

**Orientation Guide
for the
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**



**Adrian L. Wallace
General President**

**Ronald L. Anderson
Executive Director**

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National Coordinator**

PAGEANT HISTORY

The Miss Black and Gold Pageant, under the sponsorship of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., is an outgrowth of the long tradition of Alpha Chapters designation outstanding young ladies to serve as "Chapter Sweethearts." The Fraternity recognizes the valuable support rendered to it by the many friends of Alpha Phi Alpha - and this endeavor serves as one mechanism to applaud such support.

For some time, several of the Fraternity's five geographical regions have sponsored Miss Black and Gold Pageants as a part of their conventions. Since the early 1970's, there has been increasing support of these pageants on a national scale.

The first national Miss Black and Gold Pageant was held during Alpha's 1976 General Convention in New York City. Miss Denise Smith, representing Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia, was awarded the first crown.

The Pageant was defer-red following the first event and reinstated during the Fraternity's 1982 General Convention in Los Angeles, California.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Trophies are awarded to eligible contestants in the following categories.

Miss Black and Gold Pageant	Winner
Miss Black and Gold Pageant	1 st Runner Up
Miss Black and Gold Pageant	2 nd Runner Up
Miss Black and Gold Pageant	Miss Congeniality
Miss Black and Gold Pageant	Miss Talent

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

To enter an Official Miss Black and Gold Pageant, the contestant must meet certain basic requirements and agree to abide by all rules of the Local, District, Regional and National Miss Black and Gold Pageants now in effect or as announced hereafter:

- Entrant agrees that the time, manner and method of judging shall be solely at the discretion of the Miss Black and Gold Pageant Committee and that the decision of the judges will be final.
- Entrant agrees that if selected as the winner of this pageant, she will not sign a management contract with any individual or corporation, and that she will not give any written or verbal endorsement of any mercantile commodity or commercial organization, nor will she permit any photographs to be used in connection with any advertised commodity or service not associated with this contest, without the permission of the Miss Black and Gold Pageant, coordinator and his committee.
- Contestant must be single and never married, or had her marriage annulled and must not be and never have been pregnant.
- Contestant must be a high school graduate.
- Contestant must be a female whose age shall not be less than seventeen, nor more than twenty-five years.
- Contestant must be of good moral character and shall not be convicted of any crimes and shall possess talent, poise, personality, intelligence, charm and beauty of face and figure.
- Contestant must possess and display talent in not more than a three-minute talent routine, in which the routine must be presented live and not by way of motion picture film. This requirement does not apply to vocal or instrumental recording used in conjunction with live presentation. This talent may be singing, dancing, dress designing, etc. or she may give a maximum three-minute talk.
- Contestant may be either amateur or professional.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Official Applicant's Agreement
Miss Black and Gold Pageant

I, _____ hereby apply as a contestant in the Miss Black and Gold Pageant of _____

Social Security No: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Address (current) _____

Phone _____

I CERTIFY to the Miss Black and Gold Pageant that I am enrolled in a college/university. I am between the age 18 and 25, or I will become 18 prior to the National Miss Black and Gold Pageant finals of this year, and my age will not exceed 25 years prior to the Miss Black and Gold Pageant.

I CERTIFY that I am single, have never been married, had a marriage annulled, been divorced, or conceived a child

I CERTIFY that I am of good character and am in good health.

I UNDERSTAND that if I am elected "Miss Black and Gold," the title belongs to the Miss Black and Gold Pageant/Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and I am only holding the title until the next Miss Black and Gold winner is elected. I understand that during the year of my reign, if I am elected Miss Black and Gold, that I cannot endorse, make appearances, advertise, or take photographs with or for any products, institutions, organizations, or persons, on behalf of the Miss Black and Gold Pageant without written permission from the Miss Black and Gold Pageant Sponsor/Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

I HEREBY give permission to the Miss Black and Gold Pageant committee to use my photograph(s), voice, and service gratis in connection with the Pageant including any subsequent recorded or timed excerpts of the Pageant for public relations purposes.

I HEREBY release the Miss Black and Gold Pageant/Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. from any and all claims for damages or injuries which may be sustained while participating in any activity of the Pageant or during any reign as the Miss Black and Gold winner.

I AGREE that any conduct on my part at anytime, which in the eyes of the Miss Black and Gold Pageant Sponsor/Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., will discredit the good image of the Pageant or Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., shall result in my immediate dismissal from all Pageant activities, and forfeiture of all rights, titles, and privileges connected thereto.

