



Miss Merry Christmas Pageant 2018

Thank you for your interest in being Miss Merry Christmas 2018! Miss Merry Christmas and the Christmas Belles have been a Christmas Festival tradition for more than 60 years! We hope that you are excited about the possibility of becoming Miss Merry Christmas or a Christmas Belle. It is indeed an honor to be crowned, but more importantly this is an opportunity for you to represent the City of Natchitoches and Natchitoches Christmas Festival, meet amazingly talented young women, and create a memory to last a lifetime!

Below is important information that you will need to know to help you prepare for the pageant which will take place on Sunday, September 16, 2018. Please make plans to attend an informational meeting on

Tuesday, September 4, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.
The Thomas Building (560 Second Street)

You will receive your contestant number and interview time at this meeting. We will also be available to answer any additional questions you may have.

Again, thank you for being a part of the 2018 Miss Merry Christmas Pageant!

Sincerely,

Gregory O'Quinn
Natchitoches Queens Pageant Director

Janna Jenkins
Main Street & Public Relations Manager

Things You Will Need:

- 5 x 7 head shot (preferred)
- Fact Sheet (one page only, no exceptions)
- Transcript for grades 9 – 11

Fact Sheets, photographs and transcripts must be turned into Janna Jenkins at the Main Street Office located at 781 Front Street no later than Wednesday, September 5, 2018.

Photographs should be at least 4 x 6 in size (a 5 x 7 photograph is preferred). Photographs can be either in color or black and white. If the photograph is in color, it will be converted to black and white. Photographs should be a head shot if possible (taken from the shoulders up). Preferred method of delivery of photographs is email (jjenkins@NatchitochesLA.gov).

Each contestant should request an official transcript from her guidance counselor. Academic scores will be derived from your transcripts.

What to Wear:

- Interview & On-Stage Question – Appropriate Interview Attire (ex. Business skirt suit, homecoming suit, etc.)
- Opening Number – White pants, nude heels, and Pageant t-shirt provided
- Evening Wear Competition – Evening Gown

Pageant Day:

Rehearsal for the pageant begins at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 16, 2018. Interviews will be conducted after rehearsals.

Bring water and snacks to get you through the day. Do not skip meals. Be prepared to dress yourself and do your own hair at pageant as no one will be allowed backstage.

The Miss Merry Christmas Pageant will be held Sunday, September 16, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. at the A.A. Fredericks Auditorium at NSU. Admission will be charged to watch the pageant - \$5 for those 10 years and older.

One young lady will be named Miss Merry Christmas and four or six young ladies will be named Christmas Belles.

Scores:

Interview 50%, Academic 20%, Evening gown 15%, Onstage question 15%

Winners:

If selected as Miss Merry Christmas, a cash scholarship of \$250 will be awarded upon completion of duties. Christmas Belles will receive a cash scholarship of \$150 per Belle. The scholarships for both Miss Merry Christmas and the Christmas Belles will be made payable in January.

Miss Merry Christmas and the Christmas Belles will be required to get measured for outfits on Monday, September 17, 2018, with Jackie Cox. Jackie lives at 1516 Payne Avenue off of North Williams. Her phone number is 352-3703.

The City of Natchitoches covers a portion of the supplies and materials used by Miss Merry Christmas and the Christmas Belles, including a portion of the required uniform. **However, Miss Merry Christmas and Belles will be responsible for covering additional wardrobe costs of \$150 per person.**

Winners will be required to attend certain events such as parades, media events, and work the Santa house. They will serve as Ambassadors for Natchitoches during Christmas season. Unexcused absences at events could result in termination and cash scholarship could be forfeited. Excessive absences from scheduled events could lead to dismissal.

Jane Elizabeth Smith

Date of Birth: January 1, 1994
School: Natchitoches Central High School
Grade: 12th Grade
GPA: 4.0

Scholastic Achievements:

- Honor Roll – 2007 to present
- Beta Club – 2008 to present
- District Literary Rally – 2009, 2010
- State Literary Rally – 2009

Awards/Accomplishments:

- Junior Class Citizenship Award – 2010
- Member, NCHS Girls Basketball Team – 2008 to present
 - 2nd Team All District – 2010
- Member, NCHS Homecoming Court – 2008, 2009

Leadership Roles:

- Treasurer, Junior Class – 2010-11
- Captain, NCHS Cheer Team – 2010-11

Community Service:

- Volunteer, First United Methodist Church Pumpkin Patch
- Volunteer, Habitat for Humanity – Spring 2010

Work Experience:

- Babysitter
- Cashier at Brookshire's

One Interesting Fact about Myself:

I got to meet Oprah Winfrey when she made a surprise visit to Natchitoches!

If selected as Miss Merry Christmas or a Christmas Belle, you can expect to follow a similar appearance schedule to the one listed below. You must be prepared to make the majority of scheduled appearances. You will be notified as quickly as possible to additions/changes in your schedules. Accommodations can be made within reason for conflicting events.

2013 Miss Merry Christmas & Christmas Belles Appearances

- 9/22/13 – Christmas Festival Poster Unveiling Ceremony
- 9/28/13 – Montgomery Parade (Montgomery, LA)
- 10/5/13 – Robeline Heritage Parade (Robeline, LA)
- 10/5/13 – Return to the 50s Classic Car Show
- 10/10/13 – KSLA News Channel 12 Live Broadcast
- 10/12/13 – Zwolle Tamale Festival (Zwolle, LA)
- 10/12/13 – Christmas Angels Pageant
- 10/31/13 – Witch Way to Main Street
- 11/2/13 – Louisiana Pecan Festival Parade (Colfax, LA)
- 11/3/13 – Group Photos
- 11/5/13 – Hometown Productions Christmas Festival Segment
- 11/14/13 – Cenla Happenings Fair (Pineville, LA)
- 11/19/13 – KALB Jambalaya Morning Show (Alexandria, LA - Miss Merry Christmas Only)

- 11/20/13 – WAFB Baton Rouge Morning Show
- 11/21/13 – KPXJ Morning Show (Shreveport, LA)
- 11/21/13 – KTBS Live Evening Broadcast
- 11/23/13 – Turn on the Holidays
- 11/25/13 – City Council Meeting
- 12/2/13 – Good Morning Cenla (Alexandria, LA – Miss Merry Christmas Only)
- 12/4/13 – Guinness World Record Program for Unveiling of Natchitoches Legacy Art Piece
- 12/7/13 – Christmas Festival & Parade
- 12/11/13 – Louisiana Clerk of Courts Association Annual Gala
- 12/14/13 – Many Christmas Parade (Many, LA)
- 12/17/13 – Pet Pics with Santa at Alexandria Mall (Alexandria, LA)
- 12/18/13 – Natchitoches Central Christmas Concert
- 12/20/13 – St. Mary’s Christmas Program
- 2/20/14 – 2/22/14 – Washington Mardi Gras (Washington, D.C. – Miss Merry Christmas Only)
- 3/8/14 – Kasey’s Heart & Soul Run, Walk & Roll

Miss Merry Christmas & Christmas Belles also work the Santa Claus house from Christmas Festival through December 23rd. Shifts are rotated with 2 – 3 girls working each night. The week of Christmas Festival, Miss Merry Christmas & the Christmas Belles also make school visits to local elementary schools to discuss festival safety. They also complete community service by going to hospitals and nursing homes.