# The North Carolina Rhododendron Festival, Inc.

## Celebrating the world's largest rhododendron gardens atop beautiful Roan Mountain

### NORTH CAROLINA RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL PAGEANT APPLICATION

Applications are being accepted for the North Carolina Rhododendron Festival Pageant. The pageant will be held June 18-19, 2027, at Bowman Middle School in Bakersville, North Carolina. This will be our 80th North Carolina Rhododendron Festival.

**Application Deadline: May 15, 2027**

**Divisions**

**Senior Queen Division**
-Ages 17-22 (Must Be A High School Graduate)
-Entry Fee: $175 ($180 if paid via Venmo or PayPal)
-Queen Scholarship: $6000

**Junior Queen Division**
-Ages 8-12
-Entry Fee $125 ($130 if paid via Venmo or PayPal)
-Jr. Queen Scholarship: $2000

**Competitions**

Interview 40%

Talent 30%

Evening Gown 10%

On-stage Promotional Speech 10%

Fitness 10%

**Competitions**

Interview 40%

Talent 30%

Evening Gown 20%

On-stage Promotional Speech 10%

**Interview:** Senior division-10 minutes. Junior division-7 minutes. More information will be provided in the contestant packet.

**Talent:** Length of talent routine not to exceed 2.5 minutes (150 seconds). Music must be emailed to Beth Brewer at bethbrewer91@yahoo.com in an MP3 file. The file should only contain the music being used for talent. Please bring a backup copy of your music.

**Evening Gown:** Full-length formal gown.

**On-stage Promotion Speech:** Contestant will present a 90-second promotional speech about the NC Rhododendron Festival. More information will be provided in the contestant packet.

**Fitness:** Contestants will model appropriate and full coverage athletic attire of their choice. This phase of competition is designed to showcase personal style, wellness, and confidence.

-Age divisions are determined by the age as of the date of the pageant. Senior Queen contestants must be a high school graduate and must not turn 23 prior to July 1, 2027. Junior Queen contestants shall not turn 13 prior to July 1, 2027. Proof of age may be required.

-If a late application is approved, a $25 late fee will be added.

-Entry fees are non-refundable, unless otherwise approved.

-Contestant numbers will be limited to 20 in each age division and will be considered for acceptance in the order in which they are received.

## Contestant Information

The North Carolina Rhododendron Festival Queens serve as representatives of the NC Rhododendron Festival, Bakersville, and Roan Mountain. The title of North Carolina Rhododendron Queen carries the responsibility of promoting the Festival, Roan Mountain, and Bakersville. Queens are required to travel across the state of North Carolina while attending festivals, parades, and making appearances throughout the calendar year. Queens, parents, and the pageant business manager will meet after the pageant (date TBA) for a contract signing. A schedule of events and appearances will be provided at contract signing. Failure to participate in required appearances can result in loss of scholarship monies and/or revocation of the title.

The North Carolina Rhododendron Festival title is a closed title. If a contestant currently holds a title, this title must be relinquished upon being crowned as a North Carolina Rhododendron Festival Queen. The North Carolina Rhododendron Festival queens cannot participate in or compete for another title during their reign.

All contestants must be legal, full-time residents of the State of North Carolina and citizens of the United States of America.

If, for any reason, the winner cannot fulfill her obligation as a North Carolina Rhododendron Festival Queen, she must relinquish her crown, all prizes, and awards to the first runner-up.

## Contestant Requirements During Festival

All contestants must be accompanied by an adult chaperone throughout the weekend. Any chaperone who is not a parent/legal guardian of the contestant must be approved by the pageant director prior to the Festival.

All contestants must be present for mandatory registration and rehearsal activities beginning early **Thursday, June 17.** Upon receipt of the application, a schedule with specific times will be provided.

All contestants must attend the Rhododendron Street Dance on **Friday, June 18,** after the pageant competition.

All contestants are encouraged to participate in the Rhododendron Craft Fair during the weekend.

Further details regarding these activities will be provided in the contestant packet once the application and fees are received.

## Contact Information

**Pageant Director**: Beth Brewer  828-766-5773  rhodobeth@gmail.com

**Business Manager:** Sharon Webb  828-385-0133  peroan02@gmail.com

**Festival Website:** ncrhododendronfestival.org

## Application Submission

The submitted application will be included in judges' packets, as is. Please ensure the application is typed or written legibly.

**Please make checks payable to:** North Carolina Rhododendron Festival

Include a headshot suitable for the pageant program and newspaper. Digital photos (JPEG format) can be emailed to Beth Brewer at rhodobeth@gmail.com

Contestant photos must be received by May 15 for inclusion in pageant programs and other promotional media.

**Please mail the application to:**

North Carolina Rhododendron Festival

PO Box 407

Bakersville, NC 28705

**The North Carolina Rhododendron Festival Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any application. The festival committee also reserves the right to cancel the pageant due to  COVID-19.

**NORTH CAROLINA RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL PAGEANT**

**CONTESTANT INFORMATION – PART 1**

**NAME:_____**

**AGE: _____**

**ADDRESS:_____**

**CITY:_____ STATE:_____ Zip:_____**

**BIRTH DATE: _____/_____/_____**

**PHONE:_____**

**E-mail:_____**

**SPONSOR:_____**

**TEE SHIRT SIZE (Please circle)**

**Youth Medium - Youth Large - Adult Small - Adult Medium - Adult Large**

**PERSONAL STATISTICS:**

**Height: _____**

**Eye Color: _____ Hair Color: _____**

**CONTESTANT SIGNATURE:_____**

**PARENT SIGNATURE: _____**

**NORTH CAROLINA RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL PAGEANT**

**CONTESTANT INFORMATION – PART 2**

**CONTESTANT NAME: _____**

**PAGEANT EXPERIENCE:**

**BRIEF TALENT DESCRIPTION:**

**TITLE OF MUSIC:**

**TALENT TRAINING:**

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## CONTESTANT INFORMATION – PART 3

**FAMILY INFORMATION:**

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

**PLANS FOR THE FUTURE:**

**HOBBIES:**

**INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT YOU:**

**(PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NEEDED)**