

2019
**Mr. Gay USofA At Large
& Mr. Gay USofA
CONTESTANT HANDBOOK**

**Mr. Gay USofA At Large - October 14 & 15, 2019
Mr. Gay USofA - October 16, 17 & 18, 2019**



**The Rose Room at S4
3911 Cedar Springs Road - Dallas, TX 75219**

Honoring
Mr. Gay USofA at Large 2018
Ry'Yon Tajoure
AND
Mr. Gay USofA 2018
Angel



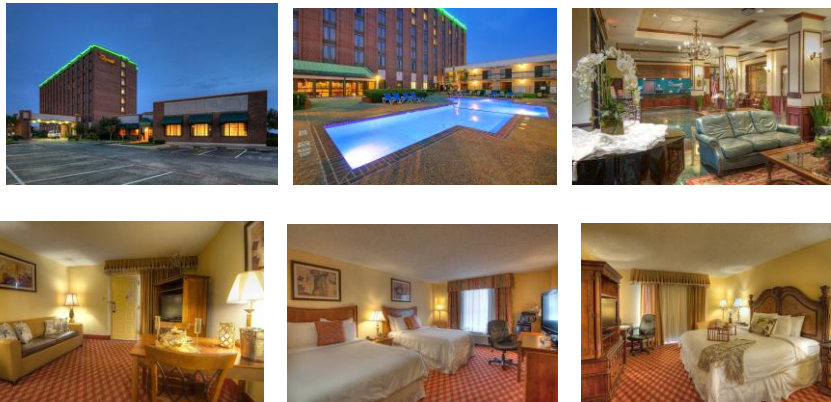
Rules and Regulations –

1. Contestants for the Mr. Gay USofA at Large and Mr. Gay USofA Contests must be born male and 21 years of age by the National Pageant to enter. All contestants should be prepared to present a valid, non-expired state issued ID at Registration. Contestants may not compete until the identification has been presented
2. All contestants for the Mr. Gay USofA at Large Contest must weigh at least 200 lbs. at both their preliminary contest and the national contest.
3. Judging will be on a total point accumulated system. Score sheets will be provided by USofA Pageants LLC. Ties will be broken by the higher talent score.
4. Contestants will be judges in the following categories:
 - Personal Interview
 - Club Wear/Fashion
 - Talent
5. Talent presentation will be limited to seven (7) minutes. Prop set up and tear down time will be limited to five (5) minutes. 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 will be timed at rehearsals and any presentation over seven (7) minutes will have administrative points deducted.
6. Any type of talent presentation is acceptable except those which might cause injury to the audience or any other person. No glitter, fire or water of any kind (including paint) may be used in any talent presentation. No live animals will be allowed in any 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.
7. The use of or dispensing of any illegal drugs or marijuana will not be tolerated while a contestant is participating in any USofA Pageants LLC event. Immediate disqualification will result for anyone who breaks this rule.
8. Any contestant who is not at their appointed place at the appointed time will lose administrative points.
9. Any contestant, contestant's dancer(s), helper(s), etc. who is caught in the act of stealing or tampering with any other person's property will be disqualified and immediately removed from the location of the contest.
10. USofA Pageants LLC does not discriminate against any contestant with silicone or hormones. The use of silicone or hormones will not be considered by any judge while scoring either contest.
11. Once a contestant has placed as 1st Alternate in a preliminary contest they may not enter another preliminary within that system. They must go to the national contest with that placement.
12. Any contestant who qualifies to compete in the national contest and fails to attend will be banned from the system for a period of at least one (1) year and must pay back any prize monies to their promoter and pay a \$125 fine to the national promoter.
13. Once an individual has won any USofA National Title (Miss Gay USofA, Mr. Gay USofA, Miss Gay USofA at Large, Mr. Gay USofA at Large, Miss Gay USofA Classic, Mister USofA MI, Mister USofA MI Classic, Miss DIVA USofA or Miss Gay USofA Newcomer) they may not compete in any Pageant or Contest until the end of their reign.
14. USofA Pageants LLC and Craig Henderson reserve the right to make any decision concerning any matter not covered by these rules and regulations.

