



CONTESTANT HANDBOOK

Dear Contestant,

Welcome to the exciting world of USofA Pageants LLC, the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant and the Miss Gay USofA Pageant. To those of you who have competed in a USofA National Pageant in previous years, welcome back! For those joining us for their first USofA National Pageant, welcome to the USofA Family.

This year's pageants will be part of the most exciting week in pageantry ever. The week will begin with the 2020 Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant, followed by the 2020 Miss Gay USofA Pageant.

The Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant will be held on Sunday and Monday, May 17th & 18th, 2020 in the Rose Room located inside Station 4 (S4) in Dallas, TX. Preliminary nights for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant will be Tuesday through Thursday, May 19th-21st, 2020 in the Rose Room located inside Station 4 (S4) located at 3511 Cedar Springs Road, Dallas, TX. We are excited that this year's Final Night, Friday May 22nd, 2020, will again be held at the South Side Ballroom located at 1135 South Lamar, just south of downtown Dallas.

If you have any questions that you don't find answered here please e-mail your questions to office@usofa.org or call 832-425-1240.

Good Luck, Be Safe and Have Fun!

USofA Pageants LLC Staff

www.usofa.org



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RULES & REGULATIONS

1. For Miss Gay USofA, contestants must be born male, at least 21 years of age and able to show proof of age. For Miss Gay USofA Classic, contestants must be born male, 40 years of age and be able to show proof of age. If you do not have a Government issued ID you will not be allowed to enter.
2. Judging for preliminary nights will be on a total point's accumulated system. Final night will be scored using the standard USofA comparative scoring system. Any ties will be broken by the contestant with the highest talent score.
3. Contestants will be judged in the following categories: Personal Interview, Fashion (Evening Gown), & Talent.
4. Talent presentation will be limited to seven (7) minutes. Prop setup and knock down time will be limited to five (5) minutes total. Talent presentation will be timed at rehearsals.
5. Presentations over seven (7) minutes will have administrative points deducted.
6. Any type of talent presentation is acceptable, except those which may cause injury to the audience or any other person. No glitter, fire of any kind, water or liquids (including paint), or confetti (including confetti cannons) may be used in any talent presentation. No live animals or reptiles may be used in a talent presentation. Talent presentations that contain racial slurs or excessively vulgar, obscene, or insulting language should be avoided. The judges will consider the contents of talent presentations when scoring them. Submission of Media for Talent may be through CD-R or USB Flash Drive. Approved USB media formats are MP3, MP4, MOV. See Talent category description for video dimensions and submission instructions.
7. The use of, or dispensing of illegal drugs or marijuana will not be tolerated while a contestant is participating in the Miss Gay USofA Classic or Miss Gay USofA Pageants. Immediate disqualification will result for those that break this rule.
8. Any contestant that is not in the appointed place at the appointed time may lose administrative points.
9. Any contestant, contestant's dancer(s), helper(s), etc. who is caught in the act of stealing or tampering with another person's possessions will be immediately disqualified and removed from the location of the pageant.
10. The Official Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA Pageants does not discriminate against entertainers with silicone and/or hormones. The use of silicone and/or hormones will not be considered by any judge in the scoring of contestants. Nudity and pasties will not be allowed by anyone (contestant, dancers, former titleholder, entertainment, etc.) in any portion of any preliminary or final night competition.
11. USofA Pageants LLC reserves the right to make any decision concerning any matter not covered by these rules and regulations.
12. Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA will be required to sign a contract with USofA Pageants before any prize money is paid. Failure to sign the contract will mean forfeiture of the title. The contract is enclosed. Please review it so that you are familiar with it.
13. Any contestant in the top 5 not staying on stage for the entire crowning and picture taking will forfeit their placement and prize money.
14. Within 7 days of winning the contest, Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA must have and maintain an e-mail address and cell phone for the entire length of their reign.
15. Any contestant, who has qualified to attend any USofA National Pageant and fails to attend, may not compete in any USofA Pageants LLC preliminary until they have paid back all prizes, a \$250 fine to the National Promoter and waited at least one year.



HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The **MCM Elegante Hotel & Suites** will be the host hotel for the 2018 Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA Pageants. The hotel is located at 2330 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75220.

ALL contestants, for the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant, held on Sunday and Monday, May 17th & 18th and for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant, held on Tuesday through Friday, May 19th thru the 22nd are required to secure accommodations at the host hotel. **ANY EXCEPTIONS FOR LOCAL CONTESTANTS MUST BE CLEARED THROUGH THE NATIONAL OFFICE BEFORE THE PAGEANT BEGINS.**

The host hotel is located within walking distance of Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART bus, rail and public transportation), fast food, restaurant row, convenience stores, liquor stores, and drug stores. There is also a complimentary hotel shuttle available for transportation from Love Field Airport and DFW International Airport as well as any locations within a five (5) mile radius of the hotel. It is approximately ten (10) miles from the South Side Ballroom and approximately eight (8) miles from the Rose Room. The hotel features a free breakfast, an outdoor pool, complimentary business center and fitness center, a restaurant and a bar/lounge. Each room features cable TV, coffee/tea makers, refrigerator, microwave, and irons/ironing boards as well as complimentary High-Speed Internet. The hotel also offers free parking on their large parking lot.

Address:

MCM Elegante Hotel & Suites
2330 W. Northwest Hwy.
Dallas, TX 75220

214-358-7854 (direct line)

To make your reservations PLEASE visit

www.usofa.org/hotel



Reservations can be made online where you will have a choice of regular king, double rooms, Cabana suites which face the pool, or a Concierge (card access only) Floor. All rooms must be guaranteed on a credit card or prepaid. The rate for Standard King room is \$92.00 per room per night plus tax, the Standard Double rooms are \$92 per room per night plus tax, the Cabana Suites are \$122.00 per Suite per night plus tax and the Concierge Floor rooms are \$112 per room per night plus tax. There is a limited number of Cabana Suites and Concierge Floor rooms available. Reservations must be made by May 3, 2020. If you call the hotel directly you must identify yourself as a member of the Miss Gay USofA group to receive the discounted rate. If you do not have reservations at the host hotel, you will lose administrative points.

