



2024 North Carolina Azalea Festival Youth Committee Handbook



OUR MISSION

The Azalea Festival Youth Committee “AFYC” is a leadership organization for local high school students in Brunswick, Pender, and New Hanover Counties. The Azalea Festival Youth Committee develops a sense of community, as well as organizational, teamwork and leadership skills that make this program a success. We develop future leaders of the community by supporting the mission of the North Carolina Azalea Festival.

WHAT DOES AFYC DO?

AFYC supports the North Carolina Azalea Festival year-round by volunteering and fundraising. While AFYC members are busy volunteering during Festival week in April, they also get to take time to attend various events as special guests, hangout at the Concerts, walk in the parade, and have way more behind-the-scenes fun than anyone else!

AFYC MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

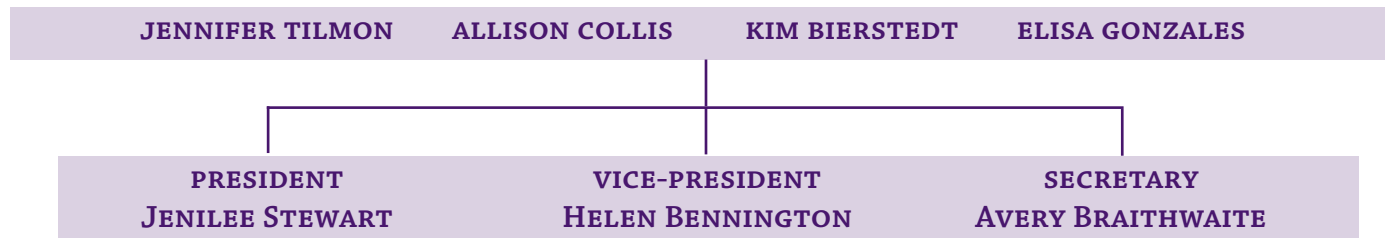
ANYONE IN HIGH SCHOOL CAN BE A PART OF AFYC! HERE ARE AFYC RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Work towards a goal by volunteering and participating in fundraising. AFYC members must have all of their requirements met or scheduled by March 15th to be a part of the Festival week’s activities.
- Fundraising Goal: \$500
- Volunteer Goal: 10 hours volunteering with the Festival
- Attend AFYC meetings on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm (see schedule). Meetings aren’t every Wednesday, and we also have fun socials every once in a while so everyone can get to know each other. You are required to attend at least 5 of these meetings; this is to help you bond with other AFYC members as well as learn important Festival information.
- Attend at least one North Carolina Azalea Festival Operational Committee meeting — these are on Monday nights. We want you to see these meetings because this is how an entire five-day Festival with 250,000 attendees gets planned — and it’s awesome.
- Communicate with your AFYC Officer and respective team. An AFYC Officer will be leading each team, but they’re going to rely on you for some things too. Work with your team and promote unity within AFYC — we’re a drama-free zone.
- Invite your friends! Working with AFYC is a great way to be involved with your community, meet people from other schools, and network within the city of Wilmington. And you get free concert tickets!



AFYC STRUCTURE

AFYC is led by four adult Festival Committee Chairs. AFYC also has three youth officers who help lead the program while developing their leadership skills.



AFYC WEBSITE PAGE

To help keep open communication, AFYC members will have access to a page on the North Carolina Azalea Festival website. This page will have links to sales forms, the AFYC Handbook, and the new member form. If you need additional sales forms, please reference the AFYC page.

- Go to ncazaleafestival.org and click on “Youth Participation” under the “Get Involved” tab.

