

**2024 Application for Grand Duke or Grand Duchess of San Francisco**

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*The Council of Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of San Francisco, Inc.*  
*PO Box 420905 - San Francisco, CA 94142-0905*

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Office Applying For: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Pronouns: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants Legal Name [PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY]

Address

City

Zip Code

Home/Cell Telephone

Work Telephone

Date of Birth

Email

Current Employer

Address

Contact Person

Telephone Number

Stage Name (this will be the name you use as Grand Duke or Duchess)

A fee of \$250.00 is to be submitted with this completed application. The fee is payable in cash, money order, or cashier's check made payable to *The Grand Ducal Council of San Francisco*. If the Review Board does not accept the application, this fee or a portion of it may be refunded within 72 hours. If the applicant voluntarily withdraws from campaign, or is disqualified for any reason, the fee is forfeited and the return of it or any portion thereof, is subject to approval of the Board of Directors. Completed applications must be submitted to Executive Director, David LaFever on **Saturday, August 10, 2024 at The Edge Bar, 4149 18<sup>th</sup> Street**, between the hours of **4PM and 6:30PM**.

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**APPLICANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify and attest that I am 21 years of age or over. I have read, understand, and agree to all the rules, regulations, and requirements set forth in this application. I further certify, attest, and agree to answer all questions honestly and to the best of my ability and knowledge. I agree to indemnify and to hold the Grand Ducal Council and the Council of Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of San Francisco, Inc. harmless from any activities I sponsor or debts that I may incur as a result of my campaign. Further, should I not be accepted as a candidate, I do not hold the Council of Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of San Francisco, Inc. liable in any manner because the vote of the Grand Ducal Council or its designated interviewers is a majority vote for a decision as to my candidacy. I understand that a background check will be performed at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Signed the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of August, Two Thousand Twenty-Four**

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Applicant (legal signature)

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**Business Sponsor (includes name, address, telephone, and contact person):**

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**Personal Sponsor (name and telephone):**

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**Campaign Manager (name and telephone):**

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**Treasurer (name and telephone):**

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**\*\*\*Attach letters of support from Business Sponsor and Personal Sponsor.\*\*\***

As a non-profit public benefit charity, The Council of Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of San Francisco, Inc. has a legal responsibility to protect their membership and supporters from foreseeable harm - including felonious actions by potential or current members. Since substantial amounts of money and valuable merchandise may be handled at any of the many SF Ducal parties and fundraisers, the Review Board conducts candidate background checks to protect:

**Our Members**

**The general public**

**Corporate money and property**

**Corporate reputation and assets from legal liability**

**Any person found to have a criminal background shall be immediately disqualified from running for Grand Duke or Grand Duchess of San Francisco and shall not be considered in the future.**

**By submitting this application for consideration you consent that the SF Ducal Board of Directors may perform any background check that they may deem necessary.**

**Preliminary Background Questions (if additional room is needed, use the back of sheet):**

1. What cities/states have you lived in prior to San Francisco and when?

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2. Do you own a car? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a current driver's license? \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you have any unpaid tickets? \_\_\_\_\_

3. (a) Have you ever been arrested? (if so, please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Do you currently have a warrant out for your arrest? \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Have you ever been charged with, but not convicted of a crime? \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Have you ever been convicted of a crime? \_\_\_\_\_

4. (a) Have you ever written a "hot" check? \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Do you have outstanding overdrafts with any bank? \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Have you ever committed any sort of financial fraud? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Have you ever retained the services of an attorney? \_\_\_\_\_

**List other organizations/groups that you belong to and the activities you support:**

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**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR  
GRAND DUKE AND GRAND DUCHESS OF SAN FRANCISCO**

**APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Must be a legal resident of the United States of America. Must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and be a permanent resident of Marin, San Mateo, or San Francisco counties and have been so for one (1) year prior to August 10, 2024. Verifiable proof of residency is required.
2. In order to meet the substantial economic needs required by the candidate and office holder, each candidate must be gainfully employed or provide the Review Board members with a financial plan as how the candidate will fund his/her campaign and the year in office. Sole dependence on monthly checks received from government support will not be allowed for this purpose. Inability to meet financial obligations will disqualify applicant, or subject him/her to dismissal from office, if elected. Each candidate shall indemnify and protect the corporation from fiscal responsibility for said candidate's debts.
3. Must have one of each: (a) a business sponsor; (b) a personal sponsor; (c) a campaign manager; and (d) a treasurer named on the application. Must have letters of support from both business and personal sponsors.
4. Must agree to an oral interview that will be conducted by members of the Grand Ducal Council, past monarchs, and the Royal Board. Questions may be asked that could concern applicant's lifestyle, background, job or financial stability, and any other pertinent information needed. **Only the Candidate may attend the Review Board. No committee members or friends are allowed to accompany him/her.**
5. If, after approval of candidacy, it is discovered that any information given, be it written or oral, be falsified, misrepresented, or inaccurate, said candidate will be disqualified and removed from the voting ballot.

**CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS AND CAMPAIGN RULES:**

1. Upon approval as a candidate by the Royal Review Board, the candidate and campaign manager must sign an agreement to abide by the Rules and Regulations set forth for this campaign.
2. No person shall be declared a candidate by themselves or any other source until approved by the Review Board at Emperor Norton's BoozeLand, 510 Larkin Street on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 7:30pm. Each candidate will do a five-seven minute maximum presentation at the *Ducal Anniversary Gala/Introduction of Candidates* to be held on Saturday, August 17, 2024 at 5pm at The Cafe, 2369 Market Street, and the *Coronation Ball* on Saturday, September 28, 2024 at Holiday Inn Golden Gateway Hotel- Emerald Ballroom, 1500 Van Ness Avenue. A maximum five to seven-minute production number, in theme, is preferred. Candidates will receive free admission to all events during the week including Coronation; however, ***all Candidate committee members, guests, and supporters are required to have paid tickets to all events where an admission is charged, including the Ducal Ball.***
3. Candidates for one title shall not align themselves with a particular candidate for the other title. Each candidate shall run his/her own campaign. No joint mailings, parties, or Election Day joint ventures.

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4. Each candidate shall conduct a clean campaign. Destruction of campaign materials of other candidates by you or your campaign committee is forbidden. Any improper, illegal, or obnoxious conduct among and/or their committees is expressly prohibited and will subject the candidate to disqualification. UNDER THE LAWS OF AGENCY, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR CAMPAIGN COMMITTEES ACTIONS AS THEY ARE YOUR REPRESENTATIVES. Use of the Russian Double Eagle on any material is strictly prohibited.
5. Each candidate *must* appear at the “Meet the Candidates Party” scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2024 at the Edge Bar, 4149 18<sup>th</sup> Street at 4pm. Candidates will appear in proper attire for the office they are seeking. Female candidates must be clean-shaven (unless running as a “bearded queen”) and in make-up. The candidates and their election committee members shall conduct themselves in a proper and non-offensive manner.
6. Each winner shall be obligated to work in harmony with his or her co-head of state, the council, and the Board of Directors/Trustees.
7. Along with the completed application, each candidate shall present a letter stating why they wish to be Grand Duke or Grand Duchess and what their plans are to enhance the office, title, and corporation. The candidate should outline types of fund-raisers that they plan to hold during their reign, if elected. The candidates should outline ways they plan on recruiting new members to their court and the Royal Family. It is the candidates’ responsibility to provide an electronic photographic image (jpeg, pdf, gif) for the Coronation program and voting day poster. Candidates are given a full-page ad in the program as part of their application fee.
8. Each candidate must hold at least one fundraiser during his or her campaign for the benefit of the Corporation’s charity of choice. This fundraiser should yield a *minimum* of \$300 to the charity.

