



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 2017 Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant, followed by the 2017 Miss Gay USofA Pageant.

The Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant will be held on Sunday and Monday, May 21st & 22nd, 2017 at The Round-Up Saloon in Dallas, TX. Preliminary nights for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant will be Tuesday through Thursday, May 23rd – 25th, 2017 at The Round-Up Saloon in Dallas, TX. We are excited that this year's Final Night, Friday May 26, 2017, 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

- RULES AND 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
 - 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. Presentations over seven (7) minutes will have administrative points deducted.
5. 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. Music must be turned in on CD-R. You should have your talent number recorded as Track 1 of your CD-R and your crown number on Track 2 of the same CD-R. Do not place any other music on this CD-R. **You may not use commercial CD's, cell phone, or CD-R's that have multiple tracks.**
6. 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.
7. Any contestant that is not in the appointed place at the appointed time may lose administrative points.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. USofA Pageants LLC reserves the right to make any decision concerning any matter not covered by these rules and regulations.
11. 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.
12. Any contestant in the top 5 not staying on stage for the entire crowning and picture taking will forfeit their placement and prize money.
13. 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.

14. 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.

- ACCOMMODATIONS -

ALL contestants, for the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant, held on Sunday and Monday, May 21st and 22nd and for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant, held on Tuesday through Friday, May 23rd thru the 26th 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 **MCM Elegante Hotel & Suites** will be the host hotel for the 2017 Miss Gay USofA Classic and Miss Gay USofA Pageants. The hotel is located at 2330 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75220.

It 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 Round-Up Saloon. 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

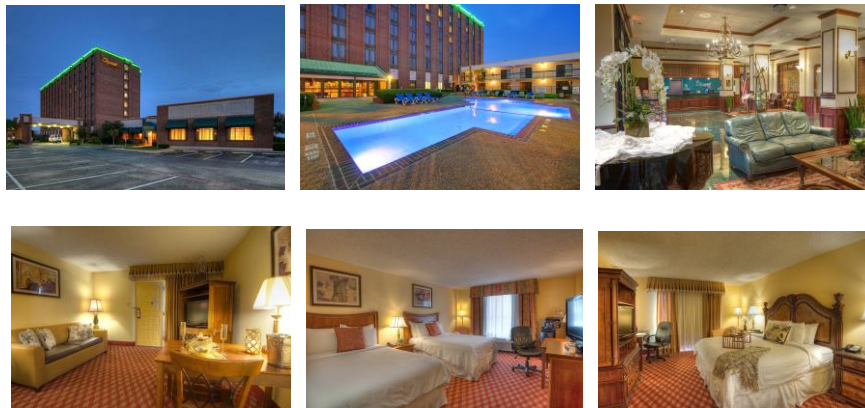
2330 W. Northwest Hwy.

Dallas, TX 75220

214-358-7854 (direct line)

To make your reservations PLEASE visit

<https://www.reseze.net/servlet/SendPage?hotelid=1350&skipfirstpage=true&page=1653489>



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 rooms is \$89.00 per room per night plus tax and the Cabana suites are \$119.00 per night plus tax. There is a limited number of Cabana suites and Concierge floor rooms available. Reservations must be made by May 8, 2017. 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 can lose administrative points.

All Reservations must be guaranteed on a major Credit Card

- ADMISSIONS -

Contestants do not have to pay for admission to the Round-Up Saloon on any night of competition. All dressing room assistants, dressers, dancers, prop personnel, managers, lovers, etc. must pay admission to all events. **The Round-Up Saloon is a 21 and over club.** All persons entering the venue **must have** a valid Government or State issued ID.

- Miss Gay USofA Classic competition is **\$15.00** per person each night at the door.
- Preliminary competition for Miss Gay USofA is **\$15.00** per person at the door Tuesday through Thursday
- Final Night Competition tickets are **\$50.00, \$55.00, \$65.00 or 75.00** per person and advance tickets can be purchased online at www.usofa.org/tickets

At the registration for Miss Gay USofA Classic, on Sunday, May 21st, there will be dancer passes available. These passes will be good for admission for both nights of Miss Gay USofA Classic competition and is priced at \$25 per person. These passes will only be sold at that registration. You must purchase one pass for each dancer and one for your dresser/backstage assistant, as indicated on your application.

At the registration for Miss Gay USofA on Tuesday, May 23rd, 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 \$75 per person. These passes will only be sold at that registration. You must purchase one pass for each dancer and dresser/backstage assistant, as indicated on your application.

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.**

The Round-Up Saloon - 3912 Cedar Springs Road – Dallas, TX

The Round-Up Saloon is a 21 and over club.



