



2026 Applicant Information Packet

Ms. Main Street Bash *Vintage Pin Up Gala & Pageant*

Part of the End of Summer Main Street Bash

*Saturday, September 12, 2026
Historic Downtown Ashland, Ohio*

*Hosted by
Kandi Blaze
Host • Experience Designer • Event Producer*

Thank you for your interest in becoming part of one of Ashland's most unforgettable annual traditions. This packet contains everything you'll need before submitting your application.

This Isn't Just a Pageant...

It's an Experience.

Every year, historic downtown Ashland transforms into one of Ohio's most unique celebrations as beautiful vehicles, locally owned businesses, live entertainment, community organizations, and thousands of visitors come together to celebrate the close of summer.

For one unforgettable afternoon, sixteen women don't simply attend that celebration...

They become part of the story.

This Gala was never created to be about who wears a crown.

It was created to celebrate confidence without arrogance...

Kindness without competition...

Friendship over comparison...

And the idea that every woman should leave feeling more beautiful than when she arrived—not because of a sash or a title, but because of the experience she shared with the people around her.

You'll spend the day meeting incredible women, interacting with spectators, supporting locally owned businesses, posing for photographs, laughing more than you expect, and becoming part of memories that families will take home with them long after the streets have emptied.

For one unforgettable day...

YOU become part of the show.

Welcome to the story...

The Gala Experience

From the moment you arrive in historic downtown Ashland, you'll discover that this isn't a traditional pageant.

It's a full afternoon of vintage style, beautiful automobiles, community, photography, laughter, and unforgettable memories.

As one of the sixteen selected Pin Ups, you'll spend the day as one of the featured faces of the End of Summer Main Street Bash. Throughout the afternoon you'll meet fellow contestants, photographers, spectators, local business owners, and thousands of visitors who have come to experience one of Ashland's most anticipated annual traditions.

Rather than spending the day waiting backstage, you'll become part of the celebration itself.

A Special Meet & Greet

Before the festivities begin, you'll have the opportunity to meet your fellow Pin Ups during a special Meet & Greet designed to help everyone become comfortable before the day's activities begin.

More details regarding this year's Meet & Greet location and schedule will be provided to our sixteen selected finalists as event day approaches.

Limited Edition Trading Cards

One of the most cherished traditions of the Gala is our custom **Limited Edition Trading Card Series**.

Each of the sixteen selected Pin Ups will receive a professionally designed set of trading cards featuring the photograph submitted with her application. Prior to event day, you'll also receive a digital preview of your trading card to share on your social media platforms as part of your official introduction to this year's Gala.

Throughout the afternoon, your cards become wonderful conversation starters. You'll autograph and share them with spectators, families, fellow contestants, car enthusiasts, local business owners, and collectors who spend the day enjoying the End of Summer Main Street Bash.

My hope has always been the same.

Years from now, someone may come across one of your trading cards tucked inside a keepsake box, scrapbook, or photo album... and instantly be reminded of the wonderful day they met you in historic downtown Ashland.

I still smile every time I come across one from previous years.

It's one of my favorite traditions of the entire Gala.

The Pin Up Pit Stop Tour

One of the highlights of the Gala is our exclusive
Pin Up Pit Stop Tour.

Throughout the afternoon, you'll visit several locally owned businesses in historic downtown Ashland that have partnered with the End of Summer Main Street Bash to welcome our contestants into the community.

This isn't about shopping.

It's about connection.

Our downtown businesses open their doors, welcome you inside, and become part of your experience. Many of our participating businesses prepare gifts, treats, exclusive offers, or goodie bags exclusively for our Pin Ups as a thank-you for helping make the Gala such a memorable part of Main Street.

Along the way you'll interact with spectators, pose with beautiful classic vehicles, visit with business owners, and experience downtown Ashland from a perspective very few visitors ever have the opportunity to enjoy.

One of my favorite moments each year is watching complete strangers become friends before the afternoon is over.

By the time the Tour comes to an end...

It rarely feels like sixteen contestants.

It feels like one incredible group of women sharing the same adventure.

Photography Throughout the Day

One of the greatest keepsakes you'll take home from the Gala won't fit inside a goodie bag.

It will be the memories captured along the way.

Throughout the afternoon you'll be photographed by official event photographers, local media, magazines, sponsors, local businesses, vehicle owners, spectators, and fellow contestants as historic downtown Ashland comes alive with the excitement of the End of Summer Main Street Bash.

Whether you're standing beside a beautifully restored classic automobile, laughing with new friends, visiting a local business, or simply enjoying the afternoon, every photograph becomes another chapter in your story.

Some of these photographs may appear in magazines, newspapers, social media, event promotions, and other publications celebrating the Gala and the End of Summer Main Street Bash. Others may simply become treasured memories shared among friends and family for years to come.

We encourage classy, tasteful, vintage-inspired photography throughout the day and simply ask that every contestant remember she is representing both herself and the Gala at all times.

Please refrain from inappropriate or overly suggestive poses, gestures, or behavior while representing the Gala throughout the day.

Years from now, these photographs won't simply remind you what you looked like...

They'll remind you how you felt.

The Grand Finale

As the afternoon draws to a close, everyone will gather for the official Ms. Main Street Bash Vintage Pin Up Gala & Pageant, where our panel of judges will recognize the women who have truly embraced the spirit of the Gala.