### **ELECTION DAY RULES AND VOTING REGULATIONS:**

1. No candidate’s promotional material or monitors are allowed within one (1) block in each direction of the polling places. Candidates or their runners cannot escort voters to the polls within 50 feet.
2. All voters must show a California picture ID, Drivers License, Passport, or Military ID with a Marin, San Mateo, or San Francisco county address. Your drivers and Voting Day personnel must make sure that people are properly notified of this requirement and do not bring anyone in who cannot produce such identification, as they will not be permitted to vote. (Utility bills, rent receipts, etc are not acceptable. Voters must provide a picture ID.)
3. Paying or offering money, material goods or any other compensation to individuals solely for the purpose of obtaining votes will not be allowed by the candidate or members of their campaign committee. This is not to prohibit food or non-monetary promotional materials provided by candidates at their parties or voting day functions.
4. Each candidate must have his or her own Election Day vehicle (if any). No joint vehicles are allowed. You cannot align yourself with another candidate, (see rules above).

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5. Each candidate or its designated representative **must be present at the opening of each polling place** to witness that the ballot boxes are empty and locked. Each candidate or its designated representative **must be present at least ten minutes prior to the closing** of each polling place to witness the sealing of each ballot box. If the candidate cannot be present for the opening and closing of each poll, then the candidate must provide the name of their designated representative to an Executive Director or President of the Board prior to Voting Day.

**Failure to comply with the rules, regulations, and requirements set forth in this application will automatically disqualify the applicant from candidacy for Grand Duke or Grand Duchess.**

### **AFTER THE ELECTION:**

1. Each candidate shall further be obligated to uphold the oath of Office of Grand Duke or Grand Duchess and abide by the Rules and Regulations set up for that office. (Copies will be emailed to candidates after passing Review Board) The Grand Duke and Duchess with the Board of Directors and Trustees approval will appoint the Royal Crown Prince, Royal Crown Princess, Prince Royale, Princess Royale, Prime Minister and Treasurer for the years reign. (This does not represent the Heir to the Throne) As a point of information, the members of the reigning court are not part of the Grand Ducal Council until the successful completion of the year in office. During their year of reign, they are associate members of the Board of Trustees. The immediate past monarchs are advisory members of the Board of Trustees for the year immediately following their reign.

2. The offices of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess are voluntary, therefore are not paid for their appearances, attendance, or services. As representatives of a non-profit organization, no individual is compensated for the work that they perform for the organization. The titles Grand Duke and Grand Duchess cannot be used in the promotion of an event that the titleholders are being monetarily compensated. This does not prohibit the individual from participation, it just means that the title of Grand Duke or Grand Duchess cannot be used in any promotional material be it printed, electronic media, or by verbal means (announcements at other events over the public address system or at the venue where the event is to take place). It also includes the introduction of said individual or individuals during the event.

- a) The titles of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess are not to be used for direct or indirect personal financial gain.
- b) The titles of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess cannot be used to promote non-charitable events.
- c) The titles of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess cannot be used to promote any political party or candidate for political office.
- d) The titles of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess and all other Ducal Court titles are not specific as to gender, sexual orientation, age (except as required by law), racial or religious preference. No title, honor or award that requires such a distinction to be made shall be allowed.
- e) These rules apply to all reigning titleholders of the Grand Ducal Council of San Francisco.

3. The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess are required to hold Investitures within 6 weeks of being crowned. The proceeds and expenses from Investiture fall upon the new Court. During Investiture, you will name your Cabinet (which will be approved at the October board meeting): your Royal Crown Prince, Royal Crown Princess, Prince Royale, and Princess Royale, and hand out titles to form your new Court membership.

