

Entry Form Deadline
5:00 p.m.
October 8, 2009

2009 ARKANSAS STATE FAIR QUEEN PAGEANT October 12-17, Arkansas State Fairgrounds

The Arkansas State Fair and the Arkansas Livestock Show Association welcome County and District Fair Queens from around the State. The crowning of the Arkansas State Fair Queen is the culmination of a five day event held during the State Fair beginning on Monday, no competition on Friday, and ending on Saturday. All events take place in the SOS Arkansas Building southwest of the Coliseum, except for private interviews with the judges. (See Interview on page 4.)

THREE REGIONAL WINNERS will be chosen from each Regional Contest held Monday through Thursday. Each Regional Winner will receive a trophy and the right to return on Saturday night for the Finals where four runners-up will receive trophies, and the Fair Queen will receive a trophy, crown, flowers, an official portrait, a \$400.00 cash award. A special "Ivy Faulk Interview Award" will also be presented to the contestant with the highest interview score.

QUALIFICATIONS & RULES

1. Contestants must not be less than 16 years of age on the opening day of the Arkansas State Fair & Livestock Show nor more than 21 years of age on the last day of the Arkansas State Fair & Livestock Show.
2. A contestant must have been born a female and a legal resident of Arkansas. She cannot be, or at any time have been, married, pregnant, or have had a child. A contestant must have never been convicted of any crime nor have any criminal charges pending.
3. Past Arkansas State Fair Queens are not eligible to compete again. Contestants in the State Fair Queen Pageant are not eligible to compete in State Fair Youth Talent or Rodeo Queen Contests in the same year.
4. A contestant must compete in and win the Fair Queen Contest sanctioned by the County Fair that is held in the county where she resides or attends school. Contestants must either legally reside or attend school (academic, not dance, etc.) in that county for one full semester immediately preceding that county's contest. In the event a contestant whose parents are divorced and live in separate counties, and has been court ordered to reside jointly with both parents, she can only compete in one of the two counties in which her parents reside.
5. If a contestant legally resides in one county but is attending school in a different county in Arkansas (see rule # 4), she can only compete in one of the two counties involved.
6. A contestant from a District Fair must have competed and won the Fair Queen contest sanctioned by that District Fair. Contestants representing the following District Fairs must meet the residency requirements for that District: North Central District Fair, Northeast Arkansas District Fair, Northwest Arkansas District Fair, Southeast Arkansas District Fair, Southwest Arkansas District Fair, and Arkansas-Oklahoma State Fair. Contestants representing the Four States Fair in Texarkana must be a legal resident of and attend school in Arkansas. If a District winner is also a County winner, the contestant must represent the District at the State Fair Queen contest. The county which the contestant once represented will be allow to send a runner up to compete in the State Fair Queen contest. PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME COUNTY FAIRS ARE NOT NECESSARILY IN THE SAME REGION AS THE DISTRICT FAIR.

