



Miss Abbey Kaufman
2016-2017
National Cherry Queen

2017-2018 National Cherry Queen Application

(Please print or type both sides of application)

Application Deadline
Postmarked on or before May 10, 2017

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____
(The above address will be used for our official mailings. Please feel free to include another address if necessary)

Phone _____ Cell _____ Email _____
(We will use email as our main form of communication with you. Please list an email that you check regularly.)

Emergency Contact _____

Phone _____

Parent Names _____

Education

High School Name _____ Grad Year _____

College _____ Expected Grad Date _____

Major _____

A bio sheet detailing information you would like to share with the judges and for publicity purposes is required as part of the application process. Please see attached page of application for details.

I attest that the above information is true and correct, and that proof thereof can be produced upon request. As a candidate of the National Cherry Queen title, I have met all of the requirements stated in the official National Cherry Queen Candidate contract, and will abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the National Cherry Festival and Queen's Committee.

Candidate Signature _____ Date _____

Application Requirement

Please submit a one page resume detailing information (awards, hobbies, organizational memberships, future goals, etc.) you would like to share with the judges. This sheet is required for the application process and can be written in an outline or resume style. We also ask that you submit a bio, 250 words or less, describing yourself. A sample bio is enclosed. **Your name must appear on the top of the sheet and information should be limited to one side of one sheet.**

Additional Information

Why do you want to be National Cherry Queen? _____

How did you find out about this competition?

Do you have any food allergies or dietary requirements we should know about? **Yes / No** If yes, please list your requirements below:

Initial the following items when completed:

- _____ Application completed and signed
- _____ Sponsor or sponsors authorization completed and signed
- _____ Total sponsorship fee of \$500.00 (*postmarked by April 15, 2017*) or \$600 (*postmarked April 17-May 10, 2017*).
Candidates are welcome to have more than one sponsor. Please make checks payable to "National Cherry Festival" and send to: National Cherry Festival; 250 E. Front Street; STE 301; Traverse City, MI 49684
- _____ Official Candidate Contract signed and enclosed
- _____ Bio template *and* one page resume completed and enclosed
- _____ One (1) color, high resolution, digital headshot (at least 300 dpi). This image will be used for the judge's books, media and marketing materials. Please email photo to: queenscommittee@cherryfestival.org. Please include your sponsor(s) name with your email.

Please do not send in your application without the items listed above. Should you have any questions, please contact Kay Relyea, Director of Queen's Activities, at (231) 620-6976 or email queenscommittee@cherryfestival.org for more information.



Sponsoring Organization Information and Authorization

Thank you for sponsoring a young lady for the National Cherry Queen Competition. Each year, young ladies from all over Michigan compete for the chance to earn college scholarships, and for the opportunity to be a national spokesperson for the Cherry Industry and the National Cherry Festival. This year, we proudly boast scholarship awards of \$12,500.

Our Queen Selection competition takes place in two phases; "Selection Weekend" in May, and the "Final Queen Competition" during National Cherry Festival week.

Selection Weekend 2017 – Dates to be determined: All initial candidates participate in a series of 3 judged interviews, 1 cherry industry speech presentation and 1 on-stage question. A panel of judges will assess each candidate during these interviews and speech. The four candidates with the highest points at the end of Selection Weekend will receive a \$1,250 scholarship award to the school of her choice, a Festival wardrobe provided by Raven’s Child, and advance to the final round of competition during National Cherry Festival Week with all-expenses paid while in Traverse City. It is our goal to create a memorable and rewarding experience for all by incorporating educational and motivational seminars throughout Selection Weekend and periodically enjoying the amenities of our host facility.

Final Queen Competition, July 1 – July 08, 2017: A new panel of secret judges will assess the qualities of each of the four Queen finalists as they serve as court members to the current Queen at various events. On Wednesday of Festival week, each Queen finalist will have an interview with the secret judges. On Thursday, they will have an interview with the remaining secret judges. A final interview will take place with all judges on Friday of Festival week. The new National Cherry Queen and 1st Runner-Up will be announced at the Queen's Ball. The 1st Runner-Up will receive a total scholarship award of \$1,750 and the new National Cherry Queen will receive a total scholarship award of \$8,250!

Your generous contribution will help a young lady receive an amazing experience, and your name will appear in the *TC Record Eagle* in early June announcing the National Cherry Queen candidate’s for 2017. We will also list your business or organization’s name on the National Cherry Festival website and hyperlink to your website with your sponsored young lady. The Festival's interactive website receives over 31 million hits during a measured period from January 1 to July 31. This represents over 440,000 visitor sessions.