All Reservations must be guaranteed on a major Credit Card.



ADMISSION/TICKET INFO

Contestants do not have to pay for admission to the Rose Room on any night of competition. All dressing room assistants, dressers, dancers, prop personnel, managers, lovers, etc. must pay admission to all events. Station 4 (S4) and the Rose Room is an 18 and over club. All persons entering the venue must have a valid Government or State issued ID including minors. **PHOTOGRAPHS/SCREENSHOTS OF TEMPORARY/OFFICIAL IDS OR DIGITAL IMAGES OF REPLACEMENT IDS OR PENDING DOCUMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS AND ENTRY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.**

- Miss Gay USofA Classic competition is \$15.00 per person each night at the door. Seating will be available each night on a first come first served basis for the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant.
- Preliminary competition for Miss Gay USofA is \$15.00 per person at the door Tuesday through Thursday. Seating will be available each preliminary night on a first come first served basis for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant preliminary nights.
- Final Night Competition tickets are \$50.00, \$55.00, \$65.00 or 75.00 per person and advance tickets are available for purchase online at www.usofa.org/tickets.

DISCOUNTED DANCER/DRESSER PASSES: To assist contestants with the overall expense of attendance each night, USofA offers dancer/dresser passes good for each night of competition. These passes are available to the contestant at an overall discounted rate.

Miss Gay USofA Classic: At the registration for Miss Gay USofA Classic, on Sunday, May 17th, there will be dancer passes available. These passes will be good for admission for both nights of Miss Gay USofA Classic competition and are priced at \$25 per person (\$30 value). **These discounted passes will only be sold at that registration.**

You must purchase one pass for your dresser/backstage assistant and for each dancer as indicated on your application.

Miss Gay USofA: At the registration for Miss Gay USofA on Tuesday, May 19th, there will be dancer passes available. These passes will be good for admission for all nights of competition for Miss Gay USofA and is priced at \$80 per person, which includes admission each preliminary night AND a reserved table seat on final night (\$95-130 value). **These discounted passes will only be sold at registration.**

You must purchase one pass for your dresser/backstage assistant and for each dancer as indicated on your application. Physical Tickets will be required for dancers to enter the final night venue at South Side Ballroom.

We will accept cash or credit cards for these passes at the Contestant Registration for each pageant. You may not increase the number of passes during the week.

If you lose any of your passes during the week, there will be a \$5.00 charge to replace each lost pass.

VENUES



Miss Gay USofA Classic & Preliminary Nights of Miss Gay USofA will be held in the Rose Room inside Station 4 (S4) at 3911 Cedar Springs Rd, Dallas TX 75219. **Station 4 (S4) is an 18 and over club with valid ID.**

Final Night of Miss Gay USofA will be held at South Side Ballroom at 1135 South Lamar, Dallas TX 75215. **The South Side Ballroom is an all age venue.**





PRIZE PACKAGE

Cash Prizes - Miss Gay USofA Classic

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 2 nd Runner Up | \$250.00 |
| 1 st Runner Up | \$500.00 |
| Winner | \$1500.00* |

**Miss Gay USofA Classic will receive ½ upon winning the crown and the balance of the prize money after having completed the obligations of the reign, which include being present and performing all of the nights of the 2021 Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant.*

Cash Prizes - Miss Gay USofA

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Miss Congeniality | \$125.00 |
| 4 th Runner Up | \$125.00 |
| 3 rd Runner Up | \$250.00 |
| 2 nd Runner Up | \$500.00 |
| 1 st Runner Up | \$100.00 |
| Winner | \$4000.00* |

**Miss Gay USofA will receive ½ upon winning the crown and the balance of the prize money after having completed the obligations of the reign, which include being present and performing all of the nights of the 2021 Miss Gay USofA Pageant.*

Fierce Drag Jewels, the official jeweler for Miss Gay USofA and Miss Gay USofA Classic has designed a new addition to the USofA crown jewels and regalia. The custom made, Swarovski Crystal Scepter designed to match the USofA Crown and marked with the year of each Miss Gay USofA's reign. In addition, the promoter who produces the winning Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA will receive a custom brooch matching the Miss Gay USofA Scepter and engraved with "Awarded to (the promoter's name) who produced Miss Gay USofA Classic/Miss Gay USofA.

In addition to the prize package listed above, these additional prizes are offered to our new Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA.

Kevin and Eric Reed-Pollard are sponsoring \$2500 worth of jewelry

Les Steele is sponsoring \$1500 worth of jewelry

JT Originals is sponsoring \$600 worth of Fox Flings

2 styled wigs from The Hair Witch – a \$500 value

\$200 in product from Esther Styles Cosmetics

One pound of Ostrich Feathers from Swalef & Sons Feather Company

A \$250 gift certificate from Coco Vega Original Gowns

2 custom styled wigs from Q of Atlanta's Diva Asylum – a \$500 value

A \$500 Gift Certificate from Trinkets and Trimmings

100 Gross of Preciosa 20ss Crystal or AB stones Fierce Jewels – a \$600 value

A one week all expense vacation in Punta Cana Republica Dominicana courtesy of Michael "Dolly"

