2019 Hispanic Heritage Queen, Princess, and Sweetheart Contests

The title of Lea County Hispanic Heritage Queen, Princess, Sweetheart holds a place of honor and prestige. This title represents our culture and the quality of leadership among young women in Lea County.

The objective of the Lea County Hispanic Heritage Royalty Contest is to select a representative for the Lea County Hispanic Heritage Celebration. The Queen will serve as an ambassador of the Lea County Hispanic Heritage Celebration to the general public. She must at all times exhibit good sportsmanship, as well as high moral and ethical standards. The young lady that holds this title must be able to speak intelligently, with authority, and with knowledge of Lea County and the Lea County Hispanic Heritage. She is expected to act, speak, and dress according to the prestige the title deserves at all times during her reign as the Lea County Hispanic Heritage Queen.

The value of winning the Lea County Hispanic Heritage Queen title is limitless and the experience gained will enrich a young woman's life in countless ways. The Lea County Hispanic Heritage Queen is an official representative of the Lea County Hispanic Heritage Celebration and should constantly be aware of the value of her image in the general public and with the Lea County Fair & Rodeo officials.

You must attend the **Meet & Greet** which will be held on

Monday, June 3, 2019 at 6:00 PM

In the Fair Board Meeting Room,
located at 101 S. Commercial St.
on the Lea County Fairgrounds in Lovington, NM.

Completed and notarized entry forms
must be turned in by the contestant.

All questions, comments and concerns will be taken during this time as well.

THE HISPANIC HERITAGE QUEEN, PRINCESS, AND SWEETHEART
2019 CONTEST REGULATIONS

1. Queen contestants must be 17 years old by January 1, 2019 and may not have turned 24 years old before December 31, 2019. Princess contestants must be 13 years old by January 1, 2019, and up to 16 years old by December 31, 2019. Sweetheart Contestants must be 9 years old by January 1, 2019, and up to 12 years old by December 31, 2019.

2. The contestant shall be a single girl, never have been married and never to have had a child or minor dependent.

3. The contestant must be enrolled in a Lea County school and/or must prove residency in Lea County for a consecutive period of 12 months prior to the day of the entry deadline. The Hispanic Heritage Committee reserves the right to request proof of residency.

4. A candidate will be chosen to reign as the 2019-2020 Hispanic Heritage Queen, Princess, and Sweetheart. The contestant must understand that if she is currently holding another title and wins the title of Hispanic Heritage Queen, Princess, or Sweetheart, she may continue to hold both titles only if she commits to the Hispanic Heritage Celebration as her first priority.

5. Inappropriate (for example public display of affection with a boyfriend, inappropriate dress, cell phone use) or unsportsmanlike behavior in any public forum including social media such as Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, and Instagram from a title holder, contestant, parent/guardian, or anyone associated with the contestant before, during, or after the competition is cause for dismissal and relinquishment of all awards at the discretion of the Hispanic Heritage Committee and the Lea County Fair Board. Title Holders and contestants will be expected to represent Lea County and the Fair & Rodeo in a professional manner at all times.

6. At no time before, during, or after any part of the competition will a contestant, parent/guardian, or anyone associated with the contestant be allowed to approach a judge. A judge may approach a contestant after the competition with suggestions concerning areas of improvement.

7. Any discussion on any form of social media site by the contestant, parent/guardian or anyone associated with the contestant will be monitored and if deemed negative is grounds for relinquishment of any and all awards at the discretion of the Hispanic Heritage Committee and the Lea County Fair Board.

8. Please understand that if selected as Hispanic Heritage Celebration Royalty, winners are responsible for their own transportation, clothing, and expenses incurred while representing the Hispanic Heritage Celebration.

9. No sponsorship donations may be taken in the name of the Hispanic Heritage Royalty Contest without the knowledge and consent of the Lea County Fair Board and the Hispanic Heritage Committee. All donations including money, clothing, etc. received by the contestant must be with the donor's knowledge and understanding that it is for personal benefit.

10. The contestant agrees that the Lea County Fair Board and the Hispanic Heritage Committee shall determine the manner and method of conducting the competition including determining time, method and manner of judging, presentation, and supervision of all awards. The decision of the persons designated by the Lea County Fair Board to judge the various events in any and all matters pertaining to the selection of the winners shall be **FINAL** in all respects.

