**2019 Junior Cherry Blossom Princess Program Application**

***A Signature Program of the National Conference of State Societies (NCSS) Since 2012***

The Junior Cherry Blossom Princess Program is a cultural program and celebration for young girl’s ages 5 to 16 years old held each year in Washington, DC during the National Cherry Blossom Festival. Throughout the week the Junior Cherry Blossom Princesses will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of cultural and social events celebrating the unique and enduring friendship between the United States and Japan.

**Eligibility & Qualifications:** All candidates for selection as a 2019 Junior Cherry Blossom Princess must meet the following minimum requirements.

**Age** – Must be between 5 years old and 16 years old as of April 1, 2019.

**Parent/Guardian Participation** – A Parent or Guardian **must** be with the Junior Princess at all times while she is participating in NCSS Events.

**Program Fee –** The 2019 Junior Princess Program Fee of $125 must be paid in full at the time of the application submission. Program Fees may be paid on line at the Cherry Blossom Princess Program Site or a check made out to “National Conference of State Societies (NCSS)”. Program Fees do not include tickets to the Grand Ball, which you will be able to purchase at a later date. See Application for Prices.

**Event Participation** – The Sashing Ceremony will be held on April 6th at 2:00pm. Location will be announced closer to the date of the program. Junior Cherry Blossom Princesses are also invited to the following events and **must** RSVP to each event:

* + Lantern Lighting at the Tidal Basin (free event, reserved seating)
	+ A Special Invitation to a Cultural / Embassy Event
	+ Cherry Blossom Grand Ball (ticketed event, reduced rates for Junior Princesses under 13, Parent/Guardian must also purchase a ticket.

**2019 Junior Cherry Blossom Princesses will receive:**

* An Embroidered Junior Cherry Blossom Princess Sash (NOTE: Junior Cherry Blossom Princesses returning from 2018 who select to pay the reduced participation fee of $100 will not receive another sash in 2019 and will be expected to wear their 2018 sash throughout the week)
* Complimentary Admission to the Sashing Ceremony for themselves and two (2) guests. Any additional guests will be required to pay to attend ($40 for adults and $20 for children 12 and under).
* Acknowledgement at NCSS Cherry Blossom Premier Events.
* Discounted Pricing for Junior Princesses aged 5 – 12 for Grand Ball.

**Application:** The 2019 Junior Cherry Blossom Princess Program will be limited to 65 participants total and the selection will be done on first come first serve basis. The deadline for participation is until the limit **of 6**5 participants is reached <**OR**> January 2, 2019.

Applications may be submitted to the Junior Cherry Blossom Princess Program Chair, Lorraine Nordlinger, jr\_princess@statesocieties.org or mailed to NCSS with payment (check made out to NCSS): NCSS Junior Princess Program, PO Box 70175, Washington, DC 20024.

All payments must be made to NCSS address above. If you have additional questions please contact Program Chair, Lorraine Nordlinger, at jr\_princess@statesocieties.org or 202.285.3935.

**2019 Cherry Blossom Princess Program Application**

First Name: Last Name:

Age: (as of 4/1/19) Date of Birth:

For Proper Sash Size - Height: Dress Size:

Participated in the 2018 Junior Cherry Blossom Program: Yes No (Application Fee is $125)

**If Yes**: Will you be using **last year’s sash** (please mark with x):

 Yes (Application Fee $100) No (Application Fee $125)

Applicant is related to a Cherry Blossom Princess: Yes No

**If Yes:** Please provide the Full Name (Maiden name is applicable) of the Cherry Blossom Princess(es), Year and State/Territory/Country represented:

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name(s):

Home Phone: Cell Phone #:

Email Address:

 Please list all the State and/or Territories you are affiliated with:

**Waiver** – I hereby grant the National Conference of State Societies, National Cherry Blossom Festival, Inc. associated organizations it licensees and affiliates (collectively referred to as “you”) permission to:

1. Record, edit, use and re-use in television and in other mean of publication and exhibition the picture and sound material of the named child above tapped by you, and;
2. The use of said child by name, picture voice, likeness and biographical data on the web, in publicity and advertising concerning any such use of the material.

I hold you harmless form any liability resulting from statements and action on the tape. Nothing of value was given to you for the right to appear. *I understand that participation in the Junior Cherry Blossom Princess Program DOES NOT imply that my child will be selected by a State or Territory Society in the future.*

Name of Parent/Guardian (Please Print):

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

Date: Amount Enclosed: $

**Why Do You Want to be a 2019 Junior Cherry Blossom Princess?**

**Please draw a picture (only ages 5 -8) or briefly describe why they you would like to be a Junior Cherry Blossom Princess.**

**Please include a short three (3) sentence biography of the applicant (for the Sashing Ceremony):**