Wilson and Ron Sanford – a \$5000 value

Large make-up kits from MAC Cosmetics



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- We ask that every contestant take to heart the following. We all gather once a year to select a new Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA. The staff and I want your week to be a pleasant experience but I would like to state that damage to the Host Bar, Host Hotel or Final Night Venue will not be tolerated. I want everyone to understand that I will help these venues prosecute any person or persons causing any damage. Let's have a good, safe time!
- With courtesy and respect to our venues in mind, it is **very important** to remember to bring plenty of towels from home to remove your make-up. Any contestant that uses the hotel towels to remove make-up will be fined \$10.00 **per towel** and **will lose** administrative points **per towel**, so please bring your own.
- Remember to print this handbook out and bring it with you to the National Pageant. It has all of the information that you will need.
- Each contestant is responsible for ensuring that each person in his party has proper identification. **Everyone must have a valid state issued ID for entrance into the Host Bar.** No exceptions. Please do ask for special consideration as each bar owner is responsible to the state liquor board to follow the law, which includes each person having the proper identification. **Everyone will be required to be wrist banded at the door.** Judges will take into consideration the fact that persons on stage will be wearing wristbands when judged.
- Always be mindful of your surroundings when entering and leaving any one of the host properties. Your safety is our concern so please travel in groups, be alert, and avoid remote areas when possible.
- **MODESTY POLICY for S4-Rose Room:** The Preliminary Night Venue is located in an area that requires costuming on stage to follow certain modesty guidelines. Any participant on stage should wear tights or multiple pairs of stockings under costumes that are swimsuit cut as well as other acceptable undergarments for tops that have extreme plunging necklines or open sides. The upper or lower buttocks, the side or under part of the breast, nor the areola should be exposed.



PRESENTATION OF CONTESTANTS

Miss Gay USofA Classic

Theme: "Latin Fiesta" – Stacey Holliday has listed opening presentation information for contestants and former titleholders at <https://www.missusofaclassic2019.com>.

Miss Gay USofA

Theme: "A Red Carpet Affair" – Contestants should wear a glamorous red carpet fashion in a style that exemplifies their own aesthetic in either red or black, or a combination of the two colors. Classic glamour or Haute Couture/High Fashion is acceptable. Please be as elaborate as you want while being mindful of the contestants standing near you. If you have any questions please contact Kennedy on Facebook, or at kennedydavenport@usofa.org.



CATEGORY INFORMATION

PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Each contestant will be interviewed individually by the judging panel. The purpose of the Personal Interview in the USofA system is to allow the judges some insight into the character of each contestant. During the interview, the judges are also afforded the opportunity to evaluate each contestant's basic qualities, such as intelligence, ability to communicate, attitude, composure, etc. The judges may also gather information about a contestant's professional or personal life.

The basic nature of the interview is intended to be casual and relaxed. The suggested attire for the interview is casual daywear, male or female can range from casual daywear to professional corporate attire. Your interview will be held at the host hotel. The actual room will be announced during registration.

FASHION / EVENING GOWN

Evening gowns may be of any color or style. They must, however, be full length. The gown must fit well, the contestant must model it elegantly, and all of the elements (hair, make-up, accessories, shoes, and gown) must come together for an overall look that makes the contestant look his very best.

The Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA Fashion/Evening Gown competition has traditionally rewarded contestants who bring a unique combination of evening gown, hair, make-up, accessories, modeling, and poise to the stage. This has not changed. The USofA System has often rewarded gowns that include lots of rhinestones, beading, etc., as well as hair and accessories that may be described as "high drag". These are still appropriate for Fashion/Evening Gown competition in the Miss Gay USofA Classic or the Miss Gay USofA Pageants. While couture gowns are also appropriate for the USofA Fashion/Evening Gown category, this is not creative eveningwear competition, and gowns that are costumes should be avoided.

We also discourage gowns that are so heavily embellished that the contestant cannot model them elegantly. Also, judges are asked to educate themselves about current fashion, and contestants should be aware that a gown, though beautiful, may be outdated and therefore not score as well as it might otherwise.

Further, a gown with few or even no embellishments (stones, etc.) can score just as well as a fully embellished gown if the overall look (make-up, hair, accessories, shoes, poise, fit, and modeling) makes the contestant look his very best.

When you arrive at the club for Fashion/Evening Gown competition, you should be painted and ready to get dressed. Time is very limited for Fashion on preliminary competition night.

Evening Gown Description Card

Each contestant will be required to submit an evening gown description card provided to you the night you have this category which will look like the image to the right. These sheets, which are to be filled out by the contestant, must only include the information that is asked. **No other information** may be placed on this card. We do not read sheets or information for any other category. New sheets will be used for Final Night Competition regardless if you are changing gowns or not.

Miss Gay USofA



| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Contestant # | _____ |
| Contestant Name | _____ |
| Designer of Gown | _____ |
| Make Up Artist | _____ |
| Hair Stylist | _____ |
| Designer of Accessories | _____ |
| Sponsors | _____ |
| | _____ |
| | _____ |

TALENT

Talent may be any type of entertainment presentation as long as it does not create any danger or injury to either the contestant or anyone else. No animals or reptiles may be used in your talent presentation. You may not use fire of any kind, water, liquids including paint or glitter in your talent presentation. **Talent presentations that contain racial slurs or excessively vulgar, obscene or insulting language should be avoided. The judges will consider the contents of talent presentations when scoring them.** Talent presentation is limited to seven (7) minutes in length. Prop setup and tear down time is limited to five (5) minutes total. There is no restriction on the number of people who may be involved in the presentation. Due to problems in the past, at the registration meeting, dancer passes must be purchased for all dancers in the talent presentation.

Talent Rehearsal

Each contestant MUST attend rehearsal for their group. Talent media (music or video) for both Preliminary and Final Nights of competition, along with a crowning number, will be turned in at Talent Rehearsal. You will not receive your CD-R or USB Flash Drive back until after crowning on Final Night. It is during this Talent Rehearsal that we have allowed a limited time in the schedule for each contestant to take the stage, block dancers and props, have mic checks for live vocals, and coordinate any staging cues during the sound check of their talent media. The talent media for each contestant will be played through fully in contestant order. Be sure you are well organized as this time on stage is limited to the length of your media allowing just a few minutes before and after to get set up and remove any props. While each contestant is required to attend the rehearsal, it is not required for a contestant to take the stage.

