

# 2015 Portland Rose Festival Court Program

## COURT MISSION

The mission of the Rose Festival Court program is to provide scholarships for higher education, to promote community outreach and volunteerism, and to offer networking and mentoring opportunities to outstanding young women in a program that perpetuates an appreciation for Rose Festival history and tradition.



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & BENEFITS

The Rose Festival Court comprises up to 15 outstanding women who are selected from Portland-Metro area high schools. After being selected in March, Court Members attend after-school and evening orientation meetings during the month of April. Beginning in May, Court Members travel through the end of the Festival in mid-June, visiting community events, business leaders, hospitals, senior living centers, youth organizations and civic groups. Court Members also receive one-on-one mentoring from female executives, a \$3,500 scholarship provided by The Randall Group valid for any accredited college, university or trade program, a complete wardrobe, and a lifetime of enduring friendships with their Rose Festival Court sisters.

## COURT MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Being selected as a Rose Festival Court Member is an honor and an outstanding opportunity! It is also a large responsibility. The Rose Festival Court experience is challenging, but very rewarding. It requires a significant time commitment and adherence to strict behavioral standards. At times, Rose Festival activities may prevent Court Members from participating in other school or personal activities. To help you decide if the Rose Festival Court is right for you, consider the following:

- **Court Members are public figures.** Your words, your actions, and your past may be discussed by your school, the media and the community. As a Court Member, you are always "on the record." Think about what this means to you and your family before you apply.
- **The Portland Rose Festival Foundation has a policy against commercialization with regard to the Queen and Court Members.** There must be nothing to imply endorsement of any product or service by any Court Member or her family. If selected, a Court Member must agree not to take part in any commercial print, radio or television advertising between the date of her selection and the end of the 2015 Rose Festival. This includes modeling. If selected Queen, this restriction applies until the next Queen is crowned.
- **Rose Festival responsibilities must be prioritized.** Court members may not be able to participate in most non-academic extra-curricular activities or other engagements. Schedule exceptions will be discussed with your Court Chair during April orientations. During April, Court events take place either after school or on weekends. During May/June, Court Members are not in school and travel 5 days a week. Due to an understanding between the school districts and the Portland Rose Festival Foundation, most schools freeze grades upon the start of the travel schedule. However, each Court Member must work with her teachers and school to ensure that all requirements are completed for graduation.
- **Court Members must be punctual.** Court Members are responsible for their own transportation in April. In May, Court Members will report to a designated Headquarters location and transportation will be provided. Being on time for every event is of utmost importance.

## Eligibility & Application Process

### All candidates must:

- Be Female
- Attend a 4A, 5A or 6A high school in Multnomah, Washington or Clackamas counties
- Be a senior graduating in June 2015 or a junior on track to graduate in June 2016
- Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA (applicants with GPA between 2.75 and 3.0 with exigent circumstances may still be eligible; complete the variance form included with this application. If your cumulative GPA is below 2.75, you do not meet eligibility requirements to apply).
- Have a verifiable minimum of 20 hours community service performed during high school
- Submit a **complete** application **due January 9, 2015** (see below)
- Attend one **mandatory** orientation session: January 24, January 28 or January 31, 2015
- Participate in the Court Judging process: February 14th (Preliminary AM, Finalists PM)
- Participate in your school's Rose Festival Court announcement assembly

### A Complete Application (**due January 9, 2015**) Includes:

- Application Form (2 pages with signatures) – **MUST BE TYPED**
- Biography Form – **MUST BE TYPED**
- Recommendation Form (completed by a teacher, coach, school counselor, scholarship coordinator, vice principal or principal) with original signature
- Court Rules and Guidelines signed by both the applicant and parent/guardian
- **Official High School Transcript with Cumulative GPA – SEALED**

Applications must be typed (as indicated above) using 10 pt or larger font and must have original signatures where required. No additional documents will be considered. **Faxed, e-mailed or incomplete applications are not accepted. Applicants are responsible for making sure that all pieces of the application including recommendations and transcripts are turned in by the deadline.**

### **Applications may be mailed or hand-delivered between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to:**

Portland Rose Festival Foundation  
Attn: Special Events Manager  
1020 SW Naito Parkway, Portland, OR 97204

**Orientation Sessions (January):** Notification of candidate eligibility will be made by email on or before January 14, 2015. Eligible candidates must attend 1 of 3 orientations in January. (Schedule will be included with notification).

### **Court Selection Process (February/March):**

Judges will evaluate candidates based on the following criteria:

**Character (50%):** Demonstrates good citizenship, community-minded, involved in school and other activities, shows desires to help others.

**Communication Skills (25%):** Good verbal skills, speaks clearly, expresses herself appropriately, creative speech content, correct grammar, good eye contact.

**Presence (25%):** Poised under pressure, prepared for speech and interview, enthusiastic, sincere, comfortable with herself, appropriate grooming.

