

January 12, 2026

Plans are underway for the 83rd annual Tyler County Dogwood Festival which will be celebrated in Woodville, Texas for three weekends starting March 22nd and concluding on April 4, 2026. The coronation of the Dogwood Queen and the presentation of the royal court in the elaborately decorated outdoor amphitheater will be the highlight of this exciting festival!

Visiting duchesses will participate in festivities April 2nd through April 4th. Each duchess must be a high school senior and have a high school student as an escort. If you are unable to bring an escort, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can provide a local escort. We will only be able to accommodate 24 duchesses so please get your registration form and fee of \$125.00 (payable to the Tyler County Dogwood Festival Association) in as soon as possible.

The deadline for registration is February 23, 2026.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email.

Sincerely,

Candace Read Dagle

Duchess Committee Chairman

PO Box 369 Warren, Texas 77664

409-781-0706

[Candace\\_spivey@hotmail.com](mailto:Candace_spivey@hotmail.com)

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE OFFICIAL DOGWOOD PROGRAM

Every year an official program book for the Tyler County Dogwood Festival is published and sold throughout the community. Loved ones of participants often purchase ads that feature pictures and information about those involved in the pageant. If you would like to purchase an ad, please provide a sample design with a picture and a check payable to the Tyler County Dogwood Festival. This is completely optional, but I want to make sure that families of visiting royalty have all the opportunities our local participants have.

An ad form can be found at [tylercountydogwoodfestival.org](http://tylercountydogwoodfestival.org). You can submit ads or speak with the ad chairman, Heather Richardson Tinkle, at [tylercountydogwoodads@gmail.com](mailto:tylercountydogwoodads@gmail.com)

Ad deadline is February 24, 2026

## INFORMATION FOR DUCHESS AND ESCORT

PICTURE: Please send 1 photo of duchess only to [Candace\\_spivey@hotmail.com](mailto:Candace_spivey@hotmail.com). If you want your picture included in the Dogwood book, we need the picture by February 23, 2026.

OFFICIAL PROGRAM: Please contact Heather Richardson at [tylercountydogwoodads@gmail.com](mailto:tylercountydogwoodads@gmail.com) to submit an ad for the official program. This is an optional activity.

JEAN FLING: The jean fling is a get acquainted party for all the festival royalty. It is held on Thursday, April 2nd. Blue jeans or casual dress is appropriate. An invitation will be sent to you.

BREAKFAST: Friday morning, April 3rd, a seated breakfast will begin promptly at 9:00 am at the Woodville United Methodist Church (508 West Bluff, 283-2471). However, participants are asked to arrive at 8:30 am. Duchesses will dress comfortably in dress or pants suit. Escorts will wear collared sport shirt and slacks. After breakfast, we will move to rehearsal.

REHEARSAL: Rehearsal will immediately follow breakfast on Friday, April 3rd, at the amphitheater located behind the Woodville ISD Administration building at 505 North Charlton. Following rehearsal, lunch will be served at the Pickett House Restaurant located at Heritage Village and Museum (157 Private Road 6000 409-283- 2272). A tour of the village and games will also be held.

KINGSMANS BALL: This ball is held in honor of the festival royalty. Long or short formal attire for the duchess and suit or sport coat with tie for the escort is expected. A tuxedo is not required. The ball is at 8:00 pm Friday, April 3rd at Woodville Intermediate/Elementary Cafeteria.

PARENTS RECEPTION: A reception for the parents of all festival participants will be held on Friday evening, April 3rd. If you have a parent with a different address than your own, please provide that address to us as well so that he or she can be invited to attend. Parents are invited to attend the Kingsman's Ball after the reception.

SATURDAY MORNING: Free time. You are on your own until parade time.

**PARADE:** The parade is Saturday, April 4th. Line-up time is 1:30 and the parade begins at 2:00. Each duchess is expected to furnish her own car. In the past, convertibles, sunroof models, dune buggies, t-tops, and antique cars or trucks have been used. Each car is to have two signs (one on each side) stating the name of the duchess and the town she represents. You may further decorate your car if you desire. If you like, you may throw candy or beads to the spectators. **REMEMBER TO WEAR SUNSCREEN** - Many parade participants have shown up Saturday night with visible marks or sunburn from the parade. You will be judged on the appearance of your car and your parade personality. Parade winners will be announced at the coronation.

