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Miss WEIO Mission Statement

As a representative of World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, Miss WEIO embodies the ideals for which WEIO was created. She is knowledgeable of her Native culture and traditions while respectful and accepting those of other ethnic groups. She agrees to encompass the spirit of the WEIO by honoring traditions of strength, agility, and endurance in harmony with the Native way of life.

Miss WEIO is respectful of elders from all cultures and agrees to share her knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Native Heritage. She is familiar with and has an understanding of the WEIO. Miss WEIO is alcohol and drug free and promotes sobriety for all people. She is knowledgeable of Native issues and supports subsistence and the Native lifestyle.

Miss WEIO will assist in the preservation and perpetuation of traditional Eskimo, Indian, Aleut and other indigenous people's games of skill, dances, and the arts as a representative of the WEIO.

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To the Prospective Miss WEIO Participant:

The Miss WEIO Committee welcomes you to the 2009 World Eskimo-Indian Olympics! We are very pleased you are considering your participation in this year's Miss WEIO Pageant. We are firmly convinced that all participants will experience a turning point on their lives as the result of their participation.

To assist you in your preparation to enter the 2009 Miss WEIO Pageant, we are providing this information packet. Please review and read carefully all the information we have provided.

Please return the completed application to the WEIO office along with a \$175.00 entry fee for contestant and *chaperone *(350.00 total). Make check out to WEIO and submit by the July 6th deadline.

This year's WEIO will be held July 15th – 18th, 2009. Contestants are expected to arrive into Fairbanks by Saturday July 12th and checked in their residence hall by no later than 6:00 pm the same day. Contestants will begin their week-long schedule beginning that Saturday evening. Information packets will be provided to you upon arrival.

Please be aware that each application will be photocopied for each of the Miss WEIO Pageant judges, so your application should be clearly legible. Understand that applications sent over the facsimile do not copy very well.

If you have any questions or concerns or if anything seems unclear regarding this application, please feel free to contact the WEIO office.

Upon arrival if you have any questions or concerns please contact us by phone (Mandy – 378-5473, Carmen – 488-3190 or Cathy – 978-8084).

We hope you have a safe trip, and we'll see you at the Olympics! We wish you the best of luck!

Sincerely,

The WEIO Pageant Committee

Duties of Miss WEIO

- After her coronation, deliver an acceptance speech to be followed by a walk around the arena to acknowledge her new role as Miss WEIO.
- Present medals to Olympians following the final pageant events.
- Deliver welcome speeches to the audience and participants.
- Attend functions representing WEIO as Miss WEIO when invited by other organizations or asked by the Pageant Committee.
- Periodically report to the WEIO Board and Pageant Committee regarding all public functions attended as Miss WEIO.
- If convenient and applicable, attend all WEIO Board and Pageant Committee meetings.
- At the end of her reign deliver a farewell speech and walk around the arena as a gesture of gratitude to WEIO.

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be at least ¼ degree Alaskan or Canadian Native, or a member of a recognized Alaskan, American or Canadian Indian, Aleut, or Eskimo tribe.
- Must be eighteen (18) years of age before June of 2009 and less than twenty-five (25) years.
- Never been married or have had any children.
- Has acknowledged, accepted or signed a sobriety and drug-free pledge.

Judging

Contestants are judged in three separate sessions: the personal interviews, the talent presentations, and the impromptu question session. The personal interviews are held privately while the other two sessions are public events.

In private personal interviews, a panel of judges selected by the Miss WEIO Pageant Committee asks each contestant questions pertinent to the WEIO and related issues of concern to all Native people.

During the talent portion of the contest, the contestants prepare and present a seven to ten (7-10) minute talent presentation before the judges at the Pioneer Home and the larger audience during the WEIO events. *(Contestants wishing to use any audiovisual equipment as a part of their talent presentation should first check with the Pageant Committee. Some equipment such as tape recorders and overhead projectors do not always perform well in the Sullivan Arena. Those contestants wishing to use props as part of their talent presentation must also inform the committee by providing the appropriate information in the application packet.)* The talent presentation will be timed and scores may be influenced by ability of the contestant to keep with the seven to ten (7-10) minute time limit.

During the impromptu questioning, each participant will be judged on how well they articulate their answer.

The categories on which the contestants are judged include knowledge of their culture, confidence, poise, overall presentation, personality, knowledge of WEIO, and current Native issues.

While being judged, the contestants will wear their traditional Native dress or semi-formal clothing, depending upon the event. The pageant committee with regard to which dress will be worn at each judging session will apprise the contestants accordingly.

On the basis of the judges' overall scores, the WEIO will crown as Miss WEIO the contestant with the highest score, followed in descending order the First and Second runners-up. Also, the judges will award the Most Talented and Most Traditional titles from amongst the contestants. The contestants will select from amongst themselves a person to wear the title of Miss Congeniality. And a volunteer photographer will select a contestant for the most photogenic.

Prizes

Miss World Eskimo-Indian Olympics will receive a \$3,000.00 scholarship provided by the Miss WEIO scholarship fund divided into equal increments paid out per school year. The scholarship can be used in a combination of a four (4) year schedule for graduate and undergraduate work.

Gifts and other prizes are presented to the contestants from Alaskan Artists and businesses.

Pageant Activities

During the week of the Olympics, the Contestants keep a very busy schedule. The queen contestants are the first to arrive into Fairbanks and the first to begin in the judging sessions of the WEIO.

The queen contestants hold numerous public appearances in Fairbanks to practice for the role of Miss WEIO. They have many opportunities to present themselves and to share their culture with others. Television appearances and visits to hospitals and retirement homes along with a cruise on the Riverboat Discovery have taken place in past years.

