

**Miss St. Tammany Parish Fair  
Pageant**  
(Ages 17 - 23)



Saturday, September 23rd  
Fuhrmann Auditorium  
317 N Jefferson Ave  
Covington

Thank you for your interest in the St. Tammany Parish Fair Miss Queen Pageant (ages 17-23 years). We are excited to have each of you participate in our event for the opportunity to represent St. Tammany Parish Fair!

Our St. Tammany Parish Fair Association wants young ladies who act in a ladylike manner and also display a true affection for the fair. Our fair is one of the oldest fairs in the state so the young women chosen must want to represent our fair at various functions throughout the year. It's important that you realize our fair is more than just midway rides and fried food!

The pageant is held at the Fuhrmann Auditorium. We are honored to have the opportunity to use a real stage, lighting and a great sound system. We must abide by the center's rules, one of which being ABSOLUTELY NO food or drink in the auditorium. Should you ignore this rule, you will be asked to leave.

Every person you see "working" this event is a volunteer. They are giving of their time to ensure this event occurs for the children of our parish and no person is paid wages or a salary. Please treat everyone with respect and appreciate that they are donating their time to you.

After reviewing the information and application, if you should have any additional questions, I can be reached at [st.tammanyparishfair@yahoo.com](mailto:st.tammanyparishfair@yahoo.com) or my mobile phone is 985-249-1079. We look forward to seeing familiar faces from previous years as well as new faces. Good luck! We hope you make new friends, learn from your experience, and use this unique opportunity to be a positive influence in your community!

Sincerely,  
*Melissa Dottolo*

Pageant Director

**Miss St. Tammany Parish Fair Pageants  
(Ages 17 - 23)**

**When:** Saturday, September 23rd  
**Where:** Fuhrman Auditorium, 317 N. Jefferson, Covington  
**Attire:** Interview suit and floor length evening gown  
**Cost:** \$50 Early registration (postmarked by August 19th)  
 \$75 Regular registration (postmarked August 20th - September 15th)  
 \$100 Late registration (payable at the door )  
 Make checks or money orders payable to:

**St. Tammany Parish Fair Association**

**How:** Mail your completed, signed application, signed contestant rules and entry fee to

**St. Tammany Parish Fair Pageant, 28139 Chukkar Lane, Folsom LA 70437**

Guest cost/entry fee to watch pageant: \$5.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child (ages 2-12). Only contestants admitted in free of charge

Pageant Agenda:

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 12:00 pm                       | Arrive for Miss Interviews (interview suit attire) |
| 3:00 pm- no later than 3:30 pm | Princess, Jr and Miss Contestants check in         |
| 3:30 pm                        | ONLY contestants in dressing rooms (see rule 4)    |
| 3:15 pm - 3:45 pm              | Contestants change into evening gown               |
| 3:55 pm                        | Line-up to begin pageant                           |
| 4:00 pm                        | Pageant begins                                     |

What to Expect:

- Miss Contestants participate in a 6 minute interview (wear an interview suit) and are scored on poise, personality, speech and overall impression
- Contestants check in with hair and makeup already done. You may change into your evening gown attire in the dressing room
- Bring your photo (to enter the photogenic competition) in any size up to 8x10, in a photo frame for placement on the display table
- Line-up number is given at check in
- Contestants will first meet the audience in a walk around the stage, led by the reigning queen, then line up at the back of the stage for introductions
- In numerical order, contestants will introduce themselves with the following: **Name, Age, School attending and Contestant number...you can be creative with this!**
- Next, contestants have individual evening gown competition. The emcee will introduce contestants individually and read their application answers as contestants model. Contestants will then entertain the audience with an onstage “commercial”, one minute or less, inviting the public to come to the St. Tammany Parish Fair. Onstage commercial is worth 5 points.
- Contestants are scored on poise, personality, facial and overall impression
- After competition is over, contestants may meet quickly with the judges in the judges room to gather feedback for improvement for next year.

## Awards

Awards will be given in all categories for Prettiest Hair, Prettiest Eyes, Prettiest Smile, Best Fashion, Photogenic, and Miss Congeniality.

All contestants' pictures are placed on display for the public to vote on a People's Choice Award. Vote as many times as you want at only a \$1 per vote!

Princess Miss St. Tammany wins a trophy, crown, sash and official fair pin. Upon completion of her year reign, she will be presented with a \$300 cash scholarship from the St. Tammany Parish Fair Association.

Jr. Miss St. Tammany wins a trophy, crown, sash and official fair pin. Upon successful completion of her year reign, she will be presented with a \$500 cash scholarship from the St. Tammany Parish Fair Association.