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 1/2 upon winning the crown and the balance of the prize money after having completed the obligations of the reign, which include being present at and performing all of the nights of the 2018 Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant.*

CASH PRIZES – Miss Gay USofA

Congeniality Award

Miss Congeniality	\$125.00
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Top Five (5) Finalists

4 th Runner Up	\$125.00
3 rd Runner Up	\$250.00
2 nd Runner Up	\$500.00
1 st Runner Up	\$1000.00
Winner	\$4,000.00**

***Miss Gay USofA will receive 1/2 upon winning the crown and the balance of the prize money after having completed the obligations of the reign, which include being present at and performing all of the nights of the 2018 Miss Gay USofA Pageant*

All winners must be prepared to present ID and social security number when receiving prize money. All prize money will be distributed at a location to be announced following the crowning of each pageant.

- GENERAL INFORMATION -

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 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.

I would like to mention a point I want every contestant to take to heart. 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!

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 minors will be allowed in the club.** Please do not come asking for special help. Each bar owner is responsible to his 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.

Final Night of the Miss Gay USofA Pageant will be held at the South Side Ballroom at 1135 South Lamar just south of downtown Dallas. **The South Side Ballroom is an all age venue.**

- GROUPS -

FOR MISS GAY USofA CLASSIC – When you arrive at the contestant meeting on May 21st, you will draw a contestant number. Each contestant will compete in Evening Gown and Talent on the first night – Sunday, May 21st. There will be a top twelve named at the beginning of competition on Monday, May 22nd and they will compete in Talent and Evening gown again before a top 5 and a winner is named. All Miss Gay USofA Classic Interviews will take place on Monday, May 22nd.

FOR MISS GAY USofA - All preliminary competition is done in 6 groups. When you arrive at the contestant meeting on May 23rd, you will draw a contestant number. Your group will be assigned based on your contestant number. 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.

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 scoring contestants, regardless of the group they are placed in.

- MEETINGS AND 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.

The contestant registration for the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant will be held on Sunday, May 21st, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at the MCM Elegante Hotel & Suites. For the Miss Gay USofA Pageant, the contestant registration will be held on Tuesday, May 23rd, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at the MCM Elegante Hotel & Suites. At these meetings, all contestants will draw a contestant number for preliminary competition, receive their contestant ID card, 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.

- 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.

Each contestant will be required to submit an evening gown description card and will look like:

Miss Gay USofA

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

These cards will be filled out each night. You must fill this out and no other information may be placed on this card. We **do not** read cards for any other category. New cards will be used for Final Night Competition regardless if you are changing gowns or not.

- 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. **Music for the talent must be recorded on a CD-R (track 1) and clearly marked with the contestant's name only.** Your crown number should be track 2. No cassettes, cell phones, commercial CD's or CD-R's with multiple tracks will be accepted. If you plan on using a video as part of or for your entire talent, please place your video production on a flash drive and **record as an MP4 and the file should be labeled as your talent production.** Do not record your video as any other format or it will not play. Contestants are advised to make a backup copy of their talent music and/or video and bring it to the pageant as a safety precaution. **All talent music and/or video will be turned in at talent rehearsal, the day of your talent competition.** You will not receive your talent CD-R or video flash drive back until after crowning on Final Night. Make sure to bring a rehearsal copy. You must bring all props for your Preliminary talent to your rehearsal time. You may not bring props in on the night of your Talent presentation.

We have allowed a limited time in the schedule for individual contestant rehearsal. This will allow time for sound checks, blocking and lighting cues. Be sure you are well organized for this rehearsal as time is limited. **Each contestant must attend rehearsal for their group.** This will be when your talent is timed.

Back-up entertainers will be assigned a separate dressing area, not the main dressing room. You should be prepared at the contestant meeting to tell the stage manager the exact number of back-up entertainers and prop personnel you will require.

If you will be using any props for your talent presentation, you must bring those props to The Round-Up Saloon at your assigned rehearsal time. You may not bring any props in at any other time. You must remove all props from the bar at the end of the night for your talent competition. If you have talent on Thursday night, you must remove all props at the end of that night's competition.

If you will be changing your talent music on Final Night, you must bring that music or video with you to the rehearsal at the Round-Up Saloon for the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant or at the South Side Ballroom for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant.

That will be the only time that you may make changes to your music. At that time, if you believe that you have made Top Twelve, you must bring your props to the final night venue. Be prepared to unload and store them at this time. If you believe you will be making the Top Twelve, you may briefly block out your talent on the stage at the final night venue following the final night presentation rehearsal.

All competition for the Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant and all preliminary competition for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant will be held on the main dance floor of the Round-Up Saloon. The competition area is 18 feet deep and 24 feet wide. The ceiling height is 9 feet high. Any props used must be free standing and may not damage the polished wood floor.

