

Dear Parents and Ladies of the Class of Two Thousand Twenty Six,

The Houston Girls Cotillion was established in the late 1960's making it the first modern Cotillion in Houston for high school young ladies. It enjoys a long history of providing a formal dinner and dance for sophomore and junior girls attending both private and public schools in Houston. Often times, Cotillion events are the student's first experience in a formal dance setting. Since 2005, the H.G.C. moved from selective membership to limiting membership to only young ladies attending Duchesne Academy, Houston Christian, Lamar High School, Second Baptist School, St. Agnes Academy, St. Francis Episcopal and Memorial High School during their sophomore and junior years.

Each year, membership is offered to two different Cotillion classes for those young ladies attending the network of schools; one for sophomore and a second for juniors wishing to rejoin or join for the first time. It continues as a formal dance hosted by The Houston Girls Cotillion Board.

We would like to invite your sophomore daughter to join the 56th Houston Girls Cotillion ("HGC"), class of 2026.

Houston Girls Cotillion is an independent social club with no school affiliation. Eligibility of membership is defined by the schools attended but has no affiliation with a school or school district. This Social Club is completely independent and is governed by a Cotillion Board made up of mothers volunteering their time and talents.

The date of registration is Wednesday, October 4, 2023. Please make note of all the details surrounding registration:

- The registration information and related forms are available on-line at Houston Girls Cotillion Website: www.HoustonGirlsCotillion.com. Please be sure to access the Class of 2026 tab on the website when registering.
- The Rules and Regulations of H.G.C. should be reviewed, retained and agreed upon prior to your completion of your Cotillion Class of 2026 Sophomore Registration form. Completion of this form and payment confirms you accept the Rules and Regulations in its entirety.
- The Cotillion dues for the sophomore year are \$375.00 for those who register by October 21, 2023.
- Late registration dues are \$400.00 beginning October 22, 2023.
- All registration will be closed November 12, 2023 or sooner if we reach capacity before this date.

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- There are no discounts after the dates listed above and there are NO REFUNDS ISSUED.
- Cancellation Policy is as follows: If the Cotillion Dinner and Dance does not take place (for any reason), the Board will take all dollars available in the account and divide it by the number of members. Every member will receive a refund of any dollars remaining. We are a volunteer organization and the membership funds are used to place deposits on all items related to the night of the event. To the extent deposits are returned from vendors, we will do our very best to return as much as possible to each member of Cotillion. Refunds will be issued only if the Cotillion Dinner and Dance is cancelled. Refunds will not be in full. Refunds will equal only the amount of available funds.

The completed Registration Form along with payment should be completed on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 to ensure your daughter's membership. Traditionally, The Cotillion has had a waiting list, so please register early. We will have to cut off registration, once we reach our capacity. The Cotillion membership is accepted on a first come, first reserve basis. The date of your registration will be numbered in the order payment is received.

The Sophomore Cotillion will be held Sunday, the 14th of January 2024. This is a FORMAL event. Young ladies are expected to wear long gowns and young gentlemen are to wear tuxedo attire.

How to Register?

- Go to HoustonGirlsCotillion.com click on the tab for the Class of 2026. This will open on Wednesday, October 4, 2023.
- Complete the online Registration Form and submit it electronically. You can also print the completed form for your records before submitting online. All forms must be submitted online.
- There are 3 acceptable forms of payment: (1) electronically via Zelle (preferred), (2) check or (3) cash delivered to one of the following drop-off locations listed below. The completed Registration Form and payment must be received on Wednesday, October 4, 2023. This is the only day we can guarantee membership.
  - o For payment sent by Zelle, please submit to houstoncotillion2026treasurer@gmail.com and in the optional Memo line, include your daughter's first and last name.
  - For check payments, please make check out to Houston Girls Cotillion Class of 2026 and include your daughter's name in the memo line of the check.
  - o For cash payments, please put in an envelope labeled with daughter's full name and school.
- If you do not have Zelle, you are welcome to drop off payment at the closest location to you. It does not have to be your school location.
  - o Drop-off location Memorial HS: Green Home, 219 Plantation Rd. 77024
  - o Drop-off location Houston Christian: Wolf Home, 38 Williamsburg Ln. 77024
  - o Drop-off location St. Francis: Gomar Home, 5810 Creekbend Dr. 77096
  - o Drop-off location Second Baptist: Crosby Home, 5100 Huisache St. 77401
  - o Drop-off location Duchesne: Doyle Home, 69 Saddlebrook Ln. 77024
  - o Drop-off location Lamar: Etheridge Home, 3401 Georgetown St. 77005
  - o Drop-off location St. Agnes: Barrett Home, 10011 Green Tree Rd. 77042
- Registration Forms and payments completed *after* October 4, 2023 should be mailed to Stephanie Green, 219 Plantation Rd. 77024. Please email HoustonCotillion2026@gmail.com to let us know to look for your postmarked envelope. Membership will be granted by postmark date until we reach capacity. After capacity, we will start a wait list and notify people as membership becomes available.

**What Comes Next?** Members will receive an email confirming membership once the Registration Form and payment is received. You will receive additional information throughout the process by email correspondence.

Thank you for your interest and participation in Houston Girls Cotillion Class of 2026. We look forward to seeing your daughter at the Sophomore Cotillion in January.

Class of 2026

Sincerely, The Fifty-Sixth Cotillion Board, Class of Two Thousand Twenty Six



