

Category Overview & Scoring

MGK celebrates drag as an art form and a community practice. These categories are designed to be welcoming, flexible, and grounded in the values of the MGK Charter (2026): inclusivity, artistic excellence, mentorship, and community leadership. There is no single way to compete — contestants are invited to show up as their authentic drag selves.

1. Fashion / Presentation Look

What this is: A runway-style presentation of your drag aesthetic.

This category is about how you present yourself visually and how clearly your look communicates who you are as an artist. There is no required style or silhouette. Pageant gowns are welcome, but so are alternative, conceptual, camp, or non-traditional looks.

Judging looks for:

- A clear concept or point of view
- Thoughtful styling and overall cohesion
- Confidence and presence on stage

Scoring (25 points):

- Concept & Creativity – 10
- Execution & Finish – 5
- Stage Presence – 10

2. Introduction Statement

What this is: A short personal introduction.

This is your opportunity to tell the judges and audience who you are, why you do drag, and why this title matters to you. This segment is designed to reduce pressure and allow for sincerity over polish.

You may speak live or in an approved format shared in advance.

Scoring (10 points):

- Clarity & Intent – 5
- Authenticity & Presence – 5

3. Talent Performance

What this is: A performance that represents you as a drag artist.

Talent may include lip sync, live vocals, comedy, spoken word, dance, or another drag-centered performance style. Political, emotional, humorous, and experimental pieces are all welcome, provided they respect venue rules and community safety.

Judging looks for:

- Performance skill appropriate to the chosen talent
- Artistic expression and emotional impact
- Connection with the audience

Scoring (30 points):

- Performance Ability – 10
- Artistic Expression – 10
- Stage & Audience Engagement – 10

4. Q&A / Interview

What this is: A brief, values-based conversation.

Questions focus on community, leadership, collaboration, advocacy, and personal reflection, not trick questions or confrontation. This segment helps assess each contestant's readiness to serve as an **MGK community ambassador** and representative of Kingston Drag. The goal is not to find a "perfect" answer, but to understand how contestants think, communicate, and engage with others.

Judging looks for:

- Alignment with MGK values, including inclusivity, respect, and community care
- Readiness to represent MGK and Kingston Drag in public and community settings
- Clear, respectful, and thoughtful communication
- Leadership, accountability, and positive community engagement
- A meaningful vision for their reign and impact on the local drag community

Scoring (35 points):

- Community Values & Inclusivity – 10
 - Ambassador Readiness – 10
 - Communication & Presence – 5
 - Leadership & Accountability – 5
 - Vision for Their Reign – 5
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Scoring Summary

- Fashion / Presentation Look: 25
- Introduction Statement: 10
- Talent Performance: 30
- Q&A / Interview: 35

Total: 100 points

What Judges Are Asked to Remember

- Judge each contestant against their own concept, not against other competitors.
- Budget, experience level, or drag style should never be a barrier to scoring well.
- MGK values community care, artistry, and integrity above competitiveness.

This framework may evolve year to year while remaining rooted in the Charter.