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4. During your reign, you and your Court are required to hold the annual title contests: Rainbow Knight and Miss Debutante, Royal Baby, King and Queen of Heart, Royal Bunny, and Royal Daddy, Daddy's Boy and Dominatrix. You are required to attend and stay the entire length of each of these events and all ancillary events.
5. The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess **cannot handle any type of financial instrument** (i.e. money, checks, etc) during the year of their reign. This is to protect these individuals from any allegations of financial mismanagement. The court treasurer, corporate treasurer, or appointed member of the Board of Directors and Trustees are the only authorized individuals who can handle money on behalf of the reigning monarchs.
6. The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess cannot enter into any contractual or binding verbal agreements or execute instruments of any kind that would indebt themselves as titleholders or the Grand Ducal Council of San Francisco. All contracts must be reviewed by an Executive Director and approved by the Board of Directors and then executed.
7. The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess can and are encouraged to raise money for only 501c(3) non-profit charitable public benefit organizations during the year of their reign. Monies raised will not be distributed until the end of the reign in August at the annual Council Anniversary Gala.
  - a. There are rare occasions when a charity has immediate need of funds whereby they cannot wait until August to receive their portion of funds raised on behalf of the court. In these situations, the Treasurer of the Grand Ducal Council will write a disbursement check to that specific charity for their portion of the fundraiser once all funds have been accounted for and cleared the bank.
  - b. Under no circumstance shall the charity or charities be allowed to directly receive any money raised at an event sponsored by the Court or its titleholders. All money and checks must be deposited into the Ducal Court charity bank account for clearing and then a disbursement check will be written once all funds have cleared.
  - c. Reasonable expenses incurred for the production of charity fundraisers or events that are held in-town for and by the court are reimbursable at the cost and must be supported with receipts and submitted via a "Request for payment" voucher to the treasurer. Expenses would be for the promotion of the event such as printed media, raffle prizes, tickets, and decorations are reimbursable. Personal costuming or personal transportation is not reimbursable.
8. The court receives a 10% production fee from all events held during the year of reign. This money goes into their "General fund" for expenses- printed promotional materials, raffle prizes, tickets, and decorations, as well as advertisement placement in other Reign's Coronation programs. This fund is also used for any stepping down costs - plaques, gifts, etc, as well as Coronation costs - sets, programs, truck rental, hospitality, etc.
9. Upon election to the office of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess, the successful candidate must resign, or take a leave of absence for the year of their reign, from any and all positions held on any Board or within any Organization that he/she holds an officer or director's position that could affect the direction of said Organization based upon their elected position with the Grand Ducal Council of San Francisco. Honorary positions that have no voting powers or fiduciary responsibility are acceptable.



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**CANDIDATE DECLARATION**

Applicant:

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the Rules & Regulations for Candidates for Office of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of San Francisco, and the job description for each office as set forth by the Grand Ducal council of San Francisco and I agree to abide by said rules as may be amended from time to time.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of August Two Thousand Twenty-Four

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant

Campaign Manager:

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the Rules & Regulations for Candidates for Office of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of San Francisco, and the job description for each office as set forth by the Grand Ducal council of San Francisco and I agree to abide by said rules as may be amended from time to time.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of August Two Thousand Twenty-Four