I UNDERSTAND that when I affix my signature to the foot of this Official Applicant's Agreement, or if I am under 21, and my parent or legal guardian affixes his or her signature to the foot of this agreement, I am committed to abide by all the rules and regulations of the Miss Black and Gold Pageant-Contestants Rules and Guidelines.

I CERTIFY that I have read, understand and meet the requirements of all the above stipulations and have made all the statements in this Official Applicant's Agreement.

My parent or legal guardian, and I (if applicable), have indicated my (our) understanding of the foregoing by affixing my (our) signature (s) in the place indicated below.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parents or Legal Guardian's Signature _____

(required if applicant is under 21)

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**

Talent and Biographical Sheet

Contestant's Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Home Address _____

College/University _____

College Address _____

Day Telephone No. () _____ Evening () _____

Person to call in case of emergency _____

Relationship to you _____ Phone () _____

VITAL STATISTICS:

Height _____ Weight _____ Eyes _____ Hair _____

Do you have any serious diseases or illness? If so, please explain:

Type of Degree _____

Anticipated date of graduation _____ Major/Minor _____

List special training/talent you possess

Philosophy of Life

Interesting facts about yourself for publicity

What is your ambition and why?

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant
General Information

NAME: _____

REGION: _____

DISTRICT: _____

CHAPTER: _____

Any additional information that would be of interest to the MC or Judges:

TALENT COMPETITION

Type of talent you will perform (please list your talent in detail, i.e., title, author, publisher).

(If you are using music, your music must be edited on a cassette tape.)

PROPS

Describe your props (you must provide).

Additional Information

MISS BLACK AND GOLD PAGEANT JUDGING AND SCORING RULES

SCORING

The maximum score attainable by a contestant is 135. Competition and scoring by all pageants (i.e. College, District and Region) shall be as indicated in the following categories:

- I. **JUDGES INTERVIEW (25 points max.)**
In a 10-minute interview with each contestant, a panel of judges will look for perception, a sense of values, clarity of expression and concern and ability in human relations. Attire: Dress
- II. **ACHIEVEMENTS & PROJECTION (10 points max.)**
Before an audience, contestants will give their name, age, college/university, highest level of Alpha Phi Alpha they are representing (Chapter, District, Region), outline their achievements in school, social, civic, or community activities, plans for future and philosophy of life while projecting a good public speaking ability. The time limit for this event is one and one-half minutes (90 seconds).
- III. **SWIM WEAR (10 points max.)**
Form, figure, posture and carriage are considered in an overall evaluation of health and physical well being. Attire: One-piece swimsuit in good taste.
- IV. **CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS (30 points max.)**
Scoring is based on originality, technical ability, appropriateness of selection and costume, and stage presence during vocal, instrumental, dramatic, acrobatic or gymnastic, or dance performance and cannot exceed three (3) minutes. Instrumentalists, other than a pianist must provide their own instruments and any labor changes connected with transporting such instruments. Contestants are responsible for providing talent props and any other equipment necessary for their performance. Attire: Performing talent attire should be the attire the contestant feels comfortable in and should be in good taste.
- V. **ORAL EXPRESSION, POISE AND APPEARANCE (30 points max.)**
This area of the competition usually involves having the contestant respond to a question on current events, issues of national concern, etc. Each is asked the same question. Scoring in this category is based on the contestant's grooming/appearance, grace, poise, posture and carriage along with coordination and composure. Also considered, is the contestant's ability to articulate, her wit, intelligence, imagination, and her ability to think on her feet. Further, her ability to speak with eloquence and magnetism when answering questions are strongly considered. This is a thirty (30) second time limit event. Attire: Evening gown. No gloves of any kind. No heels should exceed 3 inches and the toes are to be closed.
- VI. **SCHOLARSHIP (30 points max.)**
The contestant's academic achievements will also be scored. The contestant should provide a college/university certified declaration of GPA for the previous semester, as well as cumulative GPA to date.

JUDGES INTERVIEW (*max 25 pts, 10 min time limit*)

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Clarity of Expression | 1-5pts |
| 2. Perception | 1-5pts |
| 3. Sense of Values | 1-5pts |
| 4. Concern and Ability in Human Relations | 1-5pts |
| 5. Poise and Confidence | 1-5pts |

SCHOLARSHIP/ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Semester GPA (max. 13pts) | | | |
| 2.00-2.25 | = 2 pts. | 3.01-3.25 | = 10 pts. |
| 2.26-2.50 | = 3 pts. | 3.26-3.50 | = 11 pts. |
| 2.51-2.75 | = 6 pts. | 3.51-3.75 | = 12 pts. |
| 2.76-3.00 | = 9 pts. | 3.76-4.00 | = 13 pts. |
| 2. Overall GPA (max. 17pts) | | | |
| 2.00-2.50 | = 8 pts. | 3.00-3.50 | = 14 pts. |
| 2.51-2.99 | = 10 pts. | 3.51-4.00 | = 17 pts. |

