



Dear Contestant,

Welcome to the exciting world of Gay Days®, the world's largest Gay & Lesbian Vacation destination event! The Miss Gay Days Pageant will be part of the most exciting week of events, expos, and parties. We are excited the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Gay Days® Orlando and the Miss Gay Days Pageant are hosted at the DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld, May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

This year's pageant theme will be **"INSPIRATIONS of TIM BURTON!"** Each of the contestants (twenty max) will be allowed to select one (1) of almost forty (40) approved Tim Burton Films as inspiration on a first come, first served basis.

The Miss Gay Days Pageant candidate application deadline is Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The pageant will be held Tuesday through Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. The pageant will begin with registration and Kick-Off party on Tuesday, interviews and rehearsals on Wednesday, Taste of Gay Days on Thursday, with the final pageant and crowning Friday evening.

This handbook will contain all the information that you need for the pageant. Please remember to print it and bring it with you the pageant. If you have any questions not answered within the following pages, or to obtain additional information, please e-mail [pageant@GayDayS.com](mailto:pageant@GayDayS.com) or call 407-896-8431 ext. 104, and reference the 2017 Miss Gay Days Pageant.

\*\*Prizes for the winner include:

- \$1,850 cash (\$900 paid after crowning, \$950 paid at the end of contractual obligations)
- A professional action shot from the fashion walk category
- Flight and accommodations for Gay Days® Orlando 2018.
- Flight, accommodations, and booking fee of \$125 for additional Gay Days® events, prides, and festivals (notice will be provided at least 30 days prior to booking).

Good Luck and as Tim Burton would say, ***"One person's craziness is another person's reality."***

Gay Days®, Inc.  
[www.GayDayS.com](http://www.GayDayS.com)



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"All rights reserved."*



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## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Candidates must submit all of the following for the application to be considered complete:
  - a. A completed Miss Gay Days Pageant Official Application which will include:
    - i. Personal information (Stage and legal name, age, date of birth, and contact information)
    - ii. Brief personal biography
    - iii. Community involvement, accolades, and awards
    - iv. Any Social Media links (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)
    - v. Responses to two questions
    - vi. Type of talent that will be performed
    - vii. List of additional personnel and their role or relationships (dancers, assistants, dressers, stylists, employees, significant others or other helpers)
    - viii. List of sponsors
    - ix. Three Tim Burton film options
  - b. One (1) 5"x7" headshot photo in full performance attire
    - i. If digitally submitted must be a minimum resolution of 300dpi
  - c. One (1) 5"x7" photo of contestants as themselves.
  - d. Non-refundable entrance fee of \$175.00 submitted online at [www.GayDayS.com](http://www.GayDayS.com). Cash or checks will not be accepted for the entrance fee.
2. Applications must be submitted by email to [Pageant@GayDayS.com](mailto:Pageant@GayDayS.com) in one single email.
  - a. Subject of email must include contestant stage name and Miss Gay Days 2016 Pageant Application
  - b. Body of email must include date payment was made and the following attachments:
    - i. Application as one (1) multi-page PDF document
    - ii. Required photos as individual files
    - iii. Proof of on-line payment as one (1) single page PDF document
3. Applications and Entrance Fees are due by 10:00 pm EST on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Applications received after the deadline will be accepted but will be assessed per day penalty fee of \$25.00 per day.
4. By signing and submitting an application, candidates attest that they have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Miss Gay Days 2016 Pageant.

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## ACCOMMODATIONS



1. The DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld is the official host hotel for the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Gay Days® Orlando 2016 and the Miss Gay Days 2016 Pageant. The hotel is located at: 10100 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32821  
Reservations may be made online at [www.GayDayS.com](http://www.GayDayS.com) or by calling 888-942-9329.
2. It is *not required, but highly recommended* that all Miss Gay Days 2017 Pageant contestants secure accommodations at the DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld for the duration of the pageant. Contestants are responsible for the payment for their lodging accommodations.
  - a. Those not staying at the host hotel are required to be present for check-in, pageant meetings, and all pageant events and competitions.
  - b. Contestants not staying at the host hotel will also receive one parking pass for parking at the host hotel (based on availability of parking spaces).
3. Gay Days® will not provide travel accommodations for the Miss Gay Days Pageant. Contestants are responsible for scheduling and payment for their own airfare or other transportation to the Miss Gay Days Pageant. They are also responsible for any and all transportation expenses before, during, and after the Miss Gay Days Pageant.

