

2020 LAUREL FESTIVAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CONTESTANT RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Candidate must be a Junior (Grade 11) or Senior (Grade 12) residing in The Town of Winchester or City of Winsted. They may attend any high school.
2. The deadline to hand in paperwork is April 1, 2020.
3. Candidate must be single, without children, never married, never a parent and never convicted of a crime.
4. Laurel Queen, Laurel King and Runners-Up cannot marry, become pregnant or be convicted of a crime during their reign.
5. Former Laurel Queens/Laurel Kings are not eligible to participate.
6. It is at the complete discretion of the Laurel City Commission to review the candidates' eligibility.
7. Candidates must agree to abide by all the rules and regulations now in effect or announced thereafter.
8. The Scholarship Program will be conducted under the rules established by the Laurel City Commission and a candidate agrees that the time, manner and method of judging shall be solely within the discretion of the Laurel City Commission and the decision of the judges will be final.
9. If a candidate wears a corsage, or carries a bouquet at anytime during the weekend, it must be made of LAUREL only.
10. Cars and floats used in the parade may be decorated. If using flowers to decorate, only Laurel may be used.
11. Parents, escorts, friends and relatives of the candidate must purchase tickets to the Laurel Ball. The contestant does not need to pay for his or her ticket.
12. No refunds to sponsors or event ticket purchases will be made unless the Laurel Festival is cancelled.
13. If named Laurel Queen or King, you must be on time for all appearances. Appearances will be coordinated through the Laurel City Commission and the Laurel Queen and King are responsible for providing current phone number(s), mailing address and email address to the Commission.
14. The candidates must be present for ALL Laurel Festival events, unless approved. Judges Interview, Laurel Ball, Laurel Parade and Crowning Ceremony. The Laurel City Commission must approve in advance any exceptions.
15. The candidate must wear a formal floor or tea length gown/dress pants, shirt and tie (jacket optional) to the Laurel Ball as well as the Laurel Parade and Crowning Ceremony.
16. The candidate should dress "business casual" for the judge's interview (i.e.- casual dresses, pants, capri's, blouses, crew neck or v-neck shirts).
17. Notification concerning the time schedule of the judge's interviews will be distributed prior to the Festival weekend.
18. Drinking alcoholic beverages during any of the Laurel Festival events is strictly prohibited regardless of the age of the candidate.
19. It is strongly suggested that the contestants, Laurel Queen and Laurel King refrain from smoking and/or vaping during any of the Laurel Festival events.
20. Public display of affection is prohibited during any of the Laurel Festival events.
21. Should there be a problem of any kind during the Festival or related events, the candidates are to go directly to the Laurel City Commission. Any unbecoming

conduct by a candidate or any disregard for the rules and regulations could result in immediate dismissal from further competition without refund to the sponsor or event ticket purchases. If named Laurel Queen/King and for some reason, the title is revoked, the Laurel Queen/King will have to return all prizes such as but not limited to crown, sash, cape and scholarship.

22. In the event the Laurel Queen or Laurel King title is revoked or given up, the First Runner-Up (if he or she still meets the eligibility criterion) will be named Laurel King/Queen.
23. Laurel King and Queen will keep their crown, sash and any other prizes at the end of their reign. The cape should be given to the new Laurel Queen and new Laurel King at the crowning ceremony.
24. The cape is the responsibility of the Laurel Queen and Laurel King during her reign. Prior to the next Laurel Festival when a new Laurel King and Queen will be crowned, the cape must be professionally cleaned. If anything should happen to the cape during his or her reign as Laurel King or Queen, the Laurel City Commission must be notified immediately.

For Additional Information, please contact the Laurel City Commission:

<p style="text-align: center;">Melissa Bird Melissa.oiseau@gmail.com (860) 733-5696</p>	

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I become a candidate?

Sign up with the Laurel City Commission when they visit the schools. Please call Melissa Bird 860-733-5696 for any additional paperwork you need or to ask questions regarding the paperwork. **All paperwork must be received by April 1, 2020.**

Do I need to provide pictures for the paper and Laurel Festival program?

Yes, a Junior or Senior photo (head and shoulder shot) is preferred and will be returned to you. The Laurel Commission will also have a photo session that you are required to participate in and can use if you would like to. The photo session will be Sunday, April 5th.

Do I need to know someone to sponsor me?

No, there are always organizations and local businesses that are looking to sponsor candidates. The Laurel City Commission will assist candidates with potential sponsors at their request.

What are my sponsor's responsibilities?

