

# INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL

87th



OCTOBER  
17-20, 2024  
Crowley, LA



Isabella Hardy  
International Rice Festival Queen LXXXVI

# Gold Star

SINCE

1992

AMUSEMENTS

## "Passport to Fun"

passes are now on sale at  
Crowley ShopRites/Tobacco Plus,  
and 1-10 Crowley Chevron  
Sale ends Thursday, Oct. 17th @ 5pm

Presented by



only \$54 (limited number available)  
(nearly a 50% savings)

"Passport to Fun" passes are good for unlimited rides,  
all 4 days of the Rice Festival

DAILY BRACELET PRICES:  
THURSDAY - SATURDAY: \$30 PER DAY  
SUNDAY SAVER SPECIAL: \$25

### Carnival Times:

Thursday 6-11  
Friday & Saturday 10-11  
Sunday 12-6

### Mega Pass Times:

\*\*PLEASE NOTE END TIME FOR MEGA PASS/BRACELET

Thursday 6-10  
Friday & Saturday 10-10  
Sunday 12-6

**2024 Official Program | 87th International Rice Festival**  
"Rice Capital of America" Crowley, Louisiana | October 17-20, 2024

*Festival Officers  
& Board of Directors*



**Joshua Spell**  
*President*



**Tessa Richard**  
*General Chairman*



**Julian LeBlanc**  
*Co-Chair*



**Ronda Richard**  
*Secretary*



**Louis Romero**  
*Member at Large*



**Shanna Monk**  
*Festival Coordinator*



**Delo Hebert**



**Jeff Cavell**



**Connie Nutt**



**Shannon Guidry**



**Romona Credeur**



*Festival Events*

**Saturday, October 12, 2024**

*Annual Queen's Ball / Honoree Social*

The annual event will be held at the Grand Opera House of the South. The event includes the presentation of the 86th International Rice Festival Queen & the 87th Festival Honoree, International Rice Festival President, Farmer of the Year, Jr. Farmer of the Year, Parade Marshals and Festival Queens from around the state of Louisiana.

**Thursday, October 17, 2024**

Opening night of the 87th International Rice Festival begins at 6:00 pm with entertainment, carnival rides and most food booths.

**Friday, October 18, 2024**

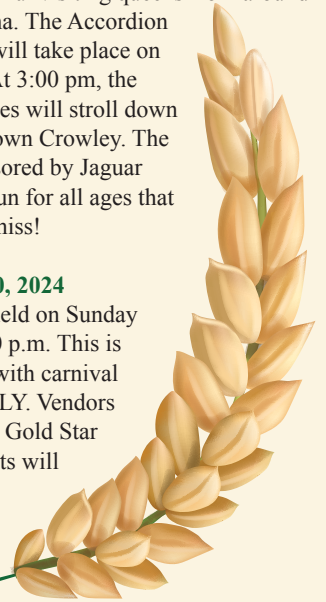
The first full day of the 87th International Rice Festival is recognized as "Children's Day." Special events include the official opening of the festival by the 87th IRF President, the crowning of the 2024 Junior King and Queen and the Children's Parade. The Rice & Creole Cookery contest and Rice Eating contest are also exciting events happening during the day on Friday. Make plans to visit the Arts & Crafts Booths at Levy Park and of course, entertainment can be heard on both festival stages following the parade until Midnight.

**Saturday, October 19, 2024**

The second full day of the festival will begin with the crowning of the 87th International Rice Festival Queen by the 87th IRF Honoree. Special guests during the contest are the beautiful visiting queens from around the State of Louisiana. The Accordion and Fiddle Contest will take place on Saturday morning. At 3:00 pm, the grandest of all parades will stroll down the streets of downtown Crowley. The Grand Parade, sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services is fun for all ages that you do not want to miss!

**Sunday, October 20, 2024**

Family Fun Day is held on Sunday from noon until 6:00 p.m. This is an alcohol free day with carnival rides and games ONLY. Vendors only associated with Gold Star Amusements will be open.





# Welcome

**Joshua Spell**  
2024 International Rice Festival President



I am honored to welcome everyone to the 87th International Rice Festival in beautiful downtown Crowley, home of the oldest, largest and free agricultural festival in the State of Louisiana. We gather to celebrate the rice harvest, our farmers, and all involved in getting rice into the hands of cooks and families everywhere. Let's take this time to thank God for his blessings on our crops, our Festival, and the bodies of all that this grain nourishes.

I invite everyone to come, explore and enjoy everything the Festival offers from our carnival to the parades and of course, the great music. Don't forget to try some of our culture's most famous cuisine that is all finished off with rice; such as boudin, gumbo, etouffee, and the list goes on.

Becoming an active part of the festival at the age of 14, I first experienced the Festival as a tractor driver pulling floats for the parades. I am thankful to my family for giving me that opportunity. From there, my love and desire to serve the organization grew and I knew I wanted to be involved as much as possible. Over the thirty plus years of volunteer service, I have learned the ins and outs of what it takes to organize and run the Festival.

The International Rice Festival means so much to me and it is my great privilege to be your 87th President. This organization is one big family that comes together every third full weekend of October to celebrate something special for our community and all that visit.

To the Honorees and our 86th Queen, Isabella Hardy, thank you all for representing this great Festival.

Lastly, to the Board of Directors, members, volunteers, sponsors, and vendors...thank you!! It is because of you that this celebration of RICE will continue on forever.



## Past Rice Festival Presidents

1937 R.E. Schlicher & Justin Wilson  
1938 R.E. Schlicher & Justin Wilson  
1939 J. Bruce Barousse  
1940 W.J. Cleveland  
1941 Jerry Ashley  
1942-45 War Years  
1946 Jerry Ashley & R.E. Schlicher  
1947 W.E. Trimble & W.M. Loving  
1948 W.M. Loving  
1949 A.B. Dore & W.D. Harmon  
1950 Guy Gardiner & Millard Roberts  
1951 Clyde Hodges

1952 Harry Redman & B.W. Hoyt  
1953 W.J. Cleveland  
1954 J.W. Barnett  
1955 George Geesey  
1956 Ralph Cowen  
1957 Edwin Edwards  
1958 Henry Cowen  
1959 Alvin A. Brinker  
1960 Edmund M. Reggie  
1961 Joe Gielen  
1962 Louis M. Basso  
1963 Marion Edwards  
1964 A.B. Dore  
1965 T. Barrett Harrington  
1966 J.B. Broussard  
1967 Kenneth Faulk  
1968 Dr. H. Rouse Caffey  
1969 S.L. Wright II

