



The Empire State Pageant will be on
Saturday, November 14, 2026, at the

Tri-Cities Opera Center
315 Clinton Street
Binghamton, New York 13905

Welcome to the 2027 Mr., Miss, & Mister MI Gay Empire State New York Pageant and thank you for your interest. It is an honor for us at CW Productions NY that you are interested in becoming a contestant.

We take great pride in offering this competition in the art of Female and/or male impersonation, Bio-Male and/or Bio-Female, along with any gender identity that is associated with each division.

Please be sure to read the entire application as this year many of the details have changed.

This year's event will consist of two days we will have a mandatory pageant rehearsal that will take place on Friday November 13th at 7:00pm at the Tri-Cities Opera Center. (casual dress and **not** in your persona are preferred) The pageant will take place on Saturday, November 14th at the Tri-Cities Opera Center located at 315 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905 starting at 7:00pm

In the enclosed packet you will find all you need to know to be able to compete in the Mr., Miss & Mister MI Gay Empire State 2027 pageant. Our categories along with the rules and regulations are included, if any questions or concerns arise, please feel free to contact Courtney Wells at (315) 345-7143 or email cwproductionsny@gmail.com.

We would like to wish you the best of luck and have fun!

Mr. Roland C. Shea, Jr.

aka

Miss Courtney Wells

Executive Director of CW Productions NY
(315)-345-7143

Rules and Regulations

1. **Mr. contestants** 18 years of age and NYS residents with a valid ID be assigned male at birth, regardless of current gender identity are allowed to compete in the Mr. division
2. **Miss contestants** 18 years of age and NYS residents with a valid ID be assigned male at birth, regardless of current gender identity are allowed to compete in the Miss division.
3. **Mister MI** contestants 18 years of age and NYS residents with a valid ID be assigned female at birth, regardless of current gender identity are allowed to compete in the Mister MI division.
4. The **Miss and the Mister MI Contestants** will be required to pay the \$100.00 entry fee before the deadline date of November 1, 2026, at 5:00pm. Entry fees are non-refundable. The **Mr. contestants** will be required to pay \$75.00 entry fees and are non-refundable and are due by the deadline of November 1st. Due to logistics and time frame of this pageant we will be limiting to **12 TOTAL** contestants.
5. The winners of the pageant will be required to sign a contract after completion of the pageant with the owner and promoter of the pageant, abiding by the terms listed on the contract.
 - a. If our winner(s) cannot fulfill the duties listed in the contract, the winner must return the crown and sash and relinquish the title. Also, the winner will forfeit any other money involved. At this time, it will be up to the promoter/owner of the pageant and its Board of Directors if the title and crown are handed to the 1st runner-up or another individual as we see fit.
6. This pageant is open to any Mr. Miss or Mister MI who does not hold a title in another state, holds or has held a national title or has been a former Mr. Miss or Mister MI Gay Empire State NY winner.
7. Any foul play, toward fellow contestants, the pageant, pageant owner, judges, or community members will not be tolerated. Contestants, if of legal age can consume alcohol. No drugs are allowed before or during the pageant. No smoking is allowed in the dressing area. All the above-mentioned will result in **IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL** from the pageant with no refund of your application fee.

8. No water, fire, confetti, or things of this nature, Live animals, or any other flammable materials are allowed in any portion of the pageant. If you are unsure, please ask prior to the pageant. Although we are a professional theatre, we will not have the ability to change lighting or have any illumination on the stage backdrop.
9. All props are required to be brought to the Tri Cities Opera on Friday of the mandatory rehearsal and registration on Friday November 13. No exceptions will be made.
10. Contestants must be at the venue no later than 9:00 AM the morning of the pageant for a 9:30 am Personal interview or 25 administrative will be deducted from your final score. If you arrive later than 9:45am you will be disqualified from the pageant. Contestants shall be at the venue no later than 6:00pm, on the night of the pageant, or 25 administrative will be deducted from your final score. Contestants later than 6:15pm will be disqualified from the pageant and not refunds will be given.
11. The winners will not be allowed to compete in any other pageant during their reign as Mr., Miss & Mister MI unless otherwise granted permission by the promoter.
12. We, the promoter, have the right to accept or refuse any applicant with no questions asked.