While every contestant will have her moment on stage, the Gala experience begins long before the first name is announced—and so does the judging.

Throughout the day, our VIP Ambassadors quietly observe each contestant's personality, sportsmanship, kindness, professionalism, enthusiasm, crowd interaction, overall presentation, and the way she represents both herself and the Gala while interacting with fellow contestants, local businesses, volunteers, and the public.

This Gala has never been judged solely by what happens on stage... because the stage is simply where the story concludes.

It has always been about the complete experience.

Our hope is that every woman leaves feeling celebrated, appreciated, and proud to have been part of the experience—regardless of whether she receives a title.

After all...

The Gala isn't about finding the "perfect" Pin Up.

It's about recognizing the women who helped create an unforgettable experience for everyone around them.

Awards & Recognition

Five women will be recognized during the **2026 Ms. Main Street Bash Vintage Pin Up Gala & Pageant.**

While every contestant helps create the experience, our awards celebrate the many different ways someone can leave a lasting impact on the Gala.

Some awards recognize the women who most fully embraced the spirit of the event through their personality, kindness, sportsmanship, enthusiasm, professionalism, and overall participation throughout the day.

Others recognize the contestant who earns the support of her fellow contestants and spectators, as well as the woman whose fundraising efforts make the greatest impact for this year's nonprofit.

The official award categories will be announced prior to the event.

Overall Winners

First Place — \$500

Second Place — \$300

Third Place — \$200

Each recipient will receive a custom title sash, with additional specialty awards presented during the Gala.

But perhaps the greatest reward isn't a sash...
or even a title.

It's becoming part of a tradition that grows with every passing year.

Long after the event has ended...

You'll always be part of the story.

Supporting the Cause

Giving Back Together

One of my favorite parts of the Ms. Main Street Bash Vintage Pin Up Gala & Pageant is that, together, we are able to create something beautiful while giving back.

This year's proceeds will benefit the **National Niemann-Pick Disease Foundation**, also known as NNPDPF, in honor of eight-year-old **Officer Allysson Nead**, who is courageously battling Niemann-Pick Type C.

As part of the application process, each applicant is asked to make a \$20 entry donation directly to NNPDPF.

To donate, visit:

<https://nnpdf.org>

Once on the website, look for the DONATE button in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

Please include proof of your donation when submitting your completed application. Your application will be considered complete once both your application and proof of donation have been received.

Donation money is not collected by the Gala, the event host, or the End of Summer Main Street Bash.

Every dollar goes directly to NNPDPF.

Your donation does not simply enter you into the Gala.

It helps support an incredible cause, honor a very special little girl, and remind us that this event has never been just about a crown.

It has always been about community, kindness, connection, and giving back.

Our Expectations

From the very beginning, the **Ms. Main Street Bash Vintage Pin Up Gala & Pageant** has been built on one simple belief: **Kindness matters.**

We proudly welcome women of every background, ethnicity, body type, hometown, and level of experience. Whether this is your first Pin Up event or your fiftieth, my hope is exactly the same—that every contestant leaves feeling welcomed, appreciated, celebrated, empowered, and proud to have been part of something special.

We've worked hard to create a Gala where *kindness matters more than competition*, and we ask every contestant to help us preserve that culture.

Please treat fellow contestants, VIP Ambassadors, volunteers, judges, photographers, business owners, sponsors, spectators, and the public with kindness, professionalism, and respect throughout the day.

Bullying, harassment, gossip, name-calling, disrespectful behavior, or inappropriate conduct—whether in person or online—may result in immediate disqualification. Because this is a family-friendly community event, contestants should also refrain from profanity, political discussions, current events, or other controversial topics while representing the Gala.

Because long after the crowns have been packed away...

People won't remember every score.

They'll remember how they were treated.

Before You Apply

Congratulations—you've reached the final step.

If you've made it this far, I hope you can already picture yourself spending the day with us in historic downtown Ashland. Before submitting your application, please take a few moments to review the information below.

✓ *What You'll Need*

- *Completed application*
- *Recent photograph(s)*
- *Required entry donation*
- *Signed release forms*
- *Current email address & phone number*

✓ *One Final Check*

- *Review your application one final time.*
- *Incomplete or late applications may not be considered.*

✓ *What Happens Next*

- *We'll confirm once your application has been received.*
- *Every application is carefully reviewed by our selection committee.*
- *Selected contestants will be contacted by email and/or phone.*

Then...

The waiting begins.

I promise...

It's worth it.

Official Contestant Application

2026 End of Summer Ms Main Street Bash

Legal Name	
Date of Birth	
Home Street Address	
City, State & Zip Code	
Phone	
Email	
Stage Name:	

**If you use a stage name, it may be used during contestant introductions, announcements, social media, and your digital trading card. If you don't have one yet, simply leave this blank.

Before You Submit:

- ☐ Completed application
- ☐ Recent high-quality photograph(s)
- ☐ Required Entry Donation
- ☐ Proof of donation included

Turn the page to continue...

Contestant Application

Getting to Know You

Tell us a little about yourself:

What inspired you to apply for the 2026 Ms. Main Street Bash Vintage Pin Up Gala?

If you could spend one afternoon cruising in any classic or vintage vehicle, what would it be—and why?

What does kindness mean to you?

Is there anything you'd like our VIP Ambassadors, judges, or event staff to know about you?