



"Embracing our WHY...By shaping their future"



## **1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL COTILLION**

### **ORIENTATION**

#### **Agenda**

- I. OPENING REMARKS/PURPOSE OF BALL**
- II. WHAT IS JACK AND JILL?**
- III. WHAT IS A DEBUTANTE/BEAU?**
- IV. DEBUTANTE/BEAU CRITERIA**
- V. DEBUTANTE/BEAU RESPONSIBILITIES & FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**
- VI. WORKSHOPS AND REHEARSALS**
- VII. DEBUTANTE/BEAU & ESCORT ATTIRE**
- VIII. REQUIRED FORMS**

## **2023 COTILLION OVERVIEW**

*Thank you for your interest in becoming a 2023 Debutante/Beau! We are excited that the National Harbor Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. will host our 1st Cotillion Ball in 2023! We will celebrate the proud history of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. and our Debutante/Beaus.*

### **What is Jack and Jill?**

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is the oldest non-profit African American Family Organization which encourages cultural, social, civic, and recreational activities to stimulate, expand, and enhance the lives of our children and the children in our communities. Funds raised from the ball are channeled back to the community and the Jack and Jill of America Foundation. The Debutante/Beau experience creates a lifetime of memories for participants and their families, as well as affords the Debutante/Beaus opportunities for educational awards.

### **What is a Debutante?**

The word “Debutante/Beau” comes from the French word “débuter” which means to lead off. The Debutante/Beau tradition, as we know it in the United States, has its roots, as many of our customs do, in England.

The idea that a girl, usually of age 16, 17 or 18, should be presented to society stems from the time when a daughter of marriageable age needed to find a husband of suitable social standing. The daughters of the landed aristocracy, the lords and ladies of England, married within a very small circle and often had a very large dowry that went with them.

### **What is a Beau?**

The objective of the Beau is to highlight our Beaus' achievements while offering meaningful educational, cultural, civic, social, and service leadership programs and activities in honor of a symbolic journey taken from adolescence to manhood. The culminating event is the Beautillion Ball, which is the formal presentation of the young men to the local community.

### **The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Debutante/Beau**

To keep up with modern times, the themes of etiquette have now been expanded to include financial savvy, safe health practices, nutrition, self-esteem, interview skills and career planning.

This Debutante/Beau experience is intense and rewarding. It will be filled with happy memories and involves a commitment of your time, effort, and fund raising. You will meet new people and some will become lifelong friends. We encourage you to take advantage of this experience.

## **DEBUTANTE/BEAU CRITERIA**

Throughout the Debutante/Beau experience you will interact with professionals from numerous career fields, participate in workshops, conduct a community project and be asked to an activity a month starting ----. Because of this, we require that you have the time and the ability to prioritize your school, work and other activities in order to fully participate. We would like for you to develop the attitude of “*Student First – Debutante/Beau Second*”

**The following criteria must be met for participation in the Cotillion:**

- **High School Junior or Senior**
- **Good Character (no suspensions or history of criminal activity)**
- **Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 2.5**
- **Parental Agreement form signed**
- **Completed Application Fee and Parental Agreement form signed**
- **Recommendation of High School Counselor signed**
- **Cotillion Ball Application Fee**

**Practice is tentatively scheduled to begin in December 2022.**

Please notify Evie Adams Simmons [eadamssimmons@icloud.com](mailto:eadamssimmons@icloud.com) **no later than Monday, October 21, 2022** of your intent to participate.

## DEBUTANTE/BEAU WORKSHOPS AND REHEARSALS

### Workshops

The self-enhancing workshops have been designed to help make your experience as a Debutante/Beau a positive learning experience and lasting memory. The workshops are designed on the premise that “you” are special and that “you” will make the most of what “you” have.

The sessions are planned as growth activities. Time will be provided for you to set goals and make short and long term plans to meet your goals. At each session, time will be allowed for the Debutante/Beau’s input and evaluation. The committee only asks for 100% participation and punctuality.

Activities will include the following workshops:

- Finance Workshop
- Career/Leadership Exploration
- Health and Beauty
- Etiquette

Some workshops may include your Escorts. A schedule of dates and times will be distributed as the workshops are confirmed. If you are unable to attend a workshop, it is mandatory that you let us know at least two days prior to the workshop.

