

# THE ENTERTAINMENT SEEN

## Age Range in Miss Black America Pageant Now 17 to 29 Years of Age

The age range in the 19th annual Miss Black America Pageant and Television Special has been changed to between 17 and 29 years of age for contestants who enter the pageant this year.



AMINAH FAKIR  
Miss Black America, 1985

Philadelphia that there were several reasons for making the drastic changes in the 19 year old pageant, among which was, "the fact that the 1980 census revealed the average age of Black

American Women to be older than any time in history". Previous age requirements for the pageant were 18 to 25 years.

In addition, Anderson said, "Black Women don't age as fast as those who compete in the Miss Black America Pageant's counterpart, 'The Miss America Pageant', therefore, extending the age range of the MBA Pageant to 29 years would have no effect on the beauty of the Black Women who would be seen in the television presentation." In fact, Anderson reiterated, "the beauty of the Black Woman becomes more profound as she becomes older—look at Tina Turner, for example."

Anderson said, "it is my firm intention for the Miss Black America Pageant to provide a stage, a platform and a microphone for the widest possible range of Black Women to display their talents, air their views and show their inner and uttermost beauty to the World".

Commenting on why the age range of the pageant was reduced to the age of 17 years, Anderson said "the pageant wanted to give beautiful and talented High School Seniors who would graduate prior to the date of the annual pageant, but would not reach the age of 18 before the date of the pageant, the opportunity to compete and appear on TV immediately after their graduation from High School."

Anderson has invited contestants throughout the United States who would like to enter the National Miss Black America Pageant and TV Special directly to call area code (215) 844-8872; or write P.O. Box 25668, Philadelphia, PA 19144.



Producer, DJ Larry Bell (left) and M.C. Tee Robert Mitchell (right of Freak Control).



Delta Park was the scene of the Sixteenth Annual Portland Intertribal Delta Park Pow-Wow. The three day Pow-Wow had an attendance of about 6500 people, that included Native Americans from 52 tribes. Tribes were represented from many states and Alaska and Canada. Traditional dress, dance, music and ceremony were among the cultural activities that went unnoticed by most of Portland as they gathered around Waterfront Park and the festivities surrounding Rose Festival.

Photo by Richard J. Brown

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