Accommodations –

The **MCM Elegante Hotel & Suites** will be the host hotel for the 2019 Mr. Gay USofA at Large and Mr. Gay USofA Contests. **ALL** contestants, for the Mr. Gay USofA at Large Contest, held on Monday and Tuesday, October 14th and 15th and for the Mr. Gay USofA Contest, held on Wednesday through Friday, October 16th through the 18th are required to secure accommodations at the host hotel. **ANY EXCEPTIONS FOR LOCAL CONTESTANTS MUST BE CLEARED THROUGH THE NATIONAL OFFICE BEFORE THE CONTEST BEGINS.**

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 eight (8) miles from the Rose Room at Station 4. 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.



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=2313060>

Reservations must be made online where you will have a choice of Standard King or Standard Double rooms. The rate is \$92.00 per room per night plus tax.

There are Cabana suites which face the pool, and a Concierge (card access only) Floor available but you must contact the hotel directly to reserve those rooms. 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.

ALL Reservations must be made by September 1, 2019

If you call the hotel directly you must identify yourself as a member of the **Mr. Gay USofA at Large group** to receive the discounted rate. If you do not have reservations at the host hotel, you could lose administrative points.

All Reservations must be guaranteed on a major Credit Card

The host hotel will place a \$50 incidental deposit hold on your credit card upon check in. PLEASE bring towels with you to remove any glitter and/or make up. There will be additional charges to your credit card for ANY damages to your hotel room(s), towels, bed linens, comforters or hotel items in your room(s)!

PROMOTERS – if you plan on paying for your contestant(s) room(s) but will not be in attendance the Host Hotel **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 the Rose Room at Station 4 (S4) on any night of competition. All dressing room assistants, dancers, prop personnel, managers, lovers, etc. must pay admission to all events. The Rose Room and Station 4 (S4) is an 18 an over club. All persons entering Station 4 (S4) **MUST** have a valid ID.

- Mr. Gay USofA at Large – Preliminary Night - \$15.00 - Monday
- Mr. Gay USofA at Large – Final Night - \$20.00 - Tuesday
- Mr. Gay USofA – Preliminary Nights - \$15.00 – Wed & Thurs
- Mr. Gay USofA – Final Night - \$40.00 – Friday

If you desire reserved seating – you can purchase that in advance by contacting Craig Henderson at txcraigann@aol.com or by calling 713-213-7350.

Prizes –

Mr. Gay USofA –

TOP THREE FINALISTS

Mr. Gay USofA - \$1500.00*

1st Alternate - \$500.00

2nd Alternate - \$250.00

Mr. Gay USofA at Large –

TOP THREE FINALISTS

Mr. Gay USofA at Large - \$750.00**

1st Alternate - \$250.00

2nd Alternate - \$150.00

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 following the announcement of the winner.

*Mr. Gay USofA will receive \$1000.00 upon winning and the balance of the prize money after having completed the obligations of the reign which includes being present and performing all nights of the Mr. Gay USofA 2020 Contest.

**Mr. Gay USofA at Large will receive \$500.00 upon winning and the balance of the prize money after having completed the obligations of the reign which includes being present and performing all nights of the Mr. Gay USofA At Large 2020 Contest.

Applications –

The deadline for submitting your application for Mr. Gay USofA at Large is October 14, 2019 and for Mr. Gay USofA is October 16, 2019. Everyone should have an application filled out before you get to registration. Please fill out your application and sign it before you get to registration.

YOU MUST BRING YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION WITH YOU TO YOUR RESPECTIVE REGISTRATION.

If you have any questions regarding the application process please call Craig Henderson at 713-213-7350.



Mr. Gay USofA at Large
Mr. Gay USofA
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 USofA at Large and Mr. Gay USofA Contests, hereinafter referred to as the "contests", their agents, servants and employees from any liabilities and/or responsibility whatsoever from, associated with or arising out of my participation in the "contest" and/or the title of Mr. Gay USofA at Large or Mr. Gay USofA, 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 "contests" 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 "contests". 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 "contests" 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

Host Club – The Rose Room at Station 4 (S4) –

This year the Mr. Gay USofA at Large and Mr. Gay USofA Contests will be held in the “World Famous” ROSE ROOM at Station 4 (S4) in Dallas, Texas. Station 4 (S4) is an 18 and over club. You **MUST PRESENT** valid identification to enter the club. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**



Station 4 (S4) is located at 3911 Cedar Springs Road, Dallas, TX 75219. The phone number for the Rose Room at Station 4 (S4) is 214-526-7171.

Club Wear/Fashion Competition –

Club Wear is only featured in the Mr. Gay USofA and Mr. Gay USofA at Large Contests. In 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 choice 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 and skinny ties,
- Classic, skinny and 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 colors.
- 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.

