



Becoming Miss JuneteenthKC 2026 Pageant Handbook

Welcome to Miss JuneteenthKC 2026!

The Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant celebrates the brilliance, resilience, and cultural pride of young African American women in the Greater Kansas City area. Now in its 5th year, this program continues to empower participants to embrace their heritage, build confidence, and step boldly into their futures.

About the Program

*Miss JuneteenthKC is more than a pageant—it's a transformative experience that nurtures personal growth, cultural pride, and leadership skills. Participants will take part in a **10-week themed curriculum** starting **March 14, 2026**, and culminating in a spectacular pageant presentation on **May 30, 2026, from 4:00–9:00 PM** at the iconic **GEM Theater**.*

Eligibility

We welcome girls aged 12–18 who reside in the Greater Kansas City area or neighboring counties:

- ***Lil Miss JuneteenthKC:*** Ages 12–15
- ***Miss JuneteenthKC:*** Ages 16–18

Program Objectives

The Miss JuneteenthKC program is designed to:

- *Provide education, tools, and resources to help participants build resilience and confidence.*
- *Encourage healthy lifestyle choices and positive social interactions.*
- *Foster peer relationships with girls across the region.*
- *Celebrate **Black Excellence** through **Arts, Personal Achievement, and Social Service**.*

Participant Expectations

Crowned participants will:

- *Represent JuneteenthKC as ambassadors, serving as role models and spokespeople.*
- *Promote positive images through school appearances and community events.*

Application Process

To enroll, participants must submit the following:

1. A completed application form submitted online via our website www.JuneteenthKC.com
2. A **\$150 non-refundable entry fee** (minimum 50% deposit due at application submission and final payment due at orientation—deposit will be refunded if application is denied)
3. A current grade card submitted at the time of application/ at orientation
4. Extracurricular Activity Schedule submitted at the time of application/at orientation

50% Match Scholarship Opportunity

*Miss JuneteenthKC participants are encouraged to apply for the **50% Match Scholarship** by submitting a two-minute video (MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FEBRUARY 15TH).*

Video Guidelines:

- *Include your name, age, and current school.*
- *Share how the scholarship will help you achieve your goal of becoming Miss JuneteenthKC.*
- *Explain what it would mean to represent your community if you are crowned.*

Program Benefits

Participants will gain:

- *Leadership and confidence-building skills.*
- *Lifelong friendships and networking opportunities.*
- *Tools to make positive lifestyle choices.*
- *A greater understanding and appreciation of their cultural heritage.*

Timeline

- *March 14, 2026:* 10-week themed curriculum begins.
- *May 30, 2026:* Pageant Presentation at the GEM Theater, 4:00–9:00 PM.

How to Get Started

Apply today to give your daughter the opportunity to shine, grow, and join a legacy of excellence.

APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28TH!!!

We look forward to welcoming you to the Miss JuneteenthKC 2025 experience. Together, let's celebrate the brilliance of our young women and the beauty of our shared heritage!

**Participants will be competing for cash, prizes and the reigning title of
Miss JuneteenthKC & JR Miss JuneteenthKC.**

Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant Awards

Miss JuneteenthKC \$1,000.00

*****\$500.00 paid within 30 days of crowning upon completion of program requirements and an additional \$500.00 paid June 1, 2027 upon satisfaction of crowned participant duties.***

**JR Miss JKC
\$500.00**

**Miss Fashionable
\$150.00**

**Miss Executive
\$150.00**

Miss Unity \$150.00

*****All awards will be paid within 30 days of crowning upon satisfactory completion of all program requirements***

Miss Fashionable Award-The Miss Fashionable Award is given to the participant who earns the highest score from the judges during the Fashion segment of the Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant. This award recognizes creativity, ingenuity, and effort, showcasing the participant's unique style and ability to present themselves with confidence and flair.

Miss Executive Award- The Miss Executive Award is presented to the pageant participant who demonstrates exceptional dedication and initiative by selling the most pageant tickets and advertisements for the official Miss JuneteenthKC pageant booklet. This award highlights entrepreneurial spirit and community engagement, celebrating the participant's outstanding efforts and achievements.