1970 Dr. John Davis  
1971 Bill Williams  
1972 Dan Rogers  
1973 Mike McBride  
1974 Lyle Fogleman, Sr.  
1975 Julius Meaux  
1976 Rita Nicholson  
1977 John E. Broussard  
1978 L.J. Dailey  
1979 Macon D. Faulkner  
1980 JoAnn Broussard  
1981 Stephen Stefanski  
1982 John E. Hains  
1983 Harry Benoit  
1984 Phil Lizotte  
1985 Keith Broussard  
1986 Bill Williams  
1987 Larry Trahan

1988 Robert Istre  
1989 Glynn Maynard  
1990 Ken Goss  
1991 Debbie Doré  
1992 Gene Williams  
1993 Esther Trahan  
1994 Diane E. Miller  
1995 Larry G. Broussard  
1996 E. Skip Smith  
1997 Ronald Levy Jr.  
1998 J. Elliot Doré  
1999 Mellie W. James  
2000 Gil Pinac  
2001 Dolores Nutt  
2002 Doris Reiners  
2003 Harry Walker  
2004 Patty K. Simon  
2005 Tracy Wirtz  
2006 Bradley LaCombe

2007 Jeremy "Jay" Suire  
2008 Blane Faulk  
2009 Janet Hebert  
2010 Albert Leleux  
2011 JC Webb  
2012 Brady Williams  
2013 Romona Credeur  
2014 Connie Nutt  
2015 Troy Perry  
2016 Elisabeth Leleux  
2017 Suzy B. Webb  
2018 Elizabeth Monk  
2019 Deborah Nutt Whiting  
2021 Gilles Piron  
2022 Louis "Buddha" Romero Jr.  
2023 Kevin Spell  
2024 Joshua Spell



# Queen

**Miss Isabella Adelle Hardy**  
86th International  
Rice Festival Queen



You are driving through Southwest Louisiana during rice season. All senses are filled, whether with the smells of freshly cut rice, sights of combines running through the golden fields, or the sounds of rice trucks hauling months' worth of hard work in their hoppers.

This means it is time to celebrate an industry that ensures the prosperity of the world. The rice harvest has begun.

I am truly honored to welcome you to the 87th International Rice Festival. There is no better place to celebrate the success of the 2024 rice harvest than Crowley, Louisiana, the Rice Capital of America, home to Louisiana's oldest and largest agricultural festival. As your 86th International Rice Festival Queen, I have traveled to every corner of this beautiful state and have even advocated for this mighty industry throughout the country. This dream of mine has taken me from Palm Springs, California to Washington, D.C. to Maui, Hawaii to Winnie, Texas. I have loved every second of advocating for this golden grain and amazing Festival, gaining different perspectives from rice millers, rice farmers, government officials, and everyone in between. As a result of these encounters, I have been able to share my knowledge of all things rice with anyone and everyone to promote an industry that I'm proud to say is deeply rooted in my family.

Growing up in Jeff Davis Parish, I have been surrounded by all things rice my entire life. As the granddaughter of a farmer with forty-nine growing seasons under his belt, I have always been fascinated with every part of the process to get this prestigious grain from the fields to our plates. I understand the trials and tribulations all farmers go through season after season to ensure the success of their industry. Despite hurricanes, droughts, and all else, farmers who call this corner of the world home have persevered, and that truly makes them some of my biggest inspirations. Advocating for these hardworking people have only strengthened my appreciation for this industry that feeds 2/3 of the world's population and serves as a model for sustainability, productivity, and resilience for all industries.

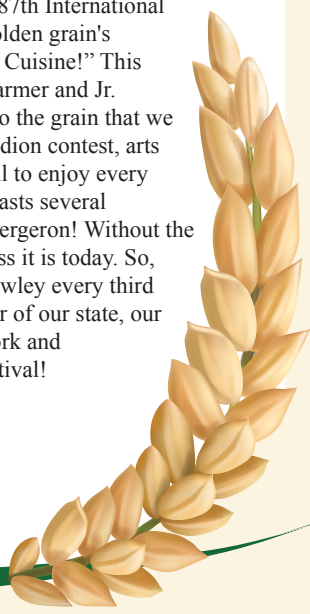
Crowley's International Rice Festival is a beautiful celebration of all things rice, and if you love the rice industry, you'll certainly appreciate the pride that beams from the celebration. As the 87th International Rice Festival approaches, I extend a heartfelt invitation to all to celebrate this most golden grain's remarkable industry and traditions as we celebrate the success of "Rice... A Louisiana Cuisine!" This year we will honor the past, present, and future of our industry as we recognize our Farmer and Jr. Farmer of the Year, along with our festival honoree, who have all devoted their lives to the grain that we love most. From a Rice Creole & Cookery Contest, carnival rides, a Fiddle and Accordion contest, arts and crafts, TWO parades, and delicious dishes full of rice, so there is something for all to enjoy every third full weekend in Downtown Crowley! Along with these activities, our festival boasts several legendary names including Frank Foster, Wayne Toups, Geno Delafosse, and Jamie Bergeron! Without the hard work of the volunteers, performers, and you, the Festival would not be the success it is today. So, grab your dancing shoes and empty stomachs and boogie your way to Downtown Crowley every third full weekend in October to celebrate the golden grain that has historically been a pillar of our state, our country, and our world! It is with great pride, I welcome you to recognize the hard work and livelihoods of the 2% that feed the 100%. Welcome to the 87th International Rice Festival!

