

2021

Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large and
Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large
Contestant Handbook



Featuring
Vegas Van Cartier
Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large 2019
and
Adonis Lavish Dickerson
Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large 2019

July 20 – 22, 2021



11410 Hempstead Rd. | Houston, TX

Rules and Regulations –

1. Contestants must be born males, residents of Texas, 21 years of age and be able to show proof of age.
2. All contestants must weigh at least 200 lbs and must be prepared to be weighed at registration.
3. Judging for Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large will use USofA's comparative scoring system. Judging for Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large preliminary night's will be on a total point's accumulated system. Final night will be scored using USofA's comparative scoring system. Ties will be broken by the contestant with the highest talent score.
4. Contestants will be judged in the following categories:
 - Personal Interview
 - Talent
 - Fashion
5. Talent will be limited to seven (7) minutes. Prop set up and knock down time will be limited to five (5) minutes total. Talent presentations will be timed at rehearsals. Any talent presentation 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** may be used in any talent presentation. No live animals or reptiles may be used in any talent presentation.
7. The use of or dispensing of any illegal drugs will not be tolerated while a contestant is participating in the Mr. and Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Contest/Pageant. Immediate disqualification will result for those who break this rule.
8. Any contestant not at their appointed place at the appointed time will lose administrative points.
9. Any contestant, contestant's dancer(s), helper(s), etc caught in the act of stealing or tampering with another person's possessions will be immediately disqualified and removed from the location of the contest/pageant.
10. The official Mr. and Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Contest/Pageant does not discriminate against any contestant with silicone or using hormones. The use of silicone and/or hormones will not be considered by any judge in the scoring of any contestant. 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. Once a contestant has placed as a winner or 1st alternate in a preliminary contest/pageant they may not enter another preliminary within that system. They must go to the State contest/pageant with that placement. Any contestant who qualifies and fails to attend may be banned from the system for at least one (1) year and must pay back any prize money to their promoter and a \$125 fine to the State Promoter.
12. USofA Pageants and Craig Henderson reserve the right to make any decision concerning any matter not covered in these Rules and Regulations.

13. Mr. and Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large 2021 will be required to sign a contract with Texas USofA Pageants and Craig Henderson before any prize money is paid. Failure to sign the contract will mean forfeiture of the title.
14. Any contestant in the top five (5) not staying on stage for the entire crowning and picture taking will forfeit their placement and prize money.

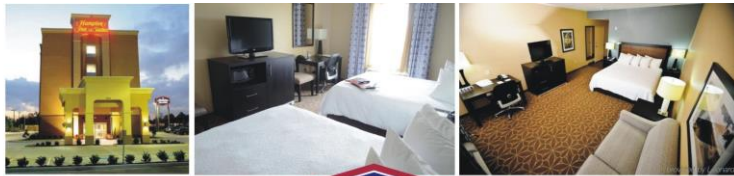
Accommodations –

ALL contestants are required to stay at the Hampton Inn & Suites Houston I 10-Central, located at 5820 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77007. **Reservations must be made online** by following this link:

www.texasusofapageants.com/hotel-info

If you have any questions concerning the host hotel their phone number is 713-869-9211. **You MUST make your reservations by JULY 5th. If you have not made your reservations before the deadline you will have to pay the regular room rate. No exceptions!** Upon Check in there will be an additional incidental charge of \$20 per day added that will be refunded upon check-out. Cash payments will be accepted upon check-out however the hotel must retain a valid credit card during your stay.

There will be a \$100 damage deposit required to be placed on your credit card which will be refunded within 2 – 3 business days after check out. This is required to guarantee no damage is done to your hotel room by you or any of your guests.



PROMOTERS – if you plan on paying for your contestant(s) room(s) but will not be in attendance they must receive a credit card authorization from you before releasing a room to your contestant(s). You must contact the hotel to make arrangements for the credit card authorization before your contestant(s) check in.