The South Side stage dimensions are 30' wide and 25' deep with a 24' runway. Stage right wing and stage left wing are 20' deep and 10' wide. The proscenium opening is 30' wide and 20' high. The stage has a low gloss hard wood deck finish. 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. All props 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. Props may only be stored at The Round-Up Saloon on the day of the contestant's talent competition. Each contestant must secure his own storage of props at all other times.

- FINAL NIGHT (*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 need any of the above or have any questions or special requests for the final night venue (the South Side Ballroom) for the Miss Gay USofA Pageant, please contact Ron Sanford at office@ronsanfordproductions.com.

- 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 by calling 832-425-1240

- APPLICATIONS -

All applications must be submitted electronically. To submit your application please visit:

www.usofa.org/pageantapp

and electronically submit them. Once you have opened the online application you must first choose the pageant you are submitting the application for. It will either be Miss Gay USofA Classic or Miss Gay USofA – **PLEASE choose the correct option**. Once 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. You can submit your application from your PC, laptop, mobile device and tablet.

You must submit your application electronically BY May 15, 2017.

You must bring your valid government or state issued ID with you to your Contestant Registration 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. **Remember if you fail to submit your application online by the deadline you may lose administrative points.**

- 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 job is to help ensure that you have a positive and enjoyable time during your pageant experience. While at the Pageant he is your point of contact with USofA Pageants. He will be available to all contestants daily during the personal interviews. If you have any questions, problems, or ideas, please direct them to him first. He will assist in resolving your problems, answering questions, or pointing you in the right direction. He will be reporting to the staff daily on all matters.

- PRESENTATION OF CONTESTANTS - (Miss Gay USofA Classic)

NANCY TAYLOR – Miss Gay USofA Classic has chosen “A Celebration of Life” as the theme for the opening production of the final night of the 2017 Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageant on May 22nd at the Round-Up Saloon. Contestants are to wear outfits (your choice) that incorporate the colors of the Pride Flag. Be flamboyant. You can use a feather headpiece, ruffles, big hair but remember there will be limited space on the dance floor of the Round-Up Saloon so please consider that when designing your choice of headpiece and hair.

- PRESENTATION OF CONTESTANTS - (Miss Gay USofA)

AURORA SEXTON– Miss Gay USofA has chosen “Scream Queens” as her theme for the opening production for the final night of the 2017 Miss Gay USofA Pageant which will be held on Friday, May 25th at the South Side Ballroom. Contestants are asked to wear the ugliest prom dress from the 80's incorporating your hair and make-up into the theme. Whoever has the ugliest prom dress will win a gift certificate toward a gown by Sasha Lauren. REMEMBER you will be entering the stage through a standard size door so please adjust your costume accordingly.

If you have any questions about the opening productions for either Miss Gay USofA Classic or Miss Gay USofA please contact Nancy Taylor (for Classic) via ntaylor@usofa.org or at 713-471-8037 or Aurora Sexton (for Miss Gay USofA) via asexton@usofa.org or at 773-983-3183.

- OFFICIAL JEWELER - Miss Gay USofA and Classic Pageants



- SCORING -

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 to 12 points
Evening Gown	1 to 12 points
Talent	2 to 24 points
Maximum possible points	<u>48 points</u>
	<u>X 5 judges</u> (high & low scores of the 7 judges will be dropped)
Total Possible Points	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 score from preliminary competition will be scored **comparatively** for their final night scores as follows:

Personal Interview	1 to 12 points (from prelim scores)
Evening Gown	1 to 12 points
Talent	2 to 24 points
Maximum possible points	<u>48 points</u>
	<u>X 5 judges</u> ((high & low scores of the 7 judges will be dropped)
Subtotal	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.

- SCHEDULE OF EVENTS -

Sunday - May 21, 2017 – Miss Gay USofA Classic

11:00 a.m.	Contestant Registration		MCM Elegante
1:30 p.m.	Opening Production Rehearsal		Round Up Saloon
2:00 p.m.	Talent Rehearsal		Round-Up Saloon
8:00 p.m.	Doors open to public		
	Check In		Round-Up Saloon
9:00 p.m.	Evening Gown Competition		Round-Up Saloon
10:00 p.m.	Talent Competition		

Monday - May 22, 2017 – Miss Gay USofA Classic – Final Night

10:30 a.m.	Contestant Brunch	All Contestants	MCM Elegante
12:30 p.m.	Contestant Interviews		MCM Elegante
8:00 p.m.	Door's Open		Round-Up Saloon
9:00 p.m.	Final Night	Top Twelve	

