

Miss Gay Arlington Pageant



April 28, 2012

*Presented by the
Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance*

*Pageant to be held at
Freddie's Beach Bar & Restaurant
555 23rd Street South
Arlington, VA 22202*

For more information contact Daniel Hays at daniel@agla.org.

Miss Gay Arlington Pageant

Welcome to the 2nd annual Miss Gay Arlington Pageant. This packet contains the information you need to register for the pageant and prepare yourself for the competition scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2012 at Freddie's Beach Bar and Restaurant in Arlington, VA.

The theme of the 2012 pageant is **Mardi Gras**. There will be 4 categories, each to be judged on creativity, design and structure of apparel/costume, stage presence, appearance, and overall look. The categories are: 1) Presentation (something incorporating a Mardi Gras mask and conveying the Mardi Gras theme); 2) Talent; 3) Evening Gown; and 4) On Stage Question.

The following information is enclosed in this packet:

1. Official rules and regulations
2. Pageant category explanations
3. Official contestant application
4. Acknowledgement and Waiver
5. Talent Category Information

The deadline for returning the completed application to the Miss Gay Arlington team for consideration as a contestant in this contest is 6:00 pm Saturday, April 28, 2012.

If you have any questions regarding the contest or the application process, please do not hesitate to contact the Director of Miss Gay Arlington, Daniel Hays at (703) 254-3841 or daniel@agla.org.

Good luck in your quest for the Miss Gay Arlington 2012 crown!

Official Rules and Regulations

- 1) All Miss Gay Arlington contestants must be at least 21 years of age and have valid government-issued photo identification with them during the contest. Proof of age and gender are required when you turn in your completed application. There is a \$25 contestant entry fee due with your completed application.
- 2) The Miss Gay Arlington pageant is open to all who portray a female persona.
- 3) The winner of Miss Gay Arlington will receive a cash prize of \$300.00, the Miss Gay Arlington crown and sash, flowers, entrance in the 2012 Capital Pride parade, and 2 bookings at Freddie's beach Bar and Restaurant. The cash prize will be awarded as follows: \$150 upon completion of the 2012 pageant and the remaining \$150 at the completion of the 2013 pageant. The crown must be returned to the Director of the Miss Gay Arlington pageant upon demand of the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance Board of Directors.
- 4) Previous winners of the Miss Gay Arlington title are not eligible to compete in this pageant.
- 5) The winner of Miss Gay Arlington is obligated to appear in drag wearing the Miss Gay Arlington crown and sash to represent the Miss Gay Arlington title and the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance at the Capital Pride Parade.
- 6) The winner of the Miss Gay Arlington title will conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times while holding the title of Miss Gay Arlington.
- 7) Unless otherwise excused by the Director of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant, all contestants are required to attend a contestant's meeting. This meeting is your opportunity to go over any issues or questions you may have before the pageant.
- 8) Contestants will be judged in the following categories: Presentation, Talent, Evening Gown and On Stage Question.
- 9) The contestant's order in the contest will be determined during the meeting by a random drawing of contestant's names.
- 10) There will be a total of five (5) judges.
- 11) Olympic scoring is used in the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant. That is, the highest score and the lowest score for each contestant will be dropped. Only the remaining three (3) scores for that category will be counted for each contestant.
- 12) For each category, a judge can award up to 100 points. Using Olympic scoring, the highest total point value a contestant can receive for a category is 300 points.
- 13) Each category is evenly weighted; that is, no category is more important than any other. If a tie exists, the scores from the Evening Gown category will be used to break the tie. If one still exists, then the scores from Talent category will be used and if a tie still exists, then scores from the Presentation category will be used.
- 14) The theme for the Presentation category is "Mardi Gras". No backups are allowed for the Presentation category and the contestant must incorporate a Mardi Gras mask in their costume.
- 15) You are allowed no more than three (3) minutes for the Presentation category, no more than seven (7) minutes for your Talent presentation (INCLUDING ANY SET-UP/BREAK-DOWN), and no more than two (2) minutes for your individual Evening Gown presentation.
- 16) Any type of Talent presentation is acceptable with the following exceptions: no Talent presentation may cause harm to, or damage the facility or patrons in any way. No explosive devices, fire in any shape or form, smoke, strobe lighting, or animals (live or dead), glitter, etc. can be used at any time.
- 17) Any contestant that goes over the allotted time for each category will have their music immediately ended by the DJ and asked to leave the stage. It is the contestant's responsibility to ensure that their presentations are within the specified time limits. Because of the number of contestants competing, no exceptions will be made to these time limits. Failure to abide by the

time restrictions or to leave the stage in an acceptable form for the next contestant will result in a score of zero (0) for that category.