Wishing you a RICE time,

*Isabella Adelle Hardy*  
International Rice Festival Queen LXXXVI

## Past Rice Festival Queens

- 1937 Mrs. Estelle Bonin Fleming
- 1938 Mrs. Cecile Trahan Larcade
- 1939 Mrs. Lucille Jones Brodbeck
- 1940 Mrs. Melba Keller Hoffpaur
- 1941 Mrs. Ann Meridith Van Ness
- 1942-45 War Years
- 1946 Carolyn Breaux Martin
- 1947 Mary Alice Tosso
- 1948 Mrs. Ioycelyn Aube Heming
- 1949 Mary Barbara Rodriguez
- 1950 Jackie Hoffpaur
- 1951 Lorraine Lott
- 1952 Angie Branch
- 1953 Mrs. Betty David Billiard
- 1954 Mrs. Cady Gardiner Privot
- 1955 Carolyn Leonards replaced by Wanda Peterson
- 1956 Mrs. Margie Moore Hanisee
- 1957 Patricia Lormand
- 1958 Mrs. Carolyn Cherry Moore
- 1959 Judith Ann Haydell
- 1960 Virginia O'Brien
- 1961 Marilyn Ann Adams
- 1962 Vickie Lee Nutting replaced by Sharon Elliott
- 1963 Brenda Daigle
- 1964 Valerie Oustalet
- 1965 Dianne Everett Miller
- 1966 Linda Leoty
- 1967 Mrs. Debbie Carpenter Noble
- 1968 Susan Garcia
- 1969 Deborah Elizabeth Jones replaced by Lydia Breaux
- 1970 Paula Bergeron
- 1971 Bridget Parsley
- 1972 Sally Fall
- 1973 Mrs. Renee Duplechin Tauzin
- 1974 Karen Bollich
- 1975 Patricia Cran
- 1976 Tara Ann Hargrove
- 1977 Betty Aliee
- 1978 Cynthia Gossen
- 1979 Beth Meaux
- 1980 Donna Pousson Hebert
- 1981 Danette Trahan
- 1982 Gwendolyn Dugas
- 1983 Michelle Meche
- 1984 Camille Bourgeois
- 1985 Anna Christine Arceneaux
- 1986 Tonya Stoute
- 1987 Catherine Arceneaux
- 1988 Dana Randolph
- 1989 Jean Marie LeJeune
- 1990 Tonii Ann Adock
- 1991 Tiffany Shannon McDaniel
- 1992 Christine Lawson Gil
- 1993 Heather Hedrick
- 1994 Yvonne Gilder Anderson
- 1995 Keisha Benoit Rue
- 1996 Jennifer Broadus
- 1997 Angela Marie Abate Fay
- 1998 Courtney Terrell
- 1999 Amy Catherine Pastor Bergeron
- 2000 Elizabeth Jane Lawson Monk
- 2001 Melanie Rene Falcon Daigle
- 2002 Lauren Elise Barry Naquin
- 2003 Aleigha Evan Trahan Singer
- 2004 Joelle Elisabeth Benoit Guidry
- 2005 Krystle Lynn Todd Blue
- 2006 Marissa Champagne
- 2007 Amber Thibodeaux Hargrove
- 2008 Devin Angelle Babineaux
- 2009 Amber Comeaux Landry
- 2010 André Elizabeth Lyons Bruce
- 2011 Macy LeBlanc
- 2012 Sarah Mouton
- 2013 Hailey Claire Hensgens
- 2014 Allison Hoffpaur
- 2015 Camille Elise Quebodeaux
- 2016 AnnaLisa Meredith
- 2017 Kathryn Shea Duncan
- 2018 Victoria Marie Callahan
- 2019 Jimi Madison Joubert
- 2021 Caroline Elizabeth Hardy
- 2022 Sadie Renee Zaunbrecher
- 2023 Isabella Hardy





# Honoree

**Bradley Reed**  
2024 International Rice Festival Honoree



The 87th International Rice Festival will recognize Bradley Reed as the 2024 Festival Honoree. Reed will be honored at the annual Rice Festival Queen's Ball and Honoree Social on October 12th and will join the Presidential Party to celebrate the 2024 Festival the weekend of October 17th through 20th in downtown Crowley.

Bradley was raised among the rice and crawfish fields between Iota and Mowata and is the son of Norman and Janet (Bit) Lejeune Reed. He is a graduate of the Iota High School Class of 1980. Bradley is married to his wife of 37 years, Jacquelyn Miller Reed and together they have four children, Seth Felix, Melanie Rose Stracener, April Alexandra Toti and Phillip Ignatius and six grandchildren.

Bradley's father began ag flying in 1962 and purchased their first ag plane in 1968, starting Reed Flying Service. Following in his father's footsteps, Bradley began his ag flying career in 1981. In 1988, he established Reed Aviation, leasing Reed Flying Service aircraft, facility and equipment. Over the 103 years of Ag Aviation, the Reeds have been serving the rice industry of this area for 62 of those years. Their business has also been located on 120-year-old family land for the past fifty-six years.

Bradley is a member of the Iota/Egan Lions Club, Louisiana Agricultural Aviation Association (LAAA) and National Agricultural Aviation Association (NAAA).

The International Rice Festival would like to thank Bradley and his family for their many years of service in the rice industry.



## Past Rice Festival Honorees

- |                          |                                     |                              |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1946 J.M. Jenkins        | 1957 C.A. Brewer                    | 1974 H. Rouse Caffery        | 1991 Raymond Hensgens                        |
| 1947 Frank Godchaux      | 1958 Nelson Jodon                   | 1975 J.P. Gains              | 1992 Bill Goldsmith                          |
| 1948 C.J. Freeland, Sr.  | 1959 Harry G. Chalkley              | 1976 Cong. John Breaux       | 1993 Charles Miia                            |
| 1949 W.M. Reid           | 1960 William Hinkle                 | 1977 Dr. T.H. (Ted) Johnston | 1994 Leonard Hensgens                        |
| 1950 J.E. Broussard      | 1961 Leonard B. Ellis               | 1978 Jack M. Kaplan          | 1995 Linda G. Zaunbrecher                    |
| 1951 W.M. Hoyt           | 1962 R.E. Schlicher & Justin Wilson | 1979 Wayne G. Robinson       | 1996 William A Doré                          |
| 1952 Mrs. May Hayes      | 1963 Joseph Doré                    | 1980 Winston Atteberry       | 1997 Nolan J. Guillot                        |
| 1953 Dr. J.N. Efferson   | 1964 Mrs. Salmon Wright II          | 1981 J.B. Broussard          | 1998 Curtis E. Wolf                          |
| 1954 Alonzo E. Udell     | 1965 August A. Busch                | 1982 Lewis C. Hill           | 1999 Cong. Chris John                        |
| 1955 Cong. T.A. Thompson | 1966 Makota Saito                   | 1983 Ben A. Baldwin          | 2000 Joseph A. Musick                        |
| 1956 W.D. Smith          | 1967 George Luthke                  | 1984 Macon D. Faulkner       | 2001 John Denison                            |
|                          | 1968 Gov. Edwin Edwards             | 1985 Steve Gabbert           | 2002 John Creed                              |
|                          | 1969 Howard Alderson                | 1986 Charles R. Godchaux     | 2003 Al Doré                                 |
|                          | 1970 Henry M. Beachell              | 1987 Dr. Charles Bollich     | 2004 Mary Reid                               |
|                          | 1971 Cong. Otto E. Passman          | 1988 Marcel J. Damiens       | 2005 Charles & Mona Falcon Trahan            |
|                          | 1972 Gordon E. Doré                 | 1989 Jean Royby Vincent      | 2006 James William Warshaw                   |
|                          | 1973 William J. Cleveland           | 1990 Harold "Rod" Rodriguez  | 2007 Jimmy Hoppe                             |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2008 Jackie Paul Loewer, Jr.                 |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2009 Dr. Steven Linscombe                    |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2010 Robert "Bobby" Hanks                    |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2011 Drs. Sue & Tim Croughan                 |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2012 Randy Jemison                           |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2013 Wayne & Michael Hensgens                |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2014 Congressman Charles Boustany, Jr., M.D. |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2015 Herbert E. Schilling II                 |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2016 Charles William Abell, Jr.              |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2017 Dr. Rustum Ernest "Ernie" Girouard, Jr. |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2018 John E. Broussard                       |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2019 Thibodeaux Ag Group                     |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2021 Adrienne Vidrine                        |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2022 Ronnie Levy                             |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2023 Joseph "Bubba" Morgan                   |
|                          |                                     |                              | 2024 Bradley Reed                            |



