



## MISS CREOLE GUMBO RULES & REGULATIONS CONTRACT

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You have been selected Miss Creole Gumbo 2021, and you will be under the supervision of Niki Hebert, Queen's Coordinator. Miss Creole gumbo is an elite and prestigious title. The title you hold carries with it a responsibility to carry out your duties. The following rules have been set forth by the Gumbo Festival Board of Directors. Please be sure you understand each one and its implications.

### **CONDUCT:**

- Miss Creole Gumbo is expected to act in a lady-like manner at all times. Any conduct unbecoming to a queen, while you are representing the festival, will be grounds for immediate dismissal. The title and all privileges will be revoked immediately and will revert back to the Gumbo Festival. The following constitutes unbecoming conduct:
  - a. Improper moral conduct or disrespect
  - b. Foul or abusive language
  - c. Physical violence of any degree
  - d. Vulgar body display or vulgar dancing
  - e. Smoking, excessive drinking of alcohol, or any use of illegal drugs
  - f. Failure to abide by a hosting festival or organization's rules
  - g. Failure to work with and adhere to the Queen's Coordinator
  - h. Disrespecting Gumbo Festival Officers and/or workers
  - i. Poor attitude
- Marriage, pregnancy, or cohabit living during my reign as Miss Creole Gumbo will result in immediate dismissal with title and all privileges reverting back to the Gumbo Festival.
- If at any time the reigning Miss Creole Gumbo does not or will not abide to and comply with the above rules and regulations, the Gumbo Festival reserves the right to replace her. If this becomes necessary, the queen will resign her title and will not be able to compete for MCG again. The crown, mantle, banners, trophy and all property of the Gumbo Festival must be returned immediately in the condition that they were received.
- All social networking sites must be appropriate and in good taste. No nude, semi-nude pictures (including swimsuit pictures), no pictures of you drinking, smoking, or in the appearance of either, no pictures with males or females that can be portrayed in a sexual nature, no vulgar comments left on your page as well as no vulgar words posted are allowed. Remember you are a representative of our church and the Gumbo Festival. Any and all pictures and comments not following these guidelines must be taken down. The festival board reserves the right to discuss with you any content we deem inappropriate.

### **TRAVEL/ATTENDANCE:**

- Miss Creole Gumbo must attend at least 25 festivals during her reign, to include the following 12 mandatory festival events: Rice, Orange, Bonfire, Sicilian, Amite Oyster, Strawberry, Tomato, Plaquemine Parish Seafood, LA Crawfish, Shrimp & Petroleum, Scott Boudin, and Duck. Please note any Catholic festival will take priority over others. Note that mandatory events may change due to scheduling conflicts. This is at the discretion of the Queen's Coordinator.
- **You cannot travel alone to any festival.** For each festival, your coordinator must know with whom you are going, where you are going, when you are leaving, and when you will be returning. Your coordinator may travel with you, and she can go to any event you are invited. If you need her or someone other than your parents to go with you, then she must know ahead of time to help make arrangements. You may not travel with a male not related to you. Your boyfriend is NOT, at any time, allowed to travel with you. **If you are unable to participate you must contact the event coordinator and YOUR coordinator IMMEDIATELY!**
- Any individual who does not support or follow the items outlined within the rules and regulations set forth by the Bridge City Gumbo Festival, will not be permitted to travel with you to any and all queen approved function/event (including parents/grandparents). I understand that whomever travels with me also reflects upon the Gumbo Festival.

- Reimbursement for travel will be given for attendance to the 12 mandatory events for queen and her chaperone at \$50 each/per event. Verification of attendance will be needed and approved by coordinator. As well as and not limited to receipts or other requirements/request from GF Treasurer. This award will be given in two installments, i.e. after the first 6 mandatory events and then after the 2<sup>nd</sup> 6 mandatory events.
- Parish functions take priority over festival invitations or personal events. You must attend all functions that you are invited to by the parish.
- Miss Creole Gumbo is required to participate in the Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals (LAFF) “Queen of Queens” pageant (if requested), usually held in February. The festival will be responsible for entry fees, registration, and accommodations. Your parents must get their own room. Boyfriends are not permitted to attend LAFF. Outfits must be approved by the queen’s coordinator. If she deems your outfit inappropriate, she has the right to pull you from participating in LAFF.
- Miss Creole Gumbo is not allowed to enter any other pageant other than LAFF, and she is not allowed to represent any other festival or organization as its queen. Miss Creole Gumbo is not allowed to judge any pageant or contest without Coordinators permission.
- CAR INSURANCE requirements by the Archdiocese of New Orleans must be met in for you to travel – 100,000/300,000 coverage. Not meeting these requirements may forfeit your title.

