



# News Release

## For Immediate Release

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### Florida Strawberry Festival crowns 84<sup>th</sup> Queen

PLANT CITY, Fla. (Jan. 20, 2019) – The 84<sup>th</sup> Florida Strawberry Festival Queen was crowned last night at the annual competition in Plant City, Fla.

Kendall Gaudens was crowned the 2019 Florida Strawberry Festival Queen from a field of 31 contestants along with First Maid Madilyn Conrad and court members Kennedy Cullins, Jada Brown and Olivia Frazier.

“Once again, we have an outstanding group of young ladies who will represent us well for the 84<sup>th</sup> year,” said President Paul Davis.

Gaudens is the daughter of Henry and Melissa Gaudens. She is a senior at Plant City High School and ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in her class. She is dual enrolled at Hillsborough Community College, involved in National Honor Society, FFA and many other service clubs. Miss Gaudens plans to attend the University of Florida to study Mechanical Engineering.

The Florida Strawberry Festival Queen’s Competition is organized by the Plant City Lions Club and is composed of five facets of competition: a personal interview, on-stage speaking, casual wear, evening wear and an impromptu question.

Throughout the year, the queen and court make over 80 appearances as they represent the Florida Strawberry Festival and the Plant City community. They can be seen at festival events throughout the grounds, on the Wish Farms Soundstage before each of the 24 headline entertainment shows and at community events throughout the year.

“Kendall, Madilyn, Kennedy, Jada and Olivia have just embarked on a journey that will bring a lifetime of sweet memories. We couldn't be more thrilled!” said Davis.

### **About the Florida Strawberry Festival**

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 500,000 visitors enjoy the Festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its world-famous strawberry shortcake. The 2019 Florida Strawberry Festival, where “It's A Hit!,” will be held Feb. 28 through March 10 in Plant City, Fla. For more information, visit [www.flstrawberryfestival.com](http://www.flstrawberryfestival.com), Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (#berryfest19).

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