7. Entries to the Arkansas State Fair Queen Pageant are limited to one contestant from each Fair sanctioned by the State of Arkansas. However, counties with two Fairs recognized by the State will be allowed to send one contestant from each Fair, providing that each holds a sanctioned Fair Queen Contest.
8. In the event a County or District winner is unable to compete at the State Contest, a runner-up will be allowed to represent the County or District.
9. Contestants are required to be on time for all rehearsals and events. Absent or tardy contestants may be disqualified at the discretion of the Contest Director and/or State Fair Management. If you are unable to attend or be on time due to an emergency, contact the State Fair Office at 501-372-8341 immediately.
10. Entry forms must be neat, legible, completely filled out, and signed by each of the following: (1) contestant; (2) contestant's parent or guardian; (3) an authorized County or District Fair Official. Entry forms should be sent to the State Fair office IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE COUNTY OR DISTRICT CONTEST. NO ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED ONCE THE ENTRY FORM IS SUBMITTED. Since each judge will receive a copy of all entry forms, it is to the advantage of each contestant that she type or print in ink and pay close attention to such things as spelling, grammar, vocabulary, etc.
11. All Fair Queen entry forms must be received prior to the opening day of the State Fair. Entry forms may be faxed, mailed or hand delivered. The Arkansas State Fair & Livestock Show Association is not responsible for entry forms lost or delayed in transit by any shipping method. Contestants may call the fairgrounds office, 501-372-8341 Ext.605, before opening day of the fair to confirm that an entry form has been received.
12. Each contestant must be accompanied by a female traveling companion approved by her Fair Manager or Official. The traveling companion's duties cannot be shared. The contestant must have the same traveling companion throughout the day, and she must be with the contestant at all times. The traveling companion is required to accompany contestants at rehearsal and in the dressing room prior to the competition. They are not permitted backstage at any time. Parents, step parents or guardians will not be allowed to serve as their daughters traveling companion.
13. A reigning Arkansas State Fair Queen must conduct herself properly at all times. Inappropriate behavior bringing unfavorable publicity to herself and/or the Arkansas State Fair will result in the queen's forfeit and return of all prizes and monetary awards, including relinquishing the title.
14. Any display of poor sportsmanship and/or unbecoming conduct, any interference and/or disturbance, or any other behavioral problem created by a contestant, traveling companion, parent, relative, or even a supporter of a contestant could result in disqualification of the contestant not only from this year's contest but all future contests.
15. THE DIRECTOR OF THE ARKANSAS STATE FAIR QUEEN PAGEANT AND STATE FAIR MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE FINAL AND ABSOLUTE RIGHT TO INTERPRET THESE RULES AND ARBITRARILY SETTLE AND DETERMINE ALL MATTERS, QUESTIONS AND DIFFERENCES IN REGARD THERETO, OR OTHERWISE ARISING OUT OF OR CONNECTED WITH, OR INCIDENT TO THE CONTEST, AND THE RIGHT TO AMEND OR ADD TO THESE RULES AS THEIR JUDGMENT MAY DETERMINE. ANY CONTESTANT WHO FAILS TO ABIDE BY ANY OF THE ABOVE RULES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE REGIONAL AND STATE CONTESTS BY THE STATE CONTEST DIRECTOR.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Each contestant will have a five minute private interview with the judges and will be assessed individually and comparatively in Evening Gown and Sportswear competition. Contestants will need the following clothing:
Rehearsal – Since the rehearsal is closed to the public, contestants are free to wear comfortable clothing, hair in curlers and no makeup if desired. We recommend the contestants rehearse in the same shoes they will wear in each phase of the competition.

Private Interview – Dress or suit, jewelry and shoes of choice – no hats, gloves or purses.

Sportswear Competition – Sports attire representing a favorite athletic – type sport such as baseball, basketball, tennis, golf, etc. or any outdoor sports such as hunting, fishing, horseback riding, etc. Gymnastics and dance do not qualify as a sport in this competition. Cheerleading is accepted, but discouraged due to the possibility of low scores in the originality of attire category. Judging is based on choice of sport, originality of attire and on-stage modeling. Props are acceptable, but must be carried only. They cannot be used to demonstrate their choice of sports during the on-stage modeling.

Evening Gown Competition – Gown of choice. Jewelry and accessories should be tasteful and compliment the gown. High-heeled shoes are recommended, but not required.

ENTRY FORMS

Contestants may obtain Entry Forms **ONLY** from the County / District Fair Manager or designated Contest Director, **NOT THE STATE FAIR OFFICE**. There is no entry fee. Eligible contestants must complete the Entry Form, including authorized signatures (see Rule #10) and submit to the State Fair Office.

PHOTOGRAPHS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED. Once the Entry Form is received at the State Fair office, additions or corrections to the Entry Form will **NOT** be allowed. Even though the entry deadline is just prior to the opening day of the fair, it is to the contestant's advantage to send the Entry Form immediately following the County or District contest. Late Entry Forms could result in lengthy delays at the gate.

REHEARSAL

Look for your County or District Fair on Page 5 to find the appropriate region and day of your competition. Registration and orientation will begin each day at 8:30 AM. Rehearsal will begin promptly at 9 AM and be over by 11 AM. You **MUST** attend the morning orientation and rehearsal in order to compete that evening. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

Enter the fairgrounds through Gate 11 (see map). Only contestants and traveling companion will be allowed free admission and parking. All others must pay gate admission and a parking fee. No parking is available at the Arkansas Building. However, contestants and traveling companion will be allowed to unload at the building and then park elsewhere as directed by security personnel.

INTERVIEW

After rehearsal, contestants and traveling companions should proceed to the Holiday Inn Express on I-440 East at the Airport Exit (SEE MAP) for an interview with the judges. Interviews will begin at 1:30 PM. All contestants and chaperones should meet in the lobby of the hotel at 1:15 PM. Shortly before the first interview, the contestants will be taken as a group to the interview room where the judges will be introduced to them. Contestants will not be introduced until the beginning of each private interview. All interviews will be five minutes long and will be timed and monitored. Contestants are free to leave at the end of their interview. The 12 finalists will not be interviewed again. Interview points acquired at the Regional Contest will be carried over to the finals.