Although becoming National Cherry Queen is ultimately the goal, it is our sincere hope that each participant will experience significant personal growth, wonderful memories and experiences, and lifelong friendships. Thank you for being a part of this experience.

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Sponsor Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (s) _____

Website Address: _____

Authorized Sponsor Representative (Please print) _____

Authorized Representative Signature _____ Date _____

*Please make checks payable to the "National Cherry Festival" and mail to:
250 E. Front Street; STE 301; Traverse City, MI 49684*

Sample Candidate Bio Sheets

Sonya Saylor

2013-2014 National Cherry Queen

Sonya Louise Saylor is the 23 year old daughter of Richard and Donna Saylor of Williamsburg. She is a 2008 graduate of Elk Rapids High School and a recent graduate of the University of Phoenix, where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations. Sonya also achieved her International Sports Science Personal Trainer Certification. She is passionate about sharing her knowledge of health and nutrition and plans to reflect on a life full of the same values she has gained from her family and work ethic.

Sonya is honored to have been Miss Elk Rapids 2009. She is thankful for her involvement because it gave her the opportunity to get involved and give back. Every year of participation with the Miss Elk Rapids Scholarship Program brought new and exciting experiences. She learned what it meant to represent the Scholarship Program and to be a role model for other young girls as an ambassador for her community. She is inspired to share her passion, commitment and enthusiasm for the cherry industry.

Sonya was born and raised as the sixth generation on her family's fruit farm. She loves working on the farm and has spent every summer since she was a young girl actively helping with the cherry harvests. In the future, Sonya hopes to help continue the legacy and tradition of her family's farm.

Sonya is sponsored by Smeltzer Orchard Company, Frankfort, MI

Meg Howard

2012-2013 National Cherry Queen

Meg is a 2006 graduate of Traverse City West Senior High School. Currently she is attending Northwestern Michigan College. In the spring of 2012 she started her first semester of the nursing program. By the end of the fall 2012 semester, Meg will graduate with her Licensed Practical Nurse degree. Meg is currently work at Pete's Place, a homeless shelter for teenagers. Meg is the daughter of Jim and Linda Howard of Traverse City, Michigan.

Meg's future goals include becoming a Registered Nurse, starting a family, traveling, going on mission trips, doing different types of volunteer work, engaging in different church activities and helping as a leader for youth at different churches. She will continue to try new things and push her potential.

Besides her love for nursing, Meg enjoys modeling, acting, singing, working out, reading, boating, crafts, working with children and elders, helping others and spending time with her family and friends. She continues to work with the community in different ways and thrives to make a change for the better.

Meg is graciously sponsored by Cherry Flex and Broad Farms



OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS FOR CANDIDATES OF THE NATIONAL CHERRY QUEEN COMPETITION

- 1) All qualified candidates will compete in Candidate Selection Weekend, in which four girls will be chosen as a finalist for National Cherry Queen. **(Date to be determined.)** Candidates must be present the entire Selection Weekend. The four finalists chosen will return for final competition July 1 - July 8, 2017 during the week of Cherry Festival. The crowning will take place at the Queen's Ball, Friday July 7, 2017 at the Northwestern Michigan College's Hagerty Center.
- 2) Entrant agrees to abide by all rules established by the Queen's Committee and must sign the Candidate's Contract to signify this agreement.
- 3) Entrant must be a single female, never have been married, divorced, or cannot be currently or throughout her reign cohabiting with a male in lieu of marriage. She must not be pregnant, nor have any children.
- 4) Entrant must be between the ages of 19 -24 as of July 7th, 2017. Entrant is a high school graduate or other institution of equivalent scholarship standing, and can produce a diploma as proof thereof.
- 5) Entrant must be a resident of the State of Michigan.
- 6) Entrant must be of good character and conduct. The National Cherry Festival Queen's Committee may refuse entry to any applicant felt to be lacking in good character or displaying poor conduct.
- 7) Entrant is not under contract to any person, firm, organization or corporation, nor have any other legal obligations that would prevent participation in the National Cherry Queen selection process.
- 8) Entrant will cooperate with the Program Director as to the format of the Program. Entrant agrees to time, manner and method of judging, which shall be solely within the discretion of the National Cherry Queen's Committee and the National Cherry Festival. The decision of the judges and governing body will be final.
- 9) Entrant acknowledges that if chosen as the National Cherry Queen, or has been chosen as one of the four finalists for 2 years, she is no longer eligible to compete even if all other eligibility requirements are met.
- 10) Contestants are not permitted to smoke or drink at **ANY TIME** during the competition. Contestants are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner so as not to bring discredit to herself, the program, or the National Cherry Festival.
- 11) Entrant must never have been convicted of a crime, is not or ever been a willing party to any wrong doing, corruption, or financial impropriety.
- 12) Contestant authorizes the use of contestant's name and likeness for publication as the National Cherry Festival deems appropriate. This authorization shall include the use of all photographs, recordings, video or audiotapes made during the pageant itself or during a titleholders reign.
- 13) It shall be understood that any violation of the Candidate's Contract, which includes the above Rules & Regulations, may cause automatic elimination from further judging, even during the competition itself, without advance notice.
- 14) Entrant understands that an educational scholarship will be awarded to her in the amount of \$1,250 if selected as a final four Queen Candidate, and is paid directly to the school of her choice. In the event that entrant fails to abide by the rules and regulations governing this contest, she will immediately forfeit the aforementioned scholarship. She will also forfeit the position of Queen Candidate if deemed necessary by the National Cherry Festival. In the event that she does not wish to avail herself of the educational advantages of this scholarship, then she shall forfeit this scholarship.

