

## FAQ'S FOR CAST APPLICATIONS, AUDITIONS AND CASTING- EASTER PAGEANT 2010:

**APPLICATIONS:** Oct. 1-31, 2009, on-line at [www.easterpageant.org](http://www.easterpageant.org)

- 1. Do I have to submit an application on-line? What if I don't have a computer?**  
Every individual who desires to be in the cast must complete and submit an on-line application by going to [www.easterpageant.org](http://www.easterpageant.org). **This means that every family member, regardless of age, must submit a separate form.** If you don't have access to a computer, or need help submitting, please ask a friend for help, or ask your home teacher or visiting teacher.
- 2. Can I just turn in a hand-written application when I come to live auditions?**  
No, this year, no applications will be accepted after October 31, 2009. In order to be admitted to tryouts (live auditions), you must have applied on-line.
- 3. How do I know if my application went through and was received?**  
When you click on the button, "submit", you should receive, within seconds, a confirmation number, as well as within a few minutes an additional e-mail, confirming your application was received. If you don't receive one or the other, then please e-mail us at: [easterpageant@easterpageant.org](mailto:easterpageant@easterpageant.org)

**TRY-OUTS (LIVE AUDITIONS):** Friday, Nov. 6, 2009, 6:00-9:00 p.m. (come and go) – OR – Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009, 9:00 a.m. to Noon (come and go), Red Mountain Institute (directions are on application)

- 4. What happens at try-outs? Do I have to read a script, sing, or dance?**  
You will report to designated stations to confirm your application information and have your picture taken. Then you will be directed to a holding area where you will wait to meet with the directors personally. You will be escorted to the directors in groups of about 12-15 people at a time. The directors will spend about 10 minutes per group, meeting each of you and asking you any necessary questions. You will not be required to act or sing. However, you will be asked to silently lip-sync the words, "I Know He Lives" from our Finale music, so we can see your smile and sincerity as you bear your testimony through this song. The music and words will be playing in the holding area while you wait. There will be no formal chapel session.  
  
Some applicants who have a certain "look" required for a particular part (such as Adam and Eve), will be called back on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 1-4 p.m. for a simple acting audition.
- 5. How long will live auditions take?**  
Budget about an hour to be safe. But, please try to come at your scheduled time (see on-line application). Total audition time may range from 15 minutes to 45 minutes.
- 6. What about auditioning to be a dancer?**  
There are four categories of dancers: Angels, Ten Virgins, Mary/Mary's Lullaby, and Mary/Mary Magdalene. Applicants auditioning for these parts will be required to do a simple dance routine which will be taught to you at auditions. Females applying for Ten Virgins, or the Mary parts, must be 16 years of age or older and have had extensive dance training and experience. Applicants for Angels (male and female) must be ages 17-30. No dance skills or training is required.

Dancers must attend auditions at these assigned times:

**ANGELS:** Friday, Nov. 6th - 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. only (come and go, but must arrive by 7:15

p.m.) - OR - Saturday, Nov. 7th - 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. only (come and go, but must arrive by 10:15 a.m.)

**10 VIRGIN DANCERS, MOTHER MARY, AND MARY MAGDALENE:** Please arrive 15 minutes early for check-in and warm up, as follows: Friday, Nov. 6th - 8:00 p.m. (must stay until 9:30 p.m.) - OR - Saturday, Nov. 7th - 11:00 a.m. (must stay until 12:30 p.m.) **Wear modest dance clothing under street clothes and bring dance shoes.**

**ALL DANCERS (Angels, Ten Virgins, and Marys) MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR CALLBACKS – Saturday, Nov. 7, - 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**7. Do I have to go to live auditions? Is it really necessary?**

YES! We have to be able to see you in person, take your picture, update information, and obtain other very important information that we need for casting. If you do not apply on-line before auditions, you will not be admitted to auditions. If you do not attend auditions, you will not be considered for casting.

**8. What if one of our family members cannot attend live auditions, but they completed an application?**

Please call Casting Coordinator, Kristen Cowley, 480-203-3299.

**9. What if I have a son or daughter returning from a mission in time to be in pageant, but not in time to attend live auditions?**

Complete an on-line application for your missionary, then bring a photo of him/her to auditions.

**10. If my picture is awful, will that hurt my chances of being cast?**

We definitely don't care what your photo looks like, as long as we can tell who you are. We need photos to help us remember who you are and to check heights, etc., for various parts.

