

**STAR
SNAPS**



▶ The show doesn't kick off until 8/7c, but with rehearsals, pre-taped segments and contestant interviews, Cannon (above, with the production team), puts in a full day. "I usually get in around 10am," he says. His first stop is always a check-in with the producers. "Being the person that's manning the ship, I need to know that all the producers and I are on the same page. It's all in my hands down to the last second to make sure the show goes off at the right time and ends at the right time."

AMERICA'S GOT TALENT GOES LIVE

From acrobats shooting arrows, to magicians and teenage singers, NBC's *America's Got Talent* offers something for everyone. Host Nick Cannon, now in his eighth year of emceeing the talent competition, snapped behind-the-scenes shots during the first live show of the season. "You never know what's going to happen during a live show," Cannon says. Here's what we learned.

BY **EMILY MAAS**



▶ Although there is a teleprompter to help him along, "I just use it as a guideline," says Cannon, who is used to speaking off the cuff. "When people get shot in the neck on live television, and Mel B and Simon decide to have a water fight in the middle of the show, you've got to be able to go with the flow."

America's Got Talent

Tuesdays and Wednesdays,
8/7c, NBC

🐦 @nbcagt



▲ Co-creator Simon Cowell joined Heidi Klum, Mel B and Howie Mandel (from left) as a judge this season and Cannon is all praises. "He's the Michael Jordan of this television-judging thing," Cannon says. "I don't even really see him as a boss. Clearly he is, but he doesn't like to be treated any differently than anybody else."



▲ All types of contestants come through AGT, but Cannon's favorites are the talented youngsters. "They're just so happy to be here," he says. "They're like little phenomenons. These kids have so much talent and to be performing at this level for millions of people—I just love it."

▶ Cannon, in a Perry Ellis suit and Christian Louboutin shoes, is king of his wardrobe. "Ain't nobody else wear all of that crazy stuff," he laughs. "I'm definitely the one to put it together. I have a great team that makes sure I have the right stuff to choose from, but those are straight from my closet."



▲ "Sometimes I can't make it to the gym in the mornings because the day starts so early, so I've got all my workout equipment in my dressing room," Cannon says. His usual routine? "A lot of core-building. I attempt to do a thousand push-ups a day [and different] types of ab crunches. It's an easy regimen to stay on top of."