Registration and Agenda

The Mandatory rehearsal and Registration will be held at 7:00pm on Friday, November 13th. This will be held at Tri-Cities Opera Center located at 315 Clinton Street in Binghamton. The contestants will be given the opportunity to "block out" their talent. We will also rehearse the walk-through for Met Gala Black and White Creative Wear and Evening Gown will also be reviewed at this time. The personal interviews will begin at 9:30 am on Saturday. After your personal interview you will be free to leave the venue. The following line up will be used for conducting the personal interviews the Miss contestants will go first then the Mister Mi followed by the Mr. division.

Again, this year we will have a charity raffle. Each contestant will donate one basket with contents from their area of the state that they are from. (Value of at least \$50.00) This year's beneficiary will be The Southern Tier AIDS Program or better known locally as STAP. (more information www.stapinc.org) These baskets are due at the mandatory rehearsal on Friday. Please place your name on the basket for identification purposes.

Pageant Application Fee

The deadline to submit your official application is Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 5:00 PM (ET). The **Miss and Mister MI** contestants will pay a \$100.00 non-refundable application fee must be postmarked no later than November 1, 2026. No exceptions will be made. The **Mr. contestants** will pay a \$75.00 non-refundable application fee and

Applicants must complete the official online application and electronically attest to the rules and regulations by providing their online signature.

Payment Options, Preferred Payment Method: Venmo: @RolandShea
Please send your payment using the Friends & Family option whenever possible.

Payment by Make certified checks payable to:
Roland C. Shea, Jr. Mail checks to: Mr. Roland C. Shea, Jr. P.O. Box 112 Guilford, NY 13780

Contestant Number Drawing

On Friday, November 6, 2026, I will host a Facebook Live on our group messenger to randomly assign contestant numbers. Additional details regarding the time and access to the live drawing will be provided after the application deadline.

Hotel information

There are two hotels that are near the two venues. However, it is not mandatory that the contestants use either of these accommodations. CW Productions NY or Roland C. Shea, Jr. does not indorse any of these locations. They are merely here for your information.

Double Tree by Hilton is located at 225 Water Street, Binghamton, NY 13901. Direct telephone number 607-722-7575 this hotel is approximately (5 minutes or 1.4 miles from the pageant venue.)

Microtel Inn and Suites by Wyndam located at 400 Prospect Street, Binghamton, NY 13905. The direct telephone number is 607-238-3623. This hotel is approximately (4 minutes or 0.8 miles from the pageant venue.

CATEGORIES AND DESCRIPTIONS

ALL contestants will compete in Personal Interview:

125 Points per Judge

The personal Interview category will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. on the morning of the pageant. The purpose of this category is for the Judges to get to know you and your personality. Judges will ask you a variety of questions about everyday issues in our society, communities, and in your world. There are no right or wrong answers.

This category is designed to show how comfortable you are in a public function setting. Answer all questions clearly and professionally. Let your personality come out, and answer the way you feel, with the utmost confidence.

Dress as you would to attend a professional Job Interview, (business attire is highly recommended.) After all you are applying for a job.

You will be judged on poise, appearance, ability to answer the question asked, and your ability to communicate in an interview situation.

Remember to relax and smile. (125 possible points per judge x 5 = 625 possible points)

ALL contestants will compete in the Met Gala Black and White Creative Presentation:

150 Points per Judge

This category is the first time the judges and audience will see you as your stage persona, so make it amazing Creative White & Black Couture (Met Gala Inspired) No other colors will be allowed. The only exception will be white, clear and AB stones will be allowed.

Contestants will take the stage in a fashion-forward ensemble inspired by the elegance, drama, and artistic expression of the Met Gala. This category challenges contestants to transform the classic colors of black and white into a bold statement of creativity, style, and imagination.

Garments may be elegant, avant-garde, theatrical, high-fashion, or couture-inspired.

Contestants are encouraged to think beyond traditional wear and create a look that tells a story, showcases originality, and captures the essence of fashion as art. This is your opportunity to push the boundaries of fashion and make a memorable statement. Whether sophisticated and glamorous or bold and unconventional, your look should embody the spirit of high fashion and artistic expression.

Judging will be based on: Creativity and originality of design, Effective use of the black-and-white color palette, Overall visual impact and presentation, Stage presence and confidence, Interpretation of the Met Gala-inspired theme and accessorizing

And think outside of the box. Be creative and think high fashion.

Remember to smile!!!

(150 possible points per judge x 5 = 750 possible points)

ALL contestants will compete in the Talent category

300 Points per Judge

This category contains the most points out of all the categories in the pageant. Judges will be scoring contestants on make-up, hair, costuming, lip-sync ability and/or live vocals, and the overall presentation of the number. If you are using dancers or other members in your number they will also be judged on make-up, hair, costume, lip-synching, and or choreography.

