

Honoring Our 2025 Ozarks Pridefest
Shayna Towers
StudKels Kohl the Storm
Genesis Goes Global
Kole Kristopher
Mistress Roxie

Dear Contestants,

We are honored to have your interests in competing for the 27th Annual Ozarks Pridefest Pageant. Representing this title has given each of us the opportunity to represent our community and we are looking forward to welcoming the next Royalty Court into our family. We hope you are as excited as we are to be competing for a title that will bring you closer to your own community!

The following pages of this application & handbook outline all you need to know about this contest, if there is a question unanswered in the handbook please immediately contact a promoter or a member of the 2025 Royal Court.

The Ozarks PrideFest Pageant does not discriminate against contestants on the basis of their size, weight, race, age, national origin, ability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

The entry fee for this year's contest is \$40.00 due by May 13th (midnight). Early registration fee of \$25.00 will be honored until midnight on May 6th. The entry fee is nonrefundable unless the pageant itself is cancelled. An individual is not considered an official contestant until the application and entry fee have been received online, by a member of the court or the promoter. Cash, Venmo/Cash App, and online payments* are accepted.

*Pay via Venmo (@dasana-kay) or Cash App (\$dasanakay)

The contest will be a one day event held on Sunday May 17th, 2026 at Doling on Atlantic.

The deadline for application submission is **Wednesday May 13th, 2026** at midnight. All applications must be submitted online, to a member of the court or the promoter.

Please pay close attention to the schedule of events and ensure you arrive on time or early to each event to avoid any point deductions (10 points). Any and all disputes about pageant rules or the pageant itself will be handled by pageant promoters, and their decision will be final.

If after reading this handbook you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding any portion, feel free to contact a member of the 2025 Royal Court or Promoter.

Here's to another amazing contest! Wishing you all the best of luck!

Shayna Towers Queen of Ozarks PrideFest

Stud KelsKohl the Storm King of Ozarks PrideFest

Genesis Goes Global Diva Ozarks PrideFest

Kole Kristopher Divo Ozarks PrideFest

Mistress Roxie Mx. of Ozarks PrideFest

Dasana Kay

Promoter

417-343-9019 or Facebook Mess.

Prize Package

- Official Ozarks PrideFest Pageant Crown
 - Official Ozarks PrideFest Sash
 - Recognition on the PrideFest website
- The use of the Ozarks PrideFest Title for one year
- A timeslot on the main stage during PrideFest 2026
- \$100 Cash (\$50 Night of Crowning / \$50 Night of Step Down)

Ozarks Pridefest Pageant

Schedule of Events

Wednesday May 6th, 2026
(early registration deadline by midnight)

Wednesday May 13th, 2026
(Final registration deadline by midnight)

Applications & Entry Fee Due

Sunday May 17th, 2026
(Doling on Atlantic)

10:00 AM - Contestant Check In and meeting.

10:30 AM – Judges Check In

10:35 AM – Judges Meeting

11:00 PM – Personal Interview

Following Interview — Sound check for music

3:30 PM – Contestant Check In and sound check

4:30 PM – Judges Check In

5:00 PM – Pageant Begins

Being late for check-ins will result in 10 point deduction each.

Ozarks Pridefest Pageant Official Rules & Regulations

- Contestants must have reached the age of 21 prior to the contest. Contestants must show proof of age at registration. Contestants must have a working phone number during the contest and during their reign in the event they win.
- All contestants must live within 100 miles of Springfield, Missouri and be a resident of the State of Missouri for a minimum of ninety (90) days. If a contestant wins or is named first alternate of the 2026 contest, they must reside within 100 miles of Springfield, Missouri and remain a resident of the State of Missouri throughout their reign. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of the title & any prizes awarded.
- Competition order will be done at orientation. Numbers will be included in gift bags.
- Any entertainer who has not previously been chosen as an Ozarks PrideFest representative is eligible to compete in this contest.
- Judging will be based on a total point's accumulated system. In the event of a tie score, the winner will be chosen based on high score in Talent, and then interview and then evening wear.
- Any contestant who walks off stage during crowning will be banned from entering Ozarks PrideFest pageant for 2 years.
- Any contestant who threatens a judge or promoter will be banned from entering Ozarks PrideFest pageant for life.
- All contestants will be held responsible for their actions & attitudes. Contestants are also responsible for the actions & attitudes of their dressers, dancers, and assistance.
- Any contestant caught in the act of stealing or damaging property will be immediately disqualified and removed from the pageant location; this will also result in a permanent ban from the pageant.
- Any contestant whose actions are interpreted as demeaning or disrespectful to the title of Ozarks Pridefest will be disqualified. The promoters reserve the right of final determination of what is considered to be demeaning behavior.
- The use or dispensing of any illegal drug will not be tolerated while a contestant is participating in the contest. This includes all assistants, dancers, dressers, etc. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification of the contestant.