Admissions –

Contestants do not have to pay admission to Neon Boots on any night of competition. All dressing room assistants, dancers, prop personnel, managers, lovers, boyfriends, family etc. must pay admission to all events. Neon Boots is a 21 and over club. All persons entering Neon Boots **MUST** have a valid ID to enter. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

For Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large
Wednesday – July 21st - \$20 Cover

For Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large
Tuesday – July 20th - \$15 Cover
Thursday – Final Night – July 22nd - \$25 Cover

You must pay cover for everyone in your group including dressers, dancers or any other helper(s). If you desire reserved seating, you may purchase that in advance by contacting Craig Henderson at 713-213-7350.

Applications –

The application is due at the Contestant Registration for Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large on Wednesday – July 21st and for Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large on Tuesday – July 20th. Everyone should have an application filled out before you get to registration but there will be applications available at the Contestant Registration. You can find your Contestant Application on the following page.



www.texasusofapageants.com



Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large Official Application

PLEASE PRINT

IN BLACK OR BLUE INK

Representing _____

Stage Name _____

Legal Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Date Of Birth _____

E-Mail Address _____

Name of Backstage Assistant

Sponsors _____

Talent _____

Artist and Title of Talent Number

____ Live ____ Dance ____ Lip Sync ____ Props ____ # of Dancers

By my signature below, I hereby agree to release and hold harmless USofA Pageants LLC, Craig Henderson, The Official Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large Contest, hereinafter referred to as the "contest", the Preliminary Promoter, their agents, servants and employees from any liabilities and/or responsibilities whatsoever, from, associated with or arising out of my participation in the "contest" and/or the title of Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large, including but not limited to personal injury and/or damage to personal property regardless of whether the loss, injury and/or damage occurred before, during or after the "pageant" or any related activity.

I also hereby release myself from rights to any video taping (sound and/or video), photography (still camera or motion picture) of the "contest". I understand that I have no rights to any of the recordings that I appear in or on or the future sales thereof. I hereby agree that my name and photographs (still or motion picture) taken of me during the "contest" may be used for publication, promotional purposes or in any advertising publicity. By my signature below, I affirm and attest that I have read the Rules and Regulations of the "contest" and agree to abide by the same.

Sign Legal Name

Date



Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Official Application

PLEASE PRINT

IN BLACK OR BLUE INK

Representing _____

Stage Name _____

Legal Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Date Of Birth _____

E-Mail Address _____

Name of Backstage Assistant

Sponsors _____

Talent _____

Artist and Title of Talent Number

____ Live ____ Dance ____ Lip Sync ____ Props ____ # of Dancers

By my signature below, I hereby agree to release and hold harmless USofA Pageants LLC, Craig Henderson, The Official Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Pageant, hereinafter referred to as the "pageant", the Preliminary Promoter, their agents, servants and employees from any liabilities and/or responsibilities whatsoever, from, associated with or arising out of my participation in the "pageant" and/or the title of Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large, including but not limited to personal injury and/or damage to personal property regardless of whether the loss, injury and/or damage occurred before, during or after the "pageant" or any related activity.

I also hereby release myself from rights to any video taping (sound and/or video), photography (still camera or motion picture) of the "pageant". I understand that I have no rights to any of the recordings that I appear in or on or the future sales thereof. I hereby agree that my name and photographs (still or motion picture) taken of me during the "pageant" may be used for publication, promotional purposes or in any advertising publicity. By my signature below, I affirm and attest that I have read the Rules and Regulations of the "pageant" and agree to abide by the same.

Sign Legal Name

Date

Prizes –

For Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large

2nd Alternate - \$100

1st Alternate - \$200

WINNER - \$500*

For Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large

2nd Alternate - \$100

1st Alternate - \$200

WINNER - \$600**

All winners must present a valid ID and Social Security Number when receiving prize money. All prize money will be distributed at a location to be announced during the opening production rehearsal.

**Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large will receive ½ the prize money (\$250) upon winning and the balance of the prize money at the Contestant Registration for the Mr. Gay USofA at Large Contest.*

***Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large will receive ½ the prize money (\$300) upon winning and the balance of the prize money after having completed the obligations of the reign which includes being present at and performing all the nights of the 2022 Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Pageant.*

Personal Interview –

Each contestant will be interviewed individually by the judge's panel. The purpose of personal interview in the USofA System is to provide the judges some insight into the character of each contestant. In the interview the judges are allowed 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 the contestant's professional or personal life.

The basic nature of the interview is intended to be casual and relaxed. Each contestant should select clothing in which he feels at ease. You should dress as you would for a job interview.

- **Interviews for Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large will be held at Neon Boots following your Contestant Registration.**
- **Interviews for Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large will be held at the Host Hotel.**

Fashion – for Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large

In Fashion/Club Wear, contestants should dress as they would for an exciting night out on the town. You should wear clothing that you would expect to see in a large club in one of the major cities in the USofA. Your Club Wear should match your personality, looks and lifestyle. Club Wear should NOT be a costume for stage, but rather what you would wear into the club. Club Wear should be fun and sexy. Club Wear is in between formal clothing and ultra-casual looks. A casual chic look that is both laid back and yet

dressed up is appropriate for this category. Contemporary looks are perfect but a classic cool look (like a crisp white shirt and boot cut dark denim) fit in just as nicely. Wearing layers can also be used.

Club Wear includes a variety of items, including:

- Unique and classic dress shirts,
- Sexy and trendy tops,
- Fitted t-shirts,
- Bright colors,
- Embellished fabrics with stones or beads,
- Metallic or metallic accents,
- Out of the ordinary fabrics such as leather,
- Funky prints and patterns,
- Casual or skinny ties,
- Classic, skinny or trendy jeans,
- Vests, blazers or casual jackets

Some suggestions:

- Do wear something that makes you feel confident.
- Do choose bright or bold colors that enhance your skin and hair color.
- Do make sure your shoes match the level of formality of your outfit.
- Don't dress too sexy.
- Don't try out all the trends in one night.
- Don't wear sweats.
- Don't wear rude or offensive t-shirts.

Remember this is "pageantry" although outfits that are costumes will not score well. Club Wear description cards will be submitted prior to your Club Wear competition. No other information should be placed on the description card. We DO NOT read description cards for any other category.

Fashion – for Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large

Fashion/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 at Large 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 at Large 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 a Fashion description card. Only the information on the Fashion description card will be read. No other information may be placed on the card. We do not read cards for any other category.

Talent Competition -

Talent may be any type of entertainment presentation as long as it does not create 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 presentations are limited to seven (7) minutes in length. Prop set up 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 your talent presentation. At the contestant registration dancer passes must be purchased for ALL dancers in your talent presentation. If they do not have a pass, they may NOT appear in your talent presentation.

Music for your talent presentation (preliminary night) may be recorded on a Flash Drive or a CD-R (track 1) and clearly marked with your contestant's name only and Preliminary Talent. NO cassettes, CDs with multiple tracks or phones will be accepted. No commercially recorded CDs, CDs with multiple tracks or Flash Drives with multiple files will be accepted. Contestants are advised to make a back-up copy of your talent presentation and bring it to the pageant as a safety precaution. All talent presentation music MUST be turned in at your group talent rehearsal the day of competition. You will not receive this Flash Drive or CD-R back until the end of the pageant. Make sure to bring a rehearsal copy.

Your talent music must be recorded on a Flash Drive or CD-R as track one (1). You should have your crown number recorded as track two (2). IF you are changing your talent music should you make the top twelve please make sure you record your crowning number as track two (2) on that Flash Drive or CD-R as well.

We have allowed a limited amount of time for individual talent rehearsal. This will allow time for sound checks, blocking and lighting cues. Be sure you are well organized for this rehearsal. **Each contestant MUST attend rehearsal.** This is when your talent presentation is timed.