**Miss St. Tammany** wins a trophy, crown, scepter, sash and official fair pin. She will represent St. Tammany Parish Fair at the annual Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals Convention and Queens Pageant held in February (entry fee, room and board paid by the St. Tammany Parish Fair Association). Upon completion of her year reign, she will be presented with a \$750 cash scholarship from the St. Tammany Parish Fair Association and a \$250 cash scholarship from the Donald L. Primes Memorial Scholarship Fund. She will receive scholarships totaling **\$1000!**

| Queens' Tentative Calendar of Events |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| October 6th                          | Fair Parade and Opening Ceremony              |
| October 6th                          | Assist with Cheer/Dance Completion            |
| October 21                           | Possibly assist with Monster Mash             |
| January - February                   | Ride in community Mardi Gras Parades          |
| February 22nd - 25th                 | LAFF Convention (Miss Queen Required)         |
| Date - tbd                           | Volunteer at Special Olympics in Hammond      |
| September 21, 2024 (tentative)       | Assist with pageants and crown your successor |

Queens will receive numerous invitations for various events throughout the state of Louisiana. Although these opportunities are optional, please remember that your reign only lasts for one year so make as many memories as you can (because it will quickly fly by)!

## St. Tammany Parish Fair Pageant Contestant Rules and Regulations

1. Contestant must be a resident of or attend school in St. Tammany Parish. Contestant must be a naturally born female. Contestant must be single, never been married, never have had a child and not currently pregnant. Contestant may not be living in common law.
2. Contestant's age group is determined by her age on the day of the contest.
3. Please be on time for all events. The pageant will not be delayed due to tardiness of a contestant. Two points will be deducted from your total score each time.
4. Due to limited space, once pageant check-in is complete at 3:30 pm, only contestants are allowed in the dressing rooms. No males allowed in dressing rooms. Please help your contestant set up in dressing room and leave immediately.  
*Violation of this rule constitutes automatic deduction of 10 points off your total score.*
5. Should a contestant decide not to compete or is deemed ineligible after the entry fee is paid, the fee will not be refunded.
6. Should any contestant or parent at any time display inappropriate or unsportsmanlike conduct towards another contestant, parent or any member of the St. Tammany Parish Fair Pageant Volunteers, they will be asked to leave the premises and will forfeit eligibility to compete. Unsportsmanlike conduct is not tolerated. This is a friendly competition and learning experience.
7. Contestants' photographs or basic information may be used by the fair in press releases for promoting their accomplishments in the pageant.
8. A contestant may not hold a binding or festival title at the time of the competition (meaning they can ONLY represent that particular title). If a contestant holds any non-binding or non-festival title, she agrees that her first obligation is to the St. Tammany Parish Fair. If it is discovered that a contestant holds another binding or festival title, she will forfeit her eligibility to compete; if a contestant has previously held a binding or festival title she must be in good standing with her past organization(s). If a contestant holds a title but is near the end of her reign, she may present a letter of release from her director allowing her to compete.
9. The judges are given the same information as the contestants and are encouraged to select the contestant who will make the best Queen. The judges are qualified, experienced and do not reside in St. Tammany Parish. The judges' decisions are final.
10. Those crowned queen will sign an official queen's behavior contract. Failure to abide by the queens' contract may result in forfeiture of title, crown and prizes.
11. Miss queen must commit to attending a minimum of 12 events during the course of their reign. Attendance at fair events is mandatory as you will reign over the fair.

If you should have any questions regarding these rules, please reach out to me at [st.tammanyparishfair@yahoo.com](mailto:st.tammanyparishfair@yahoo.com) or my mobile 985-249-1079. Please sign below and return with your application. If you are under 18 years of age, please have your parent or guardian also sign.

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Contestant Signature

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Date

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Contestant's Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

# Miss St. Tammany Parish Fair Application (ages 17-23)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

School/College: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Organizations/Clubs/Sports: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Recent School Honors: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Food: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Movie: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Book: \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

Eye Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Hair Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Three words that describe you: \_\_\_\_\_

Ambition: \_\_\_\_\_

What I love most about the Fair is: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the most important quality that you think a St. Tammany Parish Fair Queen should possess and why: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The St. Tammany Parish Fair Association, Director, Volunteers or the Fuhrmann Auditorium will not be held responsible for any loss, theft or injury. All information provided is correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contestant Signature

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_ How did you hear about the pageant? \_\_\_\_\_

## **St. Tammany Parish Fair History**

St. Tammany Parish Fair Association formed in 1910. Records show that the first fair started out as a pet show held in what was then the City Park. In 1911, it was called the St. Tammany Stock, Poultry & Pet Animal Exhibition.

The first president was D.J. Sanders. Cash prizes were awarded to winners in the poultry and animal divisions in 1911 amounted to \$81 and 2 essay prizes of \$2.50 each were presented. Receipts for the 1911 Exhibition totaled \$845 and disbursements amounted to \$541.32. Net receipts went into the Park Improvement Fund.

By 1915 the fair had outgrown City Park and was moved to its present location at 1304 N. Columbia St. in Covington. The fair association became incorporated and sold stock to finance the necessary building program. Parish school children worked and raised money to help build the School Exhibit.

School children were required to attend the fair en masse. This meant a very early rising and a long train trip for most of them since the train was the only means of transportation for many years. Upon arrival in Covington, the children were lined up on Main Street and marched to the fairgrounds, quite a distance for them to walk. Once at the grounds, they became part of the exciting scene - foot races, tugs of war, sack races, the greased pig, a baby contest to determine the most healthy baby, and of course a great number of animals to be petted and appraised. For a number of years, school children observed Arbor Day by planting trees on the fairgrounds.