Miss Unity Award -The Miss Unity Award is a special recognition determined by the Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant class. This award honors the participant who is deemed the most uplifting, positive, and motivating by her peers. Often described as the "big sister" or "shoulder to lean on," this individual embodies leadership and serves as a force of positivity within the group, inspiring others with her kindness and support throughout the program.

Application Deadline: February 28th

Official Participant Rules Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant

The Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant is committed to providing a meaningful and enriching experience for young women in the Greater Kansas City area. To ensure the program runs smoothly and fosters personal growth, we have established the following rules and guidelines. By enrolling in the program, participants and their families agree to adhere to these policies.

Pageant Orientation will be hosted Saturday, March 7th 10:00-12:00 pm**

Location: Pathway Financial (1512 E. 18th Street Kansas City, MO)

Workshop Training Location:

Pathway Financial (1512 E. 18th Street Kansas City, MO)

Gregg Klice Community Center (1600 E. 17th Terrace Kansas City, MO)

1. Application & Enrollment Requirements

Participants must submit a completed application online via the JuneteenthKC.com website, a current report card, and an extracurricular activity schedule.

Applications must be electronically signed online by a parent or guardian to confirm participation.

A \$150 non-refundable application fee—50% minimum deposit is required at the time of application and final payment is due at orientation.

Parents/guardians must notify the pageant coordinator in advance of any delays or conflicts with the application process or participation.

2. Attendance Policy

Mandatory Attendance: All program dates, workshops, and rehearsals are mandatory.

- Participants arriving more than 15 minutes late will not be allowed to enter workshops or activities.
- Habitual attendance issues, including three or more tardies or absences, will result in removal from the program.
- **Timely Pick-Up:** Parents/guardians must pick up participants no later than 15 minutes after the conclusion of each session.
- Repeated late pickups (more than two instances) may result in removal from the program.

Attendance waivers may be granted for specific extracurricular conflicts at the discretion of the Planning Committee. Alternate assignments must be completed for any excused absences.

3. Hygiene & Attire Policy

Participants are expected to arrive properly groomed and dressed in business casual attire for workshops and experiences.

For public outings, participants must wear the official pageant uniform, which includes:

- **Provided polo shirt, sash, and pin.**
- **Khakis and closed-toe shoes.**
- **Participants not in uniform will not be permitted to attend public outings.**

Pageant gowns will be issued only upon successful completion of the program. Gowns remain the property of the Planning Committee until issued.

- **Unsuccessful completion of the program will result in the forfeiture of all funds raised, gowns, and participation prizes.**

Abuse or misuse of JuneteenthKC materials (e.g., polos, pins, sashes, and gowns) is strictly prohibited. Inappropriate use of these items, in person or on social media, may result in removal from the program.

4. Behavioral Expectations

Respect for Staff: Participants must demonstrate respect toward workshop presenters, mentors, committee members, and coordinators at all times.

- **Disrespect or disruptive behavior will lead to immediate review and possible removal from the program.**

Disruptive Behavior Policy: Patterns of disruptive behavior that interfere with workshops will result in removal from the program.

Compliance with Directives: Participants must follow instructor directives during workshops. Repeated failure to comply will lead to removal from the program.

Abusive Language Policy: Abusive language or commentary is strictly prohibited. Repeated reports of such behavior may result in removal from the program.

Commingling Policy: Commingling between participants, participant parents, or male escorts is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate removal of all involved parties from the program.

Participant Rights: Participants have the right to a safe, respectful, and supportive environment free from discrimination or harassment. Any concerns should be directed to the Planning Committee.

5. Communications Policy

Parents and participants are expected to actively monitor their email to stay informed about program updates, schedule changes, and important reminders.

6. Technology Policy

Phones are allowed for emergency use only and should otherwise be put away or kept on silent during workshops.

- **If there is an emergency, parents may contact the on-site coordinators to relay a message to their participant.**

7. Preparedness Policy

Participants are expected to arrive prepared for workshops with all materials required to actively participate in sessions.

8. Participation Policy

All participants are expected and required to fully participate in all workshop activities.

- **Refusal to participate in activities or comply with directives will result in removal from the group for the session and a review to determine if ejection from the program is required.**

9. Volunteerism & Community Service Policy

Participants are required to engage in at least one volunteer/community service activity (10-hour minimum) in order to qualify to be crowned as Miss JuneteenthKC or Jr. Miss JuneteenthKC.

