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Prairie View A&M University*

UA0088

The Miss Prairie View Scholarship Pageant Collection

Created by Sabrina Francis and Evelyn Davis, July 2024

The Miss Prairie View Scholarship Pageant

Collection Finding aid

Collection Overview

Creator: Office of Student Affairs

Title: The Miss Prairie View Scholarship Pageant Collection

Dates: 1952-2022

Bulk Dates: 1970-2004

Quantity: 3.50 Linear Feet (5 boxes)

Abstract: The Miss Prairie View Scholarship Pageant contains publications from the academic program featuring various Campus Queens of Prairie View and including publications from the Miss Texas Teen Pageant.

Identification: UA0088

Use Restrictions: Written permission must be obtained from the Special Collections/ Archives Department and all relevant rights holders before publishing quotations, excerpts, or images from any materials in this collection.

Language: The materials are in English.

Repository: Prairie View A&M University

Biographical Note:

Prairie View was one of these select number of Texas colleges in which the traditional Campus Queen has opportunity to become “Miss Texas” and ultimately Miss America. Contestants for “Miss Prairie View” compete in the Preliminary Pageant held at Prairie View in April each year. The winner then enters the competition for the title of “Miss Texas”, held in Fort Worth, Texas, during July of each year. If “Miss Prairie View” wins in the “Miss Texas” pageant, she is then eligible to represent the state of Texas in the “Miss America Pageant”, held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, during the month of September each year. Success in the Miss America pageant gives Miss Prairie View the opportunity to represent the United States as its queen.

To enter the preliminary pageant at Prairie View, each contestant must meet the following requirements:

1. Each contestant must be female, single, and never have been married.
2. She must be a junior or senior student in good standing with the college with a 2.5 grade point average or better.

3. Her age as a timber one, the year elected, shall not be less than 18 or no more than 28 years old.
4. She must be of good character and possess poise, personality, intelligence, charm, and beauty of face and figure.
5. She must possess and display talent in a performance of no more than two minutes 50 seconds, counting introduction time. This talent may be singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument, dramatic reading, art display, dress Designing, etcetera, or she may give a maximum 2 minute 52nd talk including introduction on the career she wishes to pursue.
6. She may be either amateur or professional.
7. She may be sponsored by clubs, organizations, individuals, or businesses.

In addition, the First Annual Miss Prairie View Pageant Publication started on June 17, 1970, and sponsored in cooperation with the Miss Texas and Miss America Pageants. Before 1970, “Miss Prairie View” had an unofficial pageant for the contestants, but still held a position among the student population and academic affairs. In 1952 was the 12th coronation of Miss Prairie View according to a document in the collection entitled, “The Coronation of 1952”. The earliest origins surrounding “Miss Prairie View” started in the 1940s.

Mr. Prairie View Pageant History

The Mr. Prairie View Pageant started in 1987 and was held on the 28th day of April in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom. The purpose of this contest was to honor those men whose footprints stepped in the direction of success, leadership, and excellence; Men of great Calibra whom possess such qualities and leadership characteristics that made them worthy enough to be “Lord over Pantherland” and hold such a prestigious title as “Mr. Prairie View and the University”. According to President Juluis Becton (1991) “The Mr. Prairie View A&M pageant is fast becoming a treasure tradition of the university that afforded young men an opportunity to develop personally and professionally.” The collection only has a few publications from this program.

Miss Texas (Teen) Pageant History

The Miss Texas competition was founded in 1937 as a scholarship contest for young women. The winner represents Texas in the Miss America pageant.

Another pageant mentioned in the collection is “The Miss Texas High Contest”. The Miss Texas High Contest is a project of the Student Press Club at Prairie View A&M College. The purpose of the contest is to give appropriate attention to the many attractive and talented girls in Texas Negro High Schools—to encourage and the development of poise, personality and talent among students—and to promote aesthetic appreciation and cultural growth.

Sources:

About Miss Texas. (n.d.). The Miss Texas Scholarship Organization, Inc. Received July 22, 2024, from <https://www.misstexas.org/>

Mr. Prairie View A&M University Scholarship Pageant. (1991). Prairie View A&M University.

Student Press Club. (1964). Annual Pageant. Prairie View A&M College of Texas.