- There will be absolutely no drinking or smoking in the contestant dressing room at any time. This includes contestants, assistants, dancers, etc.
- The promoters reserve the right to refuse any application if they feel that you have represented the community in a negative way based on your actions.
- Each contestant will be allowed only one assistant in the dressing room at a time. Each contestant will be given a lanyard pass for their assistant. If you have more than one person helping you they must share the pass and only one person at a time is allowed in the dressing room.
- Current and former Ozarks PrideFest courts are allowed in the dressing room and are able to help any contestant.
- All persons without a pass will be removed from the location of the pageant should they attempt to enter the dressing room.
- Contestants will be allowed one (1) assistant entry for free. Contestants will be responsible for entry fees for any additional assistants, dancers, etc.
- Contestants must be on time for all check in times and registration. Any contestant who is even one (1) minute late to any event will receive an administrative point deduction of 10 points for each late arrival.
- Competition music must be submitted in a quality USB flash drive or emailed (email address to be provided before the day of the pageant). Flash drives must only contain your music for the evening. A backup flash drive should be brought to prevent any point deductions for substandard quality music.
- Dancers in talent presentations will not be allowed in the dressing room until two (2) contestants before they are needed. Example: Contestant #6 is performing; contestant #8's dancers will be allowed to enter the dressing room, unless otherwise approved by the promoter. Dancers must also leave the dressing room immediately following talent.
- All music must be submitted by soundcheck (Talent and Crowning). Contestants are responsible for the quality of their music. One copy should be submitted, and a second copy kept with the contestant. The contest should also submit an acceptance or crowning on USB or emailed at or before soundcheck.
- Talent presentation is limited to seven (7) minutes. Any contestant who exceeds this time limit will have an administrative point deduction from their final score.

- Contestants will have a total of five (5) minutes to set up and tear down for their talent presentation. Failure to comply will result in an administrative point deduction.
- Any Talent presentation is acceptable except for those that might cause injury to the audience or to other contestants. No fire, water, glitter (not even glitter material that might shed), animals, nudity or profanity will be permitted in any talent presentation. Failure to comply will result in a zero (0) score in this category.
- Pageant promoters or staff do not provide stage props, musical instruments, or assistance with set up or tear down. That will be the responsibility of the contestant.
- Each contestant will be permitted one (1) assistant to attend registration.
- Contestants must provide their own mirrors as these will not be provided; a clothing rack will be provided for each dressing room.
- Each contestant will receive their individualized scores and the option of critiques the night of the pageant. The final score sheet will be posted for public view on the Ozarks PrideFest website and is also available via messenger.

We kindly thank you for your cooperation.
Ozarks Pridefest Pageant
Pageant Categories & Scoring

Scoring for this contest will be based on a total of points accumulated. Total points possible are 900 for each contestant, before fundraising is added. Judging will take place in the following categories:

Personal Interview: 60 points possible per judge (300 total points possible)

Personal interview is intended to be a casual interview. The purpose of Personal Interview is to put the contestant in a situation answering different types of questions and judging how they will react to their diversity. The context of the answer is important, but more important is how the contestant conveys that answer. Eye contact with all judges is very important, not just the judge who asked the question. Answer the judges' questions and do not get involved in getting the opinion of the judge. You are being judged on the presentation of your thoughts. Come as you feel your best. Your attire will be a small percentage of your interview but should be professional. You as the contestant will come to the interview as yourself and NOT your stage persona. (Six minutes) Contestants will be scored on: General Appearance (0-15 pts.), Ability to Communicate (0-25 pts.), and Answer Content (0-20 pts.).