***CORRESPONDANCE:***

- All invitations must be directed to the coordinator. **Any events attended as Queen must be with the approval of the Coordinator.** A copy of invitations/itineraries MUST be given to Coordinator prior to your acceptance. **The official Miss Creole Gumbo email address SHOULD be used for all correspondence or copied on any correspondence – [misscreolegumbo@yahoo.com](mailto:misscreolegumbo@yahoo.com).**
- Miss Creole Gumbo must send thank you notes or letters of regret to any function she cannot attend. This will ensure the next queen gets invitations. Emails are acceptable but must be approved by Coordinator, copied to the MCG email account or sent from the MCG email account, or by post mail with copy to coordinator.
- I understand and acknowledge that I am required to use the queen business cards that are provided to me at the beginning of my reign as Miss Creole Gumbo and I am NOT authorized to print any other type of business cards without the approval of my coordinator. I understand my personal addresses (mailing and/or email) will NOT be placed on the cards.
- CELL PHONE USAGE is expected to be minimum during events. Give full attention during events. The use of cell phones during events is rude and must be avoided. Turn off ringer when at such events. Using cell phone for photos is okay but please be considerate of others when doing so. Please be conscience of when and where you are when using your cell phone.
- PHOTO’S OF EVENTS TO SOCIAL MEDIA & GUMBO FESTIVAL WEBSITE will be expected to be sent in a timely manner to the administrator of sites. We expect submission of photos with individual people you meet, group photos with other queens or originations, doing activities etc.

***ATTIRE:***

- Miss Creole Gumbo is expected to dress appropriately. We request that you wear Black, White, and Grey colors to functions. NO jeans, leggings or shorts are allowed unless the invitation specifically calls for them and is approved by coordinator. We expect you to look and act your best at all times. Remember you are representing a Catholic Church Festival. The Queen’s Coordinator determines the appropriateness of outfits (not parent) and her decision is final. Your coordinator will pull you from any event and not allow you to represent the festival if you are not dressed appropriately. When attending church please refrain from wearing anything exposing your shoulders and skirts/dresses must be at an appropriate length.

**PROPERTY:**

- The crown, scepter, collar, and mantle are property of the Gumbo Festival. **You are to treat them with respect and care at all times.** The crown is to be kept in its case when not in use. In the event that the queen loses, breaks, or soils the crown, scepter, collar, or mantle, it will be replaced immediately and identically at her own expense or refund the Gumbo Festival the amount for replacement.

**GENERAL:**

- I understand that as Miss Creole Gumbo, I am under the supervision of my coordinator. I understand and acknowledge that I must obey her rules and guidelines at all times while representing the Gumbo Festival. I understand she has the final say so (over my parents/grandparents) in respect to what I wear, how I act, and what I do while representing the Gumbo Festival. I am to communicate directly with her (not through my parents). I understand that the coordinator has the right to travel with me and show up at any function. I understand that I am to respect her at all times. I understand and acknowledge that I am required to contact my coordinator to receive approval to leave a queen function/event early or stay later than the times outlined on the invitation. I understand that she is the only one I am to talk to about issues or problems with my title.
- In the event of inappropriate actions, I understand that the coordinator may suspend me from representing the festival until a discipline hearing is held. I will return the crown, banner, etc. until a final decision is made.
- I will be given a copy of the Miss Creole Gumbo Handbook and that I am to follow directions herein and with the guidance/assistance of the Queens Coordinator.
- As reigning queen of an even year, i.e. MCG 2022, MCG 2024 etc., I will be awarded \$1,000.000 upon completion and fulfilment of my duties as Miss Creole Gumbo. If I do not complete or fulfil my obligation, I understand this award will be forfeited.
- In the event of a natural disaster, pandemic, or other unforeseen event that causes the cancellation of fairs and festivals and extends the reign of Miss Creole Gumbo for an additional year, the Gumbo Festival and the Queens' Committee may forgo the awarding of the \$1000 scholarship and could require Miss Creole Gumbo to attend the Washington Mardi Gras Ball. In the event that Miss Creole Gumbo is unable to represent the Gumbo Festival at the Washington Mardi Gras Ball she must relinquish her title and the Queens' Committee will select a new Miss Creole Gumbo. In the event that the Washington Mardi Gras Ball or any other activities are cancelled for any reason, the Gumbo Festival is not obligated to compensate for any expenses or replace event monetarily or in any other way.

I understand that the Gumbo Festival may take my title away from me for any of the following reasons: not making appearances as required, multiple reports of misconduct, pregnancy, not obeying or respecting the queen's coordinator, moving out of state or any other action the board deems inappropriate of its queen. I understand that the queen's coordinator and/or the chairmen can remove my title immediately during any event if they deem it necessary.

I HAVE READ THIS CONTRACT AND HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THE MISS CREOLE GUMBO HANDBOOK.

AS MISS CREOLE GUMBO, I HEREBY ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITIES AS STATED AND WILL ABIDE BY ALL THE RULES AS SET AND STATED BY THE GUMBO FESTIVAL BOARD. I UNDERSTAND EACH RULE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT MY FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE RULES WILL RESULT IN MY DISMISSAL. I AGREE TO RETURN SAID PRIVILEGES AND PROPERTIES IN GOOD CONDITION IMMEDIATELY TO THE FESTIVAL.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN ONLY HOLD THE TITLE OF MISS CREOLE GUMBO ONCE.

Miss Creole Gumbo 2021 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature and Date

**As a parent/guardian of Miss Creole Gumbo, I have read the contract and understand the rules. I understand that the queen's coordinator has say so over me regarding festival related issues including her dress and appearances. I understand that she has the right to travel with my daughter, and I agree to work with the coordinator and not against her. I understand that if I do not follow the rules and guidelines that I will not be permitted to travel with my daughter. I understand and will encourage my daughter to have direct contact with her coordinator and not speak through me.**

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Date

Signature of Queen's Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Date