2027 - 2028
National Cherry Queen Application

Miss Magdalen Kleinrichert
2026-2027
National Cherry Queen

Application Deadline
Postmarked on or before May 3, 2027

Name _____ Date of Birth _____Age _____

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

_____

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 resume' is required for the application process and will be a part of the judging process and will be scored.** You may submit your resume' in 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:

_____

_____

Please list newspapers and/or radio stations in your home area we may contact about your participation:

_____

_____

Initial the following items when completed. Appliction deadline is postmarked Monday, May 3, 2027.
Please read the information carefully in order to fully understand how to qualify for the early deadline application fee. This year, all required application documents must be either mailed or personally dropped off to the National Cherry Festival office.

_____ Application completed and signed.

_____ Sponsor or sponsors authorization completed and signed.

_____ **Total* sponsorship fee of *$500.00 postmarked on or before March 29, 2027 or $600 March 30 through May 3, 2027* from one or more sponsors. Once sponsorship fees have been submitted, there is no refund. However, the sponsor will be listed as a general program sponsor. *Please make checks payable to "National Cherry Festival" and send to**: *National Cherry Festival; 521 S. Union Street, Traverse City, MI 49684. *In order to qualify for the early deadline fee of $500, ALL application items noted in this section must be submitted. If any item is missing, the later deadline fee of $600 is required.*

_____ Official Candidate Contract signed and enclosed.

_____ Your Candidate Bio *and* one-page resume' completed and enclosed.

_____ An unofficial copy of your most recent academic or professional trades transcript.

_____ One (1) color, high resolution, digital headshot (at least 300 dpi) similar to the Queen's picture above. This image will be used for the judge's books, media, and marketing materials. You may email photo to: queenscommittee@cherryfestival.org; Please include your sponsor(s) name with your email. However, this photo must be received by the deadlines noted above.

_____ Please submit an unedited video from your phone (please only 1 minute or less in length) of you telling the judges about yourself. Think about what you'd like them to know about you! Make sure to include your name and where you are from, and your sponsor, in the introduction. **The deadline for this submission is on or before Monday, May 3 at 5 p.m. to queenscommittee@cherryfestival.org.** If you have any issues with submission, please email us.

_____ As you are considering this opportunity, please understand that travel expenses to appearances in Traverse City or possibly to some areas within the State of Michigan will be at the queen's expense (gas). However, trips out of state for approved/official appearances are arranged by and paid for by the Queen's Committee and National Cherry Festival.

Please do not mail in or drop off your application packet without all items completed as listed above. *Should you have any questions, please contact Angela Sayler, Director of Queen's Activities, at (231) 649-1617 or email queenscommittee@cherryfestival.org for more information.*

NATIONAL CHERRY FESTIVAL

Sponsoring Organization Information and Authorization

Thank you for sponsoring a young woman 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 $15,000.

Our Queen Selection competition takes place in two phases; "**Candidate Interviews/Selection**" on May 21-22, 2027 and the "**Final Queen Competition**" during National Cherry Festival week.

Candidate Interviews/Selection, May 21-22, 2027: All initial candidates participate in a series of 3 judged interviews, 1 cherry industry speech presentation, a personal introductory video, and resume'/application. A panel of judges will assess each candidate during these interviews, speech, as well as the quality of the video and personal resume' submission. The four candidates with the highest points at the end of Candidate interviews will receive a $1,500 scholarship award to the school of her choice, a Festival wardrobe, and advance to the final round of competition during National Cherry Festival Week with all-expenses paid while in Traverse City.

Final Queen Competition, July 3 – July 10, 2027: 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. By mid-week, Candidates will begin interviews with the secret judges. The new National Cherry Queen and 1st Runner-Up will be announced at the Queen's Coronation. The 1st Runner-Up will receive a total scholarship award of $2,000 and the new National Cherry Queen will receive a total scholarship award of $10,000!