# Farmer of the Year

Troy Fruge

Troy Fruge began farming independently during his senior year of high school in 1983. Starting with 105 acres of rice, 40 acres of crawfish, and 40 acres of soybeans, Troy now operates 3,400 acres of rice and crawfish and 200 acres of soybeans in northwest Acadia Parish. Recognizing the need to preserve natural resources, Troy enrolled in USDA conservation programs in 1984 and has continued this practice as his farm expanded. Currently, he manages 1,300 irrigated acres of cropland and utilizes a surface water irrigation system on 2,300 acres, recycling tailwater from his fields.

Troy has precision-leveled all his rice and crawfish acreage, enhancing irrigation efficiency and improving soil, water, and air quality. He participates in the NRCS CSP Program, which supports nutrient management, grid soil sampling, precision fertilizer application, and cover crop planting. His involvement with the Acadia Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Crowley USDA NRCS office has led to significant improvements in reducing soil runoff and sediment, improving irrigation efficiency, and enhancing wildlife habitat. To stay at the forefront of agricultural advancements, Troy follows up-to-date research from the LSU AgCenter. This allows him to implement the latest techniques and practices to increase yields in more economical ways. His commitment to continuous learning and innovation exemplifies his pride in being a farmer and his dedication to sustainable farming.

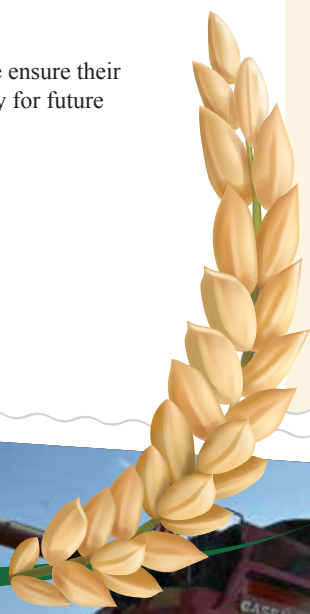
As Chairman of the Bayou Decannes – Nezpique Drainage District, Troy collaborates with Acadia SWCD and Crowley USDA NRCS on managing drainage structures, streambank stabilization, water control structures, and installing weirs to control erosion across 92 miles of drainage ditches. Additionally, he serves on the Acadia Parish County FSA Committee Board, has been a member of the Acadia Parish Farm Bureau since 1983, and is part of the Acadia Rice Growers Association.

Troy was honored as Junior Farmer of the Year by the 47th International Rice Festival in 1983. His daughter Kynlee, following in his footsteps, was named the 86th International Rice Festival Junior Farmer of the Year. She is currently attending McNeese State University, majoring in Agricultural Business, and plans to return to the farm after completing her degree.

By adhering to these conservation practices and BMPs, rice farmers like Troy Fruge ensure their operations are sustainable, productive, and environmentally friendly, paving the way for future generations in agriculture.

## Past Rice Farmers of the Year

- 1960 W.M. Bill Prather
- 1961 A.M. Moore
- 1962 William W. Walton
- 1963 Robert E. Harrington
- 1964 Paul R. Langlinais
- 1965 M.W. Mickey Scanlan
- 1966 Al Reiners
- 1967 Ashton Petitjean
- 1968 Leonard Hensgens
- 1969 Thomas Mayes
- 1970 Chester Faulk
- 1971 Rustum E. Girouard
- 1972 Ralph Cowen
- 1973 Grant Link
- 1974 Weston P. Monceaux
- 1975 Lyle O. Fogleman, Jr.
- 1976 Paul E. Wild
- 1977 Francis Duplachan, Jr.
- 1978 Euric "Bill" Savant, Jr.
- 1979 Edwin J. Leonards
- 1980 Larry Sarver
- 1981 Vincent J. Berken
- 1982 Glenn Zaunbrecher
- 1983 Jake Ardoin
- 1984 Austin W. Bollich
- 1985 Leonard L. "Buck" Leonards
- 1986 Kern Ardoin
- 1987 Buford Pery
- 1988 Errol Lounsberry
- 1989 C.A. Fabacher
- 1990 Herman L. Berken
- 1991 James Hoppe
- 1992 Edward H. Wild
- 1993 John Denison
- 1994 Glen Ray Trahan
- 1995 Dennis Leonards
- 1996 Dwight Hardee
- 1997 Chester Boudreaux
- 1998 Paul Jackie Loewer
- 1999 Dr. Ernest Girouard
- 2000 Kim Frey
- 2001 Davis Lacour
- 2002 Randy Thibodeaux
- 2003 Neil Lejeune
- 2004 Wayne Smith
- 2005 John Aaron Duhon
- 2006 Fred Zaunbrecher
- 2007 Richard B. Fontenot
- 2008 Jeff Durand
- 2009 Clarence Berken
- 2010 Glenn Simon
- 2011 Kevin Berken
- 2012 Gerald "Jerry" Leonards, Jr.
- 2013 Donald Berken
- 2014 John "Bubba" Leonards
- 2015 Jeffery Sylvester
- 2016 Donald Leonards
- 2017 Kent Brown
- 2018 Gerard Frey
- 2019 Alan Lawson
- 2021 Philip Lamartiniere
- 2022 Reece Guillot
- 2023 Christian & Julie Richard
- 2024 Troy Fruge





