within the Sparta community.

The Day of the Pageant:

The entire pageant day you will need to have a committee chaperone with you if you are outside of the choir room. No family and/or friends may visit you prior to or during the pageant. You will need to arrive sometime before 2pm (we will give you a specific time when we know how many contestants will be running) to dress and prepare for your interview. We will take the group to the interview area (usually the High School LMC) and everyone will wait together. After each person's interview, a committee member will walk that contestant back to the backstage area (the Choir Room) to wait for dinner. After everyone has finished interviewing, the committee members will provide a dinner for all contestants. Following dinner, we will prepare for opening number. After opening number, you will change back into your interview suit and prepare to give your public presentation (NOTE: Depending on number of contestants, the committee may choose to have you present your speech prior to interview.) Following public presentation, preparation for talent will take place. After competing in talent, everyone will change into their evening gowns and get ready for the evening gown/question competition. After this competition, you will likely be serenaded on stage, and then line up for the announcement of the new Miss Sparta Royalty. Following the pageant will be a reception and a grand march to celebrate. All finalists and contestants are expected to be there and you will have a great time! NOTE: There will not be a hairstylist backstage. As is the case at the state competition, all contestants will have to do their own hair and/or arrive with their hair done.

Butterfest Weekend:

Over Butterfest weekend, the entire group of finalists will participate in a variety of events. At these events you will have to have a committee chaperone with you at all times. On Wednesday, the group will have a meet and greet with the community at Evans Bossard Park for our fundraiser dinner. More info will be posted in the online Facebook group. On Friday, it is tradition that the group be on the fest grounds for a variety of events. On Saturday, we generally start out a busy day with breakfast, followed by the quilt show, and the cow-milking contest. At some point during the weekend, there will be a time for some rides, which the pageant will provide a few tickets for. On Sunday, all finalists and new royalty will attend the Queen's Tea in the morning, and be in the parade in the afternoon.

Pageant awards and information are subject to change. Attend all practices and stay in communication with the director and committee.

Judging Criteria:

Private Interview (35%) Public Presentation (15%)
Talent (35%) Evening Gown/Question (15%)



Questions? Concerns?

Contact misssparta@live.com

Bethany • 608.487.2563

Vicki • 608.487.1563