Submitting Talent and Crowning Media – Music or Video

Media for talent crowning is to be submitted at TALENT REHEARSAL on a USB Flash Drive or CD-R (no DVD for Video) using the following appropriate naming conventions:

- Contestant Name Prelim Talent
- Contestant Name Final Talent
- Contestant Name Talent (*if same for both nights*)
- Contestant Name Crowning

Media File Formats – The type of file submitted will depend on the following scenarios:

Contestants Using the Video Screen:

A single file for the production is to be saved as .MP4 or .MOV format onto a USB Flash Drive. These are the only two formats which can be converted to the parameters necessary to play on the Rose Room screen. A separate audio file or CD-R **should not** be submitted as the audio will play from the video file.

Contestants Using Audio Only (two options):

A single file for the music is to be saved as .MP3 format onto a USB Flash Drive. Other formats may not play at optimal quality or at all.

-OR-

A CD-R with talent burned as Track 1 may be submitted. Your name should be clearly marked the CD-R. If you are changing talent music on final night, submit a separate CD-R with your Final Night talent music as Track 1 and your crowning music as Track 2.

No cassettes, cell phones, commercial CD's, CD-RW, or CD-R's with multiple tracks (beyond talent and crowning) will be accepted. Contestants are advised to make a backup copy of their talent music or video and bring it to the pageant as a safety precaution.

Final Night of Miss Gay USofA – Director of Productions

USofA Pageants LLC will again utilize the amazing talents of Ron Sanford for the direction of special lighting, video, special effects, handling any special final night rehearsal requests (before scheduled final night rehearsal), video production, unique props or any special requests you might have. If you choose to utilize the video for your final night production, the cost will be \$150 per contestant. If you need any of the above or have any questions or special requests for the final night venue (South Side Ballroom) for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant, please contact Ron Sanford at office@ronsanfordproductions.com or call Ron Sanford Productions at 615-800-2425.

Dancer/Props

Back-up dancers will share the dressing area with contestants and will be allowed entry 2 numbers prior to yours. You should be prepared at the contestant meeting to confirm with the stage manager the exact number of back-up dancers and prop personnel you will require.

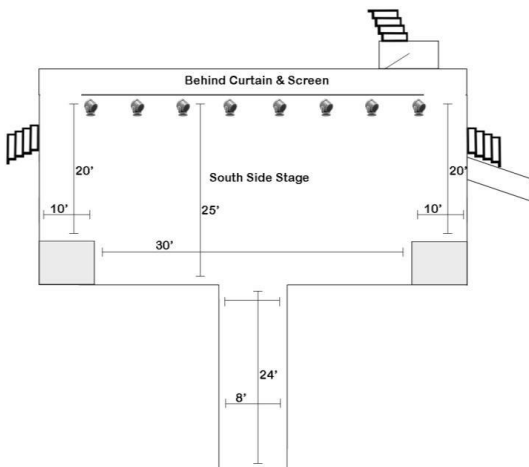
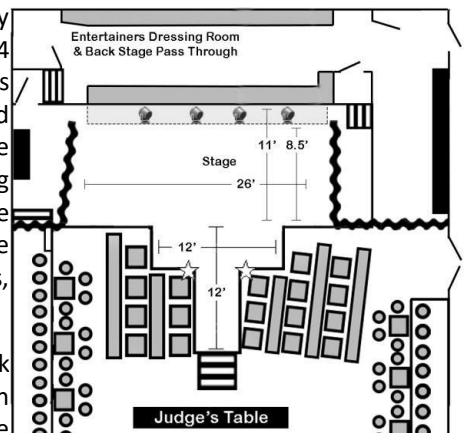
If you will be using any props for your talent presentation, you must bring those props to the venue at your assigned rehearsal time. There will be a space designated for prop storage during the day. You may not bring any props in at any other time and you must remove all props from the club at the end of each night following your talent competition.

If you believe that you have made Top Twelve, you must bring your props to the final night venue during the final night rehearsal. This will be the **ONLY** time props will be allowed to be loaded into the final night venue. You will be given time to briefly block the stage (without music) for your final night talent on the stage following the presentation rehearsal.

Stage Dimensions

All competition for the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant and all preliminary competition for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant will be held in the Rose Room at S4 (right). The competition area is 11' deep (8.5' accounting for stationary motion lights along back) and 26' wide. The ceiling height is 12' high. The catwalk is 12' long and 4' wide at the end. At the base, the catwalk is 12' wide. The fans are built into the stage and marked in the diagram with stars. Any props used must be free standing and may not damage the wood floor. There are stationary motion lights on the stage along the back wall. Account for 2.5' clearance when staging as these lights and the LED screen should not be touched. When making costume changes or setting props, keep clear of the lights as they are very hot.

For ALL rehearsals at the Rose Room inside Station 4 (S4) you **MUST** use the back entrance (back parking lot) as the front doors will not be open until later each evening. After entering the back door (patio) go up the stairs and in the side entrance to the Rose Room (glass doors).



Final night competition for Miss Gay USofA will be held at the South Side Ballroom (left). The South Side stage dimensions are 30' wide and 25' deep with a 24' by 8' runway. Wings on either side of stage are 20' deep and 10' wide. The proscenium opening is 30' wide and 20' high. The stage is part low-gloss wood deck finish and concrete. The lighting truss is 20' off of the stage floor and the stage is 4'6" above the floor. All props must enter side stage and must be free standing. Any electrical needs must be discussed with the stage manager during the Friday rehearsal. Remember that USofA Pageants does not provide contestants with backstage staff for prop set-up and tear down, although we will assist with your props as much as possible. The backstage staff will not, under any circumstance, be responsible for any damage to props while helping a contestant.



