



For Immediate Release  
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## **New Mexico State Fair Crowns 2020 State Fair Queen** *Deanne Guthrie of Curry County Announced as Queen*

Deanne Guthrie of Curry County New Mexico was named the 2020 New Mexico State Fair Queen on Saturday, September 14, during a coronation ceremony in the African American Performing Arts Center on the fairgrounds. Deanne is the daughter of Ronnie and Renee Guthrie, and currently lives in Clovis where she attends school at Clovis Community College. She is studying to become a paramedic, and has completed EMT basics. She is also a certified phlebotomist. When she's not in school, Deanne can be found riding on one of her six horses. She loves all things rodeo, and loves to barrel race and pole bend on one of her horses.

"I'm very excited to be able to go across the state to represent New Mexico," said Guthrie. "It has been a dream of mine ever since I was a little girl to represent the State Fair. I'm just hoping I can fill the shoes that everyone expects me to fill!"

Deanne shares her home town with the first ever New Mexico State Fair Queen, Wilma Fulgham, who was crowned in September of 1950. Guthrie will hold the crown exactly 70 years after Fulgham. Curry County has been home to more New Mexico State Fair Queens than any other county in the state.

The rules for the Queen Contest describe the title of New Mexico State Fair Queen as "one of honor and prestige like no other in New Mexico and the experience gained during the queen's reign will enrich her life in countless ways." This title represents not only the Western way of life, but also the quality of leadership among young women in New Mexico as the leaders of tomorrow. According to Queens Contest guidelines, the objective of the New Mexico State Fair Queen Contest is to determine an official representative of the Fair who will serve as an ambassador to the general public, exhibiting exceptional sportsmanship. She should be able to speak with authority, and with knowledge about the New Mexico State Fair, the State of New Mexico and the sport of rodeo. She should also be familiar with the state's agriculture industry, its Western heritage, and diverse cultures which is what the New Mexico State Fair is about.

A panel of three judged the New Mexico State Fair Queen Contest – with their scores added together to give one averaged score for each contestant. The contestant with the highest averaged score is selected as the New Mexico State Fair Queen. Each contestant was judged on horsemanship, personality and personal interviews.

The 1<sup>st</sup> attendant was Lauren Wilder from Bernalillo County, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> attendant was Kaitlyn Kennedy from Sierra County.

A list of the other contestants are as follows, in no particular order:

Navea Chapman - San Juan County

Maggie Rich - Socorro County

Ashlynn Upton - Valencia County

For more information about the 2019 New Mexico State Fair, and the 2020 New Mexico State Fair Queen, visit us at [\[exponm.com\]](http://exponm.com)exponm.com.

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