



August 3, 2026

## RE: REGISTRATION AND OTHER UPDATES FOR TRANS USA 2027

Dear Class of 2025,

As we continue preparing for the next chapter of Trans USA, we want to take a moment to speak directly to each of you with honesty, gratitude, and care.

We know that this past year brought challenges, frustrations, and uncertainty for many members of the Class of 2025. We recognize that the experience did not always reflect the level of consistency, communication, or stability that you deserved, and we understand the emotional weight that came with that. While we cannot change the difficulties that occurred, we acknowledge them openly and have committed ourselves to learning and growing from them.

Over the last 10 months, our organization has spent significant time rebuilding internally, strengthening relationships within our new leadership team, reevaluating our systems, and recommitting ourselves to the mission and values that have always guided Trans USA. We are by no means claiming perfection, but we are committed to building something stronger, healthier, and more sustainable for our trans and non-binary community, and in doing so together.

Most importantly, we want you to know this: Your work, your advocacy, your dedication, and your belief in this organization—in this family and community—matter deeply to us. The Class of 2025 helped shape critical conversations and meaningful changes within Trans USA, and we remain incredibly grateful for the grace, patience, and resilience many of you demonstrated during a difficult season.

It is a deeply humbling reality that we must sometimes break before we are able to fully heal and grow. Your trust in us to build and deliver a more professional, more sustainable, and more transparent experience for the entire Trans USA community knowing that these circumstances impacted you the most is not, and will never be, taken lightly.

The world continues to place extraordinary burdens on transgender, nonbinary, and gender-diverse people. Too often, we are asked to justify our existence, defend our humanity, and navigate spaces that were never designed with us in mind. **We cannot control the challenges that exist beyond our doors, but we can choose the kind of community we build within them.** Our promise is to continue creating a space where every member of the Trans USA family is respected, celebrated, supported, and empowered to thrive: a place where authenticity is met with belonging; where leadership is nurtured with compassion; and where joy, connection, and hope remain at the center of everything we do.

Thank you for believing in this organization through both its triumphs and its growing pains. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to learn, to rebuild, and to move forward together. We are honored to continue this journey alongside you, and we look forward to welcoming you into the next chapter of Trans USA with the transparency, professionalism, and care that you have always deserved.

Attached, you'll find an important letter from the Executive Leadership Team outlining the next chapter of Trans USA and what members of the Class of 2025 can expect as we prepare for the 2027 competition cycle. It includes information on deferred registration, organizational updates, new resources available to representatives, important dates, and several changes that have been made based directly on feedback from our community. As you read

through the information, we hope you will see not only the practical changes we have made but the values that inspired them.

If you intend to compete in **Trans USA 2027**, please be sure to read the attached information and email [admin@transusationalpageantry.com](mailto:admin@transusationalpageantry.com) **no later than September 4, 2026**, indicating your intent to return. This will allow us to reserve your place, begin preparing your registration materials, and ensure you receive future communications regarding your welcome packet and organizational resources.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or would simply like to speak with us, please don't hesitate to reach out. We remain committed to listening, learning, and creating a Trans USA where every member of our family feels welcomed, supported, and empowered to thrive.

With gratitude,

## The Trans USA Executive Leadership Team

*[N.B. – This email and the attached document include business confidential information as we await the public announcement of our dates and registration timeline on August 10<sup>th</sup>. As members of the Class of 2025, you are being entrusted with this information to help you prepare, but we do ask that this information remain confidential until the public announcement.]*

**Please note:** This email is being sent to the full **Class of 2025** list and is separate from our general organizational communications. To help us keep our records up to date and avoid unnecessary follow-up emails, we kindly ask that you reply **only if** you intend to defer to 2027 or are considering exercising your right to defer to a future competition year (2028–2031). **If we don't hear from you, we'll simply assume you aren't planning to utilize the deferral option and won't send additional correspondence on this topic.** Should your plans change in the future, or if you have any questions at all, our door is always open, and we'd be delighted to hear from you.

# **TRANS USA 2027: November 17-21, 2027 (Milwaukee, WI)**

## ***What to Expect***

Before sharing the details, we want you to know that these updates were not developed in isolation. Since Day 1 in April, we have worked intentionally to listen, learn, and build alongside our community.

Our transition process began with a joint meeting between the incoming and outgoing national courts and members of the Executive Leadership Team. Over the past several months, we have carefully reviewed contestant feedback forms and evaluations from previous years, and the current court has played a key role in all major planning conversations. Their personal experience as members of the Class of 2025 has been invaluable! The changes outlined below reflect what we heard, what we learned, and our shared vision for a stronger, more supportive, and more sustainable Trans USA.

One of the clearest messages we heard was that representatives wanted to feel more connected, supported, and equipped throughout their year of service, not just during the weeks leading up to nationals. In response, we have invested in new tools, resources, and organizational systems designed to make participation easier, improve communication, and help you succeed as both a representative and advocate.

## **Professional Communication & Collaboration**

- Each representative will receive an **official Trans USA email address**, access to our organizational **Google Workspace**, and an invitation to join our **professional Slack community**. Together, these platforms provide a centralized home for important documents, forms, deadlines, calendars, announcements, and direct communication, while also allowing you to upload photos, music, paperwork, and other required materials in one secure location.

## **Creative & Advocacy Resources**

- Representatives will also receive access to our **Canva Pro** team for creating branded advocacy materials and social media graphics. Following your virtual interview, you will also be to collaborate with our team to host virtual events through our professional StreamYard platform, making it easier to connect with your communities throughout the year.