# Application

## PERSONAL DATA (Form must be typed)

Name:

*Last*

*First*

*Middle*

I prefer to be called (i.e., Katie instead of Katherine):

Address:

*Street*

*City*

*State*

*Zip Code*

Home phone:

Cell phone:

Email address:

Birth date:

Birth place:

Parent(s) or Guardian's name(s): #1

#2

Parent's Email #1:

Parent's Email #2:

Parent's cell phone #1:

Parent's cell phone #2:

Siblings:

## EDUCATION

High school:

Graduation date:

Current CUMULATIVE GPA:

## ESSAY QUESTION

**Why do you want to represent your school and community as a Rose Festival Court Member?  
Please tell us in 100 words or less.**

## **VOLUNTEER SERVICE - Minimum of 20 hours required**

*I certify that I have completed the hours listed below at the agencies/organizations listed below. I understand that representatives from the Rose Festival Foundation or Court Committee may contact the organizations to verify actual service provided.*

<b>Organization/Agency Name</b>	<b># Of Hours</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Contact name and phone #</b>

**Why is community service important?**

**Please tell us in 100 words or less.**

### **SCHOOL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Principal or designee, hereby acknowledge that

\_\_\_\_\_ is an applicant for the Rose Festival Court Program. We agree that the

candidate listed above is an acceptable candidate to represent our school/campus. Per the traditional arrangements with participating schools, by signing below I acknowledge that the applicant's grades will be frozen in the state they are in on Monday, May 1, 2015, if she is selected to serve on the Rose Festival Court.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Portland Rose Festival Court Program - **Due January 9, 2015**

## Biography Form

**Any and all information on this form may be shared with judges, the media, and/or the public.  
Your answers must fit on this page.**

Name:

Prefer to be called/Nick name:

High School:

Graduation date:

Higher Education Plans:

Career Plans:

Please list your school-related activities, awards and recognitions:

What other hobbies, special interests, or activities fill your spare time?

What is your favorite place to visit in Portland and why?:

What are you most proud of during your high school career?

What is your favorite Rose Festival event and why?

## Recommendation Form

**To be completed by an adult not related to you (teacher, counselor, work supervisor). Applicants are responsible for making sure that the recommendation form is turned in by the deadline.** (Form does not need to be typed)

*Please complete form and return to student in sealed envelope for inclusion with their application.*

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

1) What three words would you use to describe this student? Please give examples of how they exemplify the words chosen.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Example \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Example \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Example \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) Describe this student's academic abilities and performance in school (study habits, creativity, etc).

3) Describe any leadership skills this student has demonstrated.

4) What sets this student apart from other students?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## GPA Variance Form

Please complete this form **ONLY** if your cumulative GPA is below the required 3.0. If your GPA is between 2.75 and 3.0, please use the space below to explain the reasons your GPA does not meet requirements. If your cumulative GPA is below 2.75, you do not meet eligibility requirements to apply.

Name:

Current cumulative GPA:

Previous semester's GPA:

Explanation for variance:

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Applicant Name (Print)

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Signature and Date

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School Counselor Name (Print)

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Signature and Date

## Rose Festival Court Rules and Guidelines

If selected to the Rose Festival Court, I agree to the following rules and guidelines:

1. **The Portland Rose Festival Foundation reserves the right to remove any Court Member or Queen from the Rose Festival Court for any reason, at any given time. This includes during the travel schedule and after travel is completed.**
2. The Portland Rose Festival Foundation and participating Schools reserve the right to take any action necessary to prevent conduct by Court Members that is potentially disruptive, may cause others to be disruptive, or potentially undermines the educational goals and missions of the Schools and the Foundation.
3. Court Members will not be in possession of tobacco products, drink alcoholic beverages, use drugs (other than prescription, to be conveyed to the Court Chairman) or be involved in any illegal activities.
4. A Court Member's term of service is from Announcement Day through the next year's Announcement Day. Official duties for Court Members will end with the conclusion of the travel schedule. The Court Member chosen as Queen serves through the following year's Coronation and Grand Floral Parade.
5. There is no runner up in the Rose Festival Court Program. If a Court Member is removed or unable to serve her term for any reason, her school will not have a Court Member for that festival year.
6. Court Members and their families must fully understand and agree to the time commitment of the Rose Festival Court and always be on time. **Transportation to all events during April and to/from Court Headquarters during Travel is the responsibility of the Court Member and her family.**
7. Rose Festival activities take precedence over other commitments. Every effort is made to accommodate important personal events, however, Court Members may be asked to forego personal or extra-curricular events as part of their commitment to the Rose Festival.
8. While on official Court business, the Court always travels as a group. If a Court Member needs to excuse herself for a few minutes, a Court Committee Member must accompany her.
9. Court Members will adhere to the Portland Rose Festival's non-commercialization policy. Public appearances and endorsements of any kind are prohibited without prior approval by the Foundation's Event Manager. Requests for interviews, photographs, appearances, public comment, etc., should be directed to the Event Manager. This policy helps protect Court Members from potentially uncomfortable or embarrassing situations and protects the Foundation's sponsors' interests.

I acknowledge that I have a proven record of good citizenship and attendance, have never been convicted of a crime, have read and understand all of the above Rules & Guidelines, and agree to abide by them. I understand that I may be removed as a candidate for or member of the Rose Festival Court if I do not meet these rules at any time after signing this application. I understand all decisions made by the Portland Rose Festival Foundation Directors, staff or my high school administration are final. I certify that all information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

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Applicant Name (Print)

Signature

Date

I have read and understand all the above Rules & Guidelines, and understand the commitment required to participate in the Rose Festival Court Program. I certify that all information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I give my permission for my daughter to apply for and participate in the Rose Festival Court Program.

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Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Signature

Date

Portland Rose Festival Court Program - **Due January 9, 2015**