



With August officially in full swing, many productive things have transpired since I was fortunate enough to win as Mr. Gay America last month. In interview, I was asked a series of questions in which all were primarily around "why should we pick you as the next Mr. Gay America 2019?" My resounding response remained, "I am prepared for this on day one." And with less than 30 days under my belt, I couldn't be prouder to see that in action. Two prelims completed, one national walk executed, two new added preliminaries, designated America page up and running and countless conference calls with contestants, promoters and board members, this reign is shaping up to be one to remember.

I began on task with our Mr. Gay Texas America in Dallas, Tx. only five days after winning Mr. Gay America. The Texas America program runs flawlessly. It holds true to its name that everything is bigger in Texas. With 17 gentlemen competing, it is amazing how they got through it all in one night. Nathan Paris, 3rd alternate at Nationals, was the perfect administrator and definitely demonstrated Texas made the right decision to sash him. It was a joy to watch him in his element and float on the accomplishment he had worked so hard for. I want to also acknowledge the promoters, Kristian and Christyan for running a smooth organization as it facilitated my job Jenna Skye, Gizelle Ashton and the entire Texas team was extremely accommodating and made my first prelim very enjoyable.

My state promoter, David Robins, surprised me and came to my first prelim. This touched my heart in a special way as it was the highlight atop all the miraculous things, he contributed during my preparations for Nationals 2 years consecutively. Michael Chiavone won Mr. Gay Texas America and Dakota Whitney was 1st alternate. These two gentlemen fought to the brave end and I cannot wait to see what both of them produce for Nationals.

During all the sleepless nights, travel and different climates, my body demanded that I get rest and unfortunately missed attending Miss Gay Ohio America as I am still the reigning Mr. Gay Ohio America. But I kept in touch with many there and heard it was a fantastic pageant. I want to congratulate Courtney Kelly on a job well done and capturing Miss Gay Ohio America. I have watched you grow leaps and bounds in such a short period of time and you will represent Ohio well at Nationals.

Next, was Mr. and Miss Gay Oklahoma America. From the Oklahoma board, the contestants to the audience, these people know the true meaning of "southern hospitality." I needed for nothing. Ryan Jackson, Mr. Gay Oklahoma America 2019, even researched my favorite desert and made sure I had it in my gift bag. He was also my table buddy at Nationals and was special to me that we had a chance to bond outside of competition. Ron Sanchez, Rob Morrison, TJ Bowlin and the entire Oklahoma America board made my OKC experience pretty awesome.

Just stay away from those bandettas and white bread....lol. Congratulations to the winner King Laylo York and first alternate K D Wang. Your enthusiasm and eagerness to improve your craft will take you far.

I am very excited with the future of Mr. Gay America. I have bonded with the Forever Brotherhood, introduced myself to many promoters, gathered an extensive list of quality competitors and adding prelims willing to support our dream seems like daily. With all that is transpiring and the time and effort that is being put forth (all of which, I am very enthusiastic and proud to be a part of), I still find time to speak to those who support and love us from the spectator aspect. Remember this position is not just about me and my reign, but is dedicated to all those that support in any capacity from the backstage to the audience; WE ARE AMERICA!

Much love and respect to all that support me and my journey as Mr. Gay America 2019. Next up, Mr. Gay Diamond America on August 23, 2019.

Simba R. Hall - Mr. Gay America 2019

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