

# **HOW TO HOST A MR. MJS**

**Presented by the Madison Jr. School Student Council  
TCNJ – January 11, 2012**

## **What is Mr. MJS?**

Mr. MJS is one of our annual fundraising / spirit events that we run every year during the spring that benefits the NJASC State Charity. Our goal for the evening is to put on a great show that will make our audience laugh as well as bring attention to a very worthy cause.

Mr. MJS is a spoof of the Ms. America contest that takes roughly 4-5 months of work to put together. We begin organizing in November and the show takes place in March or April. We raise money for the state charity by having each contestant get a sponsor (at least \$50 donated by a local business), and in return we advertise their business that evening in our printed programs as well as during the show several times. Additionally we charge \$10 per ticket and family and friends are invited to attend. We have averaged taking in between \$2500-\$3500 the past few years.

## **What happens the night of Mr. MJS?**

- I. Welcome by the hosts / intro video**
- II. Opening Number**
- III. Mr. MJS Video**
- IV. Casual Wear Competition**
- V. Talent Competition**
- VI. State Charity Video / Speaker**
- VII. Formal Wear & Question and Answer Session**
- VIII. State Charity Video / Speaker**
- IX. Talent Award**
- X. Crowning of Mr. MJS**

# **Planning Steps**

## **Theme**

Each competition centers on a theme. The song selection for the dance number focuses on that particular theme. Additionally, we coordinate costumes for each of the boys to wear during the opening dance number. Last year the song selection for the opening was “The Futuristic 1980s” (Mr. Roboto and Final Countdown). Other themes have been:

Jersey Night with Bon Jovi – jeans, bandana, white t-shirt, sunglasses, inflatable guitars

Boy Bands – white pants, white t-shirt, white button down shirt

Jersey Shore with Beach Boys – tan shorts and beach shirt

Stage decorations and the script for the evening try to capture the essence of the selected theme.

## **Introduction Movie**

Two years ago, we started adding a movie that introduced the contestants and what they went through to be Mr. MJS contestants. For example, last year we introduced the candidates in an SNL like introduction. The year before last, we introduced the candidates in a parody using the show “The Office.” The movies have become a highlight of the show, and add to the fun of the night.

## **Script**

The script for the evening is developed by the hosts with the help of the advisors. It includes introductions, jokes, information about the State Charity, as well as skits. Last year, each host performed a magic trick to draw attention to the Spread the Magic Foundation.

We use the information each contestant puts in their application to help introduce each contestant individually during the Casual Wear Competition.

## **State Charity**

We try to schedule having a representative speak at the show each year. However, if that isn't possible we will show a video provided by the organization.

## Mr. MJS To Do List (Month by Month Planning)

### November / December

- Begin planning theme, organize music for opening number, brain storm costume ideas, proofread application, set up meeting dates, find hosts, work on movie scripts

### January

- Hold information meetings to get contestants and review steps to enter competition
  - If more than ten boys turn in all of their paperwork, then we hold auditions which is explained in the application (attached) and meeting.
  - Approval from principal for each talent act (we review song lyrics and any original material with administration)

### January-Night of Event (after we have our ten contestants)

- 12-15 practices for the contestants with two full dress rehearsals (hosts attend all practices to work on program, PowerPoint, and script)
- Boys bring in casual wear and formal wear the week of event
- Call tux shop two months in advance to borrow the following:
  - (3 black jackets, 3 black cummerbunds, 3 black bow ties)
  - Pick-up items 3 days advance
- **Judges** – arrange for faculty judges (goal of five)
- **Chaperones** – arranged by administration and advisors
  - **Backstage:** assign two chaperones to monitor back stage area
  - **Front/Aisles:** assign two chaperones for crowd control
  - **Floating:** assign one chaperone to relieve anyone who needs a break
- **Lights** – (1) chaperone and one student
- **Hosts** – (2-4) 8<sup>th</sup> grade females
- **Creation of PPT** – hosts responsibility