## SOUNDSTAGE SCHEDULE OF BANDS

*Thursday, October 17, 2024*

6:00-7:30pm

**BUDDY ANDREWS**

*Sponsored by The Bank*

8:00-9:30pm

**80s EXPERIENCE**

*Sponsored by Supreme Rice*

10:00pm-MIDNIGHT

**RUSTY METOYER**

*Sponsored by The Wright Group*

*Friday, October 18, 2024*

3:00-4:30pm

**SWAMPLAND REVIVAL**

*Sponsored by Air Evac/Med Express*

5:00-7:00pm

**DUSTIN SONNIER**

*Sponsored by Supreme Rice*

7:30-9:30pm

**KAREN WALDRUP**

*Sponsored by The Bank*

10:00-MIDNIGHT

**WAYNE TOUPS**

*Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services*

*Saturday, October 19, 2024*

5:00-6:15pm

**TIFFANY POLLOCK**

*Sponsored by Cajun Country Rice*

6:30-8:00pm

**LEIF MECHE BAND**

*Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services*

8:30-10:00pm

**FRANK FOSTER**

*Sponsored by Supreme Rice*

10:30-MIDNIGHT

**SPANK THE MONKEY**

*Sponsored by Coca Cola*



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*Friday, October 18, 2024*

10:00am... OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE RICE FESTIVAL  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

10:15am... 2024 JR. KING AND QUEEN CONTEST  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

11:30am... CROWNING OF THE 87th INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL JR. KING AND QUEEN  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

12:00pm... INTERNATIONAL RICE EATING CONTEST  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

1:15pm... AWARD PRESENTATIONS  
Supreme Rice Soundstage  
Rice and Creole Cooking Contest Awards

1:30pm... CHILDREN'S PARADE  
Sponsored by The Bank

*Saturday, October 19, 2024*

9:00am... OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE RICE FESTIVAL  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

9:15am... AWARD PRESENTATIONS  
Supreme Rice Soundstage  
Millworkers of the Year

10:00am... ACCORDIAN & FIDDLE CONTEST  
Cajun Country Rice Soundstage

10:15am... 2024 INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEEN'S CONTEST  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

10:30am... PRESIDENT'S CHOICE AWARD  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

10:45am... CROWNING OF THE 87th INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEEN  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

11:00am... FROG DERBY  
Supreme Rice Soundstage

3:00pm... GRAND PARADE  
Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services





# CAJUN COUNTRY RICE

## 4TH STREET SOUNDSTAGE SCHEDULE OF BANDS

*Thursday, October 17, 2024*

6:00-8:00pm

**MAIS OUI!**

*Sponsored by First National Bank*

8:30-10:00pm

**TJ GAUTREAUX**

*Sponsored by Cajun Country Rice*

10:30pm-MIDNIGHT

**THREE THIRTY SEVEN**

*Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services*

*Friday, October 18, 2024*

3:00-5:00pm

**CHUBBY CARRIER**

*Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services*

5:30-7:30pm

**COLBY LATIOLAIS**

*Sponsored by The Wright Group*

8:00-9:30pm

**GENO DELAFOSSE**

*Sponsored by Coca Cola*

10:00-MIDNIGHT

**LOUISIANA RED**

*Sponsored by Cajun Country Rice*

*Saturday, October 19, 2024*

12:30-2:00pm

**DONNY BROUSSARD**

*Sponsored by Supreme Rice*

5:30-7:30pm

**ADAM LEGER**

*Sponsored by Cajun Country Rice*

8:00-9:30pm

**THAT 90s SHOW**

*Sponsored by E.L. Habetz Builders*

10:00-MIDNIGHT

**JAMIE BERGERON**

*Sponsored by Thib's Auto Titles & Tags*



## OTHER LOCATIONS

*Wednesday, October 16, 2024*

7:00pm... SENIOR CITIZENS BALL

*Rice Festival Building 717 West Mill Street*

*Friday, October 18, 2024*

9:00am-4:00pm... OPENING OF OUTDOOR ARTS & CRAFTS

*Levy Park between 3rd & 4th Street*

9:30am... RICE & CREOLE COOKING CONTEST

*LSU AG Center, 157 Cherokee Dr., Crowley*

*Saturday, October 19, 2024*

8:00am... RICE FESTIVAL 5K RUN

*Crowley Court House, 505 Court Circle  
Sponsored by Northside Christian School*

9:00am-4:00pm... OPENING OF OUTDOOR ARTS & CRAFTS

*Levy Park between 3rd & 4th Street*

1:00pm... RICE THRESHING DEMONSTRATION

*First Baptist Church, 4th Street & Avenue G*

*Sunday, October 20, 2024*

Noon-6:00pm... FAMILY FUN DAY

*Alcohol Free*



# Jr. Farmer of the Year

**Christian Leonards**

Christian is the 18-year-old son of Bryan and Nancy Leonards of Crowley. He has two sisters, Grace and Emma. He is the grandson of Carol Leonards and the late Lawrence Leonards of Crowley and Sammy and Cindy McDaniel of Iota. Christian and his family live on their farm between Crowley and Iota, consisting of 2,200 acres of rice and crawfish.

Christian is currently a senior at Iota High School and will graduate in May 2025. Christian has been an active Iota High FFA chapter member since his freshman year with this being his fourth year serving as an officer. He is a member of livestock judging as well as horse judging. Christian has attended both state and national FFA conventions.

Christian has shown pigs since he was 9 years old, competing at parish, district, and state levels. His most significant accomplishment occurred in January of 2024 when he won both Acadia Parish Grand Champion Market Swine and Supreme Champion Commercial Gilt. Christian plans to continue livestock judging and showing pigs during his senior year as well as participating in FFA grain production.

Christian is a sixth-generation farmer. Growing up on the family farm has helped Christian learn the duties and responsibilities of a farmer from a young age. Some of his many responsibilities include spraying levees and ditches, maintaining equipment, bush hogging, land preparation, and operating the grain cart during harvest season. Upon graduating, Christian plans to continue to work with his dad on the family farm, while also starting his own farm that will consist of 80 acres of rice and 50 acres of crawfish.

When Christian is not working on the farm with his dad, he enjoys working with his cattle. Christian's love for cattle is passed down to him from his late grandfather. Christian has registered his own brand and plans to continue growing the cattle operation that his grandfather helped him to start. Christian is an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iota.

Christian was chosen by the USDA Farm Service Agency from a group of young deserving men and women nominated by FFA/Ag Teachers of Acadia Parish Schools.



