KrisNotes

On Kristofer's Month of May 25

Crowns, Community, and the Call to Rise: A Pride Month Reflection











Hello America,

Let's review the notes...

Happy Pride Month!

What a time to be alive. As a millennial, I sit here in 2025 and ask myself, how many "once-in-a-lifetime" events am I gonna see in one lifetime? This year's Pride Month hits different. We're living in a time where this current administration is coming after things I thought we had already solved or were at least on our way to solving. From racism loudly continuing to rear its ugly head toward Black, Indigenous, and other POC individuals even more boldly than before, to the nonstop attacks on the dignity of our trans siblings, both young and old, to calls to overturn marriage equality at the federal level, and bans that feel like attempts to erase LGBTQ+ folks from public life.

We've come too far. And while many of our elders are still here and still fighting the good fight, we need younger generations, including mine, to step up, step out into the streets, and get our hands dirty in this fight. That said, safety matters. Not everyone can be out protesting or speaking on a stage, and that's okay. Resistance shows up in many forms, and every one of them counts. Whether you are calling out injustice when you see it, voting with purpose, showing up at city council meetings, sharing resources online, or simply being a safe place for someone who needs community and support... it all matters. Every action helps build a stronger, louder, more resilient movement.

Drag Has Always Led

Drag, and its deep connection to the trans community, has always been at the forefront. Drag is many things — subversive, political, polarizing, empowering, and at times, a place to rest and recharge. It has birthed so many community leaders and activists. Pageantry teaches skills that carry over into all kinds of spaces. That's what I love about the Gay America system. Where some people see rigidity, I see structure that helps you discover your best self.

I think of my Gay America brothers. Some I've had the chance to meet, others I haven't yet, but I think of how this system has shaped their lives and all they've gone on to accomplish. I started to list names here, but honestly, there's no way to name just a few. As the 32nd brother in the history of the male division of Gay America pageantry, I'm doing my best to live up to their legacy.

I've got brothers who've been on TV and in movies. Brothers who've trained and coached some of the biggest names in entertainment and business. Brothers who've raised serious funds for our communities. Brothers who've led in pageantry and far beyond. And now, with prelim season officially open as of June 1, the door is wide open for one of y'all to step into this legacy.

May Was Wild

I kicked the month off in Oxford, Mississippi with the Gay America Court. Big shoutout to Fendi LeFemme for having us out! We had a killer show with local entertainers and out-of-town guests. We wrapped the night with laughs at IHOP. Hahaha IYKYK.

Next up, the Imperial Court of Arizona held Coronation XIX back home in Phoenix. We welcomed courtiers from all over the country, including Queen Mother of the Americas Nicole the Great and King Father of the Americas Terry Sidie. We celebrated the reign of Emperor XVIII Justin Deeper-Love and Empress XVIII Phoebe Phobia. I love coronations. It's a chance to see friends from far and wide right in my own backyard.

Congrats to our new monarchs, Emperor XIX Romeo White and Empress XIX Veronica Savage Rose, a top 5 finalist at Miss Gay America Femme. I want to thank the Reign XVIII monarchs for inviting me to perform as your joint command entertainer and for honoring me with the TransFormative Leadership Award. Being an outspoken ally and accomplice, as my brother Teddy Michael says, means standing up for our trans siblings in every space I'm in, for as long as I've got breath in my lungs.

Thank you to Queen Mother Nicole for the International Court Commendation. The International Court System is one of the oldest LGBTQ+ nonprofits in the country. It's a network across the US, Canada, and Mexico, all focused on raising money for good causes and doing real community work. A major highlight of that weekend was seeing my partner Eddie Broadway named King Father I of the US alongside Danielle Logan as Queen Mother I. They'll now lead the Transgender Advisory Council within the ICS, providing insight and support on trans issues across the court system here in the United States.

Gay America was in full force at Miss Gay USofA this year. In our first showing as a National Court on a sister system stage, I joined Ivy and Naomi for this year's pageant in my home away from home, Dallas, TX. The girls really brought it, and in the end Jade emerged victorious, with Forever Miss Gay America Tatiyanna Voche as her first alternate. The Gay USofA pageants are always a great time. Those talents!!! Plus seeing faces I havent seen in ages, pageants truly are family reunions. So far during my reign I've had the chance to attend Mr, Mr at Large, and now Miss. Congratulations to National Promoter for Miss, Kennedy Davenport and Owner Scott Burke on a wonderful pageant. Special shoutout to Ross Wallace to your hard work as well! Jessica Jade you did an amazing job as Miss Gay USofA, your passion and heart for pageantry does not go unnoticed.

Miss Gay AZ Turned It Out

As Coronation weekend wrapped, Miss Gay Arizona Week began. Ivy joined Naomi and I in Phoenix, and we jumped right into two nights of shows at Charlie's with Forever Miss Gay Americas and Forever Miss Gay Arizonas. It's always a good time seeing the Forever girls, but being there this year as a reigning made it even more special.