SCORING SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY NIGHTS

Scoring for preliminary night's competition for the Miss Gay USofA Classic and the Miss Gay USofA Pageant will be done on a **cumulative** scoring system. Each judge will give each contestant a score based on his performance in the category without regard to the other contestants. With this scoring system, more than one contestant may be given the same score. Scores are assigned as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Personal Interview | 1 – 12 points |
| Fashion/Evening Gown | 1 – 12 points |
| Talent | 2 – 24 points |
| Maximum Possible Points per Judge | 48 points |
| | <u>X 5 judges</u> (high & low scores of the |
| 7 judges will be dropped) | |
| Total Possible Points per Contestant | 240 points |

There will be seven Judges all week long. The Twelve Contestants with the highest scores will become the finalists. This scoring system will select finalists without regard to groups. It is possible that a group would have more than 2 finalists or even have no finalists.

FINAL NIGHT

The twelve (12) contestants with the highest cumulative scores from preliminary competition will be judged **comparatively** for Talent and Fashion/Evening Gown on final night. Each judge will be tasked to rank the contestants from 1 to 12. A point value will then be assigned to the ranking. The Personal Interview scores will carry over from preliminary competition. for their final night scores as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Personal Interview | 1 – 12 points (from prelim scores) |
| Fashion/Evening Gown | 1 – 12 points |
| Talent | 2 – 24 points |
| Maximum Possible Points per Judge | 48 points |
| | <u>X 5 judges</u> (high & low scores of the 7 |
| judges will be dropped) | |
| Total Possible Points per Contestant | 240 points |

The preliminary score sheets, judges comment sheets and talent music will be available to contestants following the crowning of each respective pageant. The finalists will receive their judges comment sheets and a copy of the master score sheet when leaving the stage at crowning. The top 5 will receive their prize money from a predetermined location announced at registration.



USofA Pageants Contestant Comment Sheet

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| Interview | Avg | Above Avg | Outstanding |
| Below Avg 1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9 | 10 11 12 |
| Fashion | Avg | Above Avg | Outstanding |
| Below Avg 1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9 | 10 11 12 |
| Talent | Avg | Above Avg | Outstanding |
| Below Avg 2 4 6 | 8 10 12 | 14 16 18 | 20 22 24 |

You must circle the score immediately after seeing each contestant individually

Judges Signature _____



USofA Pageants LLC

Talent

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1st Place | 24 Points |
| 2nd Place | 22 Points |
| 3rd Place | 20 Points |
| 4th Place | 18 Points |
| 5th Place | 16 Points |



USofA Pageants LLC

Fashion

| | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1st Place | 12 Points |
| 2nd Place | 11 Points |
| 3rd Place | 10 Points |
| 4th Place | 9 Points |
| 5th Place | 8 Points |
| 6th Place | 7 Points |
| 7th Place | 6 Points |
| 8th Place | 5 Points |
| 9th Place | 4 Points |
| 10th Place | 3 Points |
| 11th Place | 2 Points |
| 12th Place | 1 Point |

Judges Signature _____



REGISTRATION & REHEARSALS

Because of the logistics associated with organizing a national pageant of this size, all contestants are expected to arrive for all meetings and rehearsals approximately ten (10) minutes before the scheduled time. Contestants who arrive for a meeting or rehearsal after the scheduled time will be penalized administrative points.

Registration for both Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA will be held at the host hotel in the main ballroom. Upon arriving, you will need to present your valid government ID for check-in. During the registration meeting, all contestants will draw a contestant number for preliminary competition, receive their contestant ID card, and purchase dancer passes and a backstage/dresser pass. If you have more than one assistant, only one may enter at a time and must use the same backstage/dressers pass for dressing room admission.



GROUPS & GROUP SCHEDULE

MISS GAY USofA CLASSIC

There are no groups for Miss Gay USofA Classic. At registration, each contestant will draw a contestant number and will compete in Fashion/Evening Gown and Talent on the first night of competition, Sunday night. Interview will take place during the day the following day on Monday and then that evening there will be a Top Twelve named at the beginning of the competition. The Top Twelve will compete in Talent and Fashion/Evening Gown again before a top 5 and a winner is named.

MISS GAY USofA

Contestants will be placed into 6 groups for all of the preliminary competition. At registration, each contestant will draw a contestant number. The total number of contestants will then be divided into 6 balanced groups. If you are not happy with

the group that you draw into, you will be given the opportunity to trade numbers with other contestants during the registration meeting. There will be no requests for group placement taken in advance.

| | INTERVIEW | TALENT | GOWN |
|------|-----------|--------|-------|
| TUE | 1 & 2 | 3 & 4 | 5 & 6 |
| WED | 3 & 4 | 5 & 6 | 1 & 2 |
| THUR | 5 & 6 | 1 & 2 | 3 & 4 |

With the USofA scoring system, you will not be competing for finals against the people in your group. You will be competing for the best overall scores in the pageant. The Top Twelve will be the 12 highest cumulative scoring contestants, regardless of the group in which they are placed.



SUBMITTING APPLICATION

All applications must be submitted electronically. Applications may be submitted from your PC, laptop, mobile device or tablet. To submit your application electronically online, please visit:

www.usofa.org/application

Once you have opened the online application page, **please choose the pageant for which you are submitting application.** It will either be Miss Gay USofA Classic or Miss Gay USofA – **PLEASE choose the correct option.** After you have selected the pageant, click submit and it will take you to the actual application. Please make sure you enter whether you are the winner or alternate. After you have filled out the application completely, hit submit again.

Applications must be submitted ON OR BEFORE May 5, 2020.

If you fail to submit your application online by the deadline you may lose administrative points.

You must bring your valid government or state issued ID with you to your Contestant Registration Check-In so a staff member can take a photograph of your ID and have you physically sign your submitted application.

