



Springfield Hospital

Where People Come First

2024 Apple Blossom Notes for Contestants and Their Partners

The Springfield Hospital staff, the Volunteer Apple Blossom Director, and Apple Blossom Committee members are excited to announce the 66th Apple Blossom for 2024. All area high school seniors are invited to participate in this community event of young people performing song and dance, including the traditional features that make the Apple Blossom so special.

Here are some notes about the 2024 event:

- ✓ The event will be a bit shorter than in the past, which means less dance numbers to learn. We are adding a special community dance at the end of the performance for families, friends, and community members to celebrate Apple Blossom. Our Director for 2024 is Ashlee White.
- ✓ Contestants, who are seniors of area high schools (inclusive of all genders), and their partners (inclusive of all genders) will be participating. Included are the high schools of Springfield, Bellows Falls, Fall Mountain, Green Mountain, Ludlow, Stevens, Windsor, Compass School, Vermont Academy, and Woodstock, as well as home school.
- ✓ Young children will be invited to participate.
- ✓ Rehearsals will be held at Riverside Middle School, Springfield, VT. Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, January 28, 2024. Rehearsals will be on Sundays, 1-3 pm, except for holidays and school vacations. There will be additional rehearsal times the week of April 28 - May 2. A full schedule will be shared in January.
- ✓ Some rehearsals will be recorded for practicing at home.
- ✓ The performances will be on Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4.
- ✓ The attire for this year's event is described below.

The Apple Blossom has traditionally been a fundraising event. The 2024 event will support Springfield Hospital's 2023-2024 annual giving campaign. The support of the community businesses, individuals, and families has been extraordinary during the past years. We anticipate a positive response from the community.

Judging

The judging is done by a minimum of five independent individuals, who have experience with, or interest in, community productions, and have no conflict of interest with any contestant. The contestant's interview will be weighted as well as the contestant's performance in the Saturday event to calculate a final score. The contestant interviews will take place the morning of the final performance on May 4. Location and times will be announced in early April.

Participation

Applicants who submit a completed application by the due date of Tuesday, December 19, 2023, can compete, unless the number of applicants exceeds the capacity of the production. In that case, a random drawing will be held on December 22, 2023, to determine the contestants. The minimum number of senior partnerships that we must have is twelve.

Partners

Contestants are responsible for selecting their partners. Contestants and partners will be required to attend the rehearsals.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are important and mandatory. A contestant can miss one rehearsal. If a contestant misses two or more rehearsals, this contestant is not eligible to receive the title of Queen. The final decision rests with a designated member of the Production Team. Rehearsals will be held on Sundays, 1-3 pm, starting January 28. There will be additional rehearsal times the week of April 28 - May 2.

Attire

Contestants will be ordering their own dress as per the instructions of the Director of Apple Blossom. The cost will be approximately \$100. A low (up to 2.5" inches) heel dress shoe with a strap in black, silver, or gold will be worn. You can use ones you already have, or Ashlee can provide a link for shoes in January.

Partners will be wearing black dress pants, a white button-down shirt, and black dress shoes. The partners will be ordering their own vest and tie as per the instructions of the Director of Apple Blossom. The cost will be approximately \$40. If you do not have black dress shoes, Ashlee can provide a link for shoes in January.

Applications

Due December 19, 2023.

Mail completed application to:

Springfield Hospital

c/o Sandy Peplau

PO Box 2003

Springfield, VT 05156

or deliver to the information desk at Springfield Hospital

or email, speplau@springfieldhospital.org

Questions- Contact: Sandy Peplau, Marketing & Development Department, 802-885-7686, speplau@springfieldhospital.org

Please note that changes to the production, including cancellation, may happen at any time as directed by the Director and/or the Apple Blossom and Development Committees of Springfield Hospital.

