

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook



G.O.A.T. Multimedia Entertainment Official Handbook

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Eligibility Requirements

Contestants must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and present a valid government-issued photo ID.

Failure to provide proper identification will result in disqualification.

All contestants must have been assigned female at birth (AFAB).

Judged Categories

Personal Interview, Presentation, Creative Evening Gown, and Talent.

Judging for Preliminary Nights and Final Night will be based on the total accumulation of points earned.

All judged categories are scored using the official G.O.A.T. scoring system.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Prize Package

Cash Prizes

Winner: \$2,000.00*

1st Runner-Up: \$500.00

2nd Runner-Up: \$250.00

3rd Runner-Up: \$150.00

Additional Prize Package Includes: Crown, Sash, and a Promotional Photo Shoot.

*The Winner will receive one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the prize money upon being crowned. The remaining balance will be paid after completion of all obligations of the reign, which include being present and performing all nights of the 2027 G.O.A.T. Pageant.

The Top Five (5) finalists will receive their prize money following the crowning of G.O.A.T. A predetermined location for prize distribution will be announced at registration.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Host Hotel Details

The Hyatt Regency Rochester will serve as the official host hotel for the 2026 G.O.A.T. Pageant.

Hotel Address

125 E. Main Street

Rochester, NY 14604

Phone: (585) 546-1234

Host Hotel Requirement

All contestants are required to secure at least one (1) room accommodation at the host hotel for the entire duration of their pageant participation unless prior written authorization has been obtained from the G.O.A.T. Pageantry Home Office.

Location & Convenience

The host hotel is located within walking distance of many amenities, including food and convenience stores, and is approximately an 8-minute drive from ROAR Nightclub.

Reservation Information

Reservations must be made by calling the Hyatt Regency Rochester directly at (585) 546-1234. You will have the option of a King or Double Queen room. All rooms must be guaranteed with a credit card.

Group Rate: \$129 per room per night, plus tax

Reservation Deadline: September 25, 2026

You must identify yourself as a member of the G.O.A.T. Pageant Group when making your reservation.

Administrative Points Notice

Contestants who do not secure reservations at the host hotel will be subject to a loss of administrative points.

Hotel Policy for Guests

- Contestants must present a major credit card in person at check-in.
- Credit card information is used solely to hold reservations.
- Sponsored rooms must be coordinated accordingly.

Hotel Block Notice

A limited number of rooms are available in the official hotel block. The hotel may increase the room block up to a specified limit. If you encounter any issues reserving a room, please contact goatmment.com.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Admission and Ticket Information

Discounted Dancer / Dresser Passes

To assist contestants with the overall expense of competition, G.O.A.T. Multimedia Entertainment offers a special discounted rate on dancer and assistant passes.

- \$10.00 per dancer / assistant, per night
- \$25.00 Three-Day Dancer / Assistant Pass
 - Valid for all competition nights
- One pass per dancer or backstage assistant is required
- Passes may be purchased in advance or at contestant registration
- Pass quantity may not be increased during competition week
 - Lost passes incur a \$10.00 replacement fee
 - Cash and credit cards accepted

Advance Ticket Sales

Passes and general admission tickets may be purchased in advance at goatmment.com.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Rehearsal and Props

Mandatory Rehearsal Requirement

All contestants must attend their scheduled rehearsal. Time has been specifically allotted for individual contestant rehearsals to allow for sound checks, blocking, and lighting cues. Contestants must be fully prepared and organized, as rehearsal time is limited. This rehearsal is when all talent performances will be officially timed.

Props & Talent Presentation Guidelines

If you will be using any props during your preliminary talent presentation, please adhere to the following:

- All props must be brought to your assigned rehearsal time.
- Each contestant is responsible for securing and storing their own props at all other times.
 - Props must enter the stage through the designated side-stage entrance only.
 - All props must be free-standing and must not damage or mark the stage floor.

Back-Up Dancers

Back-up dancers will be assigned a separate dressing area and will not be permitted in the main contestant dressing room. Contestants must be prepared at the contestant meeting to inform staff of the exact number of back-up dancers involved.

Compliance Notice

Failure to follow rehearsal requirements, prop guidelines, or technical instructions may result in administrative penalties or disqualification at the discretion of pageant management.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Interview

PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Each contestant will be interviewed individually by the judges' panel. The purpose of the Personal Interview is to provide the judges with insight into the character of each contestant.

During the interview, judges will evaluate a contestant's ability to communicate, composure, and overall presence. Judges may also gather information regarding a contestant's professional and/or personal life.

The interview is intended to be a relaxed conversation. Suggested attire for the Personal Interview is business casual. Interviews will be held at the host hotel. The official interview room will be announced during registration.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Presentation

PRESENTATION

2026 Pageant Theme: ROYALTY

This year's G.O.A.T. Diva Pageant theme is Royalty. Contestants may interpret this theme in any era and any form of royalty—past, historic, or present day.

Important Branding Notice

Customized clothing for this presentation may not include any G.O.A.T. or G.O.A.T. Diva logos.

Judging Information

Presentation IS a judged category. This segment allows contestants to introduce themselves, make a strong first impression, and showcase their interpretation of the Royalty theme to the judges' panel and the audience.