## **Other Standard Benefits**

- Every representative will receive an official Trans USA t-shirt, a complimentary national souvenir book, at least two meals provided during nationals (with the goal of expanding meal coverage as resources allow), and a 50% discount on full- and half-page souvenir book advertisements.

## **Prelim Regalia and Expanded Opportunities**

- This year, representatives will also have the opportunity to purchase official state and regional crowns and medallions to further recognize and celebrate their service. Additional resources, leadership opportunities, and organizational benefits will continue to be introduced in the coming weeks, and throughout the year as we grow together.

# Updated Organizational Documents

To improve clarity, consistency, and transparency, we have substantially revised both the Contestant Handbook and Representative Agreement to eliminate ambiguities, better reflect our collaborative values, and clearly communicate expectations. We are also developing a comprehensive Organizational Handbook that will outline policies and procedures across all aspects of Trans USA, ensuring that representatives, volunteers, and leadership alike have access to the same information and guidance.

## Competition Updates

Based on feedback from multiple previous classes, we have made two important updates to the competition. First, all competitive categories will now carry equal weight, creating a more transparent scoring process while recognizing equal importance of every aspect of competition.

Second, we have introduced a new category that acknowledges the work representatives complete throughout the year (e.g., timely submissions, communication, professionalism, administrative preparedness, and community engagement). We believe these contributions deserve to be recognized alongside your performance on stage.

## DEFERRED REGISTRATION FOR CY2025

As outlined in some of our previous correspondence, representatives from the Class of 2025 may elect to defer participation to any of the next five competition cycles, beginning with Trans USA 2027. We hope this opportunity allows representatives to continue the work they have already invested in their communities, advocacy platforms, and charity partnerships while entering a renewed and evolving era of our organization.

To support contestants choosing to defer, Trans USA will continue honoring the previously announced commitments:

- **No registration fee for CY2025 contestants deferring to 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, or 2031**
- **Organization-covered state/regional sash costs for CY2025 deferrals**
- **No dresser pass fee for CY2025 contestants**

Contestants may represent the same or a different state/region, though we encourage continuing with your original selection whenever possible to maintain continuity with the community relationships and charitable initiatives you have already built.

## Confirming Your Intent to Compete

**If you intend to compete in Trans USA 2027, please reply to this email no later than September 4, 2026, simply indicating your intent to return.** This information will allow us to begin planning for the upcoming season, reserve your place in the Class of 2027, and ensure that we are able to communicate with you effectively throughout the year.

On **September 15, 2026**, representatives who have confirmed their intent to compete will receive a link to an abbreviated registration update form. Because you have already completed the full application process, this form is primarily for administrative purposes and will allow us to collect updated contact information, shipping

addresses, biographies, pronouns, emergency contacts, and any other information that may have changed since your original registration.

Public registration for **Trans USA 2027** will officially open on **September 21, 2026**. By confirming your intent early, we can ensure that your deferred registration is processed before public registration begins.

After your registration has been fully processed in the fall, you will receive a welcome packet containing information on accessing your official Trans USA email account, Google Workspace, Slack, Canva Pro, StreamYard (following your virtual interview), and other organizational resources available throughout your year of service.

If your plans have changed, or if you have any questions regarding your deferral, eligibility, or the registration process, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are committed to making this transition as smooth, transparent, and supportive as possible, and we look forward to welcoming you into this exciting new chapter of Trans USA.

We also want to make space for constructive conversation. If you still have concerns, questions, frustrations, or simply want to talk with us directly, we invite you to do so openly. Rebuilding trust and strengthening our community requires honest dialogue, and we are committed to listening.

For additional questions regarding deferrals or participation, please contact a member of the reigning court or our admin team at [admin@transusanationalpageantry.com](mailto:admin@transusanationalpageantry.com).

Thank you for continuing to believe in the possibility of what Trans USA can become. We truly believe there are meaningful and mission-focused things ahead, and we hope many of you will continue that journey with us.

With gratitude and humility,

## The Trans USA Executive Leadership Team

### Trans USA 2026 National Court

Mr. Trans USA 2026: Ryan “Mars” Klinghammer

- [ryan@transusanationalpageantry.com](mailto:ryan@transusanationalpageantry.com)

Miss Trans USA 2026: Jordan Braxton

- [jordan@transusanationalpageantry.com](mailto:jordan@transusanationalpageantry.com)

Mx. Trans USA 2026: Wes Wyman

- [wes@transusanationalpageantry.com](mailto:wes@transusanationalpageantry.com)

# Summary of Important Dates

To help everyone plan ahead, below are several important dates for the Trans USA 2027 season. Additional deadlines and reminders will be shared throughout the year and as needed. While these dates represent our current timeline, they are provided well in advance to help you plan accordingly. Should any adjustments become necessary, they will be communicated promptly through our official communication channels.

- **September 4, 2026:** Deadline for members of the Class of 2025 to confirm their intent to compete.
- **September 15, 2026:** Abbreviated registration update form distributed to members of the Class of 2025.
- **September 21, 2026:** Public registration officially opens.
- **January 31, 2027:** Public registration closes.
- **March 1, 2027:** Official public announcement of Trans USA Class of 2027.
- **November 17-21, 2027:** Trans USA 2027/National Trans Access Conference

Please note that additional deadlines for photographs, music, paperwork, advertisements, virtual interviews, and other competition materials will be communicated well in advance through your official Trans USA email account, Google Workspace, and Slack.