

# The 11th Annual New Orleans Burlesque Festival

## September 2019 (dates yet to be announced)

Thank you for your interest in the New Orleans Burlesque Festival! The NOBF provides beautiful venues and large stages to showcase your talent in the most exciting, unique, and naughty city in America – New Orleans! Network and mingle among burlesque performers from all over the world at our cocktail parties and receptions. Meet burlesque legends up close and personal. Take a stroll around the French Quarter. Enjoy delicious New Orleans cuisine at our fine restaurants! It'll be one of the most memorable experiences of your life!

**The 11th Annual New Orleans Burlesque Festival is open to striptease dancers (male and female), singers, emcees, magicians, contortionists, aerialists, acro, duos, troupes, group acts, boylesque, novelty and other variety acts!**

### Application Deadlines & Dates:

Application Fee only \$10 if submitted by Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup> (Midnight, Central Time)

Application Fee is \$15 if submitted by Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> (Midnight, Central Time)

Application Fee is \$20 if submitted by Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> (Midnight, Central Time)

Notification to All Applicants By: Monday, June 17, 2019

New Orleans Burlesque Festival: September 2019, dates yet to be announced

### Application Fee:

The non-refundable application fee must be received by the application deadline date. To pay by Paypal, send the fee to [neworleansburlesque@yahoo.com](mailto:neworleansburlesque@yahoo.com). Make sure you have this email address correct! **Include your performer name in the “notes” field.** Applications sent to us without the fee will be discarded.

You can submit up to two acts per application. The application fee only needs to be paid once, not for each video.

### Application Process:

Download the Word document or the PDF file, fill it out, and email the completed application to [neworleansburlesque@yahoo.com](mailto:neworleansburlesque@yahoo.com). You can also copy and paste the application into an email, fill it out, and send it to us. Attach no more than 3 hi-resolution color promotional photos of yourself. Please choose your best photos. We prefer studio and pin-up photos, but all photos will be accepted. Please name your photo file with your stage name! The photo(s) you send will be posted on our website and printed in the program booklet if you are selected to perform. Please be sure you have cleared the rights from the photographer(s) to use the photos to promote your appearance in the festival. We will not be able to credit the photographer on the festival website or program. Within a week after sending your application, you should receive a confirmation email that it has been received. If selected, we will require more information, such as your music (if you are performing to a recorded track), and perhaps additional hi-res photos. When this information is requested, it should be sent ASAP.

**NOTICE:** If selected to perform, the New Orleans Burlesque Festival will not cover any of your travel expenses. Performers accepted into the festival will be able to take advantage of a special nightly hotel rate at our host hotel. Other performer perks will be announced closer to the festival date. If you are notified that you have been selected to perform in the festival, you will respond by accepting (or declining) your spot in the festival. Accepting a spot in the festival is a commitment you must honor. If you accept your spot in the festival, but back out at any point prior to the festival weekend (for any reason short of hospitalization), you will likely lose your standing with the New Orleans Burlesque Festival, and may not be invited to perform in future New Orleans Burlesque Festivals.

The New Orleans Burlesque Festival does not give performers a time restriction for their acts. We are looking for the best acts in burlesque. So if you are accepted into the festival, we will not ask you to shorten your act. Pasties must be worn by all female striptease dancers.

If you submit an act utilizing a prop, you are responsible for bringing the prop to New Orleans. The NOBF does not pay for shipping of props. If you do not have the prop for your performance, you risk losing your spot in the festival. If you would like to request the use of one of our props, such as a chair or platform, please make a note of it in the application.

We are not accepting any fire acts. We are cautious of accepting any “messy” acts involving things such as large amounts of water or glitter. If you have an act that requires a fair amount of clean-up, please email us about it before applying.

If you are performing to a recorded track with more than one song, you must mix the music down to one track and submit it to us when requested.

Be advised that the New Orleans Burlesque Festival will be videotaped and photographed. By submitting this application, you agree to allow your likeness and your performance in the New Orleans Burlesque Festival to be used to promote the festival, for as long as the festival is in existence.

The NOBF has a non-compete clause. If you are selected to perform in the New Orleans Burlesque Festival, you agree not to perform in any other shows or events in the New Orleans area, outside of the official NOBF showcases from one full week before the opening of the fest, to one full week after the closing night of the fest. New Orleans area performers agree not to perform from three days before the opening of the fest, to three days after the closing night of the fest, excluding private non-publicized events, or if you are already cast in a long-running weekly show.

## **Additional Info:**

NOBF is looking to feature a wide variety of acts that are unique, creative, or innovative. Besides classic striptease acts, we also feature neo-burlesque, nerdlesque, boylesque, circus, and all variety acts.

The **QUEEN OF BURLESQUE** is a competition in which 7 burlesque dancers compete for the title. A panel of celebrity judges will select this year's best classic striptease dancer. All dancers in this competition must dance to the accompaniment of our *live six-piece traditional jazz band*. Music will be worked out with each individual performer in the competition after they have been selected to perform. You can provide your own musical score, submit song titles (subject to approval), or pick from our song book. If picking from our band's song book, we can likely provide a link to the music for you to hear how it's played prior to the festival weekend. You will have at least 15 minutes of rehearsal with the band on the day of the competition. To apply for this category, submit a video of your performance accompanied by a live jazz band, a recorded traditional jazz track, or other instrumental music. We are looking for dancers with a lot of personality, dance ability, and who exude glamour and beauty, utilizing elaborate costumes and/or props.

**APPLICATION TIPS:** For burlesque festivals, you want to stand out among all the applicants. We are looking for **creative** and **original** costuming, routines, and reveals. Themed acts are great! Comedic acts are always of interest to us! **High energy** acts get our attention. We also pay close attention to facial expressions. Submit a video where your personality shines through! Submit video that is clear and not shot from too far away. If we cannot see your facial expressions in the video, due to poor lighting or camera placement, it will hinder your chances. If you are not able to get professional footage of your act, or any decent footage of your act, as a last resort you can have a friend with a steady hand shoot your performance on a smartphone. If you do this, have them sit on the front row and follow you as you move about the stage. The camera being closer to the stage is much preferred than being in the back, with the shot framed too wide. Submit an **entire** performance on video. Do not submit a promo video, or an act that has been edited to leave portions of the act out. We need to see the whole act from start to finish. Good luck!