Miss JuneteenthKC is required to complete an additional 10 hours of volunteer service at an outside agency and actively participate in four (4) JuneteenthKC program events between July and December 2025.

10. Workshop & Rehearsal Requirements

**Workshops will be held every Saturday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (check-in begins at 8:45 AM).
note May 16th & May 23rd will be from 10:00-2:00 pm**

Workshops may run as late as 3:00 PM for special activities between April 18th – May 16th.

Mandatory dress rehearsals at the GEM Theater will take place:

- **Monday-Thursday May 18th-23rd 6:00-8:30 pm**
- **Tuesday-Thursday May 26th-28th 6:00-8:30 pm**

Attendance at all dress rehearsals is required.

Dress Fittings

*****April 14th, April 15th, April 16th DRESS SELECTION & FITTINGS @ Natalie M. Studio 3:00-8:00 pm** –participants will be scheduled for a private dress fitting appointment on one of these dates.***

11. Judging & Scoring

All decisions made by the judging panel are final.

Scorecards can be reviewed upon request.

12. Consequences for Policy Violations

Violations of these rules, including habitual tardiness, disruptive behavior, or disrespect, will result in review by the Planning Committee.

Participants found in violation may be removed from the program without a refund of fees or materials issued.

Specific consequences for policy violations will range from warnings to removal, depending on the severity of the infraction.

13. Program Materials Policy

All JuneteenthKC materials, including polos, pins, sashes, and gowns, remain the property of JuneteenthKC until issued.

Inappropriate use of these items will result in removal from the program.

Gowns will only be issued upon successful completion of the program.

14. Program Philosophy

The Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant is dedicated to fostering the growth, cultural pride, and personal excellence of its participants. Respect for oneself, peers, and program leaders is paramount. By working together, we celebrate the brilliance and potential of young women in our community.

We thank you for your commitment to these guidelines and look forward to a successful program that uplifts and inspires all involved.

Pageant Scoring

How will you be evaluated? Participants will be evaluated on a pageant point system.

Evening Gown--20

- Stage Presence-First impression, confidence, and how she wears the gown
- Personality, Poise, Articulation

Fun Fashion-- 20

- Stage Presence-First impression, confidence, and how she wears the garment
- Creativity & Personal Flair

On-Stage Question/Interview 30

- workshop participation
- Attendance

Ticket/ Advertisement Sales—10

Workshop attendance-- 10

Talent-10

Lil Miss JuneteenthKC Participants will receive an automatic 10 points for completing the group opening dance. Miss JuneteenthKC (16-18) will be judged and scored based on a 2-minute talent performance.

The Sweetest Peach (Team Unity Award)—This award will be given to the participant that has been selected by 2026 Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant class to be the most uplifting and motivational pageant participant.

TOTAL 100

The points from all participants' score cards will be calculated, and the Top Five scores will dictate the top 5 finalists. A top finalist will be selected to be crowned from the Lil Miss & Miss JuneteenthKC pageant groups.

Ticket & Ad Sales

While ticket and Ad Sales IS NOT MANDATORY to participate in the Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant program. Incentives & awards are offered to the top 3 advertisement/ticket sellers.

****PRESALE ONLY**- \$10.00**

General Admission Tickets- \$15.00

VIP Tickets (includes VIP Reception)- \$25.00

Tickets will be available by April 25th

PAGEANT WORKSHOPS

Miss JuneteenthKC participants will participate in twelve- themed workshops beginning March 14th. Each workshop will be focused on history, advocacy, service, etiquette, and education.

Pageant participants will learn the history of Juneteenth, the Historic 18th and Vine Jazz District, and other significant moments in Kansas City's Black history. Participants will be engaged in community conversations to understand the importance of advocating for causes and how to advocate for change within their community. Service to the community and others will be paramount in becoming Miss JuneteenthKC; and participants will be given the opportunity to develop healthy social relationships in addition to acquiring the etiquette skills needed to excel in life.

Pageant mentors will provide engaging workshops to share personal insights that will guide each participant as they begin their journey into young adulthood.

Our Miss JuneteenthKC participants will not only achieve skills but be ready to influence their peers intentionally, represent our community, and serve Kansas City!

Tentative Workshop Schedule:

9:00-1:00 pm

March 7thOrientation only 10:00-11:30 am ** MANDATORY****

PARENTS MUST ATTEND!!