Please leave the week open to attend the various functions. Friends who happen to attend the WEIO the same time will take second place to the pageantry.

Gifts

It has been the tradition of the WEIO Pageant for the contestants to exchange gifts among themselves. You are encouraged to bring a gift representative of your culture that will be exchanged with another contestant toward the end of the pageant.

The Pageant committee invites you to share your traditional Native foods at our informal orientation meeting Sunday, July 13th. This is the time when all contestants, their chaperones, and the Pageant committee meet together to begin the exciting week. We ask that you bring a dried or prepared food such as one of the following: fish strips, dry meat, muktak, or other traditional foods.

Housing and Meals

The room and board at the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus and ground transportation around town are provided by the WEIO organizing committee. Meal plans and house rules will be provided upon your arrival into Fairbanks.

Introduction Cards

The pageant committee encourages you to provide on typed cards or sheets of paper information about yourself so you may be introduced to the audience correctly. We also encourage you to provide an emcee (or a chaperone) to read your introduction in the manner you prefer and to ensure Native names are properly pronounced.

The personal introduction cards should have the following information:

- Your name
- Your home community and the state or province in which it is located
- Your cultural background or the tribe to whom you belong
- Your age
- Who you represent
- The high school and year when you graduated from high school
- If you are planning to attend college the name of the educational institution and where it is located
- Your major emphasis of study
- Your future plans
- The activities you enjoy, favorite hobbies, community involvement, etc.
- Your parents, grandparents, etc.
- A personal statement of significance to you

The talent presentation introduction should have the following information:

- ◆ A description of the talent you wish to present.

The description of your traditional dress should have the following information:

- Who made it
- The materials used
- Description of the outfit from head to toe

You may wish to refer to the following example to help you in preparing your introductions.

Contestant number (##), Sally Jones, is a Koyukon Athabascan from the village of Rampart on the Yukon River. Sally's parents are Paul and Jane Jones; her grandparents are Sam and Alice Smith, and William and Mabel Jones. Sally is proud to represent her community and family. She is 18 years old and is representing her community and family.

Sally graduated from Mount Edgecumbe High School in May of 1999. She plans to attend the University of Alaska in the fall, majoring in business administration. She hopes to continue her education upon graduating from college and earn a master's degree in business, after which she wants to create her own business in Rampart that will employ local people.

Sally enjoys outdoor activities, such as dog sledding and cross-country skiing, and participates in many community events, including potlatches and dances. She is also an avid reader of non-fiction stories and enjoys surfing the net.

Sally's presentation will be a demonstration of how to clean and cut king salmon for making dry fish. Sally will wear a *b'its'ah hoolaanh*, made by her grandmother Alice Jones, and a pair of her favorite old beaded moose skin slippers made and given to her by her mother, Jane. Sally learned this skill from her summers in fish camp with her family.

Her grandmother, Alice Jones, made Sally Jones' traditional outfit. It is made of moose hide tanned by her father, Paul Jones. *(The description of the regalia should include everything the queen contestant is wearing, such as the material used, the type of animal, etc.).*

Checklist

- Registration Fee
- Application Form
- Resume
- Description of Future Plans
- Description of Native Dress
- Committee Information Sheet Including Travel Arrangements

Please call the WEIO office to inform us of any changes in your travel plans, chaperones, or other information about which you feel is important for us to know before your arrival in Fairbanks.

WE look forward to your enthusiasm as you participate in the 2009 WEIO Pageant!

Code of Conduct and Expectations

The young woman who earns the privilege of wearing the Miss WEIO crown is expected to carry on with pride and honor the heartbeat of the WEIO. The crown represents the hard work the person has demonstrated in order to represent the age-old traditions and spirit of the WEIO.

Town/Village: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Message Phone: _____

Facsimile: _____ E-mail: _____

Birth date: _____ Social Security Number: _____ Age: _____

Tribal Affiliations: _____ Degree of Native Blood: _____

Who are you representing? _____

What is your title? _____

Please provide the following about your chaperone:

Full Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town/Village: _____ State/Province: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Message Phone: _____

Facsimile: _____ E-mail: _____

Please provide the following for your travel arrangements:

Arrival Date: _____ Airline: _____ Flight No: _____ Arrival Time: _____

Departure Date: _____ Airline: _____ Flight No: _____ Departure Time: _____

Emergency Contact Person: _____ Phone Numbers: _____

Location: _____

***Please inform the Pageant Committee if you need a ride to the UAA Housing area.*

Please include separately with this application
The following information:

1. Resume
2. Your future plans
3. Description of your traditional outfit
4. Copy of your tribal/BIA CIB card

Mail your completed application along with
the \$175.00 registration fee for contestant and
\$175.00 chaperone fee as well as all other
required documents to:

Miss WEIO Pageant Committee
Post Office Box 72433
Fairbanks, AK 99707-2433

CONTESTANT APPLICATION FORM B

Name: _____ Native Name: _____

Title: _____ Representing: _____

Tribal Affiliation: _____ Birthplace: _____

Parents:

Age:

Degree of Native Blood:

High School Attended:

Year of Graduation:

Higher Education Institution Attended:

Years Attended:

Major or Program:

Have you had any special training? If so, please describe:

Other Educational Information:

Is your Native language spoken at home?

If so, what dialect is spoken?

Do you speak your Native language?

In which subsistence activities do you participate?

What Native foods are prepared at home?

In which Native games or dances do you participate?

In which Natives arts and crafts do you participate?

To what extent have you participated in regional or village corporation meetings?

Have you attended Tribal Council meetings? If so, what are some of the issues that were discussed?

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 72433 Fairbanks, AK 99707-2433

phone: 907.452.6646 fax: 907.456.2422

Email: weio@weio.org

Website: www.weio.org