Your sponsor is responsible for paying the Sponsor Fee. Your sponsor may be interested in being more involved (helping to find or donate the parade vehicle, helping to decorate your parade vehicle, etc.). The candidate and sponsor should coordinate and discuss in advance, which, if any, responsibilities will be shared or delegated.

What are my responsibilities as a candidate?

You must attend all the activities planned throughout the weekend. Candidates are encouraged to invite family, friends and sponsors to the events of the weekend. You do not need to sell tickets to the Laurel Ball. Simply provide your guests, our contact information and we will coordinate the rest. Candidates (along with their family, friends and/or sponsors) will have to arrange to have a car or a float for the parade. Parade vehicles should be decorated. If decorated with flowers, please remember, only LAUREL may be used. If you have trouble finding a parade vehicle, let us know as soon as possible. We will try to help; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to provide a vehicle for you.

There is also a fundraising requirement for each candidate. As a group the candidates will host a fundraiser. This will be decided and run by the candidates (majority decides what will be done). The Commission will support you in this fundraiser.

What do I receive if I am chosen as Laurel Queen/King or Runner-Up?

The candidates who are crowned Laurel Queen and Laurel King will each receive a crown and a \$1,500 scholarship. The Runner-Up Queen and Runner-Up King are each awarded a \$1000.00 scholarship. The 2nd Runner up Queen and King will receive a 500.00 scholarship

What do I wear?

At the Laurel Ball, candidates should wear a formal gown (a prom dress is fine), dress pants, shirt and tie (jackets options). Your escort should wear a dress, dress pants, a dress shirt and tie (also no denim please). Any outfit that you would wear to an evening wedding is appropriate. Corsages/boutonnieres are not required, but remember, if wearing a corsage or boutonniere, it may only be made of Laurel. During the morning on Saturday, early interviews may wear "business casual attire" such as a dress, pants, capris or some other suitable outfit. The total length of the interviews will depend on the total number of contestants. Your parade dress attire should also be

formal and may be the same outfit as worn to the Laurel Ball if desired. We do not want you to go to great expense to purchase formal dresses.

Can my friends come?

Absolutely!!! We welcome everyone and encourage you to invite them all. Ball tickets must be purchased for \$35 for individual tickets or \$300 for a table of 10. Student tickets are \$15. Reservations for the Ball must be purchased in advance. Please contact Melissa Bird via email Melissa.oiseau@gmail.com.

If I am crowned Laurel Queen, Laurel King or one of the Runners-Up, when will I receive my scholarship?

The scholarships will be awarded at the Town/Board of Selectmen Meeting following the Laurel Festival. After the Festival, someone will contact you to confirm the specific date and time of this meeting. Please dress "business casual" and wear your sash (and crown if applicable).

What are my responsibilities as Laurel Queen/King?

As Laurel Queen and Laurel King you are an ambassador of our community. The manner in which the Laurel Queen and King conducts herself should always be that of respect for herself, the Laurel City and its Commission, at all times during her reign. Please see attached for dates of Parades. Other public appearances will be scheduled based on your availability.

2020 Laurel Festival Sponsor Form

Company Name:	
Address:	
Phone #:	
Contact Person:	
Name of Sponsored Candidate:	

Please indicate your parade vehicle:	Car	Float	Other
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Included in sponsorship:

- 2 tickets to the Laurel Ball on Saturday, June 6th
 - Ad in the booklet for the Laurel Ball
- Company/Group name in the press release of contestants
- Company/Group name on candidate's car signs for the Laurel parade

Please mail completed form along with \$150 Sponsor Fee by
April 1, 2020 to:

Melissa Bird
75 Meadow St.
Winsted, CT 06098

Please make check payable to:
Town of Winchester/Laurel Commission

2020 Laurel Candidate Registration Form

Must be completed and returned by April 1, 2020

Please mail to:
Melissa Bird
75 Meadow St.
Winsted, CT 06098

Candidate for:	<input type="checkbox"/> Laurel Queen <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel King				
Candidate Name:					
Address Line 1:					
Address Line 2:					
City:		State:		Zip Code:	
Phone:			Alternate Phone:		
Email Address:					
School:					
Class of:	_____				
Parents Names:					
Sponsor:					
Escort:					
Driver for Parade:					

Please tell us about yourself in *one hundred words or less in paragraph form*. Think about what will make you stand out or is something unique about you that not many people have done. Include Interest/Hobbies, Activities/Sports, Accomplishments/Awards, and Future Goals/Plans. This information will appear in the program and local papers. An example is as follows:

An honor student and participates in after school activities (sports, Concert Choir, Student Council, yearbook or other scholastic activities).

