FIESTA de TAOS INC.
PO Box 3300 • Taos, New Mexico 87571 • fiestadetaos.com • fiesta@newmex.com

2026 FIESTA DE TAOS ROYAL COURT PAGEANT
Criteria & Contact Information

Pageant Date: Saturday, June 6, 2026
Application Deadline: Monday, April 20, 2026

Candidate Criteria:

- Must be female and between the ages of 16 and 20; cutoff date for completing 16 years of age and for not being any older than 20 years of age is Monday, April 20, 2026.
- Must be a Baptized Catholic and provide a copy of Baptismal Certificate.
- Must provide a copy of Birth Certificate.
- Must have been born in Taos County or decedent of a family with established Taos roots and have resided in Taos County for more than 50% of lifetime determined by age on Monday, April 20, 2026. If you were born in one of the hospitals surrounding Taos County such as Española; Los Alamos; Santa Fe; Albuquerque; and possibly others, this will be considered valid as well at the sole discretion of the Fiesta de Taos, Inc.
- Must be of Hispanic decent/lineage and Spanish surnamed (maternal or paternal, Grandmothers maiden surnames considered eligible).
- Must be single, never married, without biological children, and must not become pregnant throughout your reign as either the Fiesta de Taos Reina or Fiesta de Taos Princesa.

- Must be able to communicate effectively in English and Spanish, as public speaking is required for various Fiesta and Community events throughout the year. Members of the Fiesta de Taos will be available to assist members of the Royal Court practice their Spanish if required (only after the Pageant - Saturday, June 6, 2026, once the new court has been chosen and announced).
- Must be able to participate in the 2026 Fiesta de Taos Royal Court Pageant and Baile del Anuncio to be held on Saturday, June 6, 2026, and participate in all meetings, and rehearsals pertaining to and leading up to the Pageant (schedule pending).

- Must be able and willing to participate in each category of the Pageant which consist of: Fiesta Attire, Bilingual Speech (Why I am competing to be the 2026 Fiesta de Taos Reina and what it means to me; 4 minute time limit), Research Paper (What Taos means to me, it's history, culture, traditions and any other appropriate aspect; between 350 & 450 words typed, double spaced, Times New Roman – 12 point font, may incorporate illustrations, except photos with self or family), and Talent (of Taos Cultural Content/Significance).
- Candidate along with their parents or guardians will be required to sign a contractual agreement with the Fiesta de Taos, Inc.
- Must be able to participate in all Fiesta de Taos events and out of town commitments including, but not limited to: Santa Fe Fiestas; New Mexico State Fair; Taos County Fair; Martinez Hacienda Cultural Event; Christmas Activities; Rodeo de Taos; Red River 4th of July Parade; Las Vegas Fiestas; Española Fiestas; Mariachi Extravaganza; and other events as they arise throughout the year (official schedule TBD).
- Must **NOT** during any Fiesta de Taos, Inc. sanctioned event or while representing the Fiesta de Taos, Inc. and/or the Fiesta de Taos Royal Court (this includes Escorts/Caballeros accompanying Royal Court Members, regardless of age):
    - Drink Alcohol or use illicit drugs
    - Use abusive, profane or unkind language
    - Make any offensive or inappropriate facial expressions, body language movement or hand gestures
    - Create, accelerate or be involved in verbal or physical altercations
    - Post any compromising, negative or obscene photos or language through any means of social or print media, electronic devices, etc., to include, but not limited to Facebook; X; Snap Chat; TikTok; E-mail; Texts; etc.
    - Have any visible Tattoos
    - Have any Piercings other than on the ear lobes
- The Fiesta de Taos, Inc. has a limit of five (5) contestants to participate in the Fiesta de Taos Royal Pageant. In the event that more contestants apply, the first five (5) candidates to submit their completed application electronically with all information required, copy of Baptismal and Birth Certificates, and comply with all of the criteria, between Wednesday, April 1, 2026, and Monday, April 20, 2026, will be selected to participate.
- Any violation of the criteria or policies may eliminate a candidate from competing in the Pageant. Determination is at the sole discretion of the Fiesta de Taos, Inc.

Once candidates are official members of the Fiesta de Taos Royal Court, these additional policies, as well as the aforementioned, apply to the Reina, Princesas and Caballeros/Escorts:

- Reina must relinquish the Fiesta Crown after every event to Berna Trujillo, Chair, Royal Court Committee, or Berna's designated member of the Fiesta de Taos, Inc.
- Each member of the Fiesta de Taos Royal Court is required to dress in full formal Fiesta Attire as required by the Fiesta de Taos, Inc., at all times that they are in official capacity representing the Fiesta de Taos, Inc.
- Each member of the Fiesta de Taos Royal Court must travel with a designated member of the Fiesta de Taos, Inc. as a group, unless special authorization of alternate accommodations has been granted by the Fiesta de Taos Royal Court Chair or her designee. This includes arriving late or leaving any particular function early, etc.
- If a member of the Fiesta de Taos Royal Court becomes pregnant or gets married, they must advise the President and Royal Court Committee Chair of the Fiesta de Taos, Inc. and tender their resignation, gracefully in writing.
- Any violation of the criteria or policies may eliminate a Fiesta de Taos Royal Court Member from participating in individual events and or removal from the Fiesta de Taos Royal Court. Determination is at the sole discretion of the Fiesta de Taos, Inc.

Contacts:

E-mail: fiesta@newmex.com

Fiesta de Taos Royal Court Committee:

Berna Trujillo, Chair	Cell:	575-741-9755
Elma Vigil, Member	Cell:	575-776-7171
Ruby Ann Alaniz, Member	Cell:	575-779-3693
Gwendolyn Gonzales-Romero	Cell:	575-770-0939

Fiesta de Taos, Inc. - Executive Committee:

Stephanie Cordova-Levy, President	Cell:	575-770-6794
Estevan Martinez, Vice President	Cell:	575-776-6509
Donovan Lieurance, Treasurer	Cell:	505-415-9810
Danny Chavez, Secretary	Cell:	575-737-0886