Week 1--March 14th--Juneteenth History/Genealogy theme Introduction

Week 2--March 21st--Public Speaking/Talent

Week 3--March 28th -- Personal care & Social etiquette--

Week 4 -- April 4th--

Week 5--April 11th --

Week 6 -- April 18th--Photoshoot/ Alteration Sessions

Week 7 - April 25th--Public Service/City Hall Tour w/ Mayor Q & Friends-TBD

Etiquette Lunch w/ Councilwoman M Robinson TBD -1:00-3:00 pm

Week 8 -- May 2nd--Public Service/City Hall Tour w/ Mayor Q & Friends-TBD

Etiquette Lunch w/ Councilwoman M Robinson TBD -1:00-3:00 pm

Week 9 -- May 9th Pageant Rehearsal/Talent Practice

Week 10 -- May 16th Pageant Rehearsal/Talent Practice

****GEM THEATER REHEARSAL**

Tuesday-Thursday 20th -22nd

Week 11 --May 23rd **Memorial Day Weekend** Pageant Rehearsal/Talent Practice

****GEM THEATER REHEARSAL**

Monday-Thursday 18th-23rd 6:00-8:30 pm

Tuesday-Thursday 26th-28th 6:00-8:30 pm (Memorial Day– May 25th–NO PRACTICE)**

Week 12 --May 30th **PAGEANT PRESENTATION**

Workshop Attire

Business casual attire (t-shirt/polo, khakis or jeans). All participants will be provided with two JuneteenthKC polo shirts and sash to be worn at special activities/community outings.

Gowns

Pageant gowns will be provided by the Natalie M. Studio for all pageant participants. Participants are required to attend a dress selection/fitting session.

***** April 14th, April 15th, April 16th DRESS SELECTION & FITTINGS @ Natalie M. Studio
3:00-8:00 pm*****

Parents/Guardians will receive a Dress Fitting Scheduling Form approximately two (2) weeks prior to the group's scheduled fitting sessions at Natalie M. Studio.

All scheduling forms must be submitted no later than April 11th. A \$50.00 reservation fee is required at the time of scheduling to secure your session. This fee will be applied toward dress alterations and participant pageant supplies.

Please note that missed or unscheduled fittings may delay alterations and could impact pageant readiness.

Once a participant has made their dress selection an appointment will be scheduled for alterations. Dresses will be held by JuneteenthKC and will be provided for the participants during their photo shoots/pageant presentation day.

Makeup

Participants will be provided with makeup artists the day of the photo shoot and the pageant presentation day.

Parental Consent and Release

AUTHORIZATION, WAIVER OF LIABILITY & INDEMNITY AGREEMENT MEDICAL and MEDIA RELEASE

In Consideration of being permitted, at my specific request, for me or my child/ward to participate in the activity, we HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Miss JuneteenthKC Pageant, it's officers, volunteers, and agents, individually or in an official capacity for the group (all for purposes herein referred to as "releases") from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses which we may have against any of the releases arising out of or in any way connected to participation in the activity, including , travel to or from the activity, for bodily injury, death or property damage suffered by me/my child before, during, or after said activity. I understand that this release and waiver includes any claim or action based on the negligence, action or inaction of any release or otherwise.

I HEREBY ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND RISK OF BODILY INJURY, DEATH, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE due to the negligence of releases or otherwise while engaged in or as a result of the activity. I expressly acknowledge and agree that the activity may involve the risk of injury or property damage. I

shall defend (if directed by JuneteenthKC), hold harmless and indemnify JuneteenthKC Coalition, it's officers, volunteers, and agents from and against all liabilities, loss, claims, damages, costs, attorneys' fees and expenses of whatever kind or nature which JuneteenthKC, it's officers, volunteers, and agents may sustain, suffer, or incur, or be required to pay by reason of permitting me/my child/ward to participate in the activity, even if allowing me/my child/ward to participate in said activity is later found to be wrongful or negligent. I further expressly agree that the foregoing release and waiver of liability, and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the laws of the State of Missouri or other State where a claim or action may be instituted and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Participant Name _____
(Print Name)

Participant Signature _____ Date _____
(Sign)

Parent Name _____
(Print Name)

Parent Signature _____ Date _____
(Sign)