#### PAGEANT INFORMATION

1. Registration will take place Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm at the DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld. All contestant information will be verified, copies of all participant Identifications will be made, and information regarding location and time of the Mandatory Pageant Participant Meeting will be provided. Failure to register during registration period will result in disqualification.
2. Music must be submitted at time of registration and be clearly marked with contestant's name. Cassette tapes or CD's will not be accepted. Contestants who do not submit their USB Thumb Drive at time of registration may be subject to scoring penalization.
  - Track 1 – Themed Presentation Music
  - Track 2 – Talent with Swimsuit Music
3. Each contestant will be allotted forty-five (45) minutes for individual rehearsal on Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Rehearsals should be utilized for sound checks, blocking and lighting cues, familiarization with the performance space, and ensuring time restrictions are able to be met. Contestants should be well organized to best utilize the limited time provided and allow for the timing of required performances.
4. The Miss Gay Days Pageant is held at the DoubleTree by Hilton at SeaWorld. Personal interviews take place on Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, and will not be open to the public. However, interviews will be recorded and posted on Official Gay Days® social media sites after all interviews have been completed. Remaining categories will take place on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, beginning promptly at 6:00 pm, and the audience will be open to people of all ages. Call time for Friday's pageant event is



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4:00 pm. All contestants, performers, and other helpers must check in with the Pageant Manager's by 4:00 pm or may be subject to penalization.

5. Glitter, confetti, fire, liquids, and live animals are **strictly prohibited**. Any contestant attempting to utilize any of the aforementioned will be immediately disqualified, removed from the pageant area, and required to pay for cleaning required and/or repair of any damage caused.
6. Contestants will be allowed to select their "Inspirations of Tim Burton" on a first come, first served basis. Films selected should be utilized as the inspiration for the Themed Presentation category.
  - A. The following is a list of the approved Tim Burton film options:
    - 9
    - Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter
    - Alice in Wonderland
    - Alice Through the Looking Glass
    - Batman, Batman Forever
    - Batman Returns
    - Beetlejuice
    - Big Eyes
    - Big Fish
    - Cabin Boy
    - Catwoman
    - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
    - Coraline
    - Corpse Bride
    - Dark Shadows
    - Ed Wood
    - Edward Scissorhands
    - Frankenweenie
    - Hoffa
    - James and the Giant Peach
    - Maleficent
    - Mars Attacks!
    - Mary Reilly
    - Men in Black 3
    - Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children
    - Pee-Wee's Big Adventure
    - Planet of the Apes
    - Singles
    - Sleepy Hollow
    - Stay Tuned
    - Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street
    - The Black Cauldron
    - The Fox and the Hound
    - The Lord of the Rings
    - The Muppet Movie
    - The Nightmare Before Christmas
    - Tron
    - Waking Sleeping Beauty



7. Judged Categories will be as follows:

- a. **Personal Interview** – Up to 15 minutes in length. The showcase of “*who you are as a person.*” Contestants should interview in their everyday gender preference. Interviews will be video recorded, and posted on official Gay Days® social media sites.
- b. **Themed Presentation** – 2-minute time limit. The opportunity to introduce yourself, and your theme of “Inspirations of Tim Burton.”
- c. **Talent & Swimwear** – 5-minute time limit with 2 minutes of setup and tear down times. An on-stage performance of your choice, featuring a “Swimwear” look.
- d. **Fashion Walk & Evening Gown** – 1-minute time limit. The opportunity to present your elegance and poise in evening gown fashion incorporating **red**, the official color of Gay Days®, INC.
- e. **Final On-Stage Question** – The opportunity to showcase your public speaking skills.

