



RULES FOR VALLEY OF FLOWERS QUEEN CANDIDATES AND THE COURT

1. Candidate must meet the following:
 - A. be single;
 - B. never have been married;
 - C. not be pregnant or ever had a child;
 - D. be a resident of the City of Florissant;
 - E. be a **Junior** in high school;
 - F. may not have been a former candidate;
 - G. and must be 16 before April 30, and not 18 before April 30 of the festival year.
2. All candidates will obtain their own sponsor who must pay the candidate's sponsorship fee of \$150 and furnish a car or float for the candidate to ride in during the parade. (The sponsor is not responsible for purchasing the candidate's dress.) The candidate's car or float must be entirely covered by decorations. **Exception:** antique cars (50 plus years old) do not have to be decorated. Upon acceptance as a candidate, the office will provide parade rules, a parade application, and narrative form to the Queen Candidate. It's the candidate's responsibility to communicate with their sponsor regarding the parade rules, parade application, the narrative form, decoration of the entry, and all matters relating to the process. The candidate must return the completed parade application and narrative form to the office before the first Friday in April. The office, via e-mail, will send all information to the candidate. The Festival theme and a list of potential sponsors are at www.florissantvalleyofflowers.com.
3. All applications must be accompanied by proof of age (photocopy of Florissant Resident Card, and photocopy of driver's license or birth certificate) and one (1) 5x7 inch color photograph in portrait layout (on photo paper) or professional school photo. Upon acceptance as a candidate, the office will schedule a no-cost photo session at the Florissant Cable TV Station for the candidate.
4. Queen Candidate Applications will be accepted from December 1 to the last Friday in February by mail, by e-mail at address below, or in person at the Valley of Flowers office, 601 rue St. Charles, Florissant, MO 63031. Competition is limited to 25 candidates; however, six candidate spots are reserved for the Valley of Flowers Benefactors (a group of organizations and businesses who are longtime supporters of the festival). The Benefactors are: Citizen's Bank, Commerce Bank, Rotary Club of Florissant, Greater North County Chamber of Commerce, Don Henefer Jewelers, and Knights of Columbus Duchesne Council #2951. The office processes the applications in the order received until there are 25 candidates accepted. Applications are not complete until the office receives all the material in item 3 above and the sponsorship fee.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF QUEEN CANDIDATES. Missing any of the following events will cause you to forfeit your rights to become a queen candidate.

1. Attend the "Meet and Greet" meeting on the second Sunday in March.
2. Attend the "Candidate Tea and Dinner" on the first Sunday in April. At the dinner the candidates are presented to the committee, sponsors, families and friends.
3. The Candidate or their designee must attend a safety meeting at the James J. Eagan Center either on Saturday, April 20, at 11:00 a.m. OR on Tuesday, April 23, at 6:30 p.m. Non-attendance will prohibit candidates from parade participation.
4. Attend such events as may be scheduled for all candidates; i.e. parades, other festival activities.
5. Ride in the Valley of Flowers Parade on Sunday of the Festival weekend.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VALLEY OF FLOWERS COURT

1. During their reign the Queen and her court must remain single, must not become pregnant, and must remain a Florissant resident.
2. Fulfill requests made by the Committee regarding personal appearances not limited to parades and appearances at local civic events. There will be certain dress requirements for these events.
3. Notify the Committee immediately if unable to meet all duties of the Queen. If this occurs you will relinquish all rights to the title.
4. Attend next year's Valley of Flowers "Candidate Tea and Dinner" and Parade.
5. If the duties above are not met, the First Runner-Up will automatically become Queen for the duration of the reign and will assume the obligations of the Queen. All gifts not yet awarded to the Queen will be presented to the First Runner-Up.

If after serious consideration of the requirements you believe that you cannot fulfill all of them, please do not submit the application for candidacy.

Please keep these rules in a safe place for future reference. If you have any questions, please call the office at 837-0033 or e-mail office@florissantvalleyofflowers.com.



Valley of Flowers Festival Applications
Queen Candidate

**Only the first 25 valid applications will be accepted from:
December 1 until the deadline – the last Friday in February**
(Applications are processed as received and maybe submitted via mail or in person.)

By submitting this signed form, I hereby certify that I have read the Rules and that:

1. I am in compliance with all items of Rule One (1).
2. I agree to abide by all the Rules and Duties and Responsibilities of a Candidate.
3. If chosen as Queen or a member of the Court, I will fulfill all Duties and Responsibilities of the Court. If I am unable to satisfy the required obligations I will relinquish all rights and awards associated with being on the court.
4. I understand the Committee has the right to verify all information on this application.
5. I hold harmless the Sponsoring Organization and the City of Florissant for any loss or damage to person or applicant's property.

With this application submit: one 5x7 color photo in portrait orientation (on photo paper) or professional school photo; copies of applicant's Florissant resident card, and driver's license or birth certificate; and \$150.00 non-refundable fee (if application is accepted). Upon acceptance as a candidate, the office will schedule a no-cost photo session at the Florissant Cable TV Station for the candidate as part of the application packet.

Queen Candidate Information:

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone (home or cell): _____ Birthday (mm/dd/yy): _____ Name of School: _____

Extra-curricular activities, clubs, employment: _____

(continue on other side if needed)

Parent/Guardian Information:

Mother: _____ Father: _____

Parent Address: _____
(if different than above – indicate which parent)

Phone (day time): _____ Phone (cell or evening): _____

Sponsor Information:

Company Name: _____ Phone: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title _____

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Scan and e-mail (see above), mail, or present in person application to:
Valley of Flowers, 601 rue Saint Charles, Florissant, MO 63031**

____ Check enclosed payable to Valley of Flowers Festival **OR**

____ **I prefer to use PayPal. Please invoice me at the address above. (NOTE: Service charge applies)**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Sponsor fee received _____ Method of payment _____ Application complete _____



After the parade participants should be picked up
on rue St. Charles Street in the parking areas.

* * * * Please do not park on the neighboring merchants' lots. * * * *

IMPORTANT CHANGE
MANDATORY MEETINGS

At least one person from each unit must attend one of the safety meetings at the James J. Eagan Center either on Saturday, April 20, at 11:00 a.m. OR on Tuesday, April 23, at 6:30 p.m. The Festival will prohibit units who do not attend at least one meeting from parade participation.

1. **PARADE ROUTE** – The parade starts at 1:45 p.m. at the James J. Eagan Center (Waterford Dr. and Parker Rd.), proceeds left onto Parker Rd. to New Florissant Rd., turns left on New Florissant Rd. to Rue St. Francois, continues right to rue St. Ferdinand, goes left to Washington St. then right on Washington St. where it disperses after passing the Knights of Columbus Grounds on Washington St.
2. **WALKING UNITS** – All marching bands and walking units assemble at Atonement Lutheran Church 1285 New Florissant Road. ****NOTE CHANGES** Only 25 walkers are allowed per walking unit (this does not include bands). Only the first five (5) dance groups accepted may walk/perform in the parade. Additional dance groups may only perform on a flatbed or float. Performance groups must continually move forward to maintain a close gap with the unit before them.**
3. **MOBILE UNITS** - Assemble at James J. Eagan Center located at Parker Rd. & Waterford Dr. by using the *Parker Rd. entrance*. A parade official will check you in at this entrance and direct you to your parade line-up location. If you wish to be judged, arrive before noon, since judging begins promptly at noon, late arrivals will not be judged. FLOAT RIDERS are to be dropped off at the Ferguson-Florissant Administration building on Waterford Dr. across from the Eagan Center. They should then proceed to their unit. If you do not wish to be judged please arrive no later than 1:00 p.m. **REMINDER** - Floats can be no taller than 12 ft. Only the first two car clubs (only six cars per club) with approved applications are allowed. ****NOTE CHANGE** All vehicles in the parade must submit proof of insurance to the office with the parade application.**
4. **DECORATIONS** - All mobile entries must be completely covered with decorations (**Exceptions:** antique cars (50 plus years old) and car club cars). ****NOTE CHANGE** All support vehicles must be completely covered with decorations prior to entering the assembly point, however, the tow vehicle does not have to be decorated. The Festival committee will remove any non-compliant vehicle from the parade.**
5. **DISTRIBUTION OF ITEMS TO SPECTATORS** - Parade participants may **not** pass out fliers or advertisements. This includes but is not limited to campaign literature or promotional fliers for events or businesses. Elected officials may not pass out anything with their name and position identified. **For safety reasons, no one may throw anything from parade vehicles to parade spectators.** This will be strictly enforced. A group member walking next to your unit may distribute allowed items (e.g. candy or beads).
6. **SOUND** - Please indicate type of sound system (if you have sound) on the application.
7. **VISITING DIGNITARIES (elected officials)** - Please contact our office at (314) 837-0033 for rules.
8. **HORSE & DOG UNITS** - Must provide their own clean-up crew directly behind the horses or dogs. All horse and dog units assemble at Church of the Master (corner of Parker Rd. and Paddock Dr.) by 1:15 p.m.

9. **THE PROGRESS OF ALL PARADE UNITS MUST BE FORWARD.** Please do not stop, keep your forward movement, and follow the Parade officials' directions to avoid gaps in the parade. All units must complete the entire route to the Knights of Columbus Grounds on Washington St. Do not leave the parade until you have passed the Knights of Columbus Grounds. The reviewing stands are at the corner of rue St. Francois and rue St. Jean, approximately 1 block before the television cameras.

**SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS FOR WALKING UNITS AND BANDS
Assemble at Atonement Lutheran Church 1285 New Florissant Rd.**

These important assembly procedures will aid with the ease and safety of lining up for the parade:

Arrive before 1:15 p.m. when the parade route closes to traffic and check in at the registration table so the parade officials (wearing bright neon colored T-shirts) will know you have arrived. At this time they will provide you with your final instructions. Walking units will line up **on New Florissant Road** and be merged into the parade at the corner of **New Florissant Road and Parker Road** by parade officials. The parade leaves the Eagan Center at 1:45 p.m. You will follow the parade route listed on the parade rules approximately 2.5 miles.

Participant Arrivals:

- Band Buses – Drop off band members at **Atonement Lutheran Church 1285 New Florissant Road**. Unload the buses and have your group line up where instructed by parade officials. Buses immediately depart to Dierbergs at the intersection of Lindbergh and Washington. Park the buses behind Dierbergs until the parade is over. **Bands please play until you pass the Knights of Columbus Grounds.** After your unit passes the Knights of Columbus Grounds they will disperse and return to their buses.
- Participants arriving by car – Drop off band members and walkers at **Atonement Lutheran Church 1285 New Florissant Road**. Cars immediately exit the area. For safety reasons, no vehicles that are not part of the parade are allowed on the parking lots where the groups assemble. **All units must complete the parade to the Knight of Columbus Grounds.**

Meet parade participants at the end of the parade at the parking areas on rue St. Charles.

Please do not park on the neighboring merchants' lots.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE IN THE FESTIVAL OFFICE BY THE FIRST FRIDAY IN APRIL.

There must be one application for each unit entered. The coordinator will notify you if there is a question about your application. The Valley Of Flowers Committee has final approval of all Parade applications. For additional information email us at office@florissantvalleyofflowers.com or call the Festival office at (314) 837-0033.

*****NOTE IMPORTANT CHANGE*** Failure to comply with these parade rules or violation of these parade rules may result in the Festival banning the non-compliant or violating unit from future parades.**

If you fill out a paper application deliver in person or mail it to: Valley of Flowers, 601 rue St. Charles, Florissant, MO 63031 **or scan it and e-mail it to:** office@florissantvalleyofflowers.com.