\_\_\_\_\_  
Campaign Manager

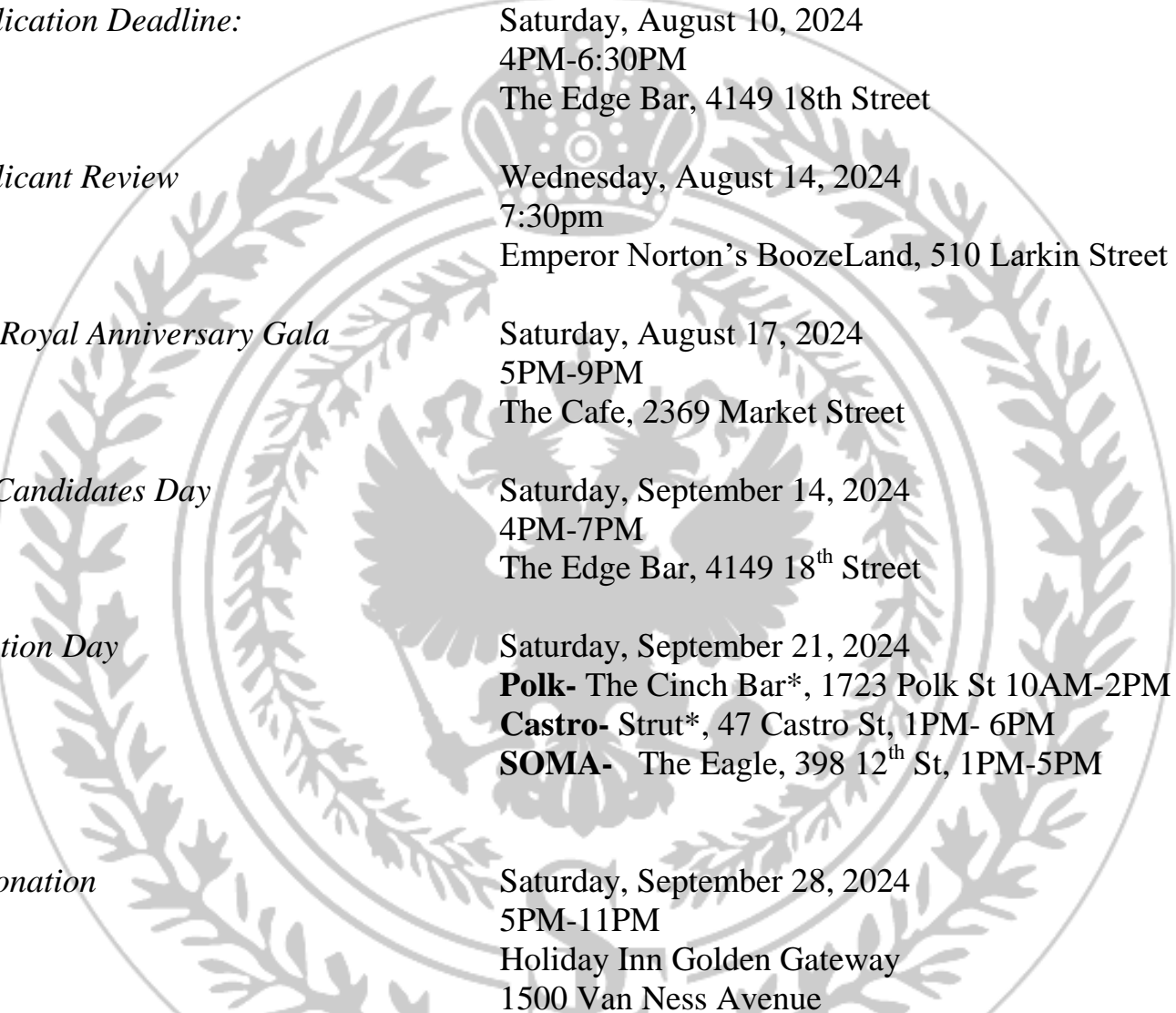
Treasurer:

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the Rules & Regulations for Candidates for Office of Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of San Francisco, and the job description for each office as set forth by the Grand Ducal council of San Francisco and I agree to abide by said rules as may be amended from time to time.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of August Two Thousand Twenty-Four

\_\_\_\_\_  
Campaign Treasurer

**Schedule of Events**



<i>Application Deadline:</i>	Saturday, August 10, 2024 4PM-6:30PM The Edge Bar, 4149 18th Street
<i>Applicant Review</i>	Wednesday, August 14, 2024 7:30pm Emperor Norton's Boozeland, 510 Larkin Street
<i>The Royal Anniversary Gala</i>	Saturday, August 17, 2024 5PM-9PM The Cafe, 2369 Market Street
<i>All-Candidates Day</i>	Saturday, September 14, 2024 4PM-7PM The Edge Bar, 4149 18 <sup>th</sup> Street
<i>Election Day</i>	Saturday, September 21, 2024 <b>Polk-</b> The Cinch Bar*, 1723 Polk St 10AM-2PM <b>Castro-</b> Strut*, 47 Castro St, 1PM- 6PM <b>SOMA-</b> The Eagle, 398 12 <sup>th</sup> St, 1PM-5PM
<i>Coronation</i>	Saturday, September 28, 2024 5PM-11PM Holiday Inn Golden Gateway 1500 Van Ness Avenue

**\*\*\*KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS\*\*\***

\*= location may change