**GRAND DUCHESS:** The Grand Duchess is chosen by her peers. Balloting will take place in the school cafeteria before the coronation begins. Each duchess will be asked to choose objectively the Duchess she feels best exemplifies the spirit of the Dogwood Festival - friendliness, style, and participation in festival activities.

**CORONATION:** The coronation is on Saturday, April 4th. Participants and their escorts should arrive at the Woodville Intermediate Cafeteria by 6:30pm. Each duchess will wear a long, full-length formal in a solid color. We ask that you do not wear white. Please also try to avoid black as this is a celebration of springtime. A corsage is not needed as the duchess will carry a bouquet provided by the festival. Escorts must wear a summer tuxedo: white coat, white shirt, black tie, black pants, black socks, and black shoes. A boutonniere will be furnished. Remember this is an outdoor event and it may be cool. Duchesses should bring a wrap to use after the coronation. You will not be able to carry it with you but a parent can bring it to you after everyone is seated.

NOTE - This year the local royalty will be wearing **YELLOW**, so you might want to avoid this color.

**PAGEANT TICKETS:** The duchess and escort do not need tickets but anyone watching the pageant and coronation will need one. They will be on sale at various local businesses and there will be available on Saturday. All seating is General Admission.

**MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:** The local Stagecoach Inn takes reservations at 409-331-1100. There are also several bed and breakfast accommodations in the Woodville area.

**FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHER:** Becki Byrd is our official Photographer. Becki will take photos at all events, so that you may enjoy yourself without having to worry about taking pictures.

## Dogwood Festival Photos!!

Includes all digital images taken by Becki Byrd at all Dogwood activities.

Package orders can be paid by cash, check, Venmo @Becki-Byrd or PayPal (Friends & Family). Please include this order form when paying. Order form can be e-mailed to the address listed below.

Package Orders paid by March 15th- \$200

Package Orders paid after March 15th- \$250

Individual Photos (digital format) can be purchased for \$20/photo.

Please return this form with payment to Jana Rayburn or Becki Byrd.

Please share this form and info with your escort.

Participants

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

-----Detatch and keep info below-----

Hello all! I am honored to be able to participate again this year as your Dogwood Photographer!

I have been a resident of Tyler County my entire life and I truly love the spirit of Dogwood and what it means for our community. I would like to call myself a professional photographer, but I do not use photography as my profession. I have been taking photos for 15 years, I have professional photography equipment, an eye for the things that I think would be important to others, and I pay attention to details that someone else may not even notice. I have to be completely satisfied with the product before anyone else sees it. I think it is SO important to be in the moment with your children. *There are times that getting a picture of every single participant is not feasible (mostly during parades when participants are split up on different sides of floats), but every attempt will be made to get as many as possible.*

Gallery of photos will be available for viewing as pictures are taken. Photos are digital download only. When you purchase pictures or a picture package you will select your "favorites" and then a link to download full resolution files will be sent to the email you provide. Photos will be available until August 31, 2026. The photos will no longer be available after August 31, 2026 even if you purchased them. You are responsible for saving your pictures once they are sent to you. I recommend you download to a computer and then save to an external device.

Please do not "screenshot" photos from the website as they are not considered "high quality". You may not use photos with watermark for personal use, including posting to social media. All sales are final. No refunds will be given. By filling out this form along with payment you agree to these terms and conditions. Any questions can be sent to the e-mail address or cell number below.

## DUCHESS REGISTRATION

Please return this completed registration as soon as possible, as there are only 24 spots for Duchesses. Deadline is February 23, 2026. Also submit one photograph (head shot only) as soon as possible.

### DUCHESS

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Parents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City representing \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt

Size \_\_\_\_\_

ESCORT Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Parents \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship (if any) to former Dogwood Festival Royalty:

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Please return your form and fee of \$125 to:

Candace Read Dagle PO BOX 369 Warren, TX 77664

409-781-0706 409-547-3109 [candace\\_spivey@hotmail.com](mailto:candace_spivey@hotmail.com)