If you have any question's please contact USofA Pageants LLC at office@usofa.org or by calling 832-425-1240.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MCM Elegante: 2330 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas TX 75220 **S4/Rose Room:** 3911 Cedar Springs Rd, Dallas TX 75219

SUNDAY – MAY 17, 2020 – MISS GAY USofA CLASSIC

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| 10:30 AM | Contestant Check-In (required) | MCM Elegante |
| 11:00 AM | Contestant Registration | MCM Elegante |
| 1:30 PM | Opening Production Rehearsal | S4/Rose Room |
| 2:00 PM | Talent Rehearsal | S4/Rose Room |
| 8:00 PM | Doors Open & Contestant Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 9:00 PM | Evening Gown Competition | S4/Rose Room |
| 10:00 PM | Talent Competition | S4/Rose Room |

MONDAY – MAY 18, 2020 – MISS GAY USofA CLASSIC – FINAL NIGHT

| | | |
|----------|--|--------------|
| 10:30 AM | Contestant Brunch (Contestants/Promoters only) | MCM Elegante |
| 12:30 PM | Interview | MCM Elegante |
| 8:00 PM | Doors Open & Contestant Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 9:00 PM | Final Night – Top Twelve | S4/Rose Room |

MCM Elegante: 2330 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas TX 75220 **S4/Rose Room:** 3911 Cedar Springs Rd, Dallas TX 75219

TUESDAY – MAY 19, 2020 – MISS GAY USofA

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 10:30 AM | Contestant Check-In (required) | MCM Elegante |
| 11:00 AM | Contestant Registration | MCM Elegante |
| 2:00 PM | Talent Rehearsal – Group 3 | S4/Rose Room |
| | Interview – Group 1 | MCM Elegante |
| 3:00 PM | Talent Rehearsal – Group 4 | S4/Rose Room |
| | Interview – Group 2 | MCM Elegante |
| 9:00 PM | Doors Open & Groups 5-6 Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 10:00 PM | Evening Gown Competition Groups 5-6 | S4/Rose Room |
| 10:45 PM | Groups 3-4 Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 11:00 PM | Talent Competition Groups 3-4 | S4/Rose Room |

WEDNESDAY – MAY 20, 2020 – MISS GAY USofA

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2:00 PM | Talent Rehearsal – Group 5 | S4/Rose Room |
| | Interview – Group 3 | MCM Elegante |
| 3:00 PM | Talent Rehearsal – Group 6 | S4/Rose Room |
| | Interview – Group 4 | MCM Elegante |
| 9:00 PM | Doors Open & Groups 1-2 Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 10:00 PM | Evening Gown Competition Groups 1-2 | S4/Rose Room |
| 10:45 PM | Groups 5-6 Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 11:00 PM | Talent Competition Groups 5-6 | S4/Rose Room |

THURSDAY – MAY 21, 2020 – MISS GAY USofA

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1:00 PM | Promoters Meeting | MCM Elegante |
| 2:00 PM | Talent Rehearsal – Group 1 | S4/Rose Room |
| | Interview – Group 5 | MCM Elegante |
| 3:00 PM | Talent Rehearsal – Group 2 | S4/Rose Room |
| | Interview – Group 6 | MCM Elegante |
| 9:00 PM | Doors Open & Groups 3-4 Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 10:00 PM | Evening Gown Competition Groups 3-4 | S4/Rose Room |
| 10:45 PM | Groups 1-2 Check-In | S4/Rose Room |
| 11:00 PM | Talent Competition Groups 1-2 | S4/Rose Room |

FRIDAY – MAY 22, 2020 – MISS GAY USofA – FINAL NIGHT

| | | |
|----------|---|---------------------|
| 11:00 AM | Contestant Brunch (Contestants/Promoters only) | MCM Elegante |
| 11:30 AM | Preliminary Awards (General Public may join) | MCM Elegante |
| 1:30 PM | Presentation Rehearsal for National Titleholders | South Side Ballroom |
| 2:00 PM | Presentation/Talent Rehearsal for all Contestants | South Side Ballroom |
| 6:00 PM | Doors Open & Contestant Check-In | South Side Ballroom |
| 7:00 PM | Final Night – Top Twelve | South Side Ballroom |

South Side Ballroom: 1135 South Lamar Street, Dallas TX 75215



OFFICIAL JEWELER

MISS GAY USofA CLASSIC & MISS GAY USofA PAGEANTS

Designers John Griffin & Jacob Lane

www.fiercedragjewels.com



PROGRAM ADVERTISING

Sheldon McMeekan will produce the Official Miss Gay USofA Classic & Miss Gay USofA Pageants Commemorative Program. This professional publication will be distributed each night of the 2020 Miss Gay USofA Classic & Miss Gay USofA Pageants, May 17 – 22, 2020 in Dallas, TX. Advertisements from contestants, promoters, entertainers and businesses who are interested in reaching a wide audience with their advertising will be incorporated within this program. It will feature a slick, glossy cover and 4 color processes.

Below, you will find an order form for program advertising. If you wish to advertise in the program, you must return the order form and Ad by May 1, 2020.

Completed Ads should be sized at 8 ¾" x 11 ¼" to allow for full bleed. Please contact Sheldon for a spec sheet for proper page setup to ensure your ad stays intact after cropping occurs.

Camera-ready artwork is preferred but layout and typesetting services are available at a nominal charge. Photographs submitted must be no larger than 8 ½" x 11". Photographs you send for publication in the program must include a release from the copyright holder allowing publication of the photograph(s). Photographs without the release will not be published. **The preferred method of submission is electronic mail.** If you are sending in camera ready, please save as a PDF file with 300 DPI minimum.

These photograph(s) will be scanned then reduced or enlarged to fit your ad. Enlarging a photograph may cause some distortion, so please send **original photographs**. Glossy photographs scan the best. Photographs and logos should be bright and clear and void of dark backgrounds if possible. Do not send photographs of nude or even partially nude individuals.

Please mail all photographs, logos and camera-ready ads between two pieces of cardboard to prevent creasing.