- 18) **All music must be turned in to the Director of the Miss Gay Arlington pageant at the contestant meeting.** You must turn in two copies of your Talent audio recordings. Only audio CDs will be accepted. Each CD must be clearly marked with the contestant's name, track title and track number. The Miss Gay Arlington Pageant is not responsible for scratched CDs and the quality of the recording could effect the scoring of your Talent category.
- 19) All contestants will walk to the same music for the Evening Gown and Presentation categories, to be chosen by the Director of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant.
- 20) Each contestant is allowed up to four (4) backups for their Talent presentation. The names of the Talent backups must be provided when submitting the contestant application. Any changes to backups must be provided to the Miss Gay Arlington staff prior to the beginning of the show.
- 21) A Contestant may only have one (1) assistant in the dressing.
- 22) All assistants and/or helpers are required to pay the cover charge (\$10), at the door. Contestants are not required to pay the cover charge.
- 23) Any contestant, found using, or in possession of any illegal substance, or violates any law regarding the use or abuse of alcohol or drugs will immediately be disqualified and required to immediately leave the premises.
- 24) Any contestant's assistants or helpers, found using, or in possession of any illegal substance or violates any law regarding the use or abuse of alcohol or drugs will be required to immediately leave the premises. Disorderly conduct by any contestant and/or their assistants or helpers will not be tolerated and will be grounds for immediate disqualification.
- 25) Stealing or vandalism of any contestant's property of the facility by any contestant and/or their assistants will not be tolerated and will be grounds for immediate disqualification and removal from the premises.
- 26) Any contestant, helper, or assistant found to have accepted a gratuity of any kind (i.e. money, flowers, toys, plush, etc.) during the pageant will be disqualified from the pageant and required to immediately leave the premises.
- 27) Any contestant, assistant, or helper asked to leave the pageant and premises will not have their admission or entrance fee(s) refunded.
- 28) If the contestant chosen to represent Miss Gay Arlington is found to be representing the title in a demeaning or inappropriate manner or fails to solely represent the title during the required appearances, the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance Board of Directors will notify the winner that the title is being removed and the winner is no longer eligible to receive the second payment of the award money. Additionally, within seven (7) days of being informed that the title has been removed, the winner must return the crown to the Director of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant.
- 29) The winner must return the Miss Gay Arlington crown upon the request of the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance Board of Directors. The crown will be returned in the same condition it was provided less normal wear and tear. Should the crown be damaged or destroyed at anytime during the winner's reign, the winner is responsible for the full replacement cost of the crown.
- 30) If the title is removed from the winner of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant, the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance Board of Directors may bestow the title, crown, and remaining winnings to the First Runner-up.
- 31) Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance Board of Directors, the winner of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant may not run for or hold another crown or title during her reign as Miss Gay Arlington.
- 32) At no time can the Miss Gay Arlington crown be worn with any other crown.
- 33) All disagreements, misunderstandings, or arbitration shall rest solely with the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance Board of Directors.

Pageant Category Explanations

The Miss Gay Arlington Pageant consists of four (4) equally weighted categories: Presentation, Talent, Evening Gown and On Stage Question. Each category will have five (5) judges that have been selected for their expertise and you may receive a maximum of 100 points from each judge for each category. The highest and lowest score will be deleted and your score will be the sum of the remaining three judge's score for you for that category. The highest possible total score a contestant can receive for a category is 300 points.

Presentation

This category is very important, as it is the first time that the judges and the audience will see you. Your costume is to be any representation of the Mardi Gras theme; however the contestant must incorporate a Mardi Gras mask in their costume. Remember to be creative, clean, and have fun. You will have music provided for this category so you should not bring your own. You will have 3 minutes to present your costume to the judges. **All props used for your interpretation must be carried and held by the contestant at all times.** Anything that goes out on stage with the contestant must come back with the contestant. Please note that this is not a talent category. The contestant will be judged on how well they present the Mardi Gras theme.

The category will be judged as follows:

- Representation of theme: 0 to 20
- Condition of costume: 0 to 20
- Creativity: 0 to 20
- Stage Presence: 0 to 20
- Overall Look: 0 to 20
- Total possible points: 100 points

The total time allotted for this category per contestant is three (3) minutes.

