

Miss Catfish



*Scholarship
Program*

Before you return your application, please make sure you have everything included.

- Completed application. Do not fold!
- Agreement signed by you and your parent(s).
- Photo. Make sure your name is on a label on the back.
- Copy of birth certificate or drivers license.
- Mail all of the above to:

Miss Catfish Committee
217 Church Street
Belzoni, MS 39038

AGREEMENT

The undersigned hereby agrees that if she is selected Miss Catfish, she will cooperate fully and to the best of her ability in all publicity, travel arrangements and itineraries decided upon by the Miss Catfish Committee. It is further agreed that the undersigned has the full consent of her parents or legal guardian to enter the pageant. It is further agreed that if selected Miss Catfish, the individual will arrange her schedule so as to accommodate responsibilities as needed. Banner and crown must be worn at all appearances when representing Miss Catfish.

Permission is hereby given to the Miss Catfish Committee to use name and photographs submitted in publicity and advertising in connection with Miss Catfish promotion. An advertising release giving full consent to use photographs for advertising and publicity from the parents or legal guardian is herewith given.*

It is further agreed that the Miss Catfish Committee shall act as my sole representative in matters involving the use of my name, photograph or other likeness in conjunction with the title of Miss Catfish in any and all advertising or publicity whatsoever. I further agree that under no conditions will I give consent, verbal or written, for my name or likeness to be used in any advertising without the counsel and authorization of a duly constituted representative of the Miss Catfish Committee.

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THE OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE PAGEANT AND THAT I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM IN EVERY WAY AND THAT THE PERSONAL DATA HEREIN SET FORTH IS CORRECT.

Signature of Contestant

*Signature of Parent(s) or Guardian(s)

*Signature of Parent(s) or Guardian(s)

Date: _____

NOTE: To be valid for final judging, this form must be completed and submitted with the application.

PHOTOS, COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR DRIVERS LICENSE, AND THIS AGREEMENT MUST BE ATTACHED TO APPLICATION.

WORLD CATFISH FESTIVAL



POST OFFICE BOX 385
BELZONI, MISSISSIPPI 39038-0385

Telephone: 662-247-4838
Fax: 662-247-4805



MISS CATFISH CONTESTANT RELEASE FORM

In consideration for being allowed to enter the Miss Catfish Contest held in connection with the World Catfish Festival, I _____, (hereinafter referred to as Contestant) do hereby remise, release, acquit, satisfy, and forever discharge the said Humphreys County Catfish Capital of the World Inc. and the Belzoni Humphreys Development Foundation, Inc. and the World Catfish Festival (known as Releasee), of and from all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, claims and demands whatsoever, which said contestant ever had, now has, or which any personal representative, successor, heir or assign of said contestant, hereafter can, shall or may have, against said Releasees, by reason of any matter, cause or thing whatsoever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said contestant has hereunto set hand and seals this
_____ day of _____, 20____.

Contestant

Parent or Guardian

Witness

2025 MISS CATFISH INFORMATION

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Be within the specified age bracket: at least 17 and a high school senior and not more than 24 years old as of April 4, 2025. A copy of a driver's license or birth certificate must be attached to the application.
2. Have never been married or had children and remain single throughout the reign.
3. Be prepared and willing to conduct oneself in a polite, moral and appealing manner so as to promote pride rather than disrespect for the title of Miss Catfish.
4. Be available to appear at Catfish functions as needed.
5. Reside in a catfish producing state during her reign.
6. Be available to attend next year's festival to crown the new Miss Catfish.
7. Have a 2.5 scholastic average for the last completed semester.
8. Not hold a title that would interfere with duties as Miss Catfish.
9. Be attired in appropriate street dress for interview.
10. No parent may attend any function on Friday before the Catfish Producers reception.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| *Attractive | *Promote healthy lifestyle |
| *Intelligent | *Gracious |
| *Speaking ability | *Sincere |
| *Photogenic | *General knowledge of the Catfish industry, history and economy |
| *Self-confident | |
| *Project friendly image | |

Questions will be asked about personal history, future plans, current events, personal opinions on current issues, and the catfish industry.