Personal Interview Competition –

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 and can range from casual daywear to professional corporate attire. Your interview will be held at the host hotel.

Talent Competition –

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.

SUBMITTING TALENT AND CROWNING MEDIA

Media for the Talent category and for crowning is to be submitted at TALENT REHEARSAL on a USB Flash Drive or CD-R using the following naming conventions:

Contestant Name Talent
Contestant Name Crowning

FORMAT

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. A CD-R with talent burned as Track 1 may be submitted. If using audio only on final night, include crowning music as Track 2. Your name should be clearly marked the CD-R. 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 and/or video and bring it to the pageant as a safety precaution.

TALENT REHEARSAL

Each contestant MUST attend rehearsal for their group. All talent/crowning music and/or video will be turned in at Talent Rehearsal. You will not receive your talent 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.

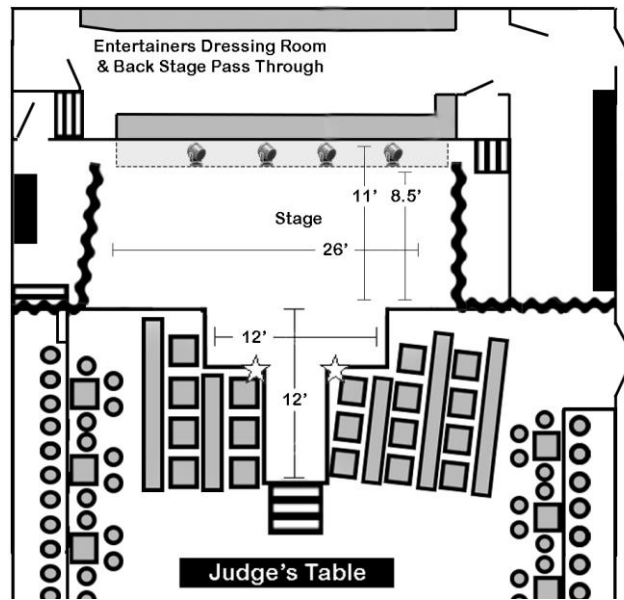
DANCERS/PROPS

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 Mr. Gay USofA at Large and Mr. Gay USofA Contests will be held in the Rose Room at Station 4 (S4) (see diagram). 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. These 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).

Meetings and Rehearsals –

Because of the logistics associated with organizing the Mr. Gay USofA at Large and Mr. Gay USofA Contests, 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 USofA at Large contestant registration will be held on Monday, October 14, 2019 at the Host Hotel. At contestant registration you will draw your contestant number.

Contestants for Mr. Gay USofA will have their contestant registration on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at the Host Hotel. At your contestant registration, you will draw your contestant number. You will be allowed a short time to change groups if you choose to. Preliminary competition will be done in 4 groups for the Mr. Gay USofA Contest.

PLEASE NOTE -- No extra helpers will be allowed in the dressing area. If you have more than one assistant, only **one** may enter at a time.

Contestant Coordinator –

This year Craig Henderson is proud to announce that **Joe Hoselton (a/k/a Jenna Skyy)** will serve as contestant coordinator to assist you during the week in Dallas, Texas. His job is to help ensure that you have an enjoyable time during your experience at this year's

contest. He is your point of contact with USofA and will be available to all the contestants daily. He will be reporting to the National Promoter daily on all matters.

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 lose 5 administrative points **per towel**, so bring your own. Remember to bring this handbook with you to the contest. 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 Mr. Gay USofA at Large and Mr. Gay USofA. The staff and I want your week to be a pleasant experience. I would like to state that no damage to the Host Bar or Host Hotel will be tolerated. I want everyone to understand that I will help the Host Bar and the Host Hotel prosecute any person or persons causing damage to either place. Let's have a good, safe time! Each contestant is responsible for ensuring that each person in his party has proper identification. Station 4 (S4) is an 18 and over club. **Everyone must have a valid ID for entrance.** Please do not ask 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. **You must have a valid ID for entry to the club.**

Presentation of Contestants –

All contestants are required to appear on stage for the Presentation of Contestants. The Presentation of Contestants is not a scored category of competition.

Contestants for Mr. Gay USofA at Large will be presented on **Tuesday, October 15, 2019**. The theme for Mr. Gay USofA at Large is **“Game to the Throne, Make your Move”**. Ry’Yon is asking the contestants to be in ALL RED warrior/knight attire as Ry’Yon’s PAWNS (like the game of Chess). Formers will be in all white (Kings of my Game) and the USofA Royalty will be in all black (King and Queen of my Game), like a king/queen knight.