Talent

This category is to show the contestant's talent and their ability to entertain. No more than four (4) backups may be used during the Talent category and the backups must always be the same four people. Backups are not required for the Talent category. The contestant and backups can make use of the entire stage.

For this category, the judges may look for the following:

- Does the talent entertain?
- Does the talent hold the audience's attention?
- Does the talent connect with the audience?
- Is the talent well staged?
- Does the contestant mime (lip-sync) well?
- Was any dancing executed well?

- Is the contestant the primary focus of the talent or did the set, props or backups detract from the contestant?
- Did the costume enhance the talent or detract from the talent?
- Is the costume in good condition?
- Is the contestant able to handle the costume?
- Are foundations or pads showing? Is any boy hair or male genitals showing?

The category will be judged as follows:

• Entertainment value	0 to 20
• Condition of costume	0 to 20
• Creativity	0 to 20
• Lip sync	0 to 20
• Overall look	0 to 20
Total	100 points possible

The total time allotted for this category per contestant is seven (7) minutes. No tipping is allowed during this category. Please see the “Rules and Regulations” for the specific rules governing this category.

Evening Gown

This category is to showcase the presentation of the contestant. Each contestant may wear any style gown that they wish. The suitability of the gown, appearance, presentation, and personal appearance will all be taken into account for this category. Tattoos, while allowed, should not detract from the contestant’s presentation.

For this category, the judges may look for the following:

- Does the gown fit the contestant? Is the gown the proper length for the style?
- Is the style of the gown complimentary to the contestant?
- Is the gown in good condition? Are there any loose beads, sequins, or threads showing?
- Is the contestant able to handle the gown?
- Are foundations or pads showing? Is any boy hair or male genitals showing?
- Does the contestant smile and walk well in this category?
- Does the contestant make eye contact with the audience?
- Is the contestant comfortable or nervous?
- Is the contestant’s hairstyle appropriate for the gown? Does it compliment the contestant?
- Is the contestant’s makeup done well?
- Do the contestant’s jewelry, shoes, and other accessories compliment them and their gown or detract from the presentation?

The category will be judged as follows:

• Overall Condition:	0 to 20
• Style:	0 to 20
• Hair:	0 to 20
• Stage Presence:	0 to 20
• Overall Look:	0 to 20
Total	100 points possible

The total time allotted for individual judging in this category per contestant is two (2) minutes. Contestant will walk individually and then will be presented as a group. All contestants will walk to the same music for the Evening Gown category to be chosen by the Director of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant. Please see the "Rules and Regulations" for the specific rules governing this category.

On Stage Question:

This is your time to show the judges your capability to speak and answer questions. You will not be provided with the question prior to the pageant. You should answer the question with poise, confidence, and stature. Contestants will select an envelope on stage to determine the question they will answer. This category will be directly after evening gown, so you are to stay in your gown for this category.

The category will be judged as follow:

- Answer of the Question: 0 to 20
- Speaking Ability: 0 to 20
- Stage Presence and Poise: 0 to 20
- Overall Appearance: 0 to 20
- Total 100 points possible

Official Contestant Application

All applications must be typed or printed legibly.

Contestant Stage Name _____

Contestant Legal Name _____

Birth Date _____

Street Address _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Telephone (Home) _____ Cell: _____

Email Address _____

How would you like to be introduced during the pageant?

Current titles that you hold plan to hold, or will be holding during the 2012-2013 year. Please refer to the Pageant Rules and Regulations on why it is important that you provide us with this information.

Are there any physical disabilities, handicaps, or any other information we should be aware of in order to assist you in this pageant? If so, please explain.

Acknowledgement and Waiver

I do hereby acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant Application Packet, read and understand the rules and regulations as they pertain to the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant and agree to abide by those rules and regulations.

I also grant permission to be photographed and/or videotaped and hereby waive all claims to any and all moving, digital, or still photographs, made by any and all photographers, Freddie's Beach Bar and Restaurant owners and employees, and any and all parties involved in the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant, as a result of participation in this contest or any of the required events.

Contestant's Signature (Legal Given Name)

Contestant's Printed Name (Legal Given Name)

Date

Daniel L. Hays
Director of the Miss Gay Arlington Pageant

Date

Talent Category Information

Contestant Name	
Music (artist and title) to be used	
Names of backups (if any)	
Special instructions (Use additional paper if necessary)	