# Santa Clara City

# PRINCESS PAGEANT

## Scoring Guidelines

Pageants have progressed along with our society. Years ago contestants were judged on outward appearance alone. Today we recognize that beauty comes from within, and in many shapes, sizes, and colors. Pageants celebrate young women at their personal best. Our pageant provides an opportunity for young women to do community service and develop public speaking skills, as they represent our wonderful town of Santa Clara. It also provides an opportunity for them to discover their talents, opinions and individual attributes. As you prepare for the pageant, these guidelines will help you be aware of the areas of competition from which you will be judged.

**Private Interview (25% of you total score):** Each contestant will have a 10 minute, private interview with a panel of judges. It will be timed and monitored by a member of the pageant committee. During this time, the judges will ask you a variety of questions, anything from music to politics. They will also ask you questions based on the information you submit on your contestant fact sheet, including your community service. Judges will be observing your mental alertness, personality, voice and speech, general knowledge, poise and appearnace.

**Individual Talent (25% of your total score):** Each contestant will have 2½ minutes, to perform or display a talent. Any longer than 2½ minutes, will result in disqualifying the scores from this part of the competition. Fire batons, sword twirling, bow & arrow skills, or any other talent that would constitute danger to anyone in close proximity to the performing area will not be permitted. Talent material should not contain any profanity or vulgar topics. Judges will be observing the Contestant's ability according to stage presence, showmanship, individual interpretation, technique, level of difficulty, accuracy, and control, etc. It is better to focus on one talent than to display multiple talents.

**On-Stage Question (20% of your total score):** During this portion of the pageant you will be asked two questions. One will be taken from your fact sheet, and one will be from current events. As an ambassador for the city, you will have an opportunity to speak in front of many people, including the City Council. The judges will be looking for your confidence and ease, in this area.

**Poise & Presentation (20% of your total score):** Each contestant will have the opportunity to appear individually on stage in formal attire. Participants are not judged on their gown, they are judged on how they appear in them (how they walk, act and display themselves). This is a princess pageant, and we are asking you to wear "age appropriate" gowns. No strapless, or sleeveless dresses, and no slits above the knee. Remember you are representatives of the City of Santa Clara, and must dress accordingly. There is no specific catagory for the Opening Number, but the judges will be watching it, and take that into concideration when scoring you in this category.

**Active Wear (10% of your total score):** This part of the pageant is unique to us. A tradition which has replaced the swimwear portion of the competition, it has become a fun part of our pageant. Choose attire that complements your personality. (No swimsuits). Judges will be observing personality, physical fitness, and a sense of confidence and fun!