I have been presented with theaward.

I have an interest in and volunteer/s at the.....

I have helped.....

I have been dancing with the Berkshire Foothills Ballet Troup for many years. Other activities include

I will attend UCONN in the fall and plan to major in Veterinary Sciences.

Also please include a paragraph on what Winsted means to you or how your town is special. These will be published in the newspaper.

This should be mailed with the Candidate Information Form by April 1, 2020 to:

Melissa Bird
75 Meadow St.
Winsted, CT 06098
or emailed to
Melissa.oiseau@gmail.com

Important Dates to Remember

Sunday, April 5th, 2020

Laurel Candidate Pictures

The location and time of pictures will be provided as the date gets closer. Headshots will be taken of each candidate for the newspapers and the Laurel Ball booklet. There will also be a group photo of all of the candidates. Please notify the commission as soon as possible if you are unable to make it. Dress is business casual, no prom dresses or suits, no jeans or tank tops.

Saturday, May 16, 2020

Laurel Parade will be joining The Pet Parade

Arrive on Meadow Street to line up for the parade with your car and driver by 1:00 PM. The parade starts at 2 PM SHARP. At the end of the parade, a member of the Laurel City Commission will help you from your car or float at East End Park. Further instructions will be provided.

Saturday, June 6th, 2020

Interview – Joyner Bldg., NCCC

Contestant interviews will be held at the NCCC Interview time slots will be assigned Sand listed by each candidate's entry number. Additional information regarding interview time slots will be emailed to you. Please be on time for your interview and dress appropriately.

Saturday, June 6th, 2020

Laurel Ball at East End Park, Winsted

Arrive at the East End Park by 5:30PM dressed in your formal attire. When you arrive, the Laurel Commission members will rehearse your presentation to the public and pictures will be taken by the photographer. You will be presented to the audience at 7:00PM. Please encourage your friends and family to attend the Ball.

Sunday June 7th, 2020

Laurel Family Fun Day

Details to be provided.

2020 Laurel Ball Introduction Form

**Please write in complete sentences and keep as brief as possible. The information on this form will be used in your introduction at the Laurel Ball.
REMEMBER TO KEEP IT BRIEF.**

Introductions:

Name: _____

School: _____

Grade Level: _____

BRIEF answers to the following questions:

1. Something unique about yourself (e.i. talents):

2. Future career aspiration:

3. One Noteworthy achievement:

Please complete by April 1, 2020 and mail to:

Melissa Bird
75 Meadow St.
Winsted, CT 06098
or emailed to
Melissa.oiseau@gmail.com

2020 Laurel Festival Candidate Release/Acknowledgement Form

I, _____, as a Laurel Festival Scholarship Program Candidate and (if a minor) my Parent/Guardian, _____, hereby consent that my/her name, image and likeness, whether in video-tape, photography and/or electronic images may be used by the Laurel City Commission, for purposes of promotion and/or recruitment, including television, print and online publications, free and clear of any claim. In addition, I acknowledge that I have read the rules and regulations of the Laurel Festival Scholarship Program. I agree to abide by all rules and regulations and understand that I may be disqualified if I do not abide by all rules and regulations.

Signature of Candidate		Signature of Parent/Guardian
Date		Date

Please complete by April 1, 2020 and mail to:
Melissa Bird
75 Meadow St.
Winsted, CT 06098

2020 Laurel Festival Friends and Family Message Form

Thank you for submitting your message to your favorite contestant for inclusion in this year's Laurel Festival program! You may submit as many messages for the program as you like. However, **THIS IS NOT AN ADVERTISEMENT**. Please complete your contact information below, write your message in the space provided and return to the address listed below by **May 1st, 2020**.

Your Information:

Name		Phone Number	
Street Address		Email Address	
City	State	Zip Code	Contestant Name

Details and Instructions:

Your message may be one of two sizes. The sixteenth page message is approximately 2.5 inches wide by one inch high. The eighth page message is approximately 2.5 inches wide by two inches high. You may submit as many messages as you like but please send in all submissions by May 1st to be included in the program. Please make checks payable to "The Laurel City Commission."

Mail form with payment to:
Melissa Bird
75 Meadow St
Winsted, CT 06098
or emailed to
Melissa.oiseau@gmail.com

Please indicate which size message you would like:

	Message Size	Price
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sixteenth Page (2.5"w x 1"h)	\$10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eighth Page (2.5"w x 2"h)	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eighth Page (5"w x 1"h)	\$20

Write your message here:

