



Bastrop Juneteenth Celebration



Gumbo Cook-off Entry Form

To add to the festivities Bastrop Juneteenth Celebration is honored to host the second Bastrop Mardi Gras Festival Gumbo Cookoff. The entry fee to participate February 1, 2025, is \$100 per team and for a \$10 donation, spectators are invited to taste participants' entries. The number of entries will be limited to 15 teams. Prizes will be awarded for First, Second and Third Place and People's Choice.

GUMBO MUST:

- All food preparation must occur on premise on the day of the event except roux, stock and rice.
- Each team is required to make a minimum of ten (10) gallons of gumbo and 5lbs rice to provide samples to the public and a panel of judges.
- Be ready for Judging and tasting at 1pm. Judging will be blind from numbers only.

TEAM REQUIREMENTS:

Team Captain: each team will designate a team captain that will be responsible for keeping their team's cooking area clean, that samples are given to the judges table, as well as ensuring all team members understand the Rules & Regulations

Check-in and Set-up: All teams must report to the event Info and Judging Booth area at 7:00am for check-in and set up instructions. A Cook-Off representative will be available to help with checking your team in and telling you where to set up. Teams may bring vehicles near their cook-off spot for loading and unloading ONLY. Once all equipment and supplies are removed from vehicles, they will need to be moved to designated or nearby public parking. All teams must have vehicles removed by 7:50am, the event begins at 8:00am for the public.

Space: Each team will be designated a 10'x20' space for their food preparation and cooking. Each team will need to provide their own canopy, weights (30lb at each leg), tables and cooking equipment and supplies. Each team is responsible for the cleanliness of their space and for following City, County and State food safety regulations. Teams must break down their stations and completely vacate the areas no later than 2pm.

Health and Safety:

- A centralized three compartment dishwashing station and hand washing station will be provided for participants to use. Additionally, participants are welcome to have their own hand washing and three compartment dishwashing setup within their 10x20' stations.
- All food preparation must occur underneath each team's respective canopy and cooking is required to happen outside of the canopy but within the 10x20' designated team spot. All food must be covered at all times.
- No smoking is allowed in the cooking area
- No pets allowed in the cooking area



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JUDGING:

Numbered containers for the judging will be provided by the Bastrop Juneteenth Celebration at approximately 11:45 am. A team captain is required to deliver the numbered sample to the judging area by 12:00 noon. The judging area will be communicated to each Team Captain the morning of the event. The winners of the cook-off will be announced at approximately 2:00 pm. All decisions by the judges are final.

- The judges will give each gumbo a score between 1 and 5. The judging criteria are as follows:
 - Appearance – has a good gumbo-roux color
 - Aroma – must smell appetizing
 - Consistency – stirs like a good gumbo – thickness of base, etc.
 - Texture – balanced quantity of ingredients
 - Flavor – tastes like a good gumbo, pleasing to the palate
- Cooking conditions are subject to inspection. Failure to follow these rules will be grounds for disqualification. Any changes to these official rules and regulations will be communicated to Teams in advance of the event.

WHERE:

Located on the streets of downtown Bastrop – along Water Street and Pine Street

PRIZES:

Awards will be given in the following categories:

- Best Overall by Judges:
 - First Place - trophy and \$400
 - Second Place - trophy and \$300
 - Third Place - trophy and \$200
- People's Choice Award
 - Trophy and entry into 2026 Gumbo Cook-Off

WHAT WILL BE PROVIDED

Each team will be provided with sample cups and judges sampling cups, utensils and napkins.

ENTRY FEE

\$100 per team

All proceeds from this event will benefit the annual scholarship and future celebrations of the Bastrop Juneteenth Celebration, a nonprofit organization. Each year the celebration holds annual weekend events. Activities include school reunions of the former historically African American schools in Bastrop, family reunion meet-ups, a parade, festival and a street dance.



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(Please print information)

Team Name: _____

Team Captain: _____

Team Member 2: _____

Team Member 3: _____

Team Member 4: _____

Team Email: _____

Team Phone: _____

Entry Fee: **\$100 per team. Make checks payable to Bastrop Juneteenth Celebration**
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Signature: _____

Date: _____