The railroad cooperated by offering a special roundtrip for \$1.00 and folks came from up and down the coast to partake of the delicious food cooked up by the Women's Progressive Union. The best cooks in the country served seafood gumbo, roast chicken, roast turkey, homemade pies, in fact home made everything! They even made their own mayonnaise. One group operated an ice cream stand and the ice cream was shipped from New Orleans by train. There was a separate coffee shop and lemonade by the barrels was provided by the various committees. There were few soft drinks, such as became popular in the 20's.

A carnival air was added in later years when carnivals wanted to use the grounds for winter living quarters and were allowed to become part of the activity. Prior to this the music that filled the air was often old-fashioned fiddling by those who competed in the Old Fiddlers' Contest. Now there is the Battle of the Bands.

There were flower shows, horse races and hundreds of shining jars of jellies, jams, preserves, pickles, fruit, and vegetables all vying for top honors.

Miss Hazel Dickson was crowned Queen of the St. Tammany Parish Fair in October, 1925, and was presented a diamond ring. To date, this is the earliest record found of the fair pageants.

The Depression came along, then World War II, and then suddenly everyone thought canning, cooking, preserving and even sewing was best left to industry. The Fair almost died out. In the mid-fifties, it was revitalized by state appropriations. At the same time it became more

carnival-like to meet the demands of the times. Rodeos sprung up and kept the country flavor alive.

Around the 50's, when the schools had Fair Day, buses would run kids over to the fair grounds. If you didn't go, you were counted absent from school.

Big companies with displays of machinery crowded with the animals and group efforts became more popular than individual exhibits. In fact, the clubs took precedence over individuals when a choice of space allotment was necessary. In 1967 individual displays of clothing, foods and house furnishing were discontinued.

Bruce Cleland said, "The Fair was quite a big deal for us kids growing up in the 50's and 60's. I remember one year I entered bantam chickens as part of my 4-H project. I rode them in the basket of my bicycle from my house on south Tyler St. (present location of Sonic) to the Fairgrounds. After winning a blue ribbon, I also retrieved them from the fairgrounds in the same manner."

During the 60's they had horse racing at the fair. The road on the grounds is round for that reason. People would bring their own horses to race at the fair. Spectators would sit on the old grandstands that are still standing today (2022) but those same grandstands are slated to be removed in 2023 to open up space on the fairgrounds.

Dennis Glass remembers "Eugene Revere used to ride his horse from Lee Road down to the fairgrounds and race him. He won several races with that old horse! There also used to be tractor driving contests. People would bring their tractors to drive and the tractor dealers would also bring equipment for demonstration."

In the early 70's, there was a resurgence in handcrafted articles, and a deep satisfaction and pride in doing things with our hands using "our own" homemade or homegrown products. During this time, a new \$60,000 Home Economic Exhibit Building was built. In fact, every building except for the barn was built by the fair association. Needlecrafts, leather goods, school exhibits, and commercial exhibits are only a few of the many attractions on display. The fair also featured an old time quilting bee, an old time blacksmith shop demonstration, and old time sugar cane grinding and syrup making.

In addition to all of the arts and crafts displays the fair held a rodeo, a junior horse show and an open horse show. The biggest attractions during that time were the wide assortment of livestock exhibits: beef, swine, sheep and dairy cattle. There was also a sky diving exhibition put on by some of the world's best known parachutists. They attempted to form a 10 man star. For entertainment, there was a Battle of the Bands, gospel singing, talent show, square dancing and no less than 5 beauty pageants. There was even a contest for the first baby born during the fair!

Weather has played a factor in whether the fair has been held. After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the area was in such devastation that it was impossible to have a fair. Covid played a factor in not having a fair in 2020. Hurricane Ida forced the fair to close in 2021.

Our Fair Association has been honored to have our queens go on to win state titles. Erika Schwarz, crowned Fair Queen in 1995, went on to win the title of 1996 Miss Louisiana America as well as \$36,865 in scholarships. In 2011, Gabrielle Palma was crowned the St. Tammany Parish Fair Queen. She attended the 2012 Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals Convention where she was then crowned the 2012 LAFF Queen of Queens.

While many things have changed over the years, one thing still remains the same: the focus on our community. The Fair now features (2023) 16 fair pageants, a Rodeo Queen Contest, Essay and Poster contest, Kids Day, Gospel Night, Parade, Opening Ceremony, Cheer/Dance Competition, Wild West Show, Rodeo, Livestock competitions, Exhibits, entertainment and carnival rides. During the years that Trey Folse was our school Superintendent, every single school participated in the school booths. The Fair Association also gives back approximately \$25,000 annually to the schools, to exhibit entries and in scholarships.

“Come one, come all” - this traditional cry of fairs rings true for St. Tammany Parish Fair. Handmade, home made and home grown hold the spotlight and bring back the delightful days of the old time country fair. See you there...at the St. Tammany Parish Fair!