AFYC REQUIREMENTS

\$500 IN FESTIVAL FUNDRAISING	10 HOURS OF FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERING	ATTEND 5 AFYC MEETINGS	ATTEND 1 FESTIVAL OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING
AFYC members will have the opportunity to sell ads for various Festival programs, Patron packages, and Festival merchandise to hit their quota	AFYC members will have ample opportunity to volunteer for pre-Festival events. Any hours an AFYC member signs up to volunteer during the Azalea Festival will be counted (on the honor system).	We want you to have time with other AFYC members, as well as learn all about the Azalea Festival.	Over 100 community leaders volunteer to plan and execute Festival events and programs, and we want you to meet them and see it all in action!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

EVENT

DATE

ART UNVEILING	<i>December 13, 2023</i>
JINGLE ON THE BEACH	<i>TBD</i>
CHEFS' SHOWCASE	<i>January 27, 2024</i>
AZALEA SUN RUN	<i>TBD</i>
SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT	<i>March 9, 2024</i>
SPRING FASHION SHOW	<i>TBD</i>
AZALEA SWEEP	<i>March 30, 2024</i>
STREET FAIR/PARADE -NO PARKING SIGNAGE	<i>April 3, 2024</i>
WRAP PARADE AZALEAS	<i>April 3, 2024</i>
PARADE	<i>April 6, 2024</i>
STREET FAIR	<i>April 6 & 7, 2024</i>
TUNES & BLOOMS	<i>April 6, 2024</i>
AZALEA FESTIVAL OFFICE	<i>TBD</i>

Please check Sign Up Genius for exact volunteer times, locations, and opportunities.

To volunteer in the Azalea Festival Ticket Office please reach out to Ticket Office Manager Danielle Moore at ticket.office@ncazaleafestival.org for available opportunities.



DRESS CODE

AFYC Members Must Adhere to the Following Dress Code While Volunteering/Attending Events

ATTIRE	EVENTS		
SPRING BUSINESS/DRESS ATTIRE			
Think Easter Sunday attire. No jeans, sweatshirts, leggings, tshirts, etc.	NCAF office	Chefs' Showcase	Scholarship Pageant
	Cape Fear Garden Club Azalea Garden Tour Ribbon Cutting	Queen's Coronation	Fashion Show
NICE CASUAL WEAR			
Azalea Festival tshirt, comfortable bottoms, tennis shoes	Azalea Sweep	Parade	Street Fair
	Jingle on the Beach	Azalea Sun Run	
OUTDOOR CONCERT ATTIRE			
Can be more trendy. Nothing too short, no crop tops, nothing revealing		Concerts	



AFYC MEETING DATES

We ask that AFYC Members attend all meetings and events if you can; but at minimum you must attend 5 AFYC meetings and 1 Festival Committee meeting to join us in Festival week fun!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
NOVEMBER 8, 2023	6PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
DECEMBER 6, 2023	6PM	BATTLE HOUSE
JANUARY 10, 2024	6PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
JANUARY 24, 2024	6PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
FEBRUARY 7, 2024	6PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
FEBRUARY 21, 2024	6PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
MARCH 6, 2024	6PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
MARCH 20, 2024	6PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 3-7, 2024	77th North Carolina Azalea Festival	

NCAF OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
JANUARY 8, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
JANUARY 22, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
FEBRUARY 5, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
FEBRUARY 19, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MARCH 4, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MARCH 11, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MARCH 18, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MARCH 25, 2024	6PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH



AFYC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AFYC ADVISORS	PHONE	EMAIL
ALLISON COLLIS	(815) 354-2177	ALLISONBIANCHINI@GMAIL.COM
ELISA GONZALES	(910) 297-5291	ELISAFGONZALEZ@HOTMAIL.COM
KIM BIERSTEDT	(910) 622-5958	KIMBERLY.BIERSTEDT@GMAIL.COM
JENNIFER TILMON	(910) 550-4444	JENN.M.TILMON@GMAIL.COM

AFYC YOUTH OFFICERS

AFYC ADVISORS	PHONE	EMAIL	COMMITTEE
JENILEE STEWART	910-746-8505	jenileegstewart@gmail.com	PRESIDENT
HELEN BENNINGTON	910-524-1088	helengbennington@gmail.com	VICE-PRESIDENT
AVERY BRAITHWAITE	910-232-8064	averybraith@gmail.com	SECRETARY