

Application for the 2026 Strawberry Festival Queen Pageant

- 1) Pageant Date/Place: **Saturday, April 18, 2026 at Stilwell High School Fine Arts Building.**
- 2) Should be no younger than 16 years on Strawberry Festival Day (Saturday, May 9, 2026) and NOT turn 21 years before Strawberry Festival Day the following year (Saturday, May 8, 2027). **Bring birth certificate or ID to Contestant Meeting.**
- 3) Must be female at birth and unmarried.
- 4) Should never have had a child (biological or adoptive) and not be pregnant.
- 5) Should be a resident of Adair County, Oklahoma and have lived within Adair County for a minimum of six (6) months prior to the application deadline. Alternatively, if the contestant resides outside of Adair County, she must be an Oklahoma resident and currently enrolled in, and has completed at least two (2) consecutive years of enrollment in, an Adair County public school. **Bring proof of residency, such as drivers license, and proof of enrollment from registrar (if needed) to Contestant Meeting.**
- 6) All contestants are encouraged to attend and participate in scheduled group meeting(s)/practices/rehearsal(s). All practices and dress rehearsal will be closed to the general public. Family members and/or guests (who are helping a contestant on pageant night) may attend dress rehearsal but may not interact with the contestants.
 - a. **A Contestants meeting will be on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 10:00am in the Stilwell Middle School lecture hall.**
 - b. Our goal is for you to attend at least half of the scheduled Pageant practices to prepare you as best as possible.
 - c. **Pageant dress rehearsal will be on Friday, April 17, 2026 and is expected that all contestants will attend.**
- 7) All clothing worn during the interview & pageant should be modest and viewed by the Pageant Director **prior to dress rehearsal.**
 - a. It is **strongly recommended** that you keep all interview & pageant outfits modest.
 - i. Many judges do not prefer risqué pageant clothing and may deduct point for such clothing.
 1. As seen in the past, judges have deducted points for inappropriate coverage of a contestant's outfit.
 - b. Clothing needs to be as follows:
 - i. **Interview Outfit**- street length dress, suit, or pant suit; closed-toe shoes
 - ii. **Opening Number**- Pageant shirt styled to show off your own style & personality
 - iii. **Street Wear**- street length dress, suit, or pant suit
 1. example: something you would wear to the state Capitol to deliver strawberries to the Governor and other state leaders
 2. can be same outfit worn for the interview
 - iv. **Talent Outfit**- appropriate for the activity
 - v. **Formal Wear**- choose something that is flattering to your coloring and body shape
 1. Also want to keep in mind to choose a dress that will translate well onstage and under a spotlight
- 8) Judging criteria for the pageant will be as listed below. Should this criterion need to change due to any circumstances affecting the original process, the new scoring criteria will be communicated to all contestants beforehand.
 - a. Poise and Personality= 30%
 - b. Appearance= 35%
 - c. Communicative Skills= 25%
 - d. Talent= 10%

*In the event of a tie, the Contestants in contention with the highest Interview score will win. If the Interview scores are the same, then will move to the next category score, as follows: Opening Number, Street Wear, Talent, Formal Wear, Final Question. This will also be as follows for 1st and 2nd Runners-up.
- 9) Talent should be no longer than 3 minutes in length, with the minimum length being 1 minute.
 - a. Please do not include any unfit/inappropriate dialog, language, or moves.
 - i. It is **strongly recommended** to keep talent, music, and outfit modest and conservative.
 - ii. Many judges do not prefer risqué costumes, moves, and/or language and may deduct points for such things.
 - b. **5 points will be deducted for each 1-30 seconds the talent exceeds the time limit.**
 - i. Deduction will come off the total Talent Score.

10) Kiwanis Scholarships/Awards will be awarded as listed below.

- a. All contestants, upon completion of the entire pageant process and compete on pageant day, will receive on pageant night:
 - i. \$100, plus an additional \$10 for every practice attended
 - b. Queen= \$1000 scholarship
 - c. 1st Runner-up= \$750 scholarship
 - d. 2nd Runner-up= \$500 scholarship
 - e. People's Choice= \$250 cash
 - f. Miss Congeniality= trophy

The Queen, 1st runner-up, and 2nd runner-up scholarships will be paid directly to the college, technical school, or other approved higher education institution upon receipt of verification of enrollment. This offer will be extended up to 24 months after the winners graduate from high school.