If you wish, USofA Pageants will do your page layout using supplied text and desired photos. Please type or print clearly all text you wish to be incorporated in your advertisement on a separate piece of paper. All type, logos and photographs will be printed in full color.

Location of your advertisement in the program, other than the center spread or inside covers will be at the discretion of USofA Pageants. They will try to give a left page or right page location if requested, however, the final decision will be left up to USofA Pageants. If you wish the center spread or covers they are sold on a first come, first paid basis.

Please be aware that all submitted copy, photographs, etc. become the property of USofA Pageants and will not be returned. Also, you must sign and date the order form. If you do not sign and date the form, we will not print your advertisement in the program and your money will be returned. You must enclose your payment in full with your submittals. Payment must be made by Money Order, Certified or Cashier's Check, **payable to Sheldon McMeekan** or by credit card.

There will be no personal or business checks accepted! There will be no refunds of any kind for changed or cancelled advertising once it has been accepted by USofA Pageants. There will be a charge for any advertisement that requires changes after it has reached USofA Pageants.

REMEMBER: PROGRAM ADVERTISING MUST BE SUBMITTED BY May 1, 2020.



Sheldon McMeekan
8600 N McQueen Rd, Unit 1156
Chandler AZ 85225
480-516-7126
Programs@USofA.org

Name: _____ Address: _____

Company: _____ City State Zip: _____

Pageant(s): _____

Program Advertising Rates

| | | Quantity |
|---|----------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Center Page (2 Page Spread) 17 x 11 Full Color | \$225.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inside Front Cover 8.5 x 11 Full Color | \$150.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inside Back Cover 8.5 x 11 Full Color | \$150.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Page(s) 8.5 x 11 Full Color | \$100.00 | x _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Half Page(s) 8.5 x 5.5 Full Color | \$60.00 | x _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Layout Charge – Any ad that is not sent “Camera Ready” | \$20.00 | x _____ |

Total Amount Due

Payment **MUST** accompany this order form. Payment **MUST** be in the form of Money Order, Certified or Cashier's Check, or Credit Card! No personal or business checks will be accepted.

MAKE ALL PAYMENTS TO: SHELDON MCMEEKAN

By my signature below, I release USofA Pageants, their agents, servants, and employees from any liability and/or other responsibility whatsoever resulting from, associated with or arising out of my advertisement in the Official Miss Gay USofA & USofA Classic Program Book. I hereby agree to release Publisher of any liability for errors in composition, text, layout, and photographs in the program. I hereby agree that for the monies given to Publisher, I will receive advertising in the size ordered from this form in Program to be distributed at the 2020 Miss Gay USofA & USofA Classic Pageants at such times and places set forth by USofA Pageants. I agree that no refunds for changed, altered, or canceled advertisements will be given once this order is placed with Publisher. I agree that Publisher has the right to refuse any advertisement in Program from ANY person or company for any reason that Publisher sees fit. I further agree that no other agreements, written or implied, are given under this agreement. Advertising will not be accepted unless this form is signed and dated!

Date: _____ Signature: _____



SAMPLE TITLE HOLDER CONTRACT

- 1) **Title Holder Obligations.** Title Holder shall attend and participate in, as a representative of USofA Pageants LLC at all State and Regional Pageants held during the year of Title Holder's reign, at such times and places as may be set forth by USofA Pageants LLC and the Promoter. All expenses of the Title Holder, as set forth in the Promoter's Rules and Regulations, shall be at the expense of the State or Regional Promoter. These expenses are, but not limited to, Title Holder's transportation costs, lodging cost and performance fee of \$300 per night of entertaining. The State and Regional Promoters are only required to use the services of Title Holder for only one night during their pageant
- 2) **Bookings.** All entertaining and/or appearances of an official nature by Title Holder shall be cleared and approved ten (10) business days in advance by Promoter, whose approval shall not unreasonably be withheld. Entertaining and/or appearances of an official nature shall be construed as those, but not limited to those, in which the Title Holder is appearing mainly due to their Title and therefore is representing the Pageant, the Promoter, or USofA Pageants LLC.
- 3) **Title Holder's Responsibilities.** Title Holder agrees to hold the title, the USofA Pageant System, USofA Pageants LLC, its State and Regional Promoters, Local Promoters and franchisees in the highest esteem. Title Holder agrees that while appearing, entertaining, or representing the Title during the year of his reign to the following:
 - a. Not to be drunk in a public place;
 - b. Not to commit acts of a sexual nature in a public place;
 - c. Not to commit acts of a violent nature in a public place;
 - d. Not to use illegal drugs
 - e. Not to commit the act of stealing
 - f. Not to have a sex change operation
 - g. Not to participate in malicious gossip
 - h. To attend and participate in the Miss Gay USofA/Classic 2020 pageant at such time and place as set forth by USofA Pageants LLC
 - i. Not to be deemed guilty of any other unreasonable act that is considered demeaning to the Title by the Promoter
 - j. To perform at least three (3) times during a State or Regional Pageant, unless otherwise instructed by that particular Promoter.
 - k. Title Holder agrees to provide a satisfactory publicity photograph with crown, within thirty (30) days of assuming the Title, for use by the Promoter
 - l. Title Holder agrees to keep a valid cellular telephone number in service during the year of his reign
 - m. Not to perform nude.
 - n. Title Holder agrees to have a valid email address and Facebook page (with crown photo) within 7 days of winning and keep it active for entire reign.
 - o. Title Holder agrees to receive permission from the Promoter before appearing at a pageant or contest in any other pageantry system.
 - p. Titleholder may not enter any pageants during his/her reign.
- 4) **Promoter's Responsibilities.** Promoter's responsibilities to the Title Holder shall be:
 - a. To permit the Title Holder the booking rights as sited in Articles 1 and 2
 - b. To provide Title Holder with all necessary information on a timely basis, as available, concerning State and Regional Pageants
 - c. To pay all monies, awards and prizes, as long as Title Holder is not in default under this Contract as follows:
 - d. \$2000.00 (USofA) / \$750.00 (Classic) and other awards only as listed in the contestant's application for Pageant upon winning the Title and,