### Rehearsals

A great deal of work has gone into planning and arranging rehearsals. Punctuality and regular attendance are required by all involved. Rehearsals are typically held on Sunday afternoons.

Debutante/Beaus and their escorts are expected to be present at **all** rehearsals.

Fathers (or selected substitute) will participate in one waltz with the Debutante/Beau and are expected to attend rehearsal(s) involving them.

## **DEBUTANTE/BEAU ATTIRE**

### **Debutante/Beaus**

Gown – White Ball Gown.

Bodice – The bodice should be well fitted without over exposure at the bust and shoulders. **No strapless.** Be sure all alterations are done prior to the Ball.

Neckline Jewel – Bateau, Sweetheart, Round (**No strapless**)

Sleeve Styles – Cap, Puff, Caplett. Long fitted sleeves should be avoided. 18” button length gloves will be provided.

Skirt – The skirt should be free-flowing with more than ample width at the lower edge to allow for freedom of movement. The skirt should clear the floor by one inch (1”) with shoes. **Sheath and fish-tail skirts should be AVOIDED and are UNACCEPTABLE.**

Details - Special details, such as ruffles, bows and flounces add youthfulness and daintiness to garments. Utilize these details to your fullest advantage, if it suits your personality. Beads add richness to garments when tastefully applied. Use them in moderation.

### **Accessories**

Shoes – fabric: satin, brocade, faille, leather. Shoes should complement the dress fabric.

Gloves –elbow length gloves (provided by Jack and Jill).

Jewelry – Simply one string of pearls (provided by Jack & Jill).

Matching earrings are the responsibility of the Debutante/Beau.

### **Mothers**

All mothers will wear long, formal black gowns. Mothers will acquire their own gowns.

### **Fathers/Escorts**

All fathers will wear black tail tuxedo. (Specifications will be given)

Escorts will wear black tuxedo. (Specifications will be given)

National Harbor Chapter of Jack and Jill will negotiate a rental rate with a Tuxedo company and all participants will be informed of the rental rate.

## 2023 DEBUTANTE/BEAU APPLICATION

*Please Print*

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_

DEB'S EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S EMAIL ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

The signed Parental Agreement, Counselor Certification and application fee must accompany the Debutante/Beau Application. **All checks should be made payable to: The National Harbor Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.**

**JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.**  
**NATIONAL HARBOR CHAPTER**  
**COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION FORM**

Participants are required to be a full-time High School Junior or Senior students during the 2022-23 school year. She/He must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5. She/He must be of good character and citizenship. The High School Counselor is asked to certify that the above criteria are met.

I do certify that \_\_\_\_\_ has met the stated criteria with a GPA of \_\_\_\_\_ to qualify as a participant in the NATIONAL HARBOR CHAPTER of Jack and Jill, Inc. annual Debutante/Beau

Ball. The counselor will notify Stacy Olmstead (502-457-7020) if participant becomes ineligible.

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Counselor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.**  
**NATIONAL HARBOR CHAPTER**  
**DEBUTANTE/BEAU PARENTAL AGREEMENT**

**I/We agree** that my/our son /daughter is being presented as a Debutante/Beau in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cotillion Ball presented by the National Harbor Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. I/We understand that she is to attend the training sessions outlined by the Cotillion Ball Committee unless she is out of town. **I/We** also understand that her escort will participate in that part of the training which is designated for him. **I/We also understand** that the escort **cannot be the Debutante/Beau's boyfriend/girlfriend**. **Three (3) missed practices by the Debutante/Beau may result in dismissal from participation in the ball. Any private make-up practices will be the financial responsibility of the Debutante/Beau and her parents.**

**I/We agree** that the expenses incurred by Jack and Jill above that which is budgeted, and which are incurred at the request of the parents of most of the Debutante/Beaus, will be shared equally by the parents of all the Debutante/Beaus.