If, after accepting the scholarship, she desires to discontinue her education, she shall forfeit any unused portion of this scholarship. In the event that she has not started to use the scholarship fund within one year of the contest, she shall forfeit the entire scholarship fund. The scholarship is non-transferable. All unused scholarship funds shall revert into the National Cherry Festival Queen Scholarship fund.

- 15) Candidate agrees that if she maintains or is involved in electronic social networking sites such as Websites, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, blogs, message boards, etc., she will present a positive image which will not contain behavior such as negative postings, inappropriate photos or inappropriate language.
- 16) If chosen as the National Cherry Queen, entrant will agree to a 1 year commitment with the National Cherry Festival, and as such will sign the official Queen's Contract and agree to relinquish any other title presently held.

IF SELECTED AS THE NATIONAL CHERRY QUEEN, the entrant must agree to the following.

- 17) If during the reign of the Cherry Queen she no longer meets the requirements of eligibility in the opinion of the Committee, she will forfeit her crown and all awards presented to her.
- 18) Throughout the year the Cherry Queen will be required to attend and participate in numerous events. All appearances are scheduled, arranged, and supervised by the Queen's Committee or designated agent so as to reflect the values and high standards of the program and to enhance its visibility within our community, state, and nation. The 1st runner-up will have no continuing obligations, only in the event that the Queen is unable to finish her reign will she be called upon.
- 19) The Cherry Queen shall **NOT** appear in public as the National Cherry Queen without prior approval of the director, or a designated agent. She will make public appearances only in the presence of a chaperone officially appointed for her by the Director. Furthermore, she will not bring guests along with her while making appearances; this includes family members and boyfriends.
- 20) Continued failure to attend scheduled functions, violations of her contract, or public conduct which the Queen's Committee deems to be a discredit to the Queen or to the National Cherry Festival, may result in action by the committee to remove the title.
- 21) The Cherry Queen shall follow all wardrobe guidelines throughout her reign during appearances. In addition, there shall be no major alterations in physical appearance without approval by the Queen's Committee. This would include piercing (other than the ears), tattoos, dramatic changes in hair color or style, or other alterations that could be considered offensive.
- 22) The Queen will receive an \$8,250 scholarship paid directly to the school of her choice. In the event that the Queen fails to abide by the rules and regulations governing this contest, she will immediately forfeit the aforementioned scholarship, and also forfeit the title of National Cherry Queen if deemed necessary by the National Cherry Festival. In the event that she does not wish to avail herself of the educational advantages of this scholarship, then she shall forfeit this scholarship. If, after accepting the scholarship, she desires to discontinue her education, she shall forfeit any unused portion of this scholarship. In the event that she has not started to use the scholarship fund within one year of the contest, she shall forfeit the entire scholarship fund. The scholarship is non-transferable. All unused scholarship funds shall revert into the National Cherry Festival Queen Scholarship fund. Furthermore, it shall be understood that the scholarship will be made in two equal payments over the course of the queen's reign.
- 23) In the event that the best interests of a contestant are threatened by enforcing any of the rules or regulations, the rule may be waived by a majority vote of the Queen's Committee, upon written request to the committee.

I hereby accept the terms, rules, and regulations stated in this contract.

Print Candidate Name

Candidate Signature

Date