Although contestants are not required to stay at the hotel where the interviews are being conducted, it would be to their advantage to do so. The Holiday Inn Express has graciously offered a discount rate to Fair Queen contestants who wish to stay overnight. Call 501-490-4000 and identify yourself as a pageant contestant and you will receive the discounted State Fair rate. Any contestant who does not have a place to dress for the interview will be allowed to use the dressing room at the Arkansas Building.

DRESSING AND BACKSTAGE

Contestants must report to the dressing room behind the Arkansas Building no later than 5:30 PM to prepare for the evening competition. **ONLY CONTESTANTS AND TRAVELING COMPANIONS ARE ALLOWED IN THE DRESSING ROOM, AND CONTESTANTS ONLY ARE ALLOWED BACKSTAGE.**

Professional hairdressers, makeup artists, pageant coaches, family, friends, etc. are not allowed in these areas. NO EXCEPTIONS. FAILURE TO COMPLY COULD RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION OF A CONTESTANT.

Arkansas State Fair & Livestock Show Association is not responsible for loss or damage to clothing or other personal items left in the dressing room or in other areas.

REGIONAL CONTESTS

All regional contestants and traveling companions should return to the fairgrounds after the interviews in time for a 5:30 PM roll call. Any contestant wishing to come earlier may do so. The contest will begin at 7:00 PM.

A gate pass and parking permit will be provided at the morning rehearsal for the contestant and traveling companion to re-enter the grounds for the evening competition. Like the morning rehearsal, they may unload the vehicle at the Arkansas Building and then park elsewhere as directed by security personnel. Contestants may use the dressing room at any time, but remember, only contestants and traveling companions are allowed in the dressing room, and the State Fair is not responsible for their belongings.

Three winners will be chosen from each Regional Contest to compete in the Saturday night Finals. The State Contest Director will provide these contestants with further instructions and details at the conclusion of each Regional Contest.

FINALS

Finalists from each of the four Regional Contests who are chosen to compete in the Finals on Saturday night should arrive at the Arkansas Building for a 3:00 PM rehearsal. Be sure to allow time for traffic delays. Contestants will have ample time to change and prepare for the evening competition after the rehearsal. The Final Contest will begin at 7:00 PM.

Any contestant who fails to attend the Finals rehearsal and/or contest will forfeit any awards received and will be ineligible to compete again in future contests.

There will **NOT** be a judge's interview on Saturday. Interview points earned at the Regional Contest will carry over to the finals. During the Evening Gown Competition, contestants will be asked an on-stage question(s). Their answer(s) will be considered by the judges in their scores.

JUDGING

The judges will be appointed by the Arkansas State Fair & Livestock Show Association. They will be persons well qualified to judge a contest of this kind. Their decision will be final. **CRITIQUES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED TO ANYONE, NOR WILL ANY CONTESTANT, OR ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF A CONTESTANT, BE ALLOWED TO APPROACH THE JUDGES AT ANY TIME.**

AWARDS

1. **Regional Finalists:** The top three contestants in each Region will receive trophies and the right to return to the finals on Saturday.
2. **Finalist Runners-up:** The four runners-up in the Finals Competition will receive trophies.
3. **Fair Queen:** The Fair Queen will receive a trophy, crown, flowers, official portrait, \$400.00 cash award, and a \$1000.00 Scholarship.
4. **Ivy Faulk Interview Awards:** The contestant with the highest interview score at each Regional Contest will receive a trophy. At the Finals, the contestant with the highest interview score will also receive a trophy.

FAIR QUEEN DUTIES

During her reign, the Fair Queen is required to attend the following three events on our behalf: the Arkansas Fair Managers Association Meeting in Hot Springs in January, Arkansas Livestock Show Association Annual Meeting at the fairgrounds in August, and the 2009 Fair Queen contest. County and District Fairs or other organizations may invite her to appear at their events throughout the year. Attending County Fairs and District Fairs are not mandatory, but we encourage the Fair Queen to represent the State Fair during her reign when possible.