- e. \$2000.00 (USofA) / \$750.00 (Classic) upon completion of Final Night of the Miss Gay USofA/Classic 2019 Pageants.
 - f. To provide 2 tickets to Final Night (USofA) of the Miss Gay USofA 2021 Pageant.
 - g. To provide one (1) page in the 2020 Program Book for titleholders use in addition to the covers
- 5) **Certain Rights Reserved by Title Holder.** As long as the Title Holder is not in default under this contract, he shall have the following rights:
- to enjoy the rights and privileges of said Title
 - be allowed bookings, subject to Articles 1, 2 and 6 contained herein, and for such fees as stated for Local and Regional Pageants. Other private bookings, approved by the promoter, shall be for whatever fee as Title Holder feels is justified, and;
 - move freely throughout the United States
- 6) **Certain Rights Reserved to Promoter.** The following rights are reserved to Promoter:
- a. To have and retain paramount title to Title at all times.
 - b. To change the title of Miss Gay USofA/Classic at its own discretion
 - c. To approve all bookings, subject to Articles 1, 2, and 5 contained herein, of Title Holder.
 - d. To reasonably set forth Rules and Regulations concerning the conduct of holders of the Title
 - e. To set the dates, times and places of all future Miss Gay USofA/Classic Pageants and to make reasonable bookings for Title Holder. Said bookings will be confirmed with Title Holder at least ten (10) days prior to said bookings and said bookings shall be made in a manner as to not cause conflict with Title Holder's schedule
- 7) **Promoter's Remedies.** If Title Holder defaults under this contract, Promoter may treat any one or more of the foregoing occurrences as a breach of this Contract, and thereupon at its option may, without notice or demand of any kind (which Title Holder hereby expressly waives), to title Holder or any other person, have, but not limited to, any or all of the following remedies.
- a. Revoke the Title from the Title Holder
 - b. Demand the return of all prizes, awards, and/or monies given to Title Holder
 - c. Refuse entry into any of Promoter's franchised Miss Gay USofA/Classic Preliminary Pageants
 - d. Pass the Title to the 1st Runner-up or any other person felt to be qualified by Promoter
 - e. Refuse bookings of an Official nature to Title Holder
 - f. Assess fines for breach of any part of the Contract. Said fines shall not exceed the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per offense, but may be at a lower amount as set forth and determined by Promoter
- 8) **Notices.** All notices to be given by one party to the other under this Contract shall be in writing, mailed or hand delivered as follows:

If to Promoter:

USofA Pageants LLC 1713 Garden Road #2
Pearland, TX 77581-8732

Or to such other person at such other address designated by notice to Title Holder

If to Title Holder:

at the address stated above

Mailed notices shall be sent United States Certified or Registered mail, postage prepaid. Such notices shall be deemed given upon posting in the United States Mail.

- 9) **Miscellaneous.**
- a. All rights and remedies of Promoter under this Contract shall be cumulative and none shall exclude any other rights and remedies by law.
 - b. The word "Promoter" shall be construed to mean Promoters in all cases where there is more than one promoter and necessary grammatical changes required to make the provisions hereof apply to corporations or individuals, or men or women, shall be assumed as though in each case fully expressed.
- 10) **Release.**
- Title Holder agrees to release and hold harmless USofA Pageants LLC, Promoter, and the Official Miss Gay USofA/Classic Pageants, their agents, servants, and employees, and licensees from any liability, and/or responsibility whatsoever, resulting from, associated with, or arising out of Title Holder's participation in the

Miss Gay USofA/Classic Pageant System, in any duly franchised USofA Pageants LLC Preliminary Pageant, and/or the Title including, but not limited to, personal injury, or loss or damage to personal property regardless of whether the loss or injury occurs before, during, or after the Miss Gay USofA/Classic Pageant, duly franchised Miss Gay USofA/Classic Preliminary Pageant or any related activity, including, but not limited to, any USofA Pageants LLC National Pageant, State or Regional pageants, local preliminaries and their related activities.

Title Holder also hereby releases himself from any and all rights to any video/DVD (sound and/or video), photography, recording, still camera, or motion picture of the Miss Gay USofA/Classic Pageant, any USofA Pageants LLC National Pageant, or duly franchised USofA Pageants LLC Preliminary Pageant. Title Holder also understands that he has or will have no rights to any of the recordings arising out of said pageants that Title Holder may appear in or on, or the future sales thereof.



CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTESTANT COORDINATOR

USofA Pageants LLC will be providing a contestant coordinator to assist you during the Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA Pageants. His/her job is to help ensure that you have a positive and enjoyable time during your pageant experience while backstage in the designated contestant dressing area. Additionally, the Contestant Coordinator will be distributing your Fashion/Evening Gown description sheets, overseeing traffic and flow in the designated contestant dressing area, and preparing contestants for staging in accordance with the competition lineup. We encourage contestants to utilize the Contestant Coordinator as a point of contact with USofA Pageants. If you have any questions, problems, or ideas, please direct them to the Contestant Coordinator first. He/she will assist in resolving your problems, answering questions, or pointing you in the right direction and will be reporting to the staff daily on all matters.

NATIONAL PAGEANT DIRECTOR

The National Pageant Director will conduct contestant registration, coordinate talent rehearsals and collect talent media, and manage the Pageant Lineup. The Production Team, including the Stage Manager, Curtain Attendant, DJ, Spotlight Attendant, along with the final night Director of Productions and the Contestant Coordinator will work in accordance to assure optimal flow of the Pageant.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To obtain additional information regarding the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant or the Miss Gay USofA Pageant, contestants should e-mail the national office at office@usofa.org or call 832-425-1240.

Visit the USofA Pageants LLC webpage at:

<http://USofA.org>