



2026 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 14th to be a part of the Festival week’s activities.
- 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 seven youth officers who help lead the program while developing their leadership skills.

JENNIFER TILMON

ALLISON COLLIS

GRANSEUR DICK

ELISA GONZALEZ

AMIR JOHNSON
VP OF SOCIALS

ELLA GARDNER
PRESIDENT

AUDREY DICK
VP OF FUNDRAISING

AALIYAH BLAND
VP OF RECRUITMENT

EMMA SMITH
VP OF SOCIAL MEDIA

MADDIE ALBRIGHT
SECRETARY

ILA MONICAL
FESTIVAL LIASON

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

25 POINTS THROUGH FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEERING

AFYC members will have the opportunity to sell ads for various Festival programs, Patron packages, and Festival merchandise to hit their quota. Each \$25 earned in fundraising will equal one point.

AFYC members will have ample opportunity to volunteer for pre-Festival events. Each volunteer hour will equal one point. All points will be tracked on a weekly basis.

ATTEND 4 AFYC MEETINGS

We want you to have time with other AFYC members, as well as learn all about the Azalea Festival. Please attend 4 (out of 8) of the Wednesday night meetings.

ATTEND 1 FESTIVAL OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

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! Please attend 1 (out of 8) of the Monday night meetings.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

EVENT

DATE

JINGLE	<i>December 14, 2025</i>
ART UNVEILING	<i>December 16, 2025</i>
CHEFS' SHOWCASE	<i>January 31, 2026</i>
SEAHAWK SUN RUN	<i>February 14, 2026</i>
SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT	<i>March 14, 2026</i>
SPRING FASHION SHOW	<i>March 15, 2026</i>
AZALEA SWEEP	<i>April 4, 2026</i>
STREET FAIR/PARADE - NO PARKING SIGNAGE	<i>April 8, 2026</i>
WRAP PARADE AZALEAS	<i>April 8, 2026</i>
PARADE	<i>April 10, 2026</i>
STREET FAIR	<i>April 10-12, 2026</i>
TUNES & BLOOMS	<i>April 11, 2026</i>
AZALEA FESTIVAL OFFICE	<i>As needed - opportunities in SignUp Genius</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 Business Operations Manager Danielle Moore at ticketoffice@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	Queen's Coronation	Fashion Show
Ribbon Cutting		

NICE CASUAL WEAR

Azalea Festival tshirt, comfortable bottoms, tennis shoes

Azalea Sweep	Parade	Street Fair
Jingle	Seahawk 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 4 AFYC meetings and 1 Festival Committee meeting to join us in Festival week fun! **date**
time **location**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025	6:00 PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025	6:00 PM	BATTLE HOUSE LASER TAG
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026	6:00 PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026	6:00 PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026	6:00 PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026	6:00 PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026	6:00 PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026	6:00 PM	JUNGLE RAPIDS
WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 8-12, 2026	79TH NORTH CAROLINA AZALEA FESTIVAL	

NCAF OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026	6:00 PM	LIFEPOINT CHURCH

AFYC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AFYC ADVISORS	PHONE	EMAIL
ALLISON COLLIS	(815) 354-2177	allisonbianchini@gmail.com
ELISA GONZALEZ	(910) 297-5291	elisafgonzalez@hotmail.com
GRANSEUR DICK	(910) 620-8963	gdick@~yilm.com
JENNIFER TILMON	(910) 550-4444	jenn.m.tilmon@gmail.com

AFYC YOUTH OFFICERS

AFYC ADVISORS	EMAIL	COMMITTEE TITLE
AMIR JOHNSON	amir.johnson@student.nhcs.net	VP OF SOCIALS
AALIYAH BLAND	aal1bland@gmail.com	VP OF RECRUITMENT
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