Special talents are not required, but accomplishments in public speaking and communicating with others are of primary importance.

EACH CONTESTANT MUST BE SPONSORED BY A CATFISH PRODUCER OR A CATFISH-RELATED BUSINESS. THE SPONSORSHIP FEE IS \$50.

OFFICIAL APPLICATION

1. [Send application request to: ajones@GBTonline.com](mailto:ajones@GBTonline.com)
2. Information must be typed or printed.
3. List only most important honors, organizations, special abilities, and hobbies on application form.
4. Write a short biographical sketch to be read by the emcee. Include name, age, parents, town, and three important facts about yourself.

CONTESTANT PHOTOS

Photos should be of good quality. They are used for publicity purposes prior to the pageant and will be used for judging. Requirements are listed below.

1. Send one color photo suitable for publication.
2. Type contestant's name on gummed label and affix to the back of the photo. **DO NOT WRITE DIRECTLY ON THE PHOTO.**
3. Photo must accompany application.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Friday, April 4, 2025

9:45 A.M. - Interview with the judges and luncheon for contestants, judges, and Committee. During the course of the morning, the contestants will introduce themselves to the group and speak for 3 minutes or less *without the aid of notes*. Topics may include personal plans for the future and/or the economic impact of the catfish industry and the challenges it faces.

6:30 P.M. - Catfish Producers reception (Parents may attend)

Saturday, April 5, 2025

11:15 A.M - Presentation of contestants and coronation of "Miss Catfish" on the front steps of the Courthouse in Belzoni.

DEADLINE

1. Complete the Application and return with photos, copy of birth certificate or driver's license, and the agreements signed by applicant and parent not later than Friday, March 28, 2025.
2. Mail to: Miss Catfish Scholarship Program, 217 Church Street, Belzoni, MS 39038.

AWARDS

Miss Catfish: \$2000 Scholarship, \$250 Clothing Allowance, Travel Expenses, Attendance at the Catfish Farmers of America Convention

1st Runner Up: \$1000 Scholarship

2nd Runner Up: \$500 Scholarship

Miss Congeniality: \$250 Scholarship

MISS CATFISH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Yolanda Coghlan – 662.828.3390 Wanda Hill – 662.836.7886 Sherry Smith – 662.836.4602 Myra Dunlap – 601.278.9524

IF YOU WIN, HOW DO YOU FEEL YOU PERSONALLY COULD BEST FILL THE ROLE OF MISS CATFISH (ADVERTISEMENT, ETC.)?

HOW DO YOU FEEL MISS CATFISH COULD BEST SERVE THE INDUSTRY?

PLEASE LIST THREE REFERENCES OTHER THAN FAMILY (SCHOOL OFFICIALS, ETC.), WITH ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS:

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH TO BE READ BY EMCEE:

Miss Catfish

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
9:45 - 12:00	Guaranty Bank Conference Center 105 Jackson Street Belzoni, Mississippi	Judges' Interviews Contestants' Speeches
12:00 - 1:00	Wister Gardens Belzoni, Mississippi	Luncheon
1:15 - 2:00	Wister Gardens Humphreys County Courthouse	Practice for Presentations
2:00 - 6:30	Free Time	
6:30 - 9:30	Wister Gardens 1440 Highway 7 North Belzoni, Mississippi	Catfish Producers Reception and Presentation of Contestants

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
11:15 - 12:30	Humphreys County Courthouse Supervisors Room on 2 nd floor	Coronation of Miss Catfish and presentation of awards to runners-up and announcement of Miss Congeniality

If chosen Miss Catfish, please remain in appropriate attire – dressy casual. You will stay with the former Miss Catfish visiting with the crowd, having pictures taken, etc. until 2:00. After that, feel free to change into more comfortable clothes and enjoy the Festival.