## Past Rice Festival Jr. Farmers of the Year

1962 Wavey Martin	1974 Trent Fogleman	1992 Thomas Kim Frey	2010 Phillip John Reiners
1963 Kenneth Colligan	1975 Bradley Leger	1993 Chris Humble	2011 Philip James Leonards
1964 Girard Hoffpauir III	1976 Randall K. Johnson	1994 Kristie Janee Pellerin	2012 Clint Daniel Faulk
1965 Jack A. Hoffpauir	1977 Danny L. Richard	1995 Monica Lyons	2013 Christopher Garrett Klumpp
1966 Freddy LeDoux	1978 Zachary Cart	1996 Seth L. Zaunbrecher	2014 Matthew Paul Doré
1967 Edmund Regan	1979 Jeffrey C. Faulk	1997 Blaine T. Walton	2015 Tyler Joseph Breaux
1968 Renae Trumps	1980 Wade P. Richard	1998 Ashley C. Frugé	2016 Jacob Zaunbrecher
1969 James Habetz, Jr.	1981 Michael W. Faulk	1999 Bridget Lyons	2017 Michael Paul Zaunbrecher
1970 Katry Martin	1982 Richard Heinen	2000 Andrew Richard	2018 Benjamin Joseph Faulk
1971 Kim Frey	1983 Troy A. Frugé	2001 Jeffery Michael Regan	2019 Jake John Reiners
1972 Elliott Wimberly	1984 Charles B. Reiners	2002 Benjamin Laurence Leonards	2021 Ethan Anthony Zaunbrecher
1973 Lyle Fogleman, Jr.	1985 Spencer G. Smith	2003 Chester Faulk	2022 Hudson Charles LeBlanc
	1986 Patrick L. Reiners	2004 Jason Lorenz Zaunbrecher	2023 Kynlee Fruge
	1987 Travis J. Pellerin	2005 Michael Charles Hundley Jr.	2024 Christian Leonards
	1988 Barrett P. Lyons	2006 John Raymond Leonards	
	1989 James P. Leonards	2007 John Edward Hundley	
	1990 Robert Leonards	2008 Bryant Matthew Gossen	
	1991 Steven Theriot	2009 Jack Thomas Hundley	

## Past Young Farmers of the Year

1963	Philip J. Habetz
1964	Robert A. Gossen



# Grand Parade Marshals

W. Pat Bordes II and Phillip J. Faul

Pat and Phil are the co-owners and operators of Fezzo's Seafood Steakhouse & Oyster Bar in Crowley, Scott and Broussard, Rochetto's Pizzeria in Crowley and Scott, A & S Seafood Wholesale in Scott and PHAT Enterprises of Lafayette and Acadia Parish.

Pat is a graduate of Rayne High School and the University of Southwestern Louisiana. He is married to Jessica and together they have two children, Shelby and Trey. Phil is a graduate of Notre Dame High School and is also an Active Realtor in Louisiana. He is married to April and together they have four children, Ashlyn, Cailyn, Aiden and Selleck and one grandchild, Estelle.

Pat has been a member of the Young Men's Business Club, Rayne Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Acadia/ Jeff Davis Leadership Excel Board of Directors, Acadia Parish Tourist Commission Board of Directors, Better Business Bureau-Acadiana Chapter, Crowley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, National Federation of Independent Business and the Louisiana Restaurant Association-Acadiana Chapter.

Phil has been a member of the National Federation of Independent Business, Louisiana Restaurant Association-Acadiana Chapter and State Board of Directors, Crowley Chamber of Commerce, Scott Business Association Board of Directors and the LCVB Board of Directors. Together, they received the 2006 Crowley Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award, the 2003 Good Neighbor Award and the 2006 Restaurateur of the Year Award.



## Past Rice Grand Marshals

- 1974 P.J. "Rex" Mills
- 1975 Pierre Le Rat & Winston Wolf, Astroworld Characters
- 1976 Harve A Tabary
- 1977 Henson Moore (Congressman)
- 1978 Lottie J. Faulk
- 1979 Sen. Russell Long
- 1980 Laurent Boudreaux
- 1981 Robert Istre
- 1982 Shel Kanter
- 1983 Walt Garrison
- 1984 Charles Miia
- 1985 Norris Breaux
- 1986 Estelle Bonin Fleming  
1st Festival Queen
- 1987 No record of one
- 1988 Grady Primeaux & Marcel Suire
- 1989 Lawson Primeaux & Rogers Christman
- 1990 Herbert Lee Guillory & Norris Dronet
- 1991 Abbie Baronet & Donald Lee Robinson
- 1992 Shel Kanter & Bill Williams
- 1993 B.C. Delahoussaye
- 1994 Donald Shetler
- 1995 Joseph Musick, Jr.
- 1996 Robin Mattson
- 1997 Dr. Thomas H. Casanova III
- 1998 Lonnie Doré
- 1999 Cecil Picard
- 2000 Judges Don Aaron, John Trahan, and Glennon Everett
- 2001 Patty Simon
- 2002 Mike McBride
- 2003 Ken Goss
- 2004 Gil Pinac
- 2005 Renee Revett
- 2006 Jo Cart
- 2007 Dave Petitjean
- 2008 David & Peter John
- 2009 Thomas Carver Voinche, Jr.
- 2010 Randy E. Falcon
- 2011 Governor Edwin W. Edwards
- 2012 Gene Williams
- 2013 Jack Montoucet
- 2014 Judges Melise & John Trahan
- 2015 Ernest Palmer Shreve  
Michael James Pastor
- 2016 Jason Monk  
Jared William Monk
- 2017 Sheriff K.P. Gibson  
Chief Jimmy Broussard  
Chief Jody Viator
- 2018 Mayor Greg Jones
- 2019 LJ & Chee Chee Gielen  
Kim Gielen Gattle
- 2021 Ryan Trahan
- 2022 H. "Butch" Browning
- 2023 Dwayne & Christine Fulton
- 2024 Pat Bordes II and Phillip J. Faul





# Children's Parade Grand Marshal

**Letha Vincent**

Born and raised in Lyons Point, Letha has been a country girl all her life. She graduated from Midland High School and started her family soon after. She has two children, Greta Leleux Lindsey (Scott) and Roland Leleux, Jr. (Tami), seven grandkids, seven great grandkids, and two great, great grandkids. They are the true joy of her life!

She has been a 4-H volunteer leader for 46 years, starting as a volunteer at South Crowley Elementary when her daughter joined 4-H as a fourth grader. She was then a club leader at each school her children attended. She also assisted 4-H members from throughout Acadia Parish with record books, demonstrations, judging teams and 4-H short Course training. She has assisted with parish 4-H cookery contests and has worked with members preparing for parish, district and state competitions.

Vincent was selected to attend the Rock Eagle 4-H Leader Training in Georgia two years, the second time serving as the Louisiana delegation coordinator. She has participated in 4-H leader trainings on the parish, district and state levels and has served on multiple 4-H advisory committees. Interested in sharing the successes of Acadia Parish 4-H, Vincent participated in three cultural exchange trips, chaperoning youth to Tennessee, Pennsylvania and California. She also hosted 4-H members from these states in her home, allowing them to experience life in southwest Louisiana. Each exchange, she sent the 4-Hers back to their home state with a bag of Louisiana rice. She has a passion for sharing her knowledge with youth, having conducting workshops on Where Does Rice Come From for youth in Jeff Davis and Acadia parishes.