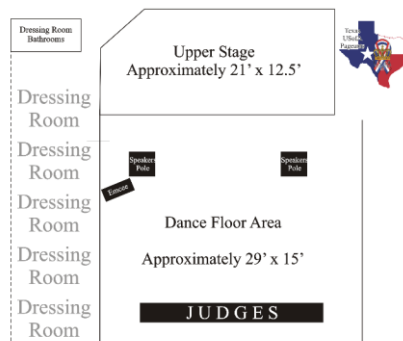
Back up dancers will be assigned a separate dressing area. Not the main contestant dressing area. You should be prepared at the contestant registration to let the pageant staff know the exact number of dancers and prop personnel you will require and purchase passes for each.

If you will be using any props for your talent presentation you must bring those props to Neon Boots at your assigned rehearsal time only! You may NOT bring props in at any other time. You must remove those props the same night as your talent presentation.

Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Contestants -- if you are changing your talent presentation on final night you must bring that music with you to the final night rehearsal. That will be the **ONLY TIME** you will be allowed to make changes to your final night talent presentation Your Final Night talent music must be recorded on a Flash Drive or CD-R as track one (1) and your crown number recorded as track two (2). If you feel you have made the top twelve (12) you **MUST** bring your props to Neon Boots at that time as well.

All competition will be held on the main stage and dance floor of Neon Boots. ***Please see the seating chart below for actual stage dimensions.*** Please use your rehearsal time to block out the stage area. Because of the limited space at Neon Boots, Texas USofA Pageants is urging each contestant to minimize the number of large props used. **ALL props must be free standing** and must be able to enter through a standard size doorway.

Remember that Texas USofA Pageants does not provide contestants with backstage staff for prop set up and tear down, although we will try to assist you with your props as much as possible. The backstage staff will NOT under any circumstance be responsible for any damage to your props while helping a contestant. Props may be stored **ONLY** the day of your talent presentation. Each contestant must secure his own storage for your props at all times. **ALL** props must be stored in a designated location inside Neon Boots. Please have your prop personnel prepared to carry your props onto the stage/dance floor and then back to the designated area as soon as your talent presentation is over.



Meetings and Rehearsals –

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

The Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large contestant registration will be held on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at the host club – Neon Boots.

The Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large contestant registration will be held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at the host hotel – Hampton Inn.

At these contestant registrations, all contestants will draw a contestant number for preliminary competition. You will be allowed one backstage dressing room assistant. They **MUST** pay entry into the club. You will only be allowed one person to enter the dressing room to assist you. If you have more than one assistant only **ONE** may enter at a time.

Competition for the **Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Pageant** will be held in two groups. After drawing your contestant number if you need to trade numbers with any contestant for any reason you will be given a limited time to do so.

General Information –

It is important to remember to bring plenty of towels from home to remove your make-up. Any contestant who uses hotel towels to remove make-up will be fined \$10.00 per towel and lose five (5) administrative points per towel. **SO please bring your own towels!**

Remember to bring this handbook with you to the pageant. It has all the information you will need. I would like to mention one point I would like every contestant to take to heart. We all gather once a year to select a new Mr. and Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large. The staff and I want your week to be a pleasant experience. I would like to state that **NO** damage to the any hotel or the host club will be tolerated! I want everyone to understand that I will help a hotel or the host club prosecute anyone who causes damage to either place. Let's all have a good and a safe time.

Each contestant is responsible for ensuring that each person in his/her party has proper identification. **Neon Boots is a 21 and over club. EVERYONE must have a valid state issued ID for entrance into the host club!** All persons except contestants will be required to be wrist banded or stamped at the door.

Presentation of Contestants –

For Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large –

The presentation theme is “**Versace on the Floor**”. Contestants are to wear anything Versace Inspired for the Runway

For Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large –

The theme is “**Best Little Pageant in Texas**”. Contestants are to wear sexy lingerie in any color BUT black. No black lingerie is allowed by the contestants.