**The Arkansas State Fair Queen Pageant is divided into 4 Regions.
Find the Region for your fair and come on that day.
CONTESTANTS MUST BE ON TIME FOR ALL PHASES OF COMPETITION.**

REGIONS

SOUTHWEST

Monday
10/12

Clark
Columbia
Dallas
Garland
Hempstead
Hot Spring
Howard
Lafayette
Little River
Miller
Montgomery
Nevada
Ouachita
Pike
Polk
Sevier
Union
Four States

SW District

NORTHWEST

Tuesday
10/13

Benton
Boone
Carroll
Conway
Crawford
N. Franklin
S. Franklin
Johnson
Logan
S. Logan
Madison
Newton
Perry
Pope
Scott
Searcy
Sebastian
Van Buren
Washington
Yell

Arkansas-Oklahoma
NW District

NORTHEAST

Wednesday
10/14

Baxter
Clay
Cleburne
Faulkner
Fulton
Greene
Independence
Izard
Lawrence
Marion
Mississippi
Poinsett
Randolph
Sharp
St. Francis
Stone
Three County
White

N Central District
NE District

SOUTHEAST

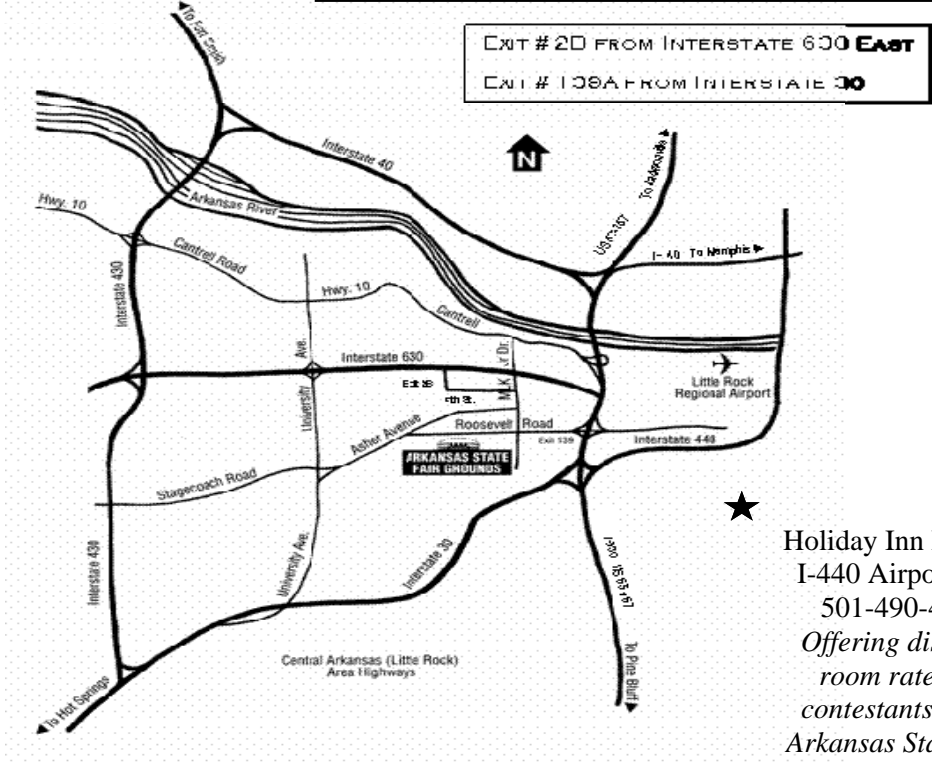
Thursday
10/15

Arkansas
Ashley
Bradley
Calhoun
Chicot
Cleveland
Desha
Drew
Grant
Lincoln
Lonoke
Prairie
Saline
Tri-County

SE District

YOU WILL BE ENTERING THE FAIRGROUNDS THROUGH GATE 11. VARIOUS GROUPS MAY BE ARRIVING AT THE SAME TIME. THIS INCLUDES SCHOOL BUSES AND LIVESTOCK TRAILERS, RESULTING IN POSSIBLE DELAYS AT THE GATE. ALLOW YOURSELF TIME. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE HAVE YOUR CONTEST DIRECTOR CONTACT THE STATE FAIR OFFICE AT 501-372-8341 OR BY EMAIL AT competitiveevents@asfg.net

Arkansas State Fairgrounds
 2600 Howard St., Little Rock, AR 72206 (501) 372-8341



Access to Gate 11 from Roosevelt Road:
 South on Schiller Street, along the East fence of the fairgrounds, to the end at Gate 11. Security staff will assist with directions to the Arkansas Building and parking instruction.