Vincent has been a participant of the International Rice Festival cookery contest herself for over 30 years and has been the contest Chairperson since her retirement after working 33 years for the Acadia Parish School Board. Even a cancer diagnosis in 2018 did not keep her from overseeing the contest.

In 2021, the International Rice Festival Rice and Creole Cookbook was dedicated to her. She has been named Rice Festival Cookery Contest Chef de Riz five times, having won at least once in each category, a milestone very few have reached. She was featured on the television show All American Festivals, which aired on the Food Network in 2001 and was also a part of a Chef Bobby Flay television show featuring rice in 2002.

Vincent's favorite pastime is cooking, and she takes pride in having taught her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren how to cook. Last year, four generations of her family were a part of the Rice Festival cookery contest. Vincent as superintendent, her daughter, granddaughters, two great-grandsons and a great grand-daughter as participants



## Past Rice Festival Grand Marshal of Children's Parade

- |      |                             |      |  |      |                           |
|------|-----------------------------|------|--|------|---------------------------|
| 1983 | World's Fair Mascot Pelican | 1994 | Alyson Habetz  | 2009 | Louis Cramer              |
| 1984 |                             | 1995 | Helen M. Zaubrecher  | 2010 | Edward "Ed" Dartez        |
| 1985 |                             | 1996 | Dr. Marietta "Mellie" James  | 2011 | Steve Fontenot            |
| 1986 | Justin Wilson               | 1997 | Joey Webb Jr.  | 2012 | Ann Mire                  |
| 1987 | Joseph Baronet              | 1998 | Teachers of the Year<br>Tammie McGuidry, Ray O. Blum and Genita Domingue | 2013 | Dolores Nutt              |
| 1988 | Oscar Johnson               | 1999 | Donna S. Corley  | 2014 | William Bryan Pinac       |
| 1989 | Dr. James M. Griffin        | 2000 | Tim and Tony Robichaux   | 2015 | Clarence Lee Woodard III  |
| 1990 | Barton W. Freeland, Sr.     | 2001 | (Coach Piz) Richard Pizzolatto   | 2016 | Kelly Cart Leonards       |
| 1991 | Mary Alice Fontenot         | 2002 | Doug Daigle  | 2017 | Michael Christian Doughty |
| 1992 | Maria Placer                | 2003 | Marlene LeBoeuf  | 2018 | Ruthie Piron              |
| 1993 | Virginia Ruddock            | 2004 | Kira O. Viator   | 2019 | Sandra Bourgeois Doré     |
|      |                             | 2005 | Stella Abshire Guidry  | 2021 | Sullivan Reese Rue        |
|      |                             | 2006 | Scott Brazda   | 2022 | Peter Kirsch              |
|      |                             | 2007 | Chad Monceau   | 2023 | Audry Spencer             |
|      |                             | 2008 | Lewis Cook   | 2024 | Letha Vincent             |



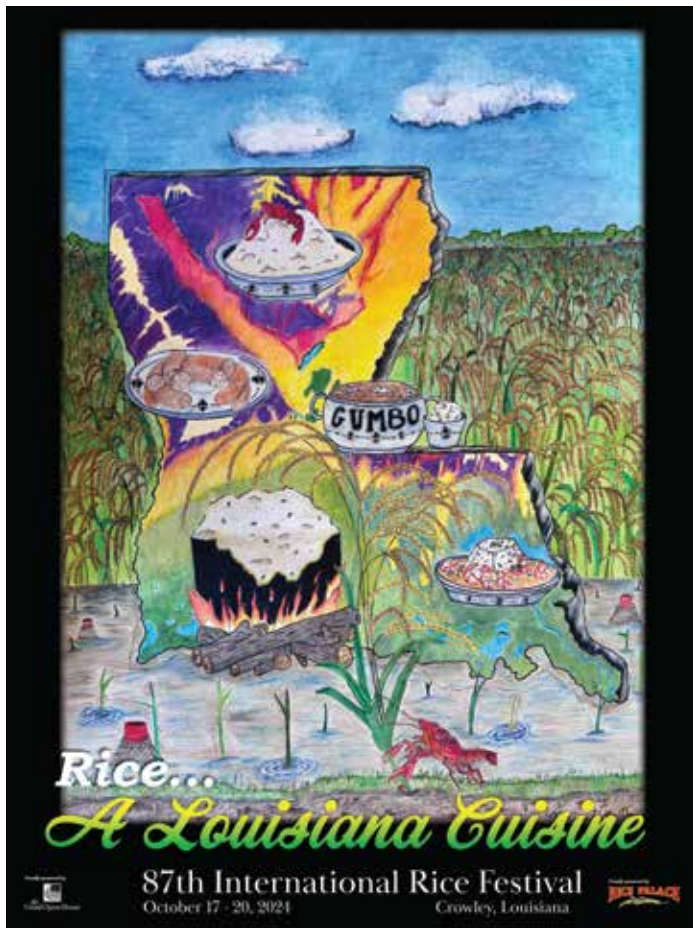
### Past Rice Festival Jr. King

- 1960 Paul C. Hannagrif, Jr.
- 1961 John Guidry
- 1962 Tim Robinson
- 1963 John Copeland Reed
- 1964 Dwayne Brasseaux
- 1965 Norman Oliver
- 1966 Girard Leger
- 1967 Keith Bieber
- 1968 Scot Anthony Guidry
- 1969 John Walter Gardiner
- 1970 Douglas Steen
- 1971 David Myers
- 1972 Emmett Parsley
- 1973 Lonnie Regan
- 1974 Larry James Daigle
- 1975 Douglas Mitchell Cormier
- 1976 Shane Thomas Schexnider
- 1977 Paul Jacob Koury
- 1978 Scott Patin
- 1979 Erin Scott Thomas
- 1980 Seth Adam Myers
- 1981 Casey Blair Foreman
- 1982 Nakia Lantz
- 1983 Joshua McGee
- 1984 Chad Sensat
- 1985 Bradley Arabia
- 1986 Michael Garret Ruppert
- 1987 Paul Maichael Stakes
- 1988 Derrick Antoine Credeur
- 1989 Joshua Clinton Viator
- 1990 Josh Melancon
- 1991 Shaun Ortego
- 1992 Jonah Benoit
- 1993 Cade Andrew Lejeune
- 1994 Trevor Thibodeaux
- 1995 William Lucas Breaux
- 1996 Andrew Randall Besse
- 1997 Caleb Jayce Steen
- 1998 Brent Joseph Cormier
- 1999 Eric John Miller
- 2000 Jerry Scott Menard
- 2001 Timothy Geerts
- 2002 Tyler Hayes
- 2003 Michael Anthony Herpin
- 2004 Jordon McDaniel Owens
- 2005 Kyle Adam Hebert
- 2006 Logan Jude Marks
- 2007 Luke Toepler
- 2008 Clay Benoit
- 2009 Gavin Vidrine
- 2010 Kyler Wingate
- 2011 Carson Armentor
- 2012 Ian Joseph Lyons
- 2013 Rusty Fulton
- 2014 Cameron Stelly
- 2015 Charlie Hensgens
- 2016 Cory Frugé
- 2017 Jackson Prevost
- 2018 Daxton Glen Broussard
- 2019 Nicolas Shaw Credeur
- 2021 Layne Oestriecher
- 2022 Jax Cormier
- 2023 Henry Siebert

