

Capital City Pride Pageant Handbook

Welcome to Capital City Pride's Ms., Mr., and Mx., Capital City Pride Pageant. To those of you who have competed in the Capital City Pride Pageant in the past, welcome back! To those of you joining us for the first time this year, welcome! We're excited for you to join us.

This year's pageant will help us to kick off Pride Week in Des Moines, IA. We are excited to announce that the 2024 Capital City Pride Pageant will take place on June 1, 2024, 5pm CST at The Garden Restaurant and Show Lounge!

Below, you will find answers to most of your questions, in detail. If you happen to have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to Tyona Diamond

(dtfproductionsia@gmail.com)

- Contestants for the Capital City Pride (CCP) Contests must be a minimum of 21 years of age by the date of the Pageant to enter the Ms., Mr. and Mx. categories.
- Applications will be accepted on a first come first serve basis
- **NEW THIS YEAR** is a Teen category which represents all genders and identities 15-20 years old at the time of the pageant.
- Judging will be on a total point accumulated system. Score sheets will be provided by Capital City Pride. Tabulations will be completed (via an automated tabulation system) and reviewed by two representatives of Capital City Pride prior to the commencement of crowning. In the event of a tie; it will be broken by the HIGHER Talent score. If there is a tie in the talent competition, scores will then be broken by the higher Onstage Question and Answer score.
- Contestants will be judged in the following categories (in order):
 - a. Presentation
 - b. Talent
 - c. Formal Wear/Evening Gown
 - d. Onstage Questions and Answer
- The talent presentation will be limited to six (6) minutes. Prop set up and tear down time will be limited to four (4) minutes. Talent presentations will have scheduled time to rehearse with a DJ available for sound and lighting.
 - Talent rehearsal time will follow registration.
 - Each Contestant will be allotted 5 minutes to run through their talent portion.

- Please note, we will do our best with lightning queues requested; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to accommodate all requests. We would recommend keeping requests to a minimum.
- Any type of talent presentation is acceptable, except those which might cause injury to the audience or any other person. No glitter, fire (including explosives or pyrotechnics - known as fireworks) or water of any kind (including paint, fog, sealed containers containing any liquids, etc.) may be used in any talent presentation. No live animals will be allowed in any talent presentation.
- The use of or dispensing of any illegal drugs, including marijuana, will not be tolerated while a contestant is participating in any Capital City Pride event. Immediate disqualification will result for anyone who breaks this rule and requirement.
 - If a contestant is disqualified, they are required to return the prize package in full (including, but not limited to; Crown and/or Sash and prize monies).
 - If the winner of the Capital City Pride Pageant breaks this rule, or is no longer able to fulfill their duties, the first alternate will be appointed and granted the crown and/or sash and any prize monies upon receipt from the originally qualified winner of the Capital City Pride Pageant (Teen, Ms., Mr. or Mx.)
- Any contestant who is not at their appointed place at the appointed time will lose five (5) administrative points in 30-minute increments.
- Each contestant is allotted **ONE** (1) assistant, dancer, dresser, makeup artist, designer, etc., at a time. Each contestant will be provided **ONE** dresser badge, regardless of the number of dressers they may have. Contestants must hand off the provided 'dresser' badge to the designated individual that they are allowing to be in the dressing room at that time.
 - 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.
- The Capital City Pride Pageants do not discriminate against any contestant with any form of physical alterations. The use of silicone or hormones will not be considered by any judge while scoring any contest. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding this, please feel free to reach out for further detail and/or assistance.

Capital City Pride and The Capital City Pride Board reserve the right to make any decision concerning any matter not covered by these rules and regulations.

Category Descriptions

Ms. Capital City Pride:

- The only requirement for this category is that you must be female presenting, regardless of gender identity.

Mr. Capital City Pride:

- The only requirement for this category is that you must be male presenting, regardless of gender identity.

Mx. Capital City Pride:

- The only requirement for this category is that you must stay true to yourself. If you don't believe that you fit into the two categories listed above, you fit in right here!

Teen Capital City Pride (NEW THIS YEAR)

- The only requirement for this category is that you must be between 15 and 20 years old at the time of the pageant. This category will include all genders and identities.

Prize Package for each category

- Crown and sash
- \$150 cash prize
- \$100 brunch booking at DTF Brunch on June 2 (Mr., Ms., Mx.)
- \$100 brunch booking at Serv'd Brunch on June 23 (Teen)
- \$100 booking on PrideFest Mainstage Saturday, June 8, 2024
- \$100 step down booking at following year's pageant
- Appearance in PrideFest Parade

Categories: (All = All contestants - Mr/Ms/Mx/Teen = Specific title category)

- **Presentation - Pride Wear (All) - 25 Points**
 - Pride wear is something that should represent YOU (personality, looks & lifestyle). Presentation shouldn't be a 'costume for the stage', but rather what you would wear to a pride celebration at a major city throughout the US. Something between ultra casual and formal. A casual chic look that is both laid back and yet dressed up, is appropriate for this category. Contemporary and modern looks are perfect, too.
 - There will be **NO** music submission for this category.
- **Formal Wear/Evening Gown - Ms. - 25 Points**
 - Evening Gown
 - No comparative
 - There will be **NO** music submission for this category.
- **Formal Wear/Evening Gown - Mr. - 25 Points**
 - Formal Wear
 - No comparative
 - There will be **NO** music submission for this category.

- **Formal Wear/Evening Gown - Mx. / Teen - 25 Points**
 - Formal Wear OR Evening Gown
 - A formal outfit that best represents you!
 - No comparative
 - There will be **NO** music submission for this category.

- **Onstage Question (All) - 12 Points**
 - Onstage Question will immediately follow Formal Wear, there will be **NO** comparative for this category.
 - The purpose of this category is to give the judges more insight into *you* and your character. During the Onstage Question the judges will be allowed to judge the basic qualities of each contestant, individually (such as intelligence, ability to communicate, attitude, composure, etc.).
 - Questions will potentially be regarding; community, knowledge of self, Capital City Pride history and personal future endeavors.
 - There will be **NO** questions regarding politics, race, or religion. It is okay to be vulnerable and open during this category.
 - There will be **NO** music submission for this category.

- **Talent (All) - 50 Points**
 - Talent may be any type of entertainment presentation if it does not create any danger or injury to either the contestant(s) or anyone else. No animals or reptiles may be used in your talent presentation.
 - You **may not use** fire of any kind, water, liquids, 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 the talent presentation when scoring them. The talent presentation is limited to six (6) minutes in length.
 - Prop set up and tear down time is limited to four (4) minutes **total** (i.e. if it takes you 2 minutes to set up, you are allotted the remainder of the 4 minutes to tear down after your number). There is no restriction on the number of people who may be involved in the talent presentation. Contestants are advised to make a backup copy of their talent music and bring it to the contest as a safety precaution.
 - Music **MUST** be submitted no later than 5:00 pm CST on Thursday May 30th, 2024. Any music that is submitted past this time is subject to five (5) administrative point deductions in 30-minute increments.
 - *Remember that Capital City Pride 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 circumstances, be responsible for any damage to props while helping a contestant. Each contestant*

must always secure their own storage of props. Please reach out to the venue if you are in need of storage of a large prop.