

The Miss Clatsop County Scholarship Program

Silent Auction basket information for Contestants 2025

The Miss Oregon and Miss Clatsop County Scholarship Programs are a nonprofit volunteer-based organization that prides themselves on empowering Oregon's young women to achieve their personal and professional goals, while providing a forum in which to express their opinions, talents, and intelligence. Funding for the programs comes from donations and fundraising. We are asking for your support AS A CONTESTANT with this important component.

Each contestant is asked to go out in her community and ask for donations to use in the silent auction. The contestants are then asked to arrange the donated items in a display setting. Traditionally, many use baskets, however, there have been many other clever ideas. They include treasure chests, toy boxes, spa kits, and picnic baskets! The more creative the auction display, the more interest the items get at the event. They can also be reflective of your personal CSI. Remember that the purpose of the silent auction is to help raise money for scholarships!! The value of each contestant's basket should be a **minimum** of \$50. **A \$200 Scholarship will be awarded to the contestant who receives the highest bid as part of our 4 Points of the Crown Scholarship – Scholarship.**

The auction is an excellent way for the candidates to work on their professional development; as well as gain confidence in working with the public. It also contributes financially to our program to build scholarship dollars. *Last year's contestant's baskets brought in almost \$3000!!!!*

Suggestions for a successful silent auction experience:

- Reach out to your local community. Contact different businesses and clearly identify the purpose of your event. Discuss your community service initiative and make a personal connection with the local business owner. Hand them a copy of our letter explaining the program. Be concise, courteous, and thankful for their support.
- Think of any donors who could help you!! Maybe it's a friend of your parents or a relative! Ideas include motels, vacation rentals, wine shops, nurseries, hair salons, candy stores, restaurants, and jewelry shops. There are no limits to creative ideas. Remember not to "Double Dip" into your BYOS sponsors.
- Treat businesses in a professional manner. Gather pertinent information such as business name, owner or contact name, address, and phone number. Ask for a business card to put with the donated item. Thank business owners for their time and stress that all donations are tax-exempt under the Internal Revenue Service Code.
- Create your masterpiece. After you have collected all the silent auction items, place them in a display setting. The display must be easy to move, and all items must be secure. It is ideal to have them wrapped in cellophane. Please make sure every item is viewable to the public.
- You will need to complete a form listing the items and each value and include a picture of it which is due Sunday February 16th.
- BASKETS WILL BE DUE at check-in on Friday, February 21st 2025!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please help us make the silent auction another successful part of our organization. Have fun with the baskets but remember your basket is a representation of you and your commitment to the program! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Sandy Newman at 503.717.3501.

Go for it girls!