



# Miss Woods Pageant Instructions Labor Day 2024

The winner of this pageant reigns from Labor Day, 2024 to Labor Day, 2025 as **Miss Woods 2025**

The Miss Woods Pageant will be held on **Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at 9pm**. It is requested that all contestants be at the Amphitheater at NO LATER THAN 7pm. Contestants may not bring their things to the dressing rooms until the space is completely prepared. We will inform contestants of the earliest possible time that they can bring their things by text message.

There is a mandatory meeting of all contestants on Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the amphitheater. At this meeting, you will get the order of appearance for each performer.

**The online application must be submitted by Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.**  
**You can access the application with this link:**

**[Miss Woods Pageant Application](#)**

Your electronic files containing your talent music must be submitted by Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Music files must be submitted through the online submission form. You can find that here:

**[TALENT MUSIC SUBMISSION FORM](#)**

At 7pm on Friday (at the meet and greet), we will go over the specifics of the contest, and performance order will be determined. If there are any questions, you may ask them at that time.

On Saturday, at 7pm, you should bring all the wardrobe and cosmetic items you will need with you - the night will move quickly, and there will not be time to retrieve items from your campsite. You may also bring ONE assistant to help with your wardrobe changes. There is not room for guests or multiple friends to hang out with you backstage.

Good luck to all! BE FABULOUS!!

Scott Paules (in spirit) & Don Dyson - Pageant Co-producers

# Miss Woods Pageant Release Statement

I, \_\_\_\_\_(First/Last), hereby release The Woods Campground and the Pageant Coordinators from any legal responsibility for injury that may occur to myself or any of my pageant group during the 2024 Miss Woods Pageant. I also certify that I am over the age of 21 (legal age to drink and enter a bar in Pennsylvania).

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sign)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Cell #

Email

# Miss Woods Pageant 2024

## **About the Miss Woods Pageant:**

The Miss Woods Pageant is a special celebration of pride within The Woods Campground community. It gives our community an opportunity to celebrate the spirit of love and inclusiveness here at The Woods. It also allows us to find a queen who will represent that sense of connection for the upcoming year as an active and visible member of the camp community.

As part of our commitment to that spirit of love and acceptance, we welcome people of all genders and expressions to run for the title of Miss Woods. While the pageant is femme identified and crowns Miss Woods a Queen, we embrace any camper who wants to join in the experience to compete.

The spirit of Miss Woods is to represent and promote the Campground with the dignity and pride we share as a camp community. Only those who will participate and represent The Woods in community events and campground activities should enter the competition.

Please be aware that this competition IS NOT PART OF THE MISS PENNSYLVANIA PAGEANT CIRCUIT, and The Woods will not sponsor your entry in other competitions.

## **Terms and Obligations:**

### **Winner will receive:**

- The Queen
  - The Crown & Flowers
  - A cash prize from the Queen's Fund
  - The Woods Campground generously supports the Miss Woods Pageant by providing:
    - 2025 Woods Membership
    - \$500 Gift Card – This is enough money to cover the camping fees for the weekends that Miss Woods is expected to be present at camp (see obligations) if she is not a Perm camper. The Queen is welcome to use the card at her discretion.
  - The Miss Woods sash which will be passed to each successive Queen
- First Alternate
  - 2025 Woods Membership
  - Cash Prize from the Queen's Fund
- Fan Favorite
  - A stunning drag jewelry set
- Miss Congeniality
  - A fantastic prize

## **Miss Woods' Obligations:**

(Set forth by The Woods Campground and Pageant Coordinators)

- **Ambassador Obligations**

Miss Woods is expected to serve as an ambassador for the campground during her reign. This includes speaking positively about The Woods and the community here at camp in all of her appearances in and outside of the campground. She is encouraged to wear her crown and/or sash as often as her schedule and performances allow.

- **Charity Obligations**

The Miss Woods Pageant has a relationship with the Philadelphia AIDS Fund. As part of this relationship, Miss Woods has the following obligations:

- One Fundraiser for The Philadelphia AIDS Fund. This fundraiser can be held any weekend at camp in coordination with the camp management and the pageant co-producers. The goal is to practice fundraising for a charity organization. The fundraiser should be a raffle or other easy-to-organize and run event. A liquor-basket raffle is an easy and almost always successful option. If you would like ideas or suggestions, please feel free to ask. Our goal as producers is to see you be successful in your efforts.
- Assist with the organization and planning of the 12 Drags of Christmas show that happens every year during Christmas in July Weekend. The goal here is to gain experience working within the camp drag community to promote collaboration and event planning skills. The Executive Director of the Philly AIDS Fund has overall oversight of the event. They will appoint a 12 Drags Showrunner who will produce the show. Your job as the reigning Queen will be to work collaboratively with the Showrunner to assist her with the preparation, planning and execution of the show.

- **Other Obligations**

- Attend and perform at the Woods Offseason Tour 2022/2023 events (2 events, venues TBD)
- Attend MOST of the major Woods weekend events, including Memorial Day party, 4th of July Show, 12 Drags of Christmas, Labor Day Show (immediately following Pageant). As Miss Woods, you are always welcome to perform!!!
- Coordinate the Queens' Fund Bake Sale. This is usually held on the Saturday of 4<sup>th</sup> of July Weekend, and can be moved if requested before January of your title year.
- Be an active member of The Woods! Even if you aren't performing on a given weekend, you should try to make it to The Woods on non-major weekends throughout the year. Show your camp pride!!
- Support the pageant for Miss Woods 2025. This will be YOUR step-down performance... make it a number to remember!!!!
- Grow the Queen's Fund through your reign. The Queen's Fund is the only resource for the Miss Woods Pageant. It is used for supplies for the pageant itself and the prizes for winners. Queens usually do this through various fundraising events during the season.
- Select the "Queen's Choice" for the 2025 Pageant.

# Miss Woods Pageant Signature Page

By signing below, I hereby agree to the terms and conditions stated above. If I am crowned Miss Woods 2025, I will fulfill the obligations set forth by The Woods Campground and Pageant Coordinators. If I fail to do so, I WILL relinquish the crown to the First Alternate, and will repay the monetary prize to the Pageant Coordinators.

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(Print)

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(Sign)

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(Date)

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(Drag Name)

# Miss Woods Pageant Categories

## **“Queen’s Choice”**

### ***Heroes Live Forever!***

Hey, My Dears~

Whether you read about heroes in fantasy books or see them on TV... heroes live among us every day. If you could dress up as a superhero, what is your power? Funny, serious, realistic or fantasy... we are all heroes in our own right. Show us your creative take on a superhero! What will your power be... be a superhero and live forever in history!

With lots of love,

Katrina Escalarza

You will be judged on:

- Style (10 pts.)
  - Look
  - Overall Execution
- Creativity (10 pts.)
  - Uniqueness
  - Match to Theme

## **“Talent”**

This category showcases you as a performer. You will have up to three and a half minutes to perform your talent. (Longer numbers will be cut off by the DJ.)

You will be judged on the QUALITY of the entertainment package you present. Does the talent you present entertain the judges and audience? Did you evoke emotion? Was the choreography suited to the number and to YOU? If you lip-sync, was it clean? If you sing live, did you seem comfortable and project stage presence? Did your costume work well for your chosen performance?

You will be judged on:

- Entertainment (10 pts.)
  - Audience Appeal
  - Emotion
- Quality (10 pts.)
  - Choreography
  - Lip Sync/Voice Quality
  - Stage Presence
- Creativity (10 pts.)
  - Concept
  - Costuming

- Cohesiveness

## **“Evening Gown & Question”**

### ***Bag of Tricks!***

Remember... this is the most elegant part of the competition!

Serve us an incredible evening gown look that highlights your drag aesthetic... and then an outrageous purse or bag with its own comedic spin! That’s right – we want you to gag us with a look and a bag with a gag!!!

Our longtime producer Scott Paules’ favorite drag performances were the ones that made him laugh. In his honor, this year’s evening gown category challenges you to serve glamor with a comedy twist.

This is your chance to share your sense of glamor AND your sense of humor with the campground! Let your own quirky humor shine, and turn out an amazing evening gown look that will leave the judges and the audience gagged and giggling!

You will be judged on the following:

- Style
  - Concept
  - Fit
  - Appropriateness to theme
- Modeling
  - Movement
  - Walk
  - Presence
- Cohesion
  - Overall Look
  - Hair
  - Accessories
  - Shoes

A question will also be asked of each contestant, chosen by the producers. This part of the category will show how well you think on your feet, and how you can handle being on a microphone under pressure.

You will be judged on:

- Presence (10 pts.)
  - Overall Answer
  - Comfort on Stage
- Creativity (10 pts.)
  - Cohesiveness
  - Spontaneity

**Remember to answer the question!!**



# Pageant Judging

## Judges Panel:

Each year, the producers select judges from the following categories:

- Campground Ownership
  - Since it began, the Miss Woods Pageant has received incredible support from the campground ownership. We are so grateful for that generosity, and we work hard to ensure that campground ownership is represented on the panel.
- Campground Staff
  - There are so many people who make our world here at The Woods Campground a magical place. They are the folks who, often after a full week of work outside of the campground, work hard all week and weekend to make our lives easier. We want to honor that effort by working to ensure that their perspective on our culture is a part of the pageant's judging.
- Former Queens
  - We have such a depth of talent in our own royal family! Our history is what built the foundation of the pageant and the campground. As a result, a former Miss Woods will be asked to sit on the judges' panel each year. The producers will work through previous title-holders, from earliest to most recent, to make sure that our royal history is part of our future.
- Regional Drag Talent
  - There are so many amazing queens in the region who have incredible talent; have demonstrated their appreciation of the art of drag; and know and love the campground, its humor and its culture. As a result, we work hard to ensure that representation from our regional sisters is included in the panel.
- The Woods Campground Leather Community
  - One of the great things about The Woods is how much connection there is between our leather and drag communities. To honor this long tradition, we work to ensure that there is representation from The Woods Campground Leather Community on our panel (often a current leather titleholder or leader in the leather community).

## Pageant Scoring:

The Miss Woods Pageant has for many years, and will continue to use an Olympic-style scoring system. This system uses the following rules:

- For each contestant, the highest score for each category is eliminated.
  - This helps to balance any perception of favoritism on the panel.
- For each contestant, the lowest score for each category is eliminated.
  - This helps to balance any perception of negativity on the panel.
- The remaining scores are averaged to give each contestant their overall score for that category.
- Overall category scores are then summed to give each contestant their overall score.
- Neither the other judges, nor the producers have access to these scores until all judges' sheets have been submitted, recorded and tallied.
- Contestant may view their own scores for the pageant by contacting the producers after the event. Contestant will not have access to other contestants' scores.