Contestants should wear attire that is appropriate, polished, and reflective of the Royalty theme.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Creative Evening Gown

Creative Evening Gown

Creative Evening Gown is to show creativity and individuality. The Creative Evening Gown may be of any color or style, however full-length is required. The look would be something seen at a red carpet or an after 5 event.

Creative Evening Gown should not be overdone to the point of being a costume. Each Contestant will be required to submit a Creative Evening Gown description card and must bring it to registration.

Scores will be given for: Creativity, Fit, Originality, Presentation, Poise, Coordination, Hair & Make-up, and General Appearance.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Talent

TALENT

Talent presentations during Preliminary Nights must be a solo performance and are limited to five (5) minutes in length. There is no restriction on the number of individuals who may be involved in talent presentations on Final Night.

Prop setup and tear-down time is limited to a total of five (5) minutes. All dancer passes must be purchased at registration. Any dancer without a valid pass may not appear in a talent number.

Talent may be any form of entertainment provided it does not create danger or risk of injury. Animals or reptiles are prohibited.

The following are not permitted: strobe lights, fire, water, real food (clean empty containers allowed), liquids including paint, or glitter.

Talent presentations containing racial slurs, excessive vulgarity, obscene, or insulting language should be avoided. Cultural sensitivity is required. Judges will consider content when scoring.

Music Submission Requirements

All music must be emailed to goatmultimediaent@gmail.com prior to registration and must be in MP3 format.

Email Subject Line: Contestant Name – Music

Track Labels:

- Contestant Name – Solo Talent
 - Contestant Name – CEW
 - Contestant Name – Talent
- Contestant Name – Crowning Number

If changing music for Final Night, send a second email with subject line Contestant Name – Final Night Music.

Final Night Labels:

- Contestant Name – Final CEW
- Contestant Name – Final Talent

Contestants must bring music to rehearsals on a flash drive as a backup.

G.O.A.T. - Diva 2026 Contestant Handbook

Important Information

We ask that every contestant take to heart the following important details. We want your time to be a pleasant experience; however, any damage to the Host Bar or Host Hotel will not be tolerated. G.O.A.T. Multimedia Entertainment will assist these venues in prosecuting any person or persons responsible for damages. Let's have a good and safe time.

With courtesy and respect to our venues in mind, it is very important to bring your own towels from home to remove make-up. Any contestant who uses hotel towels to remove make-up will be fined and will receive administrative point deductions for each towel used.

Please remember to print this handbook and bring it with you to the National Pageant or save it to your phone. This handbook contains all of the information you will need.

Each contestant is responsible for ensuring that every person in his/her/their party has proper identification. All persons must have a valid state-issued ID for entry into the Host Bar. No exceptions. All individuals will be wristbanded at the door. Judges will not take wristbands into consideration when scoring.

Always be mindful of your surroundings when entering or leaving any host property. Your safety is important to us.

Pageant Coordinator

G.O.A.T. Multimedia Entertainment will provide a Contestant Coordinator to assist you during the G.O.A.T. Diva Pageants. The purpose of this position is to help ensure that you have a positive and enjoyable pageant experience while backstage in the designated contestant dressing area.

The Contestant Coordinator will be responsible for distributing Creative Formal Wear description sheets, overseeing traffic flow within the contestant dressing area, and preparing contestants for staging in accordance with the official competition lineup.

Contestants are strongly encouraged to utilize the Contestant Coordinator as their primary point of contact during competition. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas,

please direct them to the Contestant Coordinator first.

The Contestant Coordinator will assist in resolving issues, answering questions, or directing you to the appropriate staff member, and will report daily to pageant staff on all matters.

Personal Letter from the Founder / Emeritus

Dear contestants, future promoters, future rulers, friends and family, and those who helped,

We want to say thank you so much for being a part of this First Annual G.O.A.T. M.I. and G.O.A.T. DIVA Pageant. We thank you deeply for your time, your energy, and your devotion to making this vision a reality. These pageants have been in the making for over twenty (20) years, and G.O.A.T. M.I. and DIVA are only the beginning of many great things to come.

It is part of something much bigger — G.O.A.T. Multimedia Entertainment — which proudly includes G.O.A.T. Publishing and G.O.A.T. DJs. We encourage anyone reading this who has a written project they would like to see published, or aspiring and current DJs who are seeking a strong, supportive community, to join us by visiting www.goatmment.com.

We ask that you not only come together as contestants, but that you become family to one another from this point forward. To build a lasting, powerful community that is respected by other pageant systems, seasoned performers, and all who are watching, you must stand together as a true family.

Please enjoy yourselves, take something meaningful away from this experience, and help spread the word. As first-year representatives, you also have the opportunity to become promoters yourselves and earn income by hosting a pageant under the state you represent. If you are interested, please see Thomas DJ Big Daddy Edmond or Emeritus King or Diva for more information.

Once again, thank you for your time, your devotion, and your belief in this vision. Enjoy yourselves, and have an amazing experience.

With gratitude,

Thomas Edmond

Co-Founder

G.O.A.T. Multimedia Entertainment