Scoring –

For Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large –

Scoring for the Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large Contest will be done using the USofA comparative scoring system as follows:

Personal Interview	1 to 12 points
Fashion	1 to 12 points
Talent	2 to 24 points
	=====
Maximum possible points	48 points
	X 5 Judges (high and low scored dropped)
	=====
Subtotal	240 points

For Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large -

Preliminary Competition –

Scoring for the preliminary night of competition will be done accumulatively. Each judge will give each contestant a score based on his/her performance in the category without any 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
Fashion	1 to 12 points
Talent	2 to 24 points
	=====
Maximum possible points	48 points
	X 5 judges (high and low scores dropped)
	=====
Total	240 points

There will be five (5) judges all week long with two (2) judges added for final night. The twelve (12) contestants with the highest scores will become the finalists. The scoring system will select the finalists without regard to groups.

Final Night Competition –

The top twelve (12) contestants with the highest accumulative scores from preliminary competition will be scored comparatively for final night as follows:

Personal Interview	1 to 12 points (carried over from preliminary)
Evening Gown	1 – 12 points
Talent	2 – 24 points
	=====

<i>Maximum possible points</i>	<i>48 points</i>
	X 5 judges (high and low scores dropped)
	=====
Total	240 points

Score sheets and judges comment sheets for the Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large contest will be available immediately following the announcement of winners.

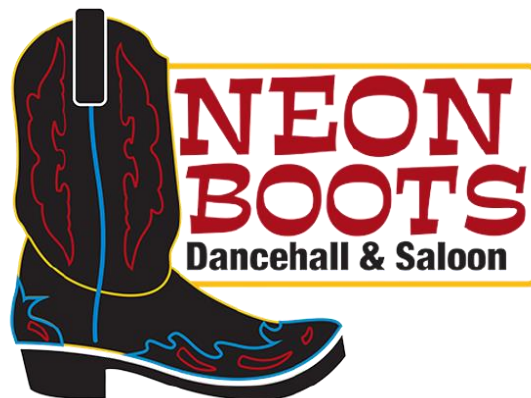
The preliminary night score sheets and judges comment sheets and final night score sheets and judges comment sheets for Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large will be available to all contestants immediately following the crowning of Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large.

Additional Information –

For additional information regarding the 2021 Mr. or Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Contest/Pageant contact Craig Henderson at 713-213-7350.

Host Club –

This year the host club for the Mr. and Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large is Neon Boots in Houston, Texas. Neon Boots is a 21 and over club. You **MUST PRESENT** valid identification to enter the club. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!** Neon Boots is located at 11410 Hempstead Rd, Houston, TX. The phone number of Neon Boots is 832-582-5022.



11410 Hempstead Road – Houston, TX

Schedule of Events –

Tuesday – July 20, 2021 – Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Preliminary Night

12:00 pm	Contestant Registration	Hampton Inn
2:00 pm	Group One Talent Rehearsal	Neon Boots
3:00 pm	Group Two Talent Rehearsal	Neon Boots
9:00 pm	Doors Open	Neon Boots
9:00 pm	All Contestants Check in	Neon Boots
10:00 pm	Pageant Begins	Neon Boots

Wednesday – July 21, 2021 – Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large

12:00 pm	Contestant Registration	Neon Boots
1:00 pm	Contestant Lunch	Neon Boots
1:30 pm	Opening Production Rehearsal	Neon Boots
2:00 pm	Talent Rehearsal	Neon Boots
2:00 pm	Interview – Mr. Gay Texas USofA at Large	Neon Boots
3:30 pm	Interview - Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large	Hampton Inn
8:00 pm	Doors Open	Neon Boots
8:00 pm	All Contestant check in	Neon Boots
9:00 pm	Contest Begins	

Thursday – July 22, 2021 – Miss Gay Texas USofA at Large Final Night

12:00 pm	Contestant Lunch	Neon Boots
1:00 pm	Opening Production Rehearsal	Neon Boots
8:00 pm	Doors Open	Neon Boots
8:00 pm	All Contestants Check in	Neon Boots
9:00 pm	Pageant Begins	Neon Boots



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