- **Creation of Program** – (2) assign to committee members
- **Night of Backstage Helpers** – (4) committee members with one stage manager
- **Curtains** – committee member (1)
- **Choreographer** – (1-3) 8<sup>th</sup> grade Student Council members with dance experience
- **Runner** – committee members and/or choreographer (2)
- **Tickets Sales:** sold in lunch and at the door (3 Student Council members)
- **Programs at door** –(2) Student Council Members

# Items Needed

Items that need to be purchased for show:

- crown and septor for winner
- sashes for each contestant with the name of the sponsor printed across (Allen Crowns)
- trophy for Best Talent
- Decorations for the theme and stage décor (Christmas lights, paint, and other theme related items)

Items needed for the night of the show:

Judges

- small lamps
- tables
- pens/pencils
- calculator
- small bottles of water

Sound/Media Table operated by Advisors and Runners

- sound board (extra cables and batteries)
- iPod
- LCD
- Laptop
- playlist
- copy of script
- talent cheat sheet

Tickets and programs

- tickets printed, cut, and numbered
- money box
- baskets for programs
- programs printed

## Mr. MJS Tracking Sheet / Cheat Sheet

Grade	Name (Pictures *)	Sponsor	Talent	Paperwork/ Donation Amount/
6		Tons of Toys	Comedy skit	\$25 cash and \$25 check
6		Crowley Cupcake	Card tricks – needs Elmo (projector)	\$20 cash and \$30 check
6		Caruso Landscaping	Dancing & Singing	\$50 check
7		Sages Pages	Hand Trumpet (cartoon theme songs)	\$50 check
7		Madison Community House Nursery School	Singing “Don’t Stop Believin”	\$50 check
7		Limbach’s Landscaping	Play Saxophone	\$50 cash
7		European Elegance	Singing “Branches of Science”	\$50 check
7		Mama C’s Subs	Dancing to “Eye of the Tiger”	\$10 cash and \$40 check
7		Scotti’s Record Shop	Play Saxophone “We will Rock You”	\$50 check
7		“Ace” Gallagher Stump Grinding Service	Yo-Yo-ing to music	\$50 check
8		Madison Pharmacy	Lip Synching and Dancing	\$25 check and \$25 check
8		John F. Nittolo & Son Electrical Contractors Inc.	Lip Synching and Dancing “Baby”	\$30 cash and \$20 check
8		School of Rock	Singing and Piano “You’re my Best Friend”	\$50 cash
8		Whitey Vitale	Drums – Muse	\$50 check
8		Bollinger Inc.	Guitar “Buddy Holly” Weezer	\$50 cash
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$750</b>

# Do you have what it takes to be the next Mr. MJS?

**Date of the Show:** Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 7:00 PM

If you have other commitments that prevent you from attending the majority of our practices,  
you will need to readjust your schedule.

We do not have a complete practice schedule yet, but most practice days will be held on  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays until about 3:30 PM.

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Please read the attached pages about the auditions.

Keep the audition sheet and questions.

Please sign below.

Return this slip to Mrs. Perry by **Friday, January 13, 2012.**

**We will not accept any late permission slips.**

**Student's Name** (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Grade** (circle one)    6                      7                      8

**Student's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You!**

**Mr. MJS Auditions 2012**  
**Be creative, Be enthusiastic, Be Mr. MJS**

**If we have more than 10 contestants wishing to participate in this year's  
Mr. MJS contest, we will be holding auditions. (date TBA)**

You will showcase a portion of your talent, and demonstrate why you should be crowned Mr. MJS. See below  
for the details about the auditions:

You will have a **maximum time of 10 minutes** to:

1. Display a small portion of your talent
2. Describe why you are the perfect candidate for Mr. MJS
3. Answer 3 questions from the list on the below (questions will be chosen at random):

**Questions:**

If you were the mayor of Madison what would be the first thing that you would do? Why?

If you were granted 3 wishes, what would you wish for? Why? (Not 3 more wishes!)

If you were any animal, what would it be? Why?

If you could have a supernatural power, what would it be? Why?

What advice would you give to a new student coming to MJS next year?

Who would you consider your role model/hero? Why?

What do you think is the single most critical problem young people are facing today and how can it be dealt with?

What was your embarrassing moment and why?