INTRODUCTION/ACHIEVEMENTS & PROJECTION (*max 10 pts, 90 sec time limit*)

- | | |
|---------------------|--------|
| 1. Speaking ability | 1-4pts |
| 2. Projection | 1-3pts |
| 3. Enunciation | 1-3pts |

SWIM WEAR (*maximum 10 points*)

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Self-Confidence | 1-3pts |
| 2. Swim Wear Complementing figure with heels | 1-3pts |
| 3. Poise | 1-4pts |
| 4. Loss of points for overexposure | -1 to -3pts |

CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS (*maximum 30 points, 3 minute time limit*)

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Originality | 5-10pts |
| 2. Performance | 5-10pts |
| 3. Judge's impression | 1-5pts |
| 4. Appropriateness of costume for talent | 1-5pts |

ORAL EXPRESSION, POISE AND APPEARANCE (*max 30 pts, 30 sec time limit*)

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Correctness of answer | 5-10pts |
| 2. Self-confidence | 1-5pts |
| 3. Clarity of speech | 1-5pts |
| 4. Dress: evening dress worn with formal shoes/no gloves | 5-10pts |

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**

Judging Form

JUDGES' INTERVIEW (maximum 25 points, 10 minute time limit)

Contestant No. _____

Judge's Name (print) _____

Judge's Signature _____
 Judge's Company/
 Chapter Affiliation _____

PLEASE RATE THE CONTESTANTS ON THE FOLLOWING

Category	Low	High	Score
Clarity of Expression	1	5	
Perception	1	5	
Sense of Values	1	5	
Concern and Ability in Human Relations	1	5	
Poise and Confidence	1	5	
		Total	

Score Verified By _____
signature

Chairman-Miss Black
& Gold Pageant _____
signature

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**

Judging Form

SCHOLARSHIP/ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (maximum 30 points)

Contestant No. _____

Judge's Name (print) _____

Judge's Signature _____

Judge's Company/ _____

Chapter Affiliation _____

PLEASE RATE THE CONTESTANTS ON THE FOLLOWING

Category	Range	Points	Score
Semester GPA (13pts max)	2.00-2.25	2pts	
	2.26-2.50	3pts	
	2.51-2.75	6pts	
	2.76-3.00	9pts	
	3.01-3.25	10pts	
	3.26-3.50	11pts	
	3.51-3.75	12pts	
	3.76-4.00	13pts	
Cumulative GPA (17pts max)	2.00-2.25	8pts	
	2.51-2.99	10pts	
	3.00-3.50	14pts	
	3.51-4.00	17pts	
		Total	

Score Verified By _____
signature

Chairman-Miss Black & Gold Pageant _____
signature

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**

Judging Form

INTRODUCTION/ACHIEVEMENTS & PROJECTION
(maximum 10 points, 90 second time limit)

Contestant No. _____

Judge's Name (print) _____

Judge's Signature _____

Judge's Company/ _____

Chapter Affiliation _____

PLEASE RATE THE CONTESTANTS ON THE FOLLOWING

Category	Low	High	Score
Speaking ability	1	4	
Projection	1	3	
Enunciation	1	3	
		Total	

Score Verified By _____
signature

Chairman-Miss Black
& Gold Pageant _____
signature

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**

Judging Form

SWIM WEAR (maximum 10 points)

Contestant No. _____

Judge's Name (print) _____

Judge's Signature _____
 Judge's Company/
 Chapter Affiliation _____

PLEASE RATE THE CONTESTANTS ON THE FOLLOWING

Category	Low	High	Score
Self-confidence (max 3pts)	1	3	
Swim wear - Complimenting figure with heels (max 3pts)	1	3	
Poise	1	4	
		Sub-Total	
Loss of points for over exposure	-1	-3	
		Total	

Score Verified By _____
signature

Chairman-Miss Black
& Gold Pageant _____
signature

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**

Judging Form

CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS (maximum 30 points, 3 minute time limit)

Contestant No. _____

Judge's Name (print) _____

Judge's Signature _____
 Judge's Company/ _____
 Chapter Affiliation _____

PLEASE RATE THE CONTESTANTS ON THE FOLLOWING

Category	Low	High	Score
Originality (min 5pts - max 10pts)	5	10	
Performance (min 5pts - max 10pts)	5	10	
Judge's impression (min 1pt - max 5pts)	1	5	
Appropriateness of Costume for Talent (min 1pt - max 5pts)	1	5	
		Total	