Arizona also became the first prelim to host the entire Gay America Court. Shoutout to my brother Daniel Eckstrom and the management at Charlie's Phoenix for showing us love and always supporting local drag.

The whole weekend was a blast. Fourteen contestants stepped up and showed out. In the end, Chris Mort came out on top and became the first Miss Gay Arizona from Northern Arizona to be crowned. Princess Prozac, Miss Gay Arizona 2024, had a beautiful reign and made us all proud with her top 3 placement at Nationals. Whatever she does next, I know it's gonna be fire.

Giving Back While I Travel

I wrapped up the month in Tennessee for this year's first Esquire prelim, but since the prelim technically was on June 1st, I'll save those details for the next newsletter.

This year, as I travel, I've committed to raising funds and awareness for an organization that means a lot to me. Aunt Rita's Foundation is Arizona's premier HIV/AIDS nonprofit. With everything going on in politics right now, groups like Aunt Rita's need our support more than ever.

From free at-home HIV testing kits, to social events and resources for elders in our community, to supporting the work of 13 different partner agencies across Arizona through direct funding, Aunt Rita's is literally saving lives.

Moving forward, all tips I receive during my crown songs will go to Aunt Rita's Foundation. If you want to donate directly, hit me up, or scan the QR code on the last page of this newsletter. I've got Venmo, Cash App, Zelle, and PayPal. Every dollar goes straight to Aunt Rita's. You can also learn more about their work at www.auntritas.org.

Final Thought: Pride Is Power

This Pride Month remember, pride is not just a celebration. It's a movement. A mindset. A moment to remind the world that we're still here, and we're not going anywhere. Let's show up, speak up, and support each other this month like never before.