**11. Audition weekend is homecoming for our high school? What should my teenager do?**

He/she may come to live auditions Sat., Nov. 7, at 9:00 a.m. It would be VERY helpful for the entire family to come at that time, so we can group you together in the photo.

**12. What can I do to prepare for auditions?**

Come with a patient and positive attitude!

**13. What should I wear to live auditions?**

No church clothes required, but nice, modest casual clothing (no grubby jeans or tees).

**CASTING:**

**14. How soon will I know if I have been cast?**

You will know by December 1, 2009. You will receive this information by e-mail only. So, if your e-mail address changes after you have submitted your application, you MUST let us know of this change by e-mailing us at [easterpageant@easterpageant.org](mailto:easterpageant@easterpageant.org) ASAP!

**15. How do you decide who you cast?**

Every year, we cast a core group of people who have been in the cast before, in order to provide support and direction for new cast members. We generally cast actors in principal roles for more than one year. We try to cast as many new people as possible.

**16. Do you cast former cast members first, and then new people last?**

Definitely not! We cast principal parts first, such as Adam and Eve, the Apostles, Roman Soldiers, Temple Priests, etc. We may cast new people in these parts, or we may cast former cast members. The order in which we cast is according to parts, not previous pageant experience.

**17. Is there anything that would limit me from being in the cast?**

No, unless there is a behavioral problem, or a medical condition, or a physical impairment (that would prevent you from going up and down stairs and ramps quickly).

**18. Do I have to speak English to be in the pageant?**

No, but you have to be able to understand English or be with someone who can translate for you easily.

**19. Can we choose the part we want to portray?**

No, but you are welcome to tell us at live auditions if you have a preference. Those auditioning for angels or dancers, who are not cast as such, will be put back into the main casting pool and will still be considered for the main cast. If you do not want to be in the pageant unless you are cast as an angel or dancer, please tell us that at live auditions.

**20. How do you decide who you cast?**

The directors prayerfully consider each application, as well as feelings they may have at live auditions. In addition, for certain parts, specific acting skills and/or looks and physical build are required. Also, since we do not make new costumes each year, some assignments are made based on costuming issues and sizes.

**21. Why do I need an ecclesiastical endorsement?**

The First Presidency of the Church has requested that all participants in church pageants have a temple recommend or ecclesiastical endorsement. The endorsement form will be in your application form on-line.

**22. Who can I call if I have a specific or personal concern?**

You are welcome to call the Casting Coordinator, Kristen Cowley, 480-203-3299, or the Director, Nanci Wudel, 480-844-8847.

**23. What if I apply and audition, and then find out I cannot be in the pageant?**

Call Kristen Cowley, Casting Coordinator, 480-203-3299, or Director, Nanci Wudel, 480-844-8847, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, so we can re-cast your parts.

**24. If I am not a member of the LDS Church, can I still be in the pageant?**

We would love to have you. You simply need to abide by the standards outlined on the application, including having an ecclesiastical endorsement. You may have this form signed by your own ecclesiastical leader or a LDS bishop. Guidelines and instructions are listed on the application form. Please call Kristen Cowley, Casting Coordinator, 480-203-3299, or Nanci Wudel, Director, 480-844-8847, if you have any questions.

**25. You seem to discourage young families with very small children from applying. Why is this?**

It is our experience that the Pageant experience may not be as spiritual as the family had hoped for, since rehearsals can be late, very cold, and even wet. Small children are often very uncomfortable; they get off their schedules; they seem to get sick more easily – and this causes undue stress for the parents. In addition, we can only cast 65 children under age 12, in the Pageant. We often need those cast spots for children old enough to be assigned actual acting parts. But we strongly encourage you to apply again when your children are older.

**26. I am a single adult sister. Should I even bother applying if I am by myself?**

We want you to apply! However, you do need to know that most of our parts are for men. Therefore, the total number of women and children we cast is limited.

**27. What can I expect from participation in the Easter Pageant?**

Your mission will be three-fold: 1) During your pageant experience, you will be asked to be a cast missionary, and you will have wonderful opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in many ways; 2) You will grow spiritually as you study the pageant reading assignments and as you prayerfully learn about the part you are portraying; 3) Your family will be strengthened as you study the assignments together and as you commit together to your callings as a cast missionaries. The more you invest in your participation, the greater your Pageant experience will be. You will be blessed for your sacrifice of time and desire to serve in this unique and special way.