



PUERTO RICANS UNITED, INC.
Puerto Rican Festival of New Haven
P.O. Box 8043
New Haven CT, 06530

Miss Puerto Rico of Greater New Haven Cultural Pageant

The Mission and Purpose of the Miss Puerto Rico of Greater New Haven Pageant: *To encourage our young ladies to become role models among the Hispanic youth of the greater New Haven Community by example and character.*

Our candidates must make a commitment to:

- Graduate from high school
- Continue with their post-high school education
- Promote Puerto Rican and Latino arts and culture
- Volunteer their services to the community
- Promote the concept of family values
- Promote active citizenship

GUIDELINES AND RULES

Minimum requirements for participation:

- Ages:
 - Junior Miss* - 10-13 years old (middle school student)
 - Teen Miss* - 14-18 years old (high school student)
- Single (never married), residing with their parent or legal guardian (no live-in situations), no children
- Actively attending school (non-truant) with intentions of pursuing a post-high school education
- Resident of Greater the New Haven Greater Area (New Haven, North Haven, West Haven, East Haven or Hamden)
- Of Puerto Rican descent (one or both parents) and represent a specific town or city of Puerto Rico (will be determined on a first come basis, only one representative will be permitted per division)



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- Committed to working as a team with other contestants, and professionally with volunteers, pageant coordinators and staff
- Willing to attend weekly meetings and rehearsals
- Available to attend festival-related activities, such as (1) 2023 Puerto Rican festival (2) other cultural and community events
- Behave in a courteous and respectful manner towards all fellow contestants and committee members and all those involved with the pageant.
- Refrain from Internet activity considered inappropriate and/or offensive on all platforms including social media (i.e: Facebook, Instagram, Tiktok etc.)

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

If elected Miss Puerto Rico of Greater New Haven 2023, candidate must be willing to:

- Participate in the Puerto Rican Festival (Second Saturday of August) to be held in New Haven, CT.
- Attend festivals, parades and functions representing Puerto Ricans United, Inc./ Puerto Rican Festival of New Haven.
- Willing to surrender crown and prize to first runner up:
 - in case of chronic truancy, expulsion or unenrollment from school
 - in case of pregnancy, motherhood and /or marriage (includes domestic partnership/living arrangements)
 - in case of arrests, legal accusations or any other legally related misconduct that the board of directors of the organization may deem inappropriate



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- has engaged in any disrespectful manner towards committee members, pageant staff members or any other contestants during or after the pageant
- if found to be engaging in inappropriate behavior on social platforms or the internet (i.e Facebook, Instagram, Tiktok etc

PRIZES AND AWARDS

The winner of the Miss Puerto Rico Cultural Pageant of Greater New Haven will be awarded the following:

- Crown
- Embroidered sash
- Scholarship
 - *Junior Miss* - \$1000 Scholarship towards post high school education
 - *Teen Miss* - \$2000 Scholarship towards post high school education

The funds will be distributed from the committee directly to the institution at which the candidate is enrolled or will be enrolled in within a year's time. Should the candidate wish to use scholarship funds not specific to a two or four year college/university, the candidate must submit a written request to PRU Inc. detailing the request. Requests must be educational such as school supplies, books, training etc. It is the candidate's responsibility to provide the requested information to PRU Inc. so as to make the payments directly to the institution within the specified time of one (1) year. If at the time of disbursement the candidate decides not to continue her education then the prize funds will revert to PRU Inc. If the winner is not attending college or an academy that charges tuition; or fails to provide written request for funds towards educational expenses, then this prize will be null and voided.

One contestant of each category will also be awarded recognition in the following areas:

- *Congeniality*- This award is presented to the candidate who possessed positivity, team work, and phenomenal sportsmanship throughout the pageant's course; participants will have this opportunity to vote for one another.
- *Photogenic*- This award is presented to the candidate whose inner beauty, charisma and confidence radiates through a photograph; the winner will be selected by the panel of appointed judges.
- *Community*- This award is presented to the candidate who sold the most ads for the event's program book and will be recognized for their ability to network, and promote the cultural value of this pageant. Winner will be selected by the pageant staff and PRU Committee.
- *Talent*- This award is presented to the candidate who scored the most points in the cultural talent segment of the pageant. These points are included in each participant's overall score.

- Elegance- This award is presented to the candidate who scored the most points in the evening gown and final question segment of the pageant. These points are included in each participant's overall score.

Other prizes for first runner-up, second runner-up and the court will be listed separately and may be subject to change.



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Participation Agreement

This form must be signed, notarized and mailed to: PRU, Inc. P.O Box 8043, New Haven, CT. 06530. Individual interviews will be scheduled and conducted upon receipt of application. Contestants will be selected on a first come basis. Application must be received **no later** than December 15th, 2022 to be considered.

I, _____, have read the information regarding the *2023 Miss Puerto Rico of Greater New Haven Cultural Pageant*, and understand them. I will abide by them to the best of my ability.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____
(Contestant)

Birth Date: _____ **Age:** _____

Parent or Legal Guardian's Name: _____

Home Address: _____ **Town:** _____

Zip Code: _____ **Primary Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

School: _____ **Grade:** _____

Town or City of Puerto Rico chosen to represent: _____

Parent signature required (if under 18)

Yes _____ **No** _____

Parent signature: _____

Notary Signature: _____

Date: _____

Seal: