

January 6, 2025

Plans are underway for the 82nd annual Tyler County Dogwood Festival which will be celebrated in Woodville, Texas for three weekends starting March 22nd and concluding on April 5, 2025. The coronation of the Dogwood Queen and the presentation of the royal court in the elaborately decorated outdoor amphitheater will be the highlight of this exciting festival!

Visiting duchesses will participate in festivities April 3rd through 5th. Each duchess must be a high school senior and have a high school student as an escort. If you are unable to bring an escort, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can provide a local escort. We will only be able to accommodate 24 duchesses so please get your registration form and fee of \$125.00 (payable to the Tyler County Dogwood Festival Association) in as soon as possible.

The deadline for registration is February 21, 2025.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email.

Sincerely,

Candace Read Dagle
Duchess Committee Chairman
PO Box 369
Warren, Texas 77664
409-781-0706
Candace_spivey@hotmail.com

Every year an official program book for the Tyler County Dogwood Festival is published and sold throughout the community. Loved ones of participants often purchase ads that feature pictures and information about those involved in the pageant. If you would like to purchase an ad, please provide a sample design with a picture and a check payable to the Tyler County Dogwood Festival. This is completely optional, but I want to make sure that families of visiting royalty have all the opportunities our local participants have.

An ad form can be found at tylercountydoggwoodfestival.org. You can submit ads or speak with the ad chairman, Heather Richardson Tinkle, at tylercountydoggwoodads@gmail.com

Ad deadline is February 25, 2025.

INFORMATION FOR DUCHESS AND ESCORT

PICTURE: Please send 1 photo of duchess only to Candace_spivey@hotmail.com. If you want your picture included in the Dogwood book, we need the picture by February 21, 2025.

OFFICIAL PROGRAM: Please contact Heather Richardson Tinkle at tylercountyydogwoodads@gmail.com to submit an ad for the official program. This is an optional activity.

JEAN FLING: The jean fling is a get acquainted party for all the festival royalty. It is held on Thursday, April 3rd. Blue jeans or casual dress is appropriate. An invitation will be sent to you.

BREAKFAST: Friday morning, April 4th, a seated breakfast will begin promptly at 9:00 am at the Woodville United Methodist Church (508 West Bluff, 283-2471). However, participants are encouraged to arrive early for photos. Duchesses will dress comfortably in dress or pants suit. Escorts will wear collared sport shirt and slacks. After breakfast, we will move to rehearsal.

REHEARSAL: Rehearsal will immediately follow breakfast on Friday, April 4th, at the amphitheater located behind the Woodville ISD Administration building at 505 North Charlton. Following rehearsal, lunch will be served at the Pickett House Restaurant located at Heritage Village and Museum (157 Private Road 6000 409-283-2272). A tour of the village and games will also be held.

KINGSMANS BALL: This ball is held in honor of the festival royalty. Long or short formal attire for the duchess and suit or sport coat with tie for the escort is expected. A tuxedo is not required. The ball is at 8:00 pm Friday, April 4th at Woodville Intermediate/Elementary Cafeteria.

PARENTS RECEPTION: A reception for the parents of all festival participants will be held on Friday evening, April 4th. If you have a parent with a different address than your own, please provide that address to us as well so that he or she can be invited to attend. Parents are invited to attend the Kingsman's Ball after the reception.

SATURDAY MORNING: Free time. You are on your own until parade time.

PARADE: The parade is Saturday, April 5th. Line-up time is 1:30 and the parade begins at 2:00.

Each duchess is expected to furnish her own car. In the past, convertibles, sunroof models, dune buggies, t-tops, and antique cars or trucks have been used. Each car is to have two signs (one on each side) stating the name of the duchess and the town she represents. You may further decorate your car if you desire. If you like, you may throw candy or beads to the spectators. **REMEMBER TO WEAR SUNSCREEN** - Many parade participants have shown up Saturday night with visible marks or sunburn from the parade. You will be judged on the appearance of your car and your parade personality. Parade winners will be announced at the coronation.

GRAND DUCHESS: The Grand Duchess is chosen by her peers. Balloting will take place in the school cafeteria before the coronation begins. Each duchess will be asked to choose objectively the Duchess she feels best exemplifies the spirit of the Dogwood Festival - friendliness, style, and participation in festival activities.

CORONATION: The coronation is on Saturday, April 5th. Participants and their escorts should arrive at the Woodville Intermediate Cafeteria by 6:30pm. Each duchess will wear a long, full-length formal in a solid color. We ask that you do not wear white. Please also try to avoid black as this is a celebration of springtime. A corsage is not needed as the duchess will carry a bouquet provided by the festival. Escorts must wear a summer tuxedo: white coat, white shirt, black tie, black pants, black socks, and black shoes. A boutonniere will be furnished. Remember this is an outdoor event and it may be cool. Duchesses should bring a wrap to use after the coronation. You will not be able to carry it with you but a parent can bring it to you after everyone is seated.

NOTE - This year the local royalty will be wearing royal blue, so you might want to avoid this color.

PAGEANT TICKETS: The duchess and escort do not need tickets but anyone watching the pageant and coronation will need one. They will be on sale at various local businesses and there will be available on Saturday. Seating is reserved so you may want to purchase early to ensure good seats. After the parade, tickets will be on sale at the amphitheater.

MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: The local Stagecoach Inn takes reservations at 409-331-1100. There are also several bed and breakfast accommodations in the Woodville area.

FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHER: The festival photographer will be Becki Byrd. She will be contacting you about picture packages.

DUCHESS REGISTRATION

Please return this completed registration as soon as possible, as there are only 24 spots for Duchesses. Deadline is February 21, 2025. Also submit one photograph (head shot only) as soon as possible.

DUCHESS

Name _____ Age _____

Phone _____ EMAIL _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Parents _____

City representing _____ T-shirt Size _____

ESCORT

Name _____ Age _____

Phone _____ EMAIL _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Parents _____

T-shirt Size _____

Relationship (if any) to former Dogwood Festival Royalty:

Please return your form and fee of \$125 to:

Candace Read Dagle PO BOX 369 Warren, TX 77664

409-781-0706 409-547-3109 candace_spivey@hotmail.com