If you could travel anywhere in the world where would it be? Why?

Which teacher at MJS are you most like? Why?

What is your favorite memory at MJS?

What do you want to be when you grow up? Why?

What is 1 word you would use to describe yourself and explain why it best describes you.

If you could be the best in the world at any activity or talent, what would it be? Why?

If you could be any fictional character, who would it be and why?

Which season best describes you? Why?

SAMPLE Mr. MJS Candidate Application

**Due: Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> to Mrs. Perry (Room 201)**

We're looking for talented, spirited, and well-spoken 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade male students to represent MJS in the **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mr. MJS contest on Saturday, April 28, 2012**. Judges for the contest will be chosen from the MJS faculty.

**Please be aware, if we have more than 10 students wishing to participate, we will hold auditions for the 10 spots.**

As a contestant you will need to do the following:

- Raise a minimum of **\$50 donation** for the NJASC state charity, **Good Grief**. This money can be raised from friends, family, and/or your sponsor.
- **Get a business or company to sponsor** you, and in return they will receive free advertising in our program.
- **Wear a casual outfit and a formal outfit.** The **formal outfit** consists of a **white dress shirt** with **dark pants** (preferably black) and **dress shoes**. We will provide the jacket and bow tie.
- **Create and practice a unique individual talent number.**
- Be prepared to answer a question during the **question and answer** period.
- **Learn and practice the opening group dance number.**

There will be several **mandatory rehearsals** to attend. (See attached calendar for the tentative practice schedule – this is subject to change).

Bring in, or preferably email, **2 photos** of yourself to Mrs. Perry; Bring in all of your **completed paperwork, sponsor information** (business card), and **donation(s)** by **Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Please Print:**

Complete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

List any clubs and/or sports in which you have participated at MJS.

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What are some community service projects (in or out of school) you have participated in during the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade?

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What is your dream job?

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Why do you think you deserve to be Mr. MJS?

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Hobbies/Talents:

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Most memorable moment at MJS:

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Personal Quote (optional):

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What business/company will sponsor you in this competition?

**Please be sure to provide their business card.**

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## SAMPLE - Practice Schedule

All **paper work, permission slips, pictures, sponsor information and donation(s)** must be turned in by, **January 13, 2012** in order for you to participate.

### Practice Schedule (times, dates, and location subject to change)

Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM (begin opening number)

Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM

Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM - Must have individual talent number idea! (any lyrics/lines must be given to Mrs. Perry for approval - please email if you can.)

Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM - Must have casual wear outfit picked out (email or bring in a picture or bring in outfit for approval)

Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM

Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM (are you practicing your talent?)

Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM

Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:30 PM

Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> – 2:45 – 4:15 (run through talents)

Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:45 PM

Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:45 PM

Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:45 PM

Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:45 PM

Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:45 PM

Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:45 PM

Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 3:45 PM

Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 – 4:00 PM

Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 4:00 PM

Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 - 4:00 PM

**Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 2:45 PM - Run through show**

**Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 be at MJS at 5:30 PM the show starts at 7:30 PM!**

# Madison Junior School

Nicole Sherrin, Principal  
973-593-3149

Thomas Liss, Asst. Principal  
973-443-0168

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January 2012

Dear Business Owner:

This year the Madison Junior School Student Council is holding its seventh annual “Mr. MJS Contest”, a charity benefit, to raise money for *Good Grief*, the charity chosen by the New Jersey Association of Student Council. We have attached a brief description of this foundation and its mission statement from their website for your perusal. This is a wonderful and dedicated charity that we hope you would want to support.

**CONTEST INFORMATION:** The seventh annual “Mr. MJS Contest” will be held on **Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. in the Madison Junior School Auditorium.** The contestants will open the night with a group musical number, then compete in the following areas: talent, formal wear, casual wear, and a question and answer session. Judges comprised of MJS faculty will use a point system to judge the contestants on their talent, spirit, and articulation. The night will conclude with the crowning of the contestant with the most points. The winner will be expected to represent MJS with integrity.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?** The MJS Student Council would like this contest to continue as an annual charity event. We are asking you to become part of this tradition. Each male contestant will choose to represent a business. For example, a contestant would be known as **Mr. (Your Business Name)**. When a contestant chooses to represent your business in the contest, we ask you to make a donation to the charity. Each contestant must raise a minimum donation of \$50.00. With your support, donations from family and friends, and the money raised through event ticket sales, the contestants will raise much needed funds for *Good Grief*. In return for your generous donation, we will post your business name at the event and put your business information in the program.