Evening Gown / Creative Evening Wear: 50 points possible per judge (250 total points possible)

We do not want anyone to overspend on this category as we know that evening wear can be very expensive. However, the winners of this title will find themselves representing the Springfield and Ozarks community and we feel that it is important that they have the ability to “dress to impress”. When preparing for the category, please consider that you should follow general guidelines and expectations for other pageants that you may have seen or previously participated in. If you have any questions or concerns about this category, please discuss them with the promoter before turning in your applications. Contestants will model their evening wear for the judge’s panel & audience. Queens & Divas shall be in Evening Gown and Kings & Divo’s shall present in a Creative Evening Wear. MX will present as non-binary. Contestants will be judge in the category based upon: Appearance/Overall Look (0-20 pts.), Suitability of Attire (0-15 pts.), Presentation, including modeling, poise, & smile (0-15 pts.)

Theme wear: 15 points possible per judge (75 total possible)

We feel that if you are making a monetary investment into something in a pageant, you should earn points for it. The theme for this year’s pageant is ***Cirque du Soleil***. Contestants are asked to

wear an outfit that you feel would represent the theme. This theme is open to interpretation.
Contestants will be judged in this category based upon: Participation (5 pts.),
Costuming/Creativity (0-10 pts.).

Talent Presentation: 55 Points possible per judge (275 Total Points Possible.)

Contestants will have up to 7 minutes to show the judges & audience their ability to entertain. You are to perform to the judges & the audience equally. Each contestant will be given a total of 5 minutes for set up and breakdown for their talent number. Exceeding this time may result in a point deduction from your final score. Contestants will be judged in the category based upon: Stage Presence/Overall Look (0-15 pts.), Quality of Lip Sync (0-20 pts.), and Entertainment Value (0-20 pts.)

Stage props and back up dancers will be allowed for Talent Presentation; however, there will be no point deduction for not having props or dancers. Please remember that your back up dancers will be judged on their ability to know their words and/or choreography, etc. If your backups forget their parts and are out of sync with the music, you will receive a lower score. Your stage props will also be judged. Do they flow with the mood of the talent? If your props fall apart or fall over during judging, you will receive a point deduction. Any contestant or back up person who throws anything off the stage into the audience will receive an administrative point deduction.

**Ozarks Pridefest Pageant
Code of Conduct & Contract**

All contestants must agree to the following standards of conduct of contestants and titleholders. All titleholders must adhere to these guidelines throughout their reign. By signing below, you agree to the following:

- You must represent Ozarks PrideFest throughout your year-long reign. While you hold the title, you are expected to advertise, attend, and participate in at least 75% of the events (number of events TBD).
- As the “Ambassadors” of Ozarks PrideFest, you must maintain visibility in the LGBTQIA+ community by attending various functions at various venues throughout your reign.
- Present themselves professionally at all times, while representing your title.
- Never demean the pageant or your title.
- Never cause substantial problems for the promoters or for those whom they perform for.
- Never become too intoxicated while representing your title.
- Never participate in any kind of argument, except as a mediator, while representing your title.
- Try to solve problems with their promoters in a peaceful manner and in good faith.
- Never lecture an audience, only provide quality entertainment.
- Organize benefit fundraisers during your reign. The funds will be for a Passion Project in the community decided as a group, others will be for the 2026 pageant.
- Assist in raising the needed funds to present the 2026 contest. The following schedule will be used to outline fundraising efforts. 0 – 6 months - \$200 per titleholder, 6 – 10 months \$125 per titleholder, 10 – 12 months \$75 per titleholder. Failure to do so could result in loss of give up, final payout or even title.
- Be active in the planning process of the 2026 contest including jointly (with other titleholders) selecting a theme, decorating, selling tickets, and gathering contestants.

Failure to comply with the above contract may result in forfeiture of the title & all prize money paid and/or owed.

Contestants Legal Name: _____

Contestants Signature: _____

Promoters Signature: _____

Witness Signature: _____ **Date:** ____/____/____

**Ozarks Pridefest Pageant
Contestant Application**

Contestant # _____

Stage Name: _____

Legal Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: (____) ____ - _____ **Date of Birth:** ____/____/____ **Length of**

Time at above address: _____ **Dressing**

Room Assistant: _____

Talent Length (minutes): _____ **Talent Props?** Yes No **Will You need set**

up time for talent? Yes No

Do you have Back Up Dancers? Yes No **If yes, how many?** _____

Do you have any disabilities, handicaps, or any relevant information we should know prior to the contest in order to better help you?

