

Queen Sarah Clifton Yandell

Her Majesty, Queen Sarah Clifton Yandell, was truly born into Carnival royalty. Queen Sarah Clifton's family has a storied history of Carnival involvement, with her father, William McBride Yandell III, serving as king in 2010 and President in 2014. Her mother, Jennifer, served as a Princess for the Rose Society in 1980. Her brothers William and Philip have both served in the Loyal Order of Scarabs. Sarah Clifton was a Royal Page during her father's reign in 2010 and was King Jim Taylor's Princess in 2018. Queen Sarah Clifton is proud and honored to have the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of her father as she is this year's Carnival Queen.

Sarah Clifton began to ride horses when she was seven. She began her show career at the age of ten, starting with small schooling shows and moving up quickly to The Germantown Charity Horse Show. She excelled in rated horse shows, including many national and international invitation only competitions. At age 15, she moved her focus from "Hunter" and "Equitation" divisions to the exhilarating "Jumper" Division, quickly rising to compete in Junior Grande Prix's. While traveling on the show circuit, Sarah Clifton was enrolled at, Palm Beach International Academy, where she excelled in classes from Indiana University and graduated in 2017.

Sarah Clifton is graduating with honors this spring receiving Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in both ITGM Interactive Design and Game Development, and Immersive Reality (ARVR) from Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia.

While at SCAD, Sarah Clifton has focused on her studies. She currently serves as Vice President of Social Media for the Immersive Reality Club and volunteers to help new students and their families learn more about the Immersive Reality programs. During the past two summers Sarah Clifton has gained much hands-on experience as an Immersive Environment Artist interning at Fifth Dimension Architecture and Interiors, LLC, in Birmingham, Alabama, where she learned about real world applications for immersive reality. In the spring of 2021 Sarah Clifton also participated in a SCADpro Sponsored Course given by Deloitte. In her free time Sarah Clifton has spent time exploring her artistic side, volunteering at the school and riding on the SCAD Equestrian Team.

Queen Sarah Clifton had this to say: "I am so very honored to be a part of such a unique and integral group of people who are a special part of our community, and



The Yandell Family

Standing left to right: Sarah and William Yandell, Philip and Katie Yandell. Seated left to right: William V, Will, Sarah Clifton, and Jennifer

who are devoted to making a difference in the lives of so many children in the Mid-South and surrounding areas. As our world goes through many changes both locally and globally, we are reminded that children embody the innocence of life, and their challenges and needs should be a focus for those of us who can contribute in ways that can make a difference. Every time I see their faces, I realize Carnival Memphis is doing incredible things and making a tangible difference in children's lives as well as those family members close to them. As Carnival Week draws near and we celebrate, "the party with a purpose" we will look back and forever remember the lives that have been touched through our time and contributions and we will be able to say that, "our lives have been blessed as well."