Please refrain from using any vulgar or obscene language or gestures in this category. If you are not sure if your selection falls into this category, ask the promoter/owner before entering the pageant.

Each contestant will be allowed 2 minutes for set-up and take-down if needed. Due to time restraints, music selections should be no longer than **6 minutes in length**. If a contestant exceeds time limits, 20 points will be deducted from your talent score.

Your talent music will be sent to Leroy Jones at lajones99de@gmail.com. The music must be of high-quality sound and unfortunately, we will not be able to convert any music. Music **must** be sent at the same time as you complete your application and your application fee.

Please beware although we are a professional theatre, we will not have the ability to change the lighting or have any illumination on the stage back drop.

Please have a backup copy of your music on another device with you at the evenings pageant.

Bring your music selection to life and **ENTERTAIN** the Judges and the audience!!!

(300 possible points per judge x 5 = 1,500 possible points)

Miss Gown and Evening Wear for Mister MI & Mr. Evening Wear

150 Points per Judge

This is the most elegant category of the pageant. Each Miss contestant is required to wear an evening gown, and each Mr. contestant is required to wear formal evening attire of their choice. Please note that the garment that you wear for this category is the garment that you will be wearing for crowning.

Make sure the ensemble fits properly from top to bottom with the length being appropriate for the type and style you choose. Accessorize accordingly to compliment your look. Hair and make-up should go according to your attire.

You will be judged on your make-up, hair, the fit of your ensemble, poise, femininity and/or masculinity, and overall modeling in this category.

Remember to SMILE!!! (150 possible points per judge x 5 = 750 possible points)

All contestants will compete in the On-Stage Question:

75 Points per Judge

This category is designed to give you the opportunity to show the Judges and the audience your professionalism and ability to speak in a public setting. As a title holder, you will most likely have to speak and or entertain in a one-on-one or community environment.

You will pick an envelope from several on a table and in that envelope will be a question that you will be asked to answer. You will be judged on the clarity of your voice, the ability to answer the question that was asked, your poise, and your professionalism.

Take a deep breath, listen, and answer! (75 possible points per judge x 5 = 375 possible points)

SCORING SYSTEM

All Contestants must compete in every category of the Pageant. During the competition, each contestant will be judged individually in each category. Every contestant is eligible to receive the total points possible as stated below.

Technical Points are in effect and will be deducted from a contestant's score for any of the following:

- Tardiness for Registration/Rehearsal or Meet & Greet or for the Evenings Pageant a 25-point reduction will be taken off your total evening score.
- Talent Category set up or take down if over 2 minutes and Talent Selection is over 6 minutes will result in a point reduction of 25 points off the contestant's total Talent Score.
- Illegal Drugs being consumed or in possession of either in the dressing room or on the premises will result in immediate dismissal of the contestant.

There will be 5 Judges that will award scores to each contestant

TIE BREAKER POLICY

The policy reads as follows: If two or more contestants tie in total points of this competition the contestant between the two or more that had tied with the highest score in the Talent Category will be declared the winner.

DRESSING ROOM POLICIES

No smoking, vaping or drinking will be allowed in the dressing area; A designated area will be assigned for contestants to have water, soda, and/or juice if they choose. Contestants of age to drink may do so in the designated area.

Each contestant will be allowed to be 1 dresser only to be in the dressing area and this person will wear an assigned Dresser Badge. Any extras and/or dancers are only to enter the dressing area 2 numbers prior to the beginning of the contestant's talent category and exit as soon as the routine is completed.

