

## Miss Sweet Sixteen Contest Rules & Guidelines 2023

1. Contestants MUST be 16 on or before September 23, 2023.
2. All contestants are to reflect a positive, polite, and respectful attitude. Any inappropriate behavior may be considered cause for disqualification.
3. You will need to decorate a sheet of paper that fits an 8 x 10 (landscape) frame (the library will provide frames) with your name, photos of yourself, and your interests. (Example: If you like cats, flowers, cheerleading, etc., decorate with a theme to reflect your interests.) Have fun, be creative! The sheets must be brought to the library along with your signed biography form. (Keep it flat so it will fit in a frame). Late entries will be accepted but the contestant will lose time and donation opportunities. The containers will only be at the Wellsville City Library, 115 W. 6<sup>th</sup> in Wellsville, KS. Contestants may collect funds on their own and must be responsible for turning them in by 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 23, 2023. You CANNOT place containers at other locations due to liability. If the containers become full, the Friends of the Library will remove the funds for deposit only to allow for additional fundraising for contestants. **VOTING ENDS AT 3:00 P.M. ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023.**
4. The Friends of the Library will provide the container. Each vote is earned by someone giving a penny donation to the Friends of the Library Foundation. (Example: If someone places \$5.51 in your container, you earn 551 votes.) Checks are accepted and need to be payable to the Friends of the Library Foundation. (See disqualification list regarding bad checks.) The Friends of the Library foundation is a 501C3 tax exempt organization. This means donations given to the Friends may be tax deductible. Some companies match gifts that are given to the Friends. The Friends will provide receipts for donations received if requested with proof of donation. **We are also able to accept votes (donations) through the library's website ([www.wellsvillelibrary.org](http://www.wellsvillelibrary.org)) with a credit card. Please state that the gift is for a specific contestant and that it is for the Friends of the Library Foundation. The voting will stop at 3 p.m. Votes received after 3 p.m. will be accepted as a donation to the Friends but will not count as a Miss Sweet Sixteen vote.**
5. There will be a Miss Sweet Sixteen winner, a first runner up and a second runner up announced. In the event that the Miss Sweet Sixteen cannot serve out her term, the first runner up will become Miss Sweet Sixteen. (See \* at the end of the rules for reasons for forfeiting the Miss Sweet Sixteen title.)
6. The stage announcements will begin at 6:45 p.m. The ceremony will take place on main street during this time. Contestants are responsible for finding their own escort. The contestants and their escorts need to be at the library by 6:15 p.m. Attire for the event should be a nice dress or pants. (Not too formal.) Remember this is a fundraiser for the community provided for you to enjoy. Please do not make this anything but fun. The escorts need to be dressed in a nice shirt or school sport jersey/t-shirt with pants or shorts. (Anyone showing up not dressed appropriately will be asked to change or will not be allowed to represent the Friends of the Library. The contestants are to return to the library for photos to be taken. Family will be included in some of the photos. In case of bad weather, the winner will be announced in the library's meeting room.
7. The Friends of the Library Foundation will post photos to the Wellsville City Library's website ([www.wellsvillelibrary.org](http://www.wellsvillelibrary.org)) and to the library's Facebook page. If possible, photos will be sent to the local newspaper.

8. The contestants are asked to be in the Wellsville Days parade. If unable to be in the parade, please let us know as soon as possible. This year's theme is Land of the Free, Home of the Brave. We will email you the details of the parade.
9. It is encouraged for each contestant to use the Friends of the Library Foundation as a reference for future needs such as job resumes and college applications. This is a very big contribution to our community and your service is highly valued.
10. If at any point you change your mind and wish to withdraw from the contest, any votes earned will be non-refundable and non-transferable to other contestants. Any request to withdraw from the contest must be in writing.

**The Friends of the Library Foundation thanks you for your support and dedication to the improvement of the library.**

**\*Reasons to be disqualified from the contest and/or lose the title of Miss Sweet Sixteen:**

1. Pregnancy—you cannot have been pregnant any time before the contest, during the contest, or while titled Miss Sweet Sixteen.
2. Marriage—must not be married or marry while titled Miss Sweet Sixteen.
3. Must be female as assigned at birth.
4. Must not participate in any illegal activities.
5. Must not participate in any inappropriate behavior as determined by the Executive Board of the Friends of the Library Foundation.
6. Check writers are responsible for all fines incurred for any and all check(s) that do not clear the financial institution. This will be a direct subtraction of votes from the contestant and could cost the contestant any title earned.