

Mary Louise Carrick



Her Majesty, Queen Mary Louise Carrick, was truly born into Carnival royalty. Her father, B. Lane Carrick, has been deeply involved with Carnival Memphis since the 1980's. As President in 1991 and 1992 – the only two-term President in Carnival history – Lane has provided tremendous leadership to the Carnival organization. Today, Queen Mary Louise is proud and flattered to have the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of her father. She is honored and humbled to serve as the 2010 Queen of Carnival Memphis.

Queen Mary Louise is the daughter of Lane and Mary Louise (Lou) Carrick. She served in the 2008 Royal Court as the President's Princess to Rush O'Keefe. During the 2008 Carnival she gained a great understanding and appreciation of the good deeds of Carnival, including the daily visits by Carnival royalty to local charities, hospitals and nursing homes. Upon reflection Mary Louise cherishes those experiences most: "I'm so excited to have been given this amazing opportunity to be queen of Carnival Memphis

2010. I'm especially thrilled to be a part of an organization that is so dedicated to giving back to the community. I had a great time at our Krewes for Kids fundraiser and I look forward to working more with our wonderful children's charities, including the Memphis Child Advocacy Center, Le Bonheur, and Knowledge Quest. In addition, I can't wait to spend more time with children from local schools on the Carnival Week day runs – where the Boll Weevils never fail to put a smile on every child's face."

Even as a youngster she was destined to become a part of Carnival Royalty. Our 2010 Queen started her Carnival Memphis participation at an early age. In 1999 she served the realm as a Royal Page for King David Sullivan. Her sister Emmaline was a Page in 2001 and 2003 and her brother Lane, Jr. was a Page in 2003 and 2005.

Queen Mary Louise is a rising senior at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana majoring in Art History. Mary Louise is a Dean's List student who spent the 2009 fall semester in the study abroad program in Rome, Italy. Her love of Italian Renaissance art and architecture made Rome the perfect spot to pursue her studies. During fall break from her studies in Rome, she traveled to London and Liverpool, England and to Paris, France to visit classmates. On the weekends she would typically jump the train for visits to Florence, Venice, or the Amalfi Coast of Italy. Queen Mary Louise is very grateful for her semester abroad, a true life experience that she will forever cherish.

Our Queen is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority at Tulane University. She graduated, with honors, from St. Mary's Episcopal School where she received the Madge Clark Art Award her senior year. She was active in the St. Mary's theatre department and enjoyed performing in several productions.

Queen Mary Louise has spent much of her time giving back to the community, particularly through work with at-risk children. She volunteered at Streets Ministries last summer and she served as a tutor to inner-city public-school students while at St. Mary's. Mary Louise has also interned at the Baptist Women's Hospital. Our Queen is an expert snow boarder and a scuba diver. She is also a talented artist – her specialty is pencil drawings. She's a big Memphis Tiger's basketball fan and even roots for the Tigers against Tulane. Queen Mary Louise loves to travel and is a big-city girl. Her favorite travel spot is New York, where the family vacations each summer. Following the Carnival Week festivities this year, Queen Mary Louise will have an internship at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens where she will be assisting the Executive Director to research and organize a new exhibit.

Queen Mary Louise is indeed a beauty, both inside and outside. Her enthusiasm for Carnival and all that it represents is infectious, and her kindness and humility is endearing. Carnival Memphis is indeed fortunate to have Queen Mary Louise reign as we celebrate seventy-nine years of the Party with a Purpose!