Your generous contribution will help a young lady receive an amazing growth opportunity. In addition, your sponsored candidate will include the name(s) of their sponsor at several public speaking opportunities throughout Selection Weekend.

Although becoming the 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 develop lifelong friendships. Thank you for being a part of this experience.

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Candidate's Name _____

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:
521 S. Union Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

Each candidate may have one or multiple sponsors. Make one copy per sponsor.

Sample Candidate Bio

Carmen Beemer

2023-2024 National Cherry Queen Candidate

Carmen is the 21-year-old daughter of Gary Godley and Shanon Beemer of Wayland. She is a 2020 graduate of Thornapple Kellogg High School and is entering her senior year at Michigan State University where she majors in Horticulture Science with a minor in Crop and Soil Sciences. Carmen spends her school year in East Lansing soaking up knowledge, exploring different restaurants, and participates in several student organizations. She is the Public Relations executive board chair for Agronomy Club and the head chair of planning and organizing Michigan State University's Block and Bridle lamb show, 'Spartan Showdown'. This summer Carmen resides in Hart, Michigan where she's taken up an internship crop scouting horticultural crops.

Carmen was blessed with being chosen as one of seven 2023 Michigan Grown, Michigan Great Agricultural Ambassadors through the Agricultural Council. She is beyond grateful to be able to advocate over 300 Michigan grown commodities as well as spread consumer awareness throughout the state. Carmen's passion for agriculture is rooted deep within her and started at a young age by showing rabbits. Throughout the years she's had several great agricultural mentors and strives to carry that same compassion onto upcoming generations.

Determined by her zeal for the agricultural industry, Carmen aspires to pursue a career as a Horticulture Crop Consultant.

Carmen is generously sponsored by VanAgtmael Orchards Inc. Gold Coast Sales, LLC. and Buning Roofing.

2027-2028 NATIONAL CHERRY QUEEN CONTRACT

1) All qualified candidates will compete in Candidate Selection Weekend, in which four girls will be chosen as a finalist for National Cherry Queen, held May 21-22, 2027. Candidates must be present the entire Selection Weekend. The four finalists chosen will return for final competition July 3 - July 10, 2026 during the week of Cherry Festival. The crowning will take place at the Queen's Coronation, Friday, July 9, 2027 at the Park Place Hotel.

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 or divorced and cannot be currently or throughout her reign cohabiting in lieu of marriage. She must not be pregnant, nor have any children.

4) Entrant must be between the ages of 19 -25 as of July 9, 2027. An 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 alcohol at **ANY TIME** during the competition**.** Contestants are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner so as not to bring discredit to themselves, the program, or the National Cherry Festival.

11) A Background Check is required of every volunteer and each candidate running for National Cherry Queen. It is at the discretion of the committee to not accept an application based on results. A candidate is encouraged to contact the Director of Queen's Activities with any questions.

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, videos, or audiotapes made during the competition itself or during a title holder's 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 $1,500 if selected as a final four Queen Candidate and is paid directly to the school of her choice. In the event the entrant fails to abide by the rules and regulations governing this contest, she will immediately forfeit the scholarship and also forfeit the position of Queen Candidate if deemed necessary by the National Cherry Festival. In the event 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. If 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, X, Tik Tok, Facebook, Instagram, blogs, podcasts, 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, the entrant will agree to a one (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 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 if 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's program 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 as directed by the Director of the Queen's Program or her designee. 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 a $10,000 scholarship paid directly to the school of her choice. If 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 as deemed necessary by the National Cherry Festival. If 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. If 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) The new queen shall provide her own transportation expenses (gas/flight/other means) from her home or college/university to events that are within driving distance unless previously arranged differently in advance. Each candidate needs to strongly discern whether traveling from their college or university is feasible prior to accepting a top 4 position. Out-of-state trip expenses will be paid for by the National Cherry Festival.

24) 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's Signature _____

Date _____