### Past Rice Festival Jr. Queen

- 1939 Thelma Goss
- 1940 Janelle Plattsmier
- 1941 Ella V. Ortego
- 1942-45 War Years
- 1946 ClaudeC Lyons
- 1947 Bernice Guillot
- 1948 Marjorie Devillier
- 1949 Mary Ann Gielen
- 1950 Mary Jeanne Perres
- 1951 Laura Ruth Baker
- 1952 Alura Kay Miller
- 1953 Barbara Gail Bellard
- 1954 Barbara Jean Antis
- 1955 Stephanie Abshire
- 1956 Julie Ann Prejean
- 1957 Jerrie Lynn Premeaux
- 1958 Susan Elaine Jabusch
- 1959 Beverly Jane Hebert
- 1960 Cynthia Comeaux
- 1961 Sharon Ann LeJeune
- 1962 Carolyn Elizabeth Mooney
- 1963 Jelaine Frey
- 1964 Lola Frances Perry
- 1965 Robin Danette Rea
- 1966 Denise Gossen
- 1967 Frances Marie Regan
- 1968 Cynthia Ann Hebert
- 1969 Catherine Christine Simon
- 1970 Angela Dawn Wilson
- 1971 Sharon Bouillion
- 1972 Monique Broussard
- 1973 Dee Ann Chappell
- 1974 Lisa Monica Boudreaux
- 1975 Katherine Maureen Menard
- 1976 Tia Lynne Cormier
- 1977 Ladonna Richard
- 1978 Shelly Lynn Pousson
- 1979 Nina Ann Melancon
- 1980 Jillane Annette Gotte
- 1981 Julie Allison Broussard
- 1982 Janee Romero
- 1983 Anne Louise Broussard
- 1984 Suzanne Herpin
- 1985 Alyne Nicole Richard
- 1986 Angelina Marie Miller
- 1987 Candice Rachelle Navarre
- 1988 Chrystal Nicole Vincent
- 1989 Courtney Lyn Ruppert
- 1990 Dolly Jean LeBlue
- 1991 Gretchen LaCombe
- 1992 Bonnie Wirtz
- 1993 Amber Nicole Thibodeaux
- 1994 Amy Michelle McClelland
- 1995 Anna Brittany Zaunbrecher
- 1996 Lindsey Paige Richard
- 1997 Leah Katelyn Johnson
- 1998 Leah Elizabeth Gossen
- 1999 Amelia Faul
- 2000 Chasity Nicole Hayes
- 2001 Erin Page Richard
- 2002 Chelsea Sattler
- 2003 Caroline Arysse Nugier
- 2004 Adrianna Hudson
- 2005 Hannah Kimble Doucet
- 2006 Brandi Abate
- 2007 Lily Claire Hoffpaur
- 2008 Bethani Chesterman
- 2009 Mary Katherine Lavergne
- 2010 Alaina Claire Miller
- 2011 Mary Ellen Hebert
- 2012 Elise Anne Gossen
- 2013 Phoebe Lynn Henry
- 2014 Vivian Barousse
- 2015 Emmy Claire Navarre
- 2016 Malari Navarre
- 2017 Noelle Gatte
- 2018 Blair Elizabeth Wallace
- 2019 Vivian Elaine Siebert
- 2021 Audrey Lasch
- 2022 Adilynn Simar
- 2023 Emma Bruce





2024 Poster by Monique Hall Romero

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2024 International Rice Pin



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# Thank you

To all the  
Rice Festival Volunteers!

Your dedication to this festival is what makes it a success!

Thank you to the following for their time and dedication to make the International Rice Festival a success:

**Mayor Chad Monceaux** and the City of Crowley  
**Beau Petitjean**, Acadia Parish Police Jury President  
and the Acadia Parish Police Jurors and staff  
**The Acadia Parish County Agent's Office**  
**Louisiana Department of Agriculture**  
**LSU Rice Research Station**  
**Chief Louis "Buddha" Romero** and the Crowley Fire Department  
**Chief Troy Hebert** and the Crowley Police Department  
**Sheriff K.P. Gibson** and the Acadia Parish Sheriff's Department  
**Chief Carroll Stelly** and the Rayne Police Department  
**Laura Faul**, Clerk of Court and Staff  
**Carol Tall**, Acadia Parish School Board Superintendent and Staff

## NO ICE CHESTS PLEASE

Please visit the Festival Beer Booth & help keep the Festival FREE!  
Please drink responsibly... Designate a driver!

**COCA COLA BOTTLING:** Soft Drink Exclusive **SPECIAL-T-ICE:** Ice Exclusive



## Louisiana Association of Fairs & Festival Awards

### Festival of the Year

2007, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018,  
2019, 2021

### Best Program

*Award Winning Program*  
by Frugé & Frugé Graphic Design  
2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

### Best Poster

1999, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010,  
2012, 2013 2015, 2021

### Best Pin

2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010,  
2011, 2014 2015

### Best Brochure

*Award Winning Brochure*  
by Frugé & Frugé Graphic Design  
2008, 2011, 2014, 2019

### Best T-Shirt

1999, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010,  
2011, 2012 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017

### Best Cap

2006, 2018

### Marketing Items Award

2008, 2018

### Best Website

*Award Winning Website by DSS Computers, Inc.*  
2002, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2011, 2014,  
2017, 2018, 2019



## International Rice Festival Headquarters

303 N. Parkerson Ave.

P.O. Box 1900

Crowley, Louisiana 70527-1900

Phone 337.783.3067

Fax 337.783.3064

[www.ricefestival.com](http://www.ricefestival.com)

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