

Non-Competitive!
Make New Friends!

Have Fun!
Perform on Stage!

Gain Confidence!
Learn Etiquette!



Desert Rose Princess

Program Handbook

EVENT WEEKEND

Dress Rehearsal: Friday, October 2, 2026

Pageant: Saturday, October 3, 2026

The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Center
1375 E. Broadway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85040



WELCOME!

A Princess Experience with Purpose

The Desert Rose Princess Program gives young participants a warm, age-appropriate introduction to the Miss Arizona Volunteer sisterhood - without a competition or judging component.

THE HEART OF THE PROGRAM

Desert Rose Princesses build confidence, make new friends, learn from positive role models, explore etiquette and service, and experience the excitement of performing in a professional pageant production.

What your princess will experience

- Mentoring and encouragement from Miss and Teen contestants and program leaders
- Mentoring and volunteer-focused activities
- Participation in a service-minded activity or project
- Choreographed dance number with videos to practice at home
- Dress rehearsal and backstage preparation with trained adult volunteers
- Two onstage production moments during the Miss Arizona Volunteer Pageant

Program fee and inclusions

\$275 registration fee includes:

- Official Miss Volunteer America princess crown and sash
- Official Desert Rose Princess T-shirt
- Princess participant credential/badge
- One complimentary pageant ticket for a parent or guardian
- Participation in dress rehearsal and the October 3 pageant production

Additional tickets may be purchased separately when ticket sales are announced.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Event Weekend at a Glance

Both dates take place at The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Center, 1375 E. Broadway Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85040.

DATE	TIME	WHAT TO EXPECT
Friday October 2	5:00-7:00 PM	Dress rehearsal, service project, etiquette and mentoring activities, costume review, staging, and practice for both production appearances.
Saturday October 3	4:30 PM	Princess backstage check-in. Please arrive fed, dressed for the dance number, and ready to sign in.
Saturday October 3	5:00 PM	Miss Arizona Volunteer Pageant and Desert Rose Princess performances begin. Doors open to the public at 4:30 PM.

The two production numbers

- 1 • DANCE PRODUCTION NUMBER

Princesses perform together in their official Desert Rose Princess T-shirt, shorts, socks, and closed-toe tennis shoes. The final music and staging instructions will be taught and practiced at rehearsal.
- 2 • EVENING GOWN ESCORT

Princesses return to the stage in dressy attire, crown, and sash to escort Miss and Teen contestants during the evening gown phase of competition.

Schedule details may be adjusted as production needs are finalized. Families will receive any updates before event weekend.

WHAT TO WEAR

Wardrobe & Packing Guide

Label every item with your princess's first and last name. Pack everything in one clearly labeled garment bag, tote, or small rolling bag.

DANCE NUMBER	EVENING GOWN ESCORT
✓ Official Desert Rose Princess T-shirt ✓ Shorts appropriate for movement and stage ✓ Socks ✓ Closed-toe tennis shoes (any color)	✓ A pretty, age-appropriate dress or other dressy outfit ✓ Official crown and sash ✓ Closed-toe dress shoes; white, nude, or light pink are recommended ✓ Socks, tights, or peds if needed

Complete packing checklist

- ☐ Desert Rose Princess T-shirt
- ☐ Shorts
- ☐ Socks and tennis shoes
- ☐ Dressy outfit and dress shoes
- ☐ Crown and sash
- ☐ Optional tights, peds, sweater, or light jacket
- ☐ Refillable water bottle or preferred drink
- ☐ Small non-messy snack, if desired
- ☐ Labeled bag for all belongings

PLEASE ARRIVE IN DANCE ATTIRE

On pageant day, your princess should check in wearing her T-shirt, shorts, socks, and tennis shoes. Backstage chaperones will assist with the change into evening gown escort attire.

BACKSTAGE READY

Rehearsal & Pageant-Day Procedures

Our priority is a safe, organized, and happy experience for every princess.

