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MISS SALINAS VALLEY FAIR COMPETITION IS MARCH 15th-16th

Competitors from Atascadero, Lockwood, Salinas and Spreckels will vie for crown at fairgrounds

KING CITY – Four young women will be competing for the Miss Salinas Valley Fair crown Friday, March 15th and Saturday, March 16th in King City. The competition will be held at the Salinas Valley Fair's Rava Equestrian Arena on Friday and in the Orradre Building on Saturday. This year's winner will reign at the Salinas Valley Fair Kick-Off, April 27th and during the annual Fair, which will be held May 16-19 in King City. The Four contestants are:

AUGUST LAMACCHIA

16 year old August LaMacchia is a Junior at Notre Dame High School in Salinas. Her parents are Peter and Trish LaMacchia of Lockwood.

August has been involved in 4H and local fairs since she was very young. She is a regular around the barns having competed in several horse shows and junior livestock shows. This year she plans to show a steer at the Salinas Valley Fair and will be competing in the Salinas Valley Fair Horse Show, too. She hopes hard work will pay off at this year's Salinas Valley Fair as it has at other fairs where she's won halter showmanship and all-around buckles.

August is a barrel racer and puts away any of her winnings to help with expenses involved with her horses. One of her proudest moments has been to win the Creston Queen contest.

For community service August chooses the Big Blue Movement that cleans up beaches and educates people on the harm that trash left on the beach is causing to our Marine Life.

She enjoys photography and capturing people's "moments" and the pleasure of giving away those pictures.

NICOLE REYNOLDS

Nicole is a 17-year old senior at Atascadero High School and is the daughter of Mike and Jeanine Reynolds of Atascadero. Her family owns a small cow-calf operation in Bradley.

She is an active member of the Atascadero FFA Chapter and a past member of Cerro Alto 4H. She has shown lambs, goats, swine and cattle. Her hard work has paid off in the show ring winning numerous



awards at the California Mid-State Fair and Salinas Valley Fair for the quality of her animals and her showmanship skills.

Nicole is an avid barrel racer and team sorter. She belongs to the WCBRA, NBHA, DBBRA and won the 2018 Roxy's Dash 4D youth champion buckle and the NBHA CA State 4D youth champion.

ROSE ESCOBAR

Rose is from Spreckels and is a 16 year old Junior who attends Monterey County Home Charter School. She is the daughter of Gary and Cheri Escobar.

One of Rose's dreams is to run for Miss California Rodeo Salinas and have the opportunity to represent the Salinas Valley western heritage and way of life. She has participated in the Pageant of Flags at the 2018 Salinas Rodeo and also rode in the grand entry parade in 2017.

She had been riding horses all of her life. One of her most cherished accomplishments was to have the opportunity to fully train a horse on the barrel pattern. She went on to win her first check on this horse at Ashley's Journey Barrel Bash. She belongs to the WCBRA and TSBRA barrel racing organizations.

Her future plans are to study Equine Dentistry and Chiropractic and one day open her own equine training and rehabilitation facility.

SYDNEY GRAY

16-year old Sydney Gray, of Salinas, is the daughter of Kendall Gray and Heidi Phillips. She is currently a Junior at Monterey County Home Charter School.

Academics are important to Sydney. She has been taking courses at Hartnell while working towards her high school diploma. Her work looks to be paying off as she expects to have enough credits to earn an Associates Degree from Hartnell College at the same time she will be receiving her High School diploma.

When she's not studying, Ms. Gray is preparing to compete in one of the many horse shows in the area or raising her lamb for the upcoming Salinas Valley Fair. Sydney is a member of Spring 4-H and is the club's Vice President.

After graduation she plans to enroll in the Air Force. Following her service she is looking to attend Feather River College in Quincy to major in equine science. All of this experience will be handy in achieving her career goal of operating a horse training facility.

Each of the four contestants will be judged on personality (40%), scholastic ability (25%), poise and appearance (20%) and horsemanship (15%). Miss Salinas Valley Fair will be crowned following a BBQ lunch hosted by the Salinas Valley Fair Board on Saturday, March 16th at the Orradre Building in King City.

The 2019 Miss Salinas Valley Fair will receive a \$2,000 scholarship, sterling silver buckle and many other prizes.



The Miss Salinas Valley Fair contest is coordinated by Darla Mantel. For more information call the Fair office at 831-385-3243.

Celebrating the 75th Fair in 2019 (with a three-year hiatus during WWII), the Salinas Valley Fair was started in 1941 to provide a venue for showcasing the agriculture in the area and give youth an opportunity to show and auction animals through 4-H and FFA. It has grown to be one of the largest Junior Livestock Auctions in the state and attracts young people from throughout Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo and San Benito Counties. The Fair is designed to be a safe, accessible venue for education, community engagement, and fun in a wholesome, family friendly environment. It offers opportunities for people to gather through entertainment, interactive educational activities, agricultural competition and recognition programs, food and drink, and cultural events.

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