SCORING

1. Scoring for the Miss Gay Days Pageant will cumulative. Judges will assign each contestant a score for each category based on their personal performance. Performances will be scored individually without comparison to other performances. With this scoring, more than one contestant may receive the same score.
2. Judging score allocation will be as follows:
  - a. Personal Interview Maximum of 10 points per judge
  - b. Presentation Maximum of 10 points per judge
  - c. Themed Talent & Swimwear Maximum of 20 points per judge
  - d. Evening Gown Maximum of 10 points per judge
  - e. Judge’s Final Question Maximum of 10 points per judge
3. Administrative score allocation will be as follows:
  - a. Administrative Points = Maximum of 50 points
    - i. All contestants will begin the competition with 25 Administrative points. Points may be gained for a maximum of 50 points, or removed to a minimum of 0 points at the discretion of the Creative Director of Entertainment and Pageant Coordinator.
    - ii. Administrative points may be gained by attending and interacting at Official Gay Days® events throughout the week, to be given by SteveEric’s, Creative Director of Entertainment, Joseph Clark, Director of Food & Beverage and/or Chris & Tommy Manley, Owners of Gay Days Inc.
    - iii. Pageant Manager’s will maintain documentation of all penalties or gained administrative points. All penalties will be consistent throughout the competition.



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## AWARDS & EXPECTATIONS

1. Prizes are as follows:
  - a. Winner:
    - i. Cash prize: \$1,850.00 (\$900 paid after crowning, \$950 paid at the end of contractual obligations)
    - ii. A professional action shot from the fashion walk category (for EACH contestant)
    - iii. Flight, accommodations, and booking fee of \$125 for additional Gay Days® events, prides, and festivals (notice will be provided at least 30 days prior to booking).
  - b. Runner Up:
    - i. Cash prize: \$200.00
2. Gay Days®, Inc. requires the Miss Gay Days titleholder to sign a contract with Gay Days®, Inc. prior to the disbursement of any prize money. Refusal or failure to sign contract will result in forfeiture of title and all prize money.



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## Schedule of Pageant Events

October, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 – Saturday

9:00 AM Pageant Application Submissions Open

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Sunday

10:00 PM Application Submissions Close

May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Tuesday (events take place at the DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld)

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Contestant Registration & Fill Out Paperwork Great Lakes Ballroom  
1:00 PM Mandatory Contestant Meeting  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM Official Gay Days® Kick-Off Party – Contestants are to appear in full face with a 6:30 PM call.

May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – Wednesday

### REHEARSALS

8:00 – 8:45 AM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #1
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #2
10:00 – 10:45 AM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #3
11:00 – 11:45 AM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #12
12:00 – 12:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #11
1:00 – 1:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #10
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #9
3:00 – 3:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #8
4:00 – 4:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #7
5:00 – 5:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #4
6:00 – 6:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #5
7:00 – 7:45 PM	Talent Rehearsal	Contestant #6

\*\* Talent Rehearsals are scheduled for a maximum of 45 minutes with a 15-minute break between rehearsals. Rehearsal time will begin and end promptly on schedule

### INTERVIEWS

3:00 – 3:15 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #1
3:20 – 3:35 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #2
3:40 – 3:55 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #3
4:00 – 4:15 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #4
4:20 – 4:35 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #5
4:40 – 4:55 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #6
5:00 – 6:00 PM	<b>DINNER BREAK</b>	



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6:00 – 6:15 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #7
6:20 – 6:35 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #8
6:40 – 6:55 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #9
7:00 – 7:15 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #10
7:20 – 7:35 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #11
7:40 – 7:55 PM	Personal Interview	Contestant #12

\*\* Personal Interviews are scheduled for a maximum of 15 minutes with a 5-minute break between contestants. Interviews will also be audio/video recorded and distributed to the judges for review as they finalize scores, and posted on official Gay Days® social media sites.

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – Thursday

7:00 – 9:00 AM	Additional time to rehearse on stage WITHOUT sound/light technicians IF NEEDED
6:00 – 10:00 PM	Taste of Gay Days - Contestants are to appear in full face for any given amount of time.

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 - Friday

4:00 PM	Pageant Call Time
5:30 PM	Doors Open to Public
6:00 PM	Pageant & Crowning of Miss Gay Days 2017
10:00 PM	Pageant Commences

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 - Saturday

TBD	Miss Gay Days 2017 Winner's Performance
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***Schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the SteveEric's, Creative Director of Entertainment or the Miss Gay Days Pageant Manager's. Any changes will be promptly communicated to contestants and made available in writing.***