11. By signing and submitting this application and contract, the contestant agrees that:

- each requirement of eligibility set forth has been met
- all facts and representations presented by the contestant are true and accurate
- the contestant, parents and/or guardians will abide by all rules and regulations of the Lea County Fair Board as set forth by the Hispanic Heritage Committee in the period before and during her year of service
- the contestant has never been convicted of any criminal offense and there are no criminal charges presently pending against the contestant; contestant will not or does not curse, smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, or be under the influence of narcotics or any illegal controlled substance or engage in these type of activities at any time after her application is received by the Hispanic Heritage Committee.
- any unsatisfactory behavior before, during, or after the contest **will be cause for dismissal** of the contestant with relinquishment of her title and all awards
- the Lea County Fair Board and the Hispanic Heritage Committee shall have sole discretion in determining whether a contestant may continue to participate in the program in the event that any statement or representation by the contestant found not true and accurate or that any action by the contestant is inconsistent with the rules and regulations of the program

12. The contestant agrees to abide by all rules, regulations, and deadlines set forth by the Lea County Fair Board and the Hispanic Heritage Committee. When signed by the contestant and approved by the Lea County Fair Board, this application and contract, together with its attachments, shall solely and exclusively determine the contestant's rights, privileges, and responsibilities to the Lea County Fair Board. No other oral or written statement that is in any way inconsistent with the provisions of this application and contract shall be binding upon the contestant, the Lea County Fair Board or the Hispanic Heritage Committee.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION

The elected Queen is not required to attend any activities except the judging, luncheon, and Hispanic Heritage Celebration, but they may attend any of the following with the newly elected Queen.

Scheduled contest activities will include, but are not limited to the following:

- Luncheons with Civic Groups
- Radio Interviews
- Presentations at Livestock Shows and at the Livestock Sale
- Fair Parade
- Media Activities
    - Prepared Speech
    - Modeling
    - Impromptu Questioning

JUDGING CRITERIA

The Hispanic Heritage Queen Contest will be judged on the criteria and requirements of this contest.
A silent judge may be present to observe the Queen contestants during any given part of the contest. The silent judge's score may be included in the final score as a tie breaker.

PERSONALITY Competition

The personality portion of the contest will consist of the following criteria. Private interviews will be conducted by the judges. Contestants will be judged on:

1. **Appearance**
   - poise – posture, manners, ladylike behavior, and self-confidence
   - modeling – ability, style, and confidence
   - fashion –attire that is appropriate and stylish with particular attention given to proper fit, style, color, and coordination
   - general overall appearance, grooming, and cleanliness

2. **Private Interview**
   - conversational ability, intelligence, maturity, and common sense
   - integrity, high moral standards, sincerity, and disposition
   - genuine interest in people and consideration for other

3. **Impromptu Questions**
   - ability to respond quickly and intelligently with poise and self-control
   - ability to use proper grammar, knowledge, and delivery
   - questions may pertain to, but are not limited to the contestant's application, the contestant's speech, Lea County, fair and rodeo, or current events

PARENTS/GUARDIANS, SPONSORS, AND RELATIVES

At no time during the contest will parents/guardians or others associated with the contestant be allowed to interfere with the judges or contest officials. This is cause for dismissal from the contest. The Lea County Fair Board and the Hispanic Heritage Committee welcome and encourage family members, relatives, and friends to attend all events as designated in the agenda. The support and assistance of friends and family during the contest is very important to the confidence and success of each contestant.

TICKET INFORMATION

The contestant's sash will be her ticket for admittance into the events at the Lea County Fair & Rodeo. Parents and chaperones are encouraged to purchase fair and rodeo tickets early.

CROWNING

The coronation will take place on Friday afternoon, August 3, 2019, during the Hispanic Heritage Concert performances. All contestants are expected to appear at the coronation where the Queen will be crowned. All awards and prizes will be presented during the coronation ceremony.

FINALITY OF JUDGES' SCORING

As a condition of entry into the Queen contest, the contestant agrees that the judges' scoring is FINAL in all aspects and not subject to appeal by any person or body; administrative or judicial.

2019 Lea County Fair & Rodeo
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