- SCHEDULE OF EVENTS -

Tuesday - May 23, 2017 – Miss Gay USofA

11:00 a.m.	Contestant Registration		MCM Elegante
2:00 p.m.	Talent Rehearsal	Group 3	Round-Up Saloon
	Interview	Group 1	MCM Elegante
3:00 p.m.	Talent Rehearsal	Group 4	Round-Up Saloon
	Interview	Group 2	MCM Elegante
8:00 p.m.	Doors open to public		
	Group Check In	Groups 5 & 6	Round-Up Saloon
9:00 p.m.	Evening Gown Competition	Groups 5 & 6	
9:45 p.m.	Group Check In	Groups 3 & 4	Round-Up Saloon
10:00 p.m.	Talent Competition	Groups 3 & 4	

Wednesday – May 24, 2017 – Miss Gay USofA

2:00 p.m.	Talent Rehearsal	Group 5	Round-Up Saloon
	Interview	Group 3	MCM Elegante
3:00 p.m.	Talent Rehearsal	Group 6	Round-Up Saloon
	Interview	Group 4	MCM Elegante
8:00 p.m.	Doors open to public		
	Group Check In	Groups 1 & 2	Round-Up Saloon
9:00 p.m.	Evening Gown Competition	Groups 1 & 2	
9:45 p.m.	Group Check In	Groups 5 & 6	Round-Up Saloon
10:00 p.m.	Talent Competition	Groups 5 & 6	

Thursday - May 25, 2017 – Miss Gay USofA

1:00 p.m.	Promoters Meeting		MCM Elegante
2:00 p.m.	Talent Rehearsal	Group 1	Round-Up Saloon
	Interview	Group 5	MCM Elegante
3:00 p.m.	Talent Rehearsal	Group 2	Round-Up Saloon
	Interview	Group 6	MCM Elegante
8:00 p.m.	Doors open to public		
	Group Check In	Groups 3 & 4	Round-Up Saloon
9:00 p.m.	Evening Gown Competition	Groups 3 & 4	
9:45 p.m.	Group Check In	Groups 1 & 2	Round-Up Saloon
10:00 p.m.	Talent Competition	Groups 1 & 2	

Friday - May 26, 2017 – Miss Gay USofA Final Night

11:00 a.m.	Contestant Brunch	All Contestants	MCM Elegante
11:30 a.m.	Preliminary Awards	General Public	MCM Elegante
1:30 p.m.	Presentation Rehearsal	National Titleholders	South Side Ballroom
2:00 p.m.	Presentation Rehearsal	All Contestants	South Side Ballroom
6:00 p.m.	Door's Open		South Side Ballroom
7:00 p.m.	Final Night	Top Twelve	

**The South Side Ballroom
1135 South Lamar Street
Dallas, TX 75215**



- PROGRAM ADVERTISING -

This year Sheldon McMeekan will produce the Official Miss Gay USofA & USofA Classic Pageants Commemorative Program. This professional publication will be distributed each night of the 2017 Miss Gay USofA & Miss Gay USofA Classic Pageants, May 21 - 26, 2017 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, 2017.

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.**

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 LLC 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 LLC. 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 LLC. 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 LLC 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 LLC. There will be a charge for any advertisement that requires changes after it has reached USofA Pageants LLC.

REMEMBER: PROGRAM ADVERTISING MUST BE SUBMITTED BY May 1, 2017.

If you are sending in camera ready, please save as a PDF file with 300 DPI minimum.



Sheldon McMeekan
 860 N. McQueen Rd. Unit 1156
 Chandler, AZ 85225
 480-516-7126
 programs@usofa.org

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Pageant(s) _____

Company _____

Program Advertising Rates and Order Form

Center Page (2 Page Spread) 17 x 11 Full Color	\$ 225.00
Inside Front Cover 8 ½ x 11 Full Color	\$ 150.00
Inside Back Cover 8 ½ x 11 Full Color	\$ 150.00
Full Page(s) 8 ½ x 11 Full Color	\$ 100.00
Half Page(s) 8 ½ x 5 ½ Full Color	\$ 60.00

Layout Charge Any ad that is not sent "Camera Ready" \$ 20.00
 =====

Total Amount Due _____

Payment **MUST** accompany this order form. Payment **MUST** be in the form of Money Order, Certified, or Cashiers 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 LLC, 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 2017 Miss Gay USofA & USofA Classic Pageants at such times and places set forth by USofA Pageants LLC. 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 _____

Titleholders Contract – Miss Gay USofA and Miss Gay USofA Classic

1. **Title Holder Obligations**, titleholder 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 2018 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 the Local Pageant 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 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 2018 Pageants.
 - f. To provide 2 tickets to Final Night (USofA) of the Miss Gay USofA 2018 Pageant.
 - g. To provide one (1) page in the 2018 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:
- α. To have and retain paramount title to Title at all times.
 - β. To change the title of Miss Gay USofA/Classic at its own discretion
 - γ. To approve all bookings, subject to Articles 1, 2, and 5 contained herein, of Title Holder.
 - δ. To reasonably set forth Rules and Regulations concerning the conduct of holders of the Title
 - ε. 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.