Scope and Contents Note: The collection is arranged in three series of Miss Prairie View Scholarship Pageant, Mr. Prairie View, and Miss Texas Pageant Papers by publications, artifacts, and correspondence by each program.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

The Miss Prairie View Scholarship Pageant and Miss Texas Pageant Collection, UA0088, Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University.

Related Material: None.

Index Terms

Prairie View Normal and Industrial College (Prairie View, TX)
Prairie View (TX).

Inventory

Box #	Folder #	Title/Description	Date	Location
	Series 1: The Miss Prairie View Scholarship Pageant Papers, 1952-1983			
1	1	Pageant program	1970	R2/C4/R3
1	2	Pageant program	1971	R2/C4/R3
1	3	Pageant program	1972	R2/C4/R3
1	4	Pageant program	1973	R2/C4/R3
1	5	Pageant program	1974	R2/C4/R3
1	6	Administrative Files: Interview questions and more	1974	R2/C4/R3
1	7	Pageant program and correspondence	1975	R2/C4/R3
1	8	Pageant program	1976	R2/C4/R3
1	9	Pageant program	1977	R2/C4/R3
1	10	Pageant program & Financial Records	1978	R2/C4/R3
1	11	Pageant program	1979	R2/C4/R3
1	12	Miscellaneous Files	1952-1977	R2/C4/R3
1	13	Miscellaneous Files	1978-1986	R2/C4/R3
2	1	Pageant program	1980	R2/C4/R3

2	2	Pageant Correspondence	1980	R2/C4/R3
2	3	Pageant Contestants	1980	R2/C4/R3
2	4	Committee correspondence	1980-1981	R2/C4/R3
2	5	Pageant notecards and program	1981	R2/C4/R3
2	6	Correspondence & Contestants	1981	R2/C4/R3
2	7	Pageant program	1982	R2/C4/R3
2	8	Correspondence & Contestants	1982	R2/C4/R3
2	9	Miscellaneous items	1983	R2/C4/R3
2	10	Pageant notecards	1983	R2/C4/R3
2	11	Pageant program	1984	R2/C4/R3
2	12	Pageant program	1985	R2/C4/R3
2	13	Pageant program	1986	R2/C4/R3
2	14	Pageant program	1988	R2/C4/R3
2	15	Pageant program	1989	R2/C4/R3
3	1	Pageant programs	1990-1991	R2/C4/R3
3	2	Pageant programs	1991-1999	R2/C4/R3
3	3	Pageant programs	2003	R2/C4/R3
3	4	Pageant programs	2004	R2/C4/R3
3	5	Pageant programs	2006-2022	R2/C4/R3
Series Two: Mr. Prairie View Pageant Papers, 1983-2004				
3	6	Mr. Prairie View Scholarship Pageant	1991-1998	R2/C4/R3
3	7	Mr. Prairie View Scholarship Pageant	1999	R2/C4/R3
Series Three: Miss Texas Pageant Papers, 1962-1999				
3	8	Miss Houston Pageant Program	1985	R2/C4/R3
3	9	Miss Texas Pageant Catalog	1980	R2/C4/R3
4	1	Miss Texas Pageant Awards Breakfast and Ball program	1983	R2/C4/R3
4	2	Miss Texas Pageant Printed Materials	1963-1969, undated	R2/C4/R3
4	3	Homecoming Files	1976-1980	R2/C4/R3
4	4	Miss Texas Pageant Catalog	1983	R2/C4/R3
4	5	Miss Texas Pageant Program	1964	R2/C4/R3
4	6	Miss Texas Pageant Program	1970	R2/C4/R3
4	7	Miss Texas Pageant Program	1977	R2/C4/R3
4	8	Miss Texas Pageant correspondence	1974-1981	R2/C4/R3
4	9	Miss Texas Pageant correspondence	1980	R2/C4/R3
4	10	Miss Texas Junior Miss Scholarship Pageant Program	1981	R2/C4/R3

4	11	Miss PV/Miss Texas Pageant correspondence	1981	R2/C4/R3
4	12	Miss Texas Junior Miss Scholarship Pageant Program	1982	R2/C4/R3
4	13	Miss Texas Pageant correspondence	1983	R2/C4/R3
4	14	Miss Texas High Brochures	1962-1967	R2/C4/R3
5	n/a	Miss Prairie View Crowns (total of 2)	Undated	R2/C4/R2