Contestants for Mr. Gay USofA will be presented on **Friday, October 18, 2019**. The theme for Mr. Gay USofA is **“ANGELS”**. Angel is asking the contestants to wear WHITE DRESS PANTS (no jeans) and a long sleeve light blue shirt. Angel will provide contestants with wings at registration that will be ironed on the shirt. Formers need to choose a color and then do their own interpretation of Angels with Wings. Formers need to let Angel know what color they choose as there will be no repeat of colors and NO white or baby blue. USofA Royalty will wear their own interpretation of angels but cannot use white or baby blue.

Scoring – For Mr. Gay USofA at Large & Mr. Gay USofA

Preliminary Competition –

Preliminary nights 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
Club Wear	1 to 12 points
Talent	2 to 24 points

Maximum possible points	48 points

Total X 5 judges (high and low dropped)	240 points

For Mr. Gay USofA at Large and for Mr. Gay USofA there will be seven Judges and the high and the low scores will be dropped. The Twelve Contestants with the highest scores will become the finalists.

Final Competition –

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 <i>(carried over prelim score)</i>
Club Wear/Fashion	1 to 12 points
Talent	2 to 24 points

Maximum possible points	48 points

Total X 5 judges (high and low dropped)	240 points

The preliminary score sheets and judges comment sheets will be available to contestants following the announcement of the winners. The finalists will receive their judges comment sheets and a copy of the master score sheet after the announcement of the winners. The top 3 will receive their prize money at a location to be announced

Additional Information –

To obtain additional information regarding the Mr. Gay USofA at Large Contest or the Mr. USofA Contest please contact Craig Henderson at chenderson@usofa.org or by calling 713-213-7350



www.mrgayusofaatlarge.com



www.mrgayusofa.com

Schedule of Events –

Monday – October 14, 2019 – MR. GAY USofA AT LARGE

11:00 am	Contestant Registration	MCM Elegante
1:00 pm	Interview	MCM Elegante
2:00 pm	Talent Rehearsal	Rose Room
9:00 pm	Doors Open	Station 4 (S4)
9:00 pm	All Contestant Check In	Rose Room
10:00 pm	Contest Begins	

Tuesday – October 15, 2019 - MR. GAY USofA AT LARGE

12:00 noon	Luncheon <i>Contestants, Promoters, Judges, Staff, Entertainers & VIP Guests ONLY</i>	Rose Room
1:00 pm	Opening Presentation Rehearsal <i>Contestants & Titleholders</i>	Rose Room
8:00 pm	Doors Open	Station 4 (S4)
8:00 pm	All Contestant Check In	Rose Room
9:00 pm	Contest Begins	

Wednesday – October 16, 2019 – MR. GAY USofA

12:00 noon	Contestant Registration	MCM Elegante
2:00 pm	Talent Rehearsal Groups 3 & 4	Rose Room
2:00 pm	Interview Groups 1 & 2	MCM Elegante
9:00 pm	Doors Open	Station 4 (S4)
9:00 pm	Contestant Check In Groups 1 & 2	Rose Room
10:00 pm	Club Wear Competition	
10:00 pm	Contestant Check In Groups 3 & 4	Rose Room
10:30 pm	Talent Competition Groups 3 & 4	

Thursday – October 17, 2019 – MR. GAY USofA

2:00 pm	Talent Rehearsal Groups 1 & 2	Rose Room
2:00 pm	Interview Groups 3 & 4	MCM Elegante
9:00 pm	Doors Open	Station 4 (S4)
9:00 pm	Contestant Check In Groups 3 & 4	Rose Room
10:00 pm	Club Wear Competition	
10:00 pm	Contestant Check In Groups 1 & 2	Rose Room
10:30 pm	Talent Competition Groups 1 & 2	

Friday – October 18, 2019 – MR. GAY USofA

12:00 noon	Luncheon <i>Contestants, Promoters, Judges, Staff, Entertainers & VIP Guests ONLY</i>	Rose Room
12:45 pm	Opening Presentation Rehearsal <i>Contestants & Title Holders</i>	Rose Room
2:00 pm	Promoters Meeting	MCM Elegante
8:00 pm	Doors Open	Station 4 (S4)
8:00 pm	All Contestants Check In	Rose Room
9:00 pm	Final night begins	Rose Room

**Remember to bring this handbook
with you to the contest.**