If your business is interested in sponsoring a MJS student in the “Mr. MJS Contest”, please sign the provided form and attach your business card. **Checks should be payable to NJASC (New Jersey Association of Student Councils) and on the memo line please include the name of the contestant you are sponsoring and MJS.** We greatly appreciate any help you can give us, and thank you in advance for your participation. We also look forward to seeing you at the seventh annual “Mr. MJS Contest.”

Sincerely,

Laura Perry – Student Council Advisor  
Stephen Finkelstein – Student Council Advisor  
Nick L. – Student Council President  
Lauren T. – Student Council Vice-President

**MJS BUSINESS SPONSOR FORM**

**Business Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION AMOUNT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTESTANT'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NJASC AND ON THE MEMO LINE WRITE THE  
CONTESTANT'S NAME - MJS.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO ATTACH YOUR BUSINESS CARD FOR ADVERTISMENT PURPOSES IN  
OUR PROGRAM.

THANK YOU!  
THE STUDENT COUNCIL OF THE MADISON JUNIOR SCHOOL

## **What is Good Grief?**

Good Grief is Northern New Jersey's premier resource for grieving children and their families. Through our support center and workshops we help children during the difficult times of their lives and offer support and guidance to the adults in their lives. We provide direct services for children and teens grieving the death of a parent or sibling. Our services are free of charge.

### **Our Vision:**

A world where children coping with loss can grow up to be emotionally healthy and productive.

### **Our Mission:**

To normalize grief in our communities through education, advocacy, and year-round support group programs for grieving children, teens and adults.

### **Who We Serve:**

We provide services to children, teens and young adults who have lost a parent or sibling to death. We also provide services for the children's surviving parent(s) or caretaker.

## **Good Grief Principles**

### ***We believe . . .***

Grief is a natural reaction to loss.

We all have within us the natural capacity to heal after a loss.

The duration and intensity of grief are unique to each individual.

Caring and acceptance assist in both the grieving and healing processes.

### ***Our Practice . . .***

We accept and affirm all feelings in our Support Circle.

We provide caring support and serve as companions on each individual's unique journey through loss.

We are empathetic listeners and compassionate witnesses, we listen with our hearts, eyes and ears.

We believe every person has the right to be heard and understood.

We gather as a grieving community to honor each other's stories and to hold hope in the presence of suffering.

We care for ourselves with compassion and understanding so that we may do the same for others.

**For more information about Good Grief, please visit their website:**

**<http://www.good-grief.org/>**

**The Student Council at MJS would like to thank all of you in advance for helping us in our efforts to raise funds for this very worthy charity.**

# Judge's Scoring Criteria

## 1. Casual Wear:

Maximum of 15 points total with 5 points per category.

Sub Categories: Neatness, Presentation, Coordination

## 2. Talent Competition:

Maximum of 15 points with 5 points per category.

Sub Categories: Creativity, Execution, Originality

## 3. Formal Wear and Question/Answer:

Maximum of 15 points with 5 points per category.

Sub Categories: Presentation of Formal Wear, Clarity of Speech,  
Content of Answer,

**Mr. Congeniality**: Shows most spirit and spunk throughout the competition. (Judges Choice)

**Mr. Talent**: Demonstrates most talent in performance with highest amount of points in Talent Competition

**Mr. MJS**: Contestant with the highest amount of points in each category.

**(Max. 45 pts. Per judge)**

**(Max 180 pts. Total)**

# **Final Judge Tally Sheet**

## **Mr. Congeniality:**

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(most spirit and spunk—judges choice)

## **Mr. Talent:**

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(highest amount of points in Talent  
Competition)

## **Mr. MJS Winner**

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(highest amount of points from all  
judges.)