Until next time,











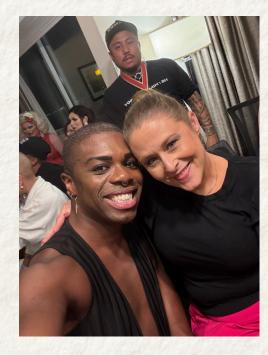
















































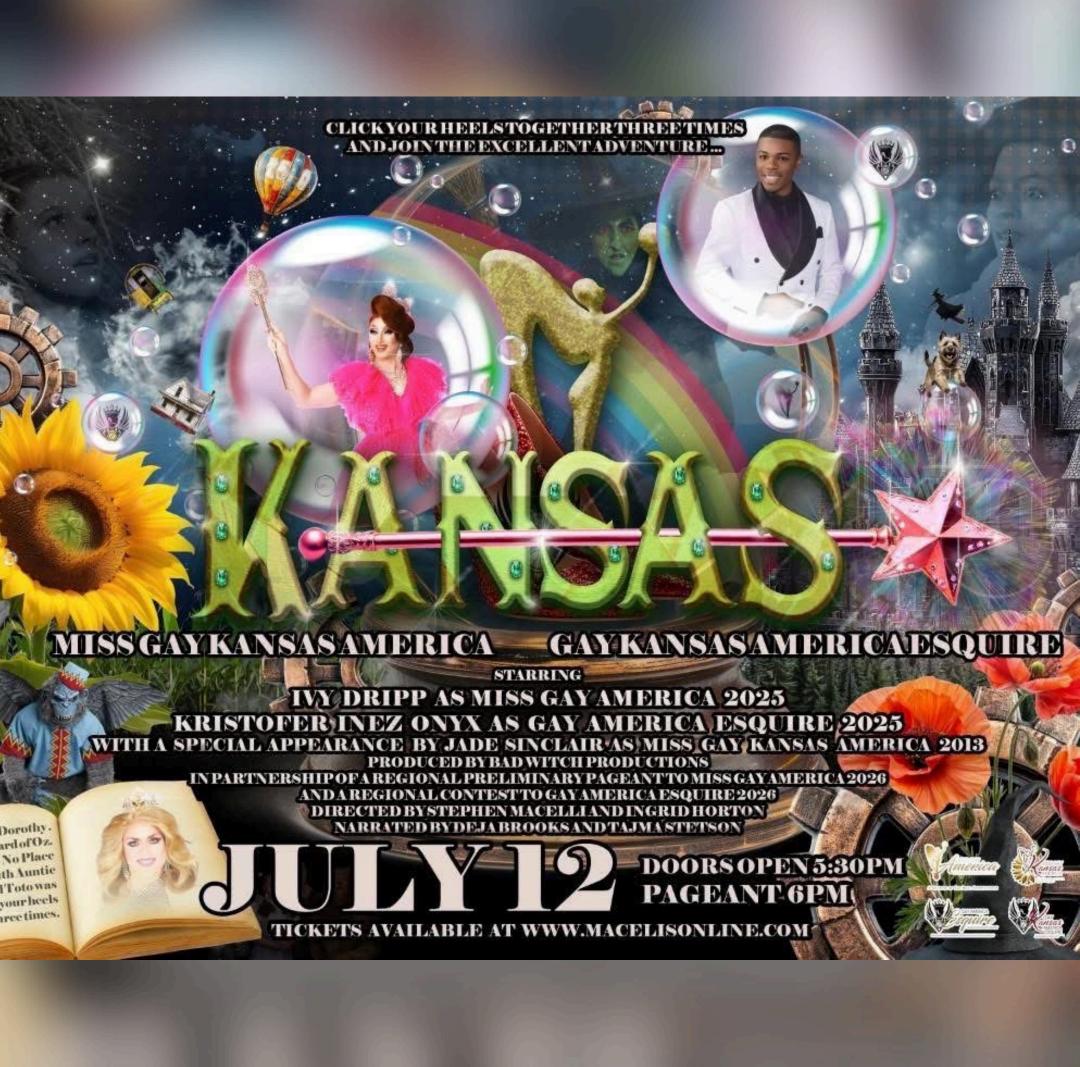












Open Regional Prelim to Gay America Esquire 2026





Onyx & Empire Tolal Sunday, August 24, 2025

Doors 2pm 3pm @ Tests

Scan for Application and Handbook



Featuring Kristofer Inez Unyx Gay America Esquire 2025 Registration Fee: \$125
Registration Deadline: August 11, 2025
gayAZamericaesquire@gmail.com



ALAN DOMINGO, CARLOS O'NEAL, JOSHUA GRAY-HEIM presents:



AN OFFICIAL REGIONAL PRELIMINARY TO MISS GAY AMERICA 2026 and GAY AMERICA ESQUIRE 2026

MISS GAY FANCY AMERICA 2025 & GAY FANCY AMERICA ESQUIRE 2025 November 2nd, 2025 Raleigh, NC

info@missgayfancyamerica.com

MISSGAYFANCYAMERICA.COM



GAY SOUTHERN AMERICA ESQUIRE

JUNE 1, 2025 | JOHNSON CITY, TN

PROMOTERS: RITCHIE ROARK & ROBBIE DAVIS

GAY KANSAS AMERICA ESQUIRE JULY 12, 2025 | LAWRENCE, KS

PROMOTERS: STEPHEN MACELI & INGRID HORTON

GAY ARIZONA AMERICA ESQUIRE

AUGUST 24, 2025 | PHOENIX, AZ PROMOTERS: MICHAEL GAFFNEY & RICKY SEDILLO

GAY TEXAS AMERICA ESQUIRE

SEPTEMBER 12, 2025 | HOUSTON, TX PROMOTER: JUAN MUNOZ

GAY OHIO AMERICA ESQUIRE

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 | COLUMBUS, OH PROMOTER: KYLE WELDON

GAY FANCY AMERICA ESQUIRE

NOV 2025 | RALEIGH, NC PROMOTERS: ALAN DOMINGO & JOSHUA GRAY-HEIM

GAY DC AMERICA ESQUIRE

TBA | WASHINGTON, D.C.
PROMOTERS: ROBERT YORK & ERIC GABBARD

GAY AMERICA ESQUIRE

APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 2026 KANSAS CITY, MO

GAY AMERICA ESQUIRE 2025



MAD ANGEL ENTERTAINMENT AND KC SUNSHINE ENTERTAINMENT

LookingAhead

6/1 - Gay Southern America Esquire - New Beginnings - Johnson City, TN 6/4 - The Queer Arcana - Kobalt - Phoenix, AZ - 8:30PM 6/12 - Cirque du so Trey - Kobalt - Phoenix, AZ - 8PM 6/15 - Imperial Court of Arizona Reign XIX Investitures - The Rock - Phoenix, AZ - 1PM 6/15 - Dad Fest - The Rock - Phoenix, AZ - 4PM 6/19 - Melanated: Melanin & Rainbows - District West - Columbus, OH - 9PM 6/20 - Secret Garden Juneteenth Show - Let's Meet Up - Phoenix, AZ - 8PM 6/21 - Drag & Draw - Tempe Center for the Arts - Tempe, AZ - 6PM 6/26 - Cirque du so Trey - Kobalt - Phoenix, AZ - 8PM 6/27 - Pride with Purpose: Advocacy, Allyship, and Action in the Workplace -Banner Health Thunderbird Campus - Glendale, AZ 6/29 - Phoenix Pride Awards Reception - Kobalt - Phoenix, AZ - 4PM 7/12 - Gay Kansas America Esquire - Maceli's - Lawrence, KS 7/24 - Cirque du so Trey - Kobalt - Phoenix, AZ - 8PM 7/26 - US - Beaux - San Francisco, CA - 9PM