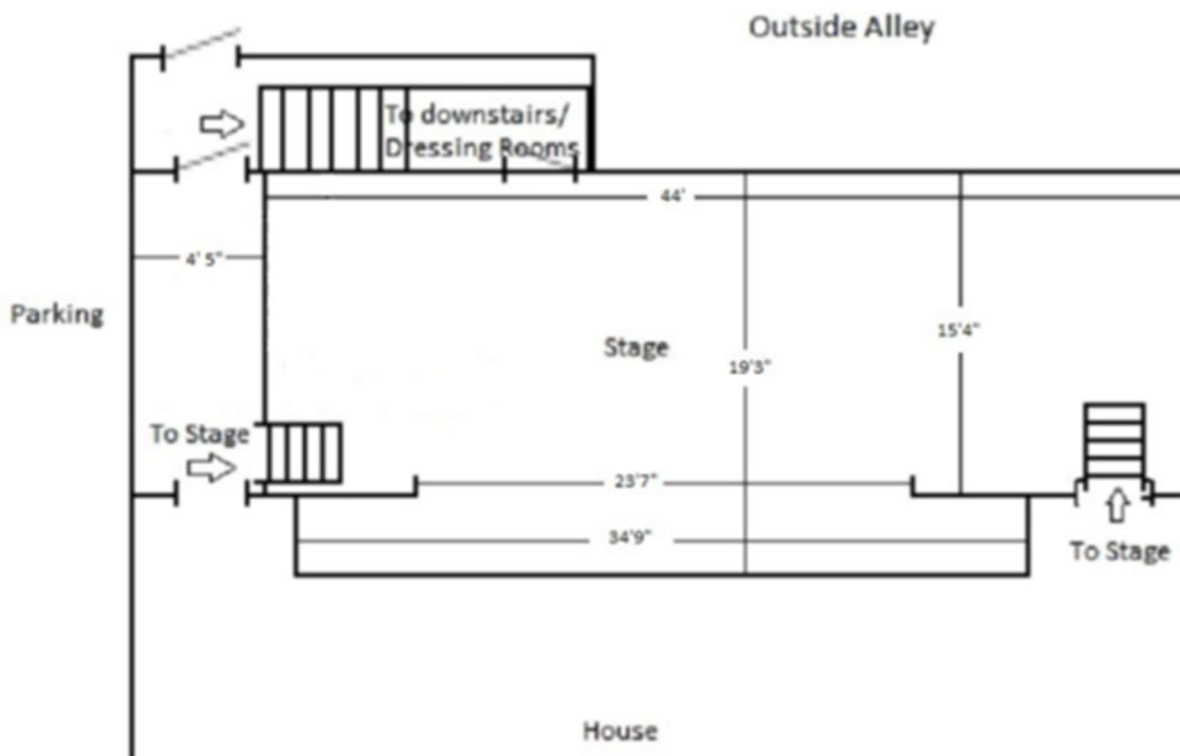
Any contestant and/or dressing assistant caught tampering with and/or causing damage to another contestant and/or their belongings and/or guest performers and/or their belongings will be immediately dismissed from the competition.

Any infractions named above will result in immediate dismissal from the competition.

VENUE'S INFORMATION

Located Tri-Cities Opera Center
315 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

There is plenty of room in the dressing room to get ready comfortably. Please be aware that the dressing rooms are in the basement and that there are a few sets of small stairs. Please plan accordingly to bring whatever you need to be comfortable. The cast entrance is located toward the back of the building. Please follow sign. The diagram below is the Tri-Cities Opera Center stage. On our web site there are a few pictures of the theatre and the stage area.



ADMISSION

Contestants will not be charged admission to the pageant, and there will be no admission fee for extras, dancers, etc. Payment is Cash Only. If you would like to pay in advance, payments will be accepted the same as the entry fee listed. One complimentary dresser per contestant is allowed.

The General Seating Admission tickets are only available online for \$20.00. General Seating admission tickets IF available will be \$25.00 at the door. (if we have not sold out prior) All tickets are available using the online platform starting on Monday, September 1st at 8:00am. Online sales will end on Saturday November 1, 2026, at 5:00pm.

WINNER AWARDS

The following is the breakdown of the awards:

Mr. Empire State NY Winner will receive, Medallion, trophy, sash, flowers, and a cash prize package of \$500.00 in two increments as follows \$250.00 the night of winning the pageant, \$250.00 at the Mr., Miss & Mister MI Gay Empire State Pageant 2028. There are no other obligations. Failure to participate in the 2028 pageant you will forfeit the last of your prize money.

Professional Headshots completed by Like Magick Photography of Elmira NY This will take place on January 12th at 21:30pm or snow date of January 19th at 12:30pm Value at \$350.00.

Miss Empire State NY Winner will receive a crown, a trophy, sash, flowers. The winning Miss contestant will be paid cash in the following increments on the night of winning the 2027 pageant \$250.00 \$150.00 will be given if the Charity benefit starts to be planned at the 6th month of her reign and completed by the 8th month to be eligible to receive their benefit prize money and \$250.00 at the Mr., Miss & Mister MI Gay Empire State Pageant 2028.