**I/We further agree** to pay Jack and Jill of America, Inc. National Harbor a non-refundable application fee in the amount of **\$150.00**, \$150 due on or prior to **October 21, 2022** **I/We further agree** to sell business and/or patron ads for the Ball's souvenir journal for a total value of **\$1,500.00** minimum, and to sell **Debutante/Beau** Ball tickets (final number to be determined by December 2022). If less than the minimum required is turned in to Jack and Jill by **me/us**, the difference between the amount turned in and the minimum required shall be paid by **me/us** before participating in the Ball. **I/We understand** this is a legal, binding, and enforceable contract.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN**

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**DEBUTANTE/BEAU SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **NATIONAL HARBOR CHAPTER Jack and Jill of America, Inc.** Post-dated checks are not accepted. There will be a fee for all returned checks.



## **DEBUTANTE/BEAU BIOGRAPHICAL FORM**

*Please print clearly*

Full Name of Debutante/Beau \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/ Guardian Names \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_

College Choices \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Future Plans or Goals \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Organizations and Accomplishments \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite philosophical thought, quote or biblical verse (please try to list the chapter and verse number, that describes your outlook on life and your future)?

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What will this Debutante/Beau experience mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_

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What advice would you give to your fellow Debutante/Beaus? \_\_\_\_\_

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To whom would you dedicate this Debutante/Beau Ball? \_\_\_\_\_

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Escort's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Escort's High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Presented by: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation Form School Counselor or Administrator

Non-Relative Community Contact APPLICANT'S NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant? at least 6 mos. 1-3 yrs. 3-5 yrs. 5-10 yrs. 10 yrs. or more

In what capacity have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

What words come to mind when you think of the applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the number which best applies to each area: (Ratings: 1-Outstanding 2-Above Average 3-Average 4-Below Average)

1. Contribution(s) outside of the Home 1 2 3 4

2. Character and Integrity 1 2 3 4

3. Relationship with Peers 1 2 3 4

4. Academic Motivation 1 2 3 4

5. Positive Attitude 1 2 3 4

6. Collective Work & Responsibility 1 2 3 4

Please give a brief statement about the applicant's personality, leadership qualities, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reference's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Reference's Printed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code and Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If additional space is needed please attach pages as necessary. Please place this form (and additional pages if necessary) in a sealed envelope and return the envelope to the applicant to be mailed with their application.

Photo & Publicity Release Form Use this form for individuals under the age of 18 years.

NOTE: This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian for every child. We must have this form signed before your child can either attend, be transported, or participate in Jack and Jill activities.

I \_\_\_\_\_ the undersigned parent or legal guardian, give Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated the absolute right and permission to use my child's photograph in its promotional materials and publicity efforts. I understand that the photographs may be used in a publication, print ad, direct-mail piece, electronic media (e.g. video, CD-ROM, Website, Scrapbook), or other form of promotion. I release Jack and Jill, the photographer, their offices, employees, agents, and designees from liability for any violation of any personal or proprietary right I may have in connection with such use. I hereby consent that such information, photographs, videos, and the plates and/or tapes from which they are made shall be their property, and they shall have the right to duplicate, reproduce and make other uses of such information, photographs, videos, recordings, and plates as they may desire free and clear of any claim whatsoever on my part.

Child's Full Name

Birth Date:

Child's Signature                      Date:

Parent/Guardian Name      Parent/Guardian Signature                      Date:

Non-Minor Participant Name

Non-Minor Participant Signature      Date:

## Tentative Timeline

October 21,2022 NHC should have the total number of Participants. Once NHC has determined the total number of participants full planning.

-ZOOM INTRODUCTION Date: Oct 30,2022

-Attend Orientation. Date: Nov 13,2022 (2hrs)

1 ice breaker 1 module

Introduction to community service

-Community Service (Drop Off) Nov 22,2022

-December 11,2022 1st rehearsal

2<sup>nd</sup> module, Holiday exchange,

-Jan 15 ,2<sup>nd</sup> rehearsal 2023

module

Feb 19, 3<sup>rd</sup> rehearsal 2023

module

Mar 12, 4<sup>th</sup> rehearsal 2023

Apr 16, 5<sup>th</sup> rehearsal 2023

**COTILLION DATE**

**April 29,2023**

The Cotillion also a fundraiser that supports the Jack and Jill Foundation, and other local charities.

We hope you will join us year.