- 11) Must agree that if you win the title of 2026 STILWELL STRAWBERRY QUEEN, you will forfeit any and all other Pageant titles held within 30 days of crowning AND will not participate in any other pageants during your reign as the 2026 STILWELL STRAWBERRY QUEEN, unless authorized in writing by the Pageant Director.
- 12) If selected as the 2026 Stilwell Strawberry Festival Queen/Queen-elect/Court, I agree to make myself available for personal appearances, interviews, testimonials, endorsements, filming, tapings, photographic & recording sessions, and other various commitments and events related to my "Year of Service" that the Stilwell Kiwanis Club has made and will make for me in its sole discretion. I also agree with being on time, if not early, to all appearances.

Therefore, by signing this Application for the 2026 Strawberry Festival Queen form and submitting it to the Stilwell Kiwanis Club for approval, the Contestant represents and agrees:

- (1) that all facts and representations contained on this Application are true and accurate;**
- (2) the Stilwell Kiwanis Club shall have the sole discretion to determine whether, in its judgment, the Contestant may continue to participate in the 2026 Strawberry Festival Queen Pageant, be crowned, or continue to reign in the event that the Stilwell Kiwanis Club determines any statement or representation by the Contestant/Queen/Court is not true and accurate.**

I am currently _____ years of age. I was born on _____. I understand that, in order to be eligible to compete, I must be no younger than 16 years on Strawberry Festival Day, May 9, 2026, and not turn 21 years before Strawberry Festival Day, May 8, 2027. I have included as proof of age _____ . (Birth Certificate or ID)

I currently reside at _____ (address, city, state) in Adair County in the state of Oklahoma. I have resided at this address since _____ (date). I have included _____ as proof of this residency (driver's license, current lease, or other official document establishing residency).

-OR-

For at least the past 2 years, I have attended the following school(s) in Adair County:

_____ (school); _____ (month/year attended)

_____ (school); _____ (month/year attended)

I have included _____ (report cards, verification letter, transcript, etc) as proof of attending the school(s) listed above.

I release the Stilwell Kiwanis Club and hold it harmless from liability resulting from any accident, incident, or injury which may occur during rehearsals, the pageant, or during my year of Kiwanis service. I consent to my picture, as well as video being displayed as Strawberry Festival Queen/Court or contestant on printed materials, social media and/or on the Kiwanis Club website.

I do, hereby, swear that the statements made in this Application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Contestant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contestant Name Printed: _____

Parent or Guardian (If contestant is under age 18)

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name Printed: _____

2026 STILWELL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL QUEEN PAGEANT APPLICATION

Applications are due by the end of the day on Saturday, January 31, 2026

Pageant to be held Saturday, April 18, 2025 - Stilwell High School Fine Arts Building

STILWELL KIWANIS CLUB
P.O. Box 1312
Stilwell, OK 74960
Tracy Sims, President

Pageant Email: stilwellstrawberrypageant@yahoo.com

I certify that I have read the Application for participating in the Strawberry Queen Pageant and that I meet the qualifications making me eligible to participate as a contestant. Yes _____ No _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Mailing Address: _____ (address, city, state, zip code)

Phone = Contestant's Cell: _____

Email: _____ Date of Birth: _____

School: _____ Class: _____ (9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th, college)

Parents: _____

T-Shirt Size _____

Parent Contact: _____ Parent Contact Number: _____

(Additional facts below to be used for newspaper articles, pageant script, judges' packets, etc)
(Please know that answering these questions will help you have a head start at Pageant practices! 😊)

Talent:

Talent Choice: _____

Will there be music? If so, what song? _____

Why have you chosen this talent, song? Does it (talent and/or song) have a special/particular meaning to you?

General:

Why are you running for Strawberry Queen?

What activities/clubs are you involved in at school? (include positions held in clubs)

What activities are you involved in outside of school?

What church, if any, do you attend? (please include city church is located in)

What are your future plans?

What is a fun fact about you? (something that no one or few others know about you)

If you could only tell us **3** things about yourself, what would those 3 things be? (Be sure to elaborate on each of the 3 things to explain why you told them.)

What are your strengths? (some of your answers may be the same as the question above- this is ok 😊)

Do you have any hobbies/anything you enjoy doing? Please share them with us! 😊

Do you currently have a job? If so, where do you work & what's your position/job role there?

What do you know, if anything, about Kiwanis? Which Stilwell Kiwanis Club event is your favorite/do you enjoy most?

Thank you for answering these questions!
We look forward to meeting and working with you!

Contestant Number (To be assigned) _____

(rev. 11/28/2025)

****Completed Application form can be entered by mail, email, or turned in to any Kiwanis Officer/Board Member by the end of the day on Saturday, January 31, 2026.****