What two questions would you like to see asked during Personal Interview?

• _____

• _____

**Ozarks Pridefest Pageant
Contestants Information Sheet**

Contestant #: _____

Stage

Name:

Age:

_____ Zodiac Sign: _____

Favorite Color: _____

Favorite Actor/Actress: _____

Favorite Movie: _____

Pet Peeve: _____

Most Admired Impersonator/Entertainer & Why? _____

Fundraising Platform & Why: _____

Favorite Quote: _____

Motto in Life: _____

Three Words to describe your stage persona? _____

Why do you want to represent Ozarks Pridefest? _____

One thing people find surprising about you? _____

The color of the Pride Rainbow that best describes you, and why? _____

Red – Life **Orange** – Healing **Yellow** – Sun **Green** – Nature **Blue** – Harmony **Purple** – Spirit

**Ozarks Pridefest Pageant
Evening Wear Description**

Contestant #: _____

Contestant Name: _____

Description of Evening Wear: _____

Jewelry Description: _____

Make Up Stylist: _____

Hair Stylist: _____

Sponsors:

**Ozarks Pridefest Pageant
Back Up Dancer Release Form**

Contestant #: _____

Contestant Name: _____

I, we, , a Dancer/On-Stage Performer for , a contestant in the Ozarks Pridefest Pageant, do hereby hold harmless and waive all rights to any claim or lawsuit against: The Ozarks Pridefest Pageant or its employees, agents, distributors and/or assigns, or the Ozarks Pridefest Pageant (the "Pageant") and its representatives (together the "Releasees") arising out of or related to the Pageant and/or my participation in the Pageant to the extent permitted by law. I also grant the "Releasees" the right to videotape, photograph, sound record, film or otherwise use my name, likeness, image or voice in any television program, documentary or other film, or the internet or in any media now known or hereafter known or any advertising or promotion thereof in connection with or relating to the Pageant. I understand I have no right to and shall not receive any monetary payment for any photograph or recording (audio or video) in which I may appear in connection with or relating to the Pageant.

I enter all activities during the course of the Pageant at my own risk and expense. I also agree to hold harmless from liability, the owner, employees and affiliates of any official site/locations of the Ozarks Pridefest pageant.

I agree that my appearance and performance in the Pageant and all related activities shall constitute a work for hire. In the event such is not deemed a work for hire, I hereby assign, transfer and convey any and all interest in any copyright I may own, or have a right to, relating to my appearance and performance in the Pageant and its related activities to the Ozarks Pridefest Pageant.

Given name of the On-Stage Performer (printed):

Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

Given name of the On-Stage Performer (printed):

Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

Given name of the On-Stage Performer (printed):

Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

Given name of the On-Stage Performer (printed):

Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

Given name of the On-Stage Performer (printed):

Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

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Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

Given name of the On-Stage Performer (printed):

Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

Given name of the On-Stage Performer (printed):

Given name signature: _____ Date: _____

**Ozarks Pridefest Pageant
Contestant Release Form**

By signing below, I hereby agree to release and hold harmless the owners of Ozarks Pridefest, Ozarks Pridefest Pageant, hereafter referred to as the "Pageant", The Gay & Lesbian Center of the Ozarks (GLO), Doling on Atlantic, their agents, servants, and employees from any liabilities and/or responsibilities whatsoever resulting from, associated with, or arising out of my participation in the Pageant, including but not limited to personal injury or loss or damage to personal property, regardless of whether the loss or injury occurs before, during, or after the Pageant or any other related activities/events.

I also hereby release my rights to videotaping (sound and/or video), photography, recording, still camera, or motion pictures of the Pageant. I understand I have no rights to the recordings that I appear in/on or any future sale thereof. I hereby agree that my name or any photographs taken of me during the Pageant may be used for publications for promotional purposes or in any advertising publicity. By my signature below, I affirm and attest that I have read the Rules & Regulations of the Pageant and hereby agree and covenant to abide the same.

Contestants Legal Name: _____

Contestants _____ **Signature:**

_____ **Promoters Signature:**

_____ **Witness Signature:**

_____ **Date:** ____/____/____