Arrival and release

- A parent or guardian must sign the princess in at the designated backstage check-in area.
- At dismissal, the princess will be released only through the program's sign-out process.
- Please notify the Desert Rose Princess Director in advance if someone other than the registering parent/guardian will pick up your child.
- Arrive on time. Late arrivals may miss safety instructions, spacing, or staging practice.

Backstage access and supervision

- Only security, production staff, approved chaperones/dressers, competition officials, and participants are permitted backstage.
- Parents and guardians enjoy the production from the audience and may enter backstage only when requested or in an emergency.
- Approved adult volunteers will supervise the princesses and help with costume changes.
- Princesses should follow directions promptly, remain with their assigned group, and treat participants, volunteers, and venue staff with kindness and respect.

Food, comfort, and personal items

- Please feed your princess before the 4:30 PM pageant-day check-in.
- Light snacks and water will be available backstage. Send an alternate drink or snack only if needed.
- A sweater or light jacket may be helpful because backstage and theater areas can feel cool.
- Leave valuables, electronics, and unnecessary items at home. The organization and venue cannot be responsible for lost belongings.

SAFETY NOTE

Closed-toe shoes are required for rehearsal and both production appearances. Sandals, flip-flops, and open-back shoes are not appropriate for backstage movement.

READY FOR THE SPOTLIGHT

Family Action Checklist

Use this page to prepare, confirm details, and make event weekend easy for your princess.

Before event weekend

- ☐ Complete all required online registration forms and submit the \$275 program fee (Due September 3).
- ☐ Provide a current digital photo and the princess's name exactly as it should appear in program materials.
- ☐ Confirm all family contact, emergency, allergy, and authorized pick-up information.
- ☐ Purchase any additional pageant tickets needed for family and friends.
- ☐ Try on both outfits and practice walking comfortably in each pair of shoes.
- ☐ Label every wardrobe piece, shoe, crown, sash, bottle, and bag.

On October 2 and October 3

- ☐ Arrive on time at The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Center.
- ☐ Bring the complete labeled wardrobe bag and this checklist.
- ☐ Use the official sign-in/sign-out process.
- ☐ Share any last-minute health, comfort, or schedule concern with the Princess Director at check-in.
- ☐ Encourage your princess to listen, be kind, try her best, and enjoy the experience.

QUESTIONS?

Email info@missarizonavolunteer.com

Program information: www.missarizonavolunteer.com/desert-rose-princess

Sharon Cordes: 714.273.4120

Patrick Cordes: 714.273.3935

Julie Prescott: 507.398.6049

DESERT ROSE PRINCESS DIRECTOR

Phoebe Tucker: 714.709.6318

We cannot wait to welcome your family and watch your Desert Rose Princess shine onstage!

DESERT ROSE PRINCESS PROGRAM • AGES 4–12

Forms & Registration Fee Checklist

Use this page to track each required program item.

Princess's name: _____

Parent/guardian: _____

DEADLINE SUMMARY: September 3 — Registration, Rules and Guidelines, Headshot/Release, and Registration Fee. October 2 — Authorized Pickup Release Form.

DUE SEPTEMBER 3

☐	1. Desert Rose Princess Registration DUE: SEPTEMBER 3 • Submit the Princess's program registration information. Open Registration Form
☐	2. General Rules and Parent/Guardian Guidelines DUE: SEPTEMBER 3 • Review the program expectations and submit the parent/guardian acknowledgment. Open Rules and Guidelines
☐	3. Headshot and Photo/Video Release Form DUE: SEPTEMBER 3 • Upload the requested headshot and complete the separate photo/video release. Open Headshot and Release Form
☐	4. Desert Rose Princess Registration Fee — \$275 DUE: SEPTEMBER 3 • On the payment page, scroll to the bottom of the payment options to locate the Princess Program registration fee. Open Registration Fee Page

DUE OCTOBER 2

☐	5. Authorized Pickup Release Form DUE: OCTOBER 2 • The parent/guardian will complete this form at the beginning of rehearsal. List every adult authorized to pick up the Princess after rehearsal and/or the pageant.
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ALL ITEMS COMPLETE ☐