Score Verified By _____
signature

Chairman-Miss Black
& Gold Pageant _____
signature

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant

Judging Form

ORAL EXPRESSION, POISE AND APPEARANCE
 (maximum 30 points, 30 second time limit)

Contestant No. _____

Judge's Name (print) _____

Judge's Signature _____

Judge's Company/ _____

Chapter Affiliation _____

PLEASE RATE THE CONTESTANTS ON THE FOLLOWING

Category	Low	High	Score
Correctness of answer (min 5pts - max 10pts)	5	10	
Self-confidence (min 1pt - max 5pts)	1	5	
Clarity of speech (min 1pt - max 5pts)	1	5	
Dress: evening dress worn with formal shoes/no glove (min 5pts - max 10pts)	5	10	
		Total	

Score Verified By _____
signature

Chairman-Miss Black & Gold Pageant _____
signature

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.®
Miss Black and Gold Pageant**

Judging Form

CONTESTANT'S TOTAL SCORE
(maximum 135 points)

Contestant No. _____

Scorekeeper (print) _____

Scorekeeper Signature _____

PLEASE RATE THE CONTESTANTS ON THE FOLLOWING

Category	Score
Judges Interview	
Scholarship/Academic Achievement	
Introduction/Achievements & Projection	
Swim Wear	
Creative & Performing Arts	
Oral Expression, Poise, & Appearance	
Total	
Rank (1,2,3,4)	

Chairman-Miss Black
& Gold Pageant

_____ signature

RECOMMENDATIONS AND INFORMATION FOR JUDGES

We are proud to welcome you among the distinguished persons who have offered their generous services to the Miss Black and Gold Pageant.

In order that you might make the most unbiased and impartial decision, we have included some guidelines that should be beneficial in your judgment of the contestants. We are confident that you will help to ensure the ultimate degree of excellence is achieved in the judging of the Pageant.

COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER JUDGES

During competition and scoring, it is recommended that judges refrain from talking to, or otherwise communicating with other judges on the panel. There should be no discussing of the contestants with anyone prior to the final selection of the winner.

SECRECY DURING COMPETITIONS AND IN BETWEEN SEGMENTS OF THE PAGEANT

Judges should not discuss or reveal how they have judged or scored any contestant in the competition.

REACTION TO AUDIENCE

Judges should maintain an objective attitude toward the audience's reaction to the contestant's performance. Many contestants bring a contingent of support with them to a pageant and it is hoped that this reaction will not influence a judge's decision.

EMOTIONAL REACTION TO CONTESTANT'S PERFORMANCE

It is required that judges refrain from using meaningful or physical expression in reacting to a contestant's performance. Judges should not applaud louder for one contestant than for another. Judges should refrain from any emotional response to a contestant so as not to influence the decision of other judges.

FAMILIARITY WITH CONTESTANT

A judge shall not be a friend, acquaintance, relative, associate, or in any way be familiar with any contestant or member of any contestant's family. In the event the aforementioned should happen to be true, it is expressly required that said judge disqualify himself/herself from the panel of judges.

DISTRICT/REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. **Accommodations:** Miss Black & Gold district contestants will need a room for two nights (Friday and Saturday). The District Organization will provide accommodations for its contestant. The reigning Regional Miss Black & Gold will also receive a room for two nights (Friday and Saturday). The Regional Organization will provide accommodations for the queen.
- II. **Expense Allowance:** There will be a \$50.00 entry fee for each contestant. The District Organization will provide this fee for its contestant. The District will also be responsible for transportation costs for its candidate. The District Organization may provide for other expenses as appropriate. The reigning queen's registration fees and travel will be provided by the Regional Organization. The Regional Organization may provide for other expenses as appropriate.
- III. **Gifts:** Any gift that is provided such as the tiara, sash and scepter belongs to the recipient and is hers to keep.
- IV. **Pageant Rules:** Separate enclosure
- V. **Release Statement:** To be completed by each contestant.
- VI. **Scholarship(s):** The winner will receive her award in two payments. Half at the end of the convention (\$500) and half towards her expenses to the national convention (\$500).
- VII. **Reserved seating:** Seats are reserved for members of the Board of Directors and parents of contestants if they are in attendance.
- VIII. **Transportation:** Travel to the Regional Convention for the pageant is the District's responsibility. Contestants should arrive the evening before the pageant and be prepared to attend all scheduled rehearsals and events included in their registration fees. Specific details will be communicated to the contestants by the Regional Pageant Coordinator.