Confirmed bookings:

A Night with Natalie booking in Oneonta if schedules allow. \$125.00 total

Empire State of Drag booking a Saturday, in April 2026, booking fee \$125.00 Clements Center in Elmira, NY. Plus, an additional photo shoot at the Clements Center during the evening of the event value of \$200.00 (if schedules allow)

Professional Headshots completed by Like Magick Photography of Elmira NY This will take place on January 12th at 12:30pm or snow date of January 19th at 12:30pm Value at \$350.00.

Mister MI Empire State NY Winner will receive a crown, a trophy, sash, flowers. The winning Miss contestant will be paid cash in the following increments on the night of winning the 2027 pageant \$250.00 \$150.00 will be given if the Charity benefit starts to be planned at the 6th month of her reign and completed by the 8th month to be eligible to receive their benefit prize money and \$250.00 at the Mr., Miss & Mister MI Gay Empire State Pageant 2028.

Confirmed bookings:

A Night with Natalie booking in Oneonta if schedules allow. \$125.00 each total

Empire State of Drag booking a Saturday, in April 2026, booking fee \$125.00 Clements Center in Elmira, NY. Plus, an additional photo shoot at the Clements Center during the evening of the event value of \$200.00 (if schedules allow)

Professional Headshots completed by Like Magick Photography of Elmira NY This will take place on January 12th at 12:30pm or snow date of January 19th at 12:30pm Value at \$350.00.

Preliminary Awards:

Individual awards will be awarded to contestants who achieve the highest score in each category for all Divisions

All divisions will receive a 2nd Alternate will receive a trophy.

All divisions will receive a 1st Alternate will receive a trophy.

Mr., Miss & Mister MI Gay Empire State NY Pageant**CONTESTANT APPLICATION FORM**

Please circle what division that you are entering in Mr. Miss or Mister MI.

NAME: _____

STAGE NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

Facebook: _____

Instagram: _____

Name of Dressing Assistant _____

TALENT SELECTION INFORMATION

Talent Selection Length _____ (No Longer than 6 Mins.)

Talent Set Up and Props YES _____ NO _____

Extras or Dancers (how many) _____ (names will be collected soon after deadline passes)

Please complete all areas of this application, any application that is not fully completed will not be accepted. If mailing your application please mail pages 13,14,15 including your application fee to CW Productions NY C/O Mr. Roland C. Shea, Jr. PO Box 112 Guilford, NY 13780

Mr., Miss & Mister MI Gay Empire State NY Pageant

Pageant Contract and Agreement

Title Holder Responsibilities are as follows:

Title Holder is to hold themselves, the Pageant, the promoters, and the title with the utmost professionalism and highest esteem while acting as a spokesperson for this title.

Bookings of all entertainment and appearances along with booking fees will be decided by the title holder and/or promoters as both see fit.

During their reign the title holder while performing, speaking, entertaining, and representing the title, agrees to the following:

1. No use of Illegal Drugs.
2. Not to be overly drunk in a public setting or atmosphere.
3. No malicious gossip or talk toward title, pageant, or promoters, or people.
4. The Miss and the Mister MI winners will organize 1 Benefit Show during your reign, preferably a 501c3 organization, this beneficiary must be approved by the promoters. (upon completion \$150.00 will be given to each Miss and Mister MI 2026 winners). This benefit must be completed between the 6th and the 8th month of when you were crowned.
5. To attend the Mr. & Miss Gay Empire State 2028 Pageant step down as title holder (at this time the last third of the prize money will be awarded).
6. Professional Headshots must be completed on the dates that are scheduled in this application.

Title Holder is to hold themselves with professionalism in everyday life as well, as you are still a representative of this pageant. If the title holder is caught stealing, or is arrested, is caught up in any malicious gossip, etc. the title will be stripped away by promoters.

Promoters have the right under this agreement to remove the winner from this contract and remove the title. At such a time the winner will forfeit any money not received and promoters have a right to demand back all money, prizes, crowns, and awards if any of the above-mentioned is breached by the title holders. If any of the above happens promoters are required to give a written notice to the title holders

RELEASE: The title holders waive all rights to any type of lawsuit against or hold harmless the promoters or pageant. And gives permission to use any photography in any way with our written consent.

Promoter's responsibilities are as follows:

1. Permit title holder booking rights and fees as stated above.
2. To treat titleholders with utmost respect and professionalism.
3. Awarding prize money as stated above to the winners of each division.

Roland C. Shea, Jr, _____ aka Courtney Wells

and the title holder _____

_____, who resides at

_____, whose

telephone number is _____, hereby agree to the above

statement and contract.