

January 22, 2025

Dear 4-H Member:

We are pleased to inform you that you are eligible to become a candidate in the 2025 Hancock County 4-H Fair Queen Pageant. Because you are an active member of the Hancock County 4-H program and meet the age requirements, (16 thru 19) we would like to encourage you to consider participating as a Queen Candidate in 2025. Your participation is an opportunity to gain experience with filling out applications, stage presence, interviewing, and to provide development of poise and self-confidence. And besides, it is FUN!

We are fortunate, in Hancock County, to have *NineStar Connect* sponsor our 4-H Queen Pageant. *NineStar Connect* will award monetary awards to the 4-H Queen and Court. The 2025 Queen will receive a \$400 award, the Princess will receive a \$300 award and each of the three members of the Queen's Court will receive a \$200 award.

Hancock County 4-H Fair Queen Pageant:

The 2025 Hancock County 4-H Fair Queen Pageant will be held the weekend prior to the county fair on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Trinity Park Church in Greenfield. The judging and pageant will take place the same day. The interview portion will remain in private and each participant will be given 5 minutes with the judges (morning of the 14th). The modeling of professional wear and formal wear will be judged live in front of the audience in the afternoon during the pageant and the Queen and court will be named that evening after the judges have made final decisions. **We will be discussing this further at the Prospective Queen/Application Meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at *NineStar Connect* in Greenfield.**

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Each contestant represented at the Indiana State Fair Queen Pageant must now be at least 18 years of age, on or before June 1, 2026. The minimum age requirement has been raised, and unfortunately, those who are 16-years-old will no longer be eligible to participate in the **STATE FAIR Queen Pageant**.

What does this mean for the Hancock County Queen Pageant?

- The Hancock County 4-H Queen Pageant requires that a candidate given the title of Queen or Princess be of State Fair age.
- This should not discourage younger eligible contestants from participating and competing for the court and congeniality positions. It will give you experience and will grow confidence.
- The contestants will learn life skills regarding applications, interviews, and finding new friendships.

The complete list of rules and regulations for the pageant will be discussed during the workshops hosted by the Hancock County 4-H Queen Committee.

We are hosting a Prospective Queen Candidate Meeting/Application Workshop to be held Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 6:30pm at NineStar Connect in Greenfield. This workshop is designed to give you an idea of what being a 4-H Queen Candidate is all about. We will also help guide you with the proper way to complete your application. The application is very important since it is the first impression of you that the judges will see. Coming to this meeting in no way obligates you to become a 4-H Queen Candidate, but would be very helpful to inform you about the pageant and the application process. Feel free to bring a parent if you wish.

Some of the rules of the contest and requirements that you should be familiar with are:

- Each 4-H Club is eligible to submit as many candidates as they choose, providing that the correct age is followed (turning 16 on or before June 1, 2025) and that they are currently enrolled and an active member of the Hancock County 4-H Program. There is no limit as to the number of Queen Candidates a club may have in the pageant.

• INTERVIEW

Each contestant will have five (5) minutes before the judge. Contestant will answer impromptu questions asked by the judges in a private setting.

• PROFESSIONAL WEAR

Attire: Suit, Pant Suit, Dress or Separates

Pant suits or pant separates will be allowed. Attire worn by the Contestants in the Interview may also be worn in the Professional Wear Category. Props are not allowed. Each Contestant will model their Professional Wear attire on a stage in front of the judges.

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- **FORMAL WEAR**

Attire: Long/Floor Length Evening Gown (no short or tea-length hems)

PLEASE NOTE: Gowns with the skirt split highly above the knee and/or a low-cut bodice is not recommended by judges. Each Contestant will model their Formal Wear on a stage in front of the judges.

- **APPLICATION – PLEASE PUT ACTIVE EMAIL ADDRESS THAT YOU CHECK OFTEN!!!**

Your 2025 Queen Application must be typed on a computer. Remember that your application is the first impression that the judges will have of you. It is suggested that you have someone proofread your application before turning it in. You will be able to access the application by clicking on the link available on the Purdue Extension-Hancock County Office Website. You can also click here at bit.ly/hancockqueen25

NOTICE! Candidates will submit the application electronically only by Google Form. No Exceptions! Make your first impression a good one! Once submitted you will receive an electronic receipt. You will also receive an email from a committee member to the email on your application to know we've received your application. Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

NOTE: Pictures for the newspaper and program will be taken of each candidate at the Queen workshop on MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025.

QUEEN PAGEANT SCORING

The candidates will be judged on the following four areas:

INTERVIEW - Ability to converse, Poise, Personality

FORMAL WEAR - Posture, Stage Presence , Overall Impression

PROFESSIONAL WEAR - Posture, Stage Presence, Overall Impression

4-H ACHIEVEMENT - Activities and Involvement in Hancock County 4-H Program

*Points and score sheets are for judges' assessment only. Final selection is judges' decision.

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• **QUEEN AND COURT GUIDELINES** The 2025 4-H Queen and Court members will represent the Hancock County 4-H Fair and 4-H Program. They are expected to act and dress in a mature and respectful manner. The 4-H Queen and Court members are required to be at the 4-H Fair for events throughout the week. If they are a participant in a 4-H Project or 4-H Activity that occurs during the week of the 4-H Fair, that 4-H project/activity has first priority over fulfilling Queen and/or Court Member duties. There will be other events that they may attend throughout the year.

Please remember that there is no paper application to turn in to the Extension Office. Candidates will submit the application electronically only by Google Form. Once submitted you will receive an electronic receipt. You will also receive an email from a committee member to the email on your application to know we've received your application. Applications must still be electronically submitted by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Please take a moment to consider participating in an exciting and fun-filled 4-H event. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a committee member.

We hope to see you at the Application Workshop/Prospective Queen Candidate Meeting to be held Thursday, February 20, 2025 at NineStar Connect at 6:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

Hancock County 4-H Queen Pageant Committee

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Hancock County 4-H Fair Queen Pageant History with the Indiana State Fair Queen Pageant 1958-2022 64 years

1978

Kelli Davis Gossett Miller

1st Runner Up ISF



1981

Kim Frist Alexander

4th Runner Up ISF



2017

Ashley Fritz Spegal

3rd Runner Up ISF



2020

Jordyn Wickard

Top 10 Finalist ISF



2022 Claire Bishop 2023 Miss Indiana State Fair Queen

