



NORFOLK TALENT COMPETITION RULES

Eligibility

The contest is open to non-professional residents of Ontario only. For purposes of this contest, a professional entertainer is:

- (a) one who earns more than one-half of his or her normal living expenses by performing in any of the categories of competition (i.e. a professional dancer may not compete in the contest as a singer, musician, etc.) or
- (b) one who is a union member, or
- (c) one who has a professional agent or manager who is or will be paid a fee for securing employment in the entertainment field, or
- (d) one who sings or otherwise performs on any record released for commercial distribution through normal retail outlets (This does not prohibit an entertainer from self-producing a record for sale or distribution to friends and associates, or performing on a self-produced recording of a school or church choir group for charitable fundraising purposes).

Senior Talent contestants must be between the age of 13 and 19 years. Each member of an act, whether performing as a soloist or as a member of a group, must be at least 13 years old and must not have reached his/her 20th birthday by the opening day of the Norfolk County Fair (October 5th, 2010). Proof of age may be

requested. The average age of group members is not considered.

Junior Talent contestants must be between the age of 6 and 12 years. Each member of an act must be at least 6 years old. Proof of age may be requested. The average age of group members is not considered.

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Categories of competition are:

- a) Solo Vocal
- b) Solo Dance
- c) Group Dance
- d) *Variety

*Variety consists of musical theatre, instrumental, group vocal and variety such as magic acts, drama etc.

Categories of competition are for the purposes of scheduling performers, clarifying eligibility and determining judging criteria. Each act will be judged against each other act, regardless of category of performance. N.B. No more than 5 members are permitted in a group entered in the Senior Talent Search. There is no limit on the number of members entered in the Junior Talent Search.

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION

Will be Saturday, September 19th, 2009, at the Simcoe Little Theatre in Simcoe commencing at 10.00 A. M.

JUDGING

All contestants will be judged on the following basis:
Natural Ability 25%
Quality of performance 25%
Showmanship 25%

Audience Rapport 25%

**Audience rapport is the judges' evaluation of how the act would be received by an appropriate, impartial audience in an appropriate setting, and is not based on the size or enthusiasm of an act's "fan club"

The decision of the contest judges is final, and Senior Talent Search organizers shall enter into no discussion regarding any decision at any time.

PRIZES AND AWARDS – Youth Talent Search

First Place Winner:

\$200.00 Cash and a medal

Second Place Winner:

\$150.00 Cash and a medal

Third Place Winner:

\$100.00 Cash and a medal

PRIZES AND AWARDS-Junior Talent Search

First Place Winner:

\$150.00 Cash and a medal

Second Place Winner:

\$100.00 Cash and a medal

Third Place Winner:

\$50.00 Cash and a medal

WINNERS will compete at the 2010 Rising Star CNE Competition

ENTRIES

READ THE RULES THOROUGHLY AND CAREFULLY, AND BE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND ALL OF THEM. WHEN YOU SIGN THE ENTRY FORM, YOU INDICATE YOU HAVE DONE SO!

All required information must be provided, and sent or delivered to the Fair Board Office and to arrive by the closing date for the contest. Phone 519-426-7280

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
(All Rules and Regulations apply to every level of the competition)

1. It is strongly recommended that an act run no more than three (3) minutes. Under no circumstances may an act run more than four (4) minutes. ANY ACT RUNNING OVER 4 minutes WILL BE DISQUALIFIED...NO EXCEPTIONS! The act is timed from the first vocal utterance in any vocal category; the first musical sound in any instrumental category; the first body movement in any dance category; the first movement, gesture, utterance or musical sound in any variety category.
2. Baton twirlers or similar acts using batons, machetes, knives, etc., will not be accepted. No fire, smoke or smoke-effect will be allowed on stage at anytime.
3. In the Vocal categories, instrumental accompaniment by the person in the act or others is allowed, but is not judged. It must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone. NOTE: Recorded backup may be used, subject to the restrictions in rules 4, 5 & 6. A recording (except C.D.'s) must contain only the piece of music required for the performance, and must be cued properly. We cannot be responsible for any tape, which is not picked up following your performance. Please label each tape with your name for identification.
4. Contestants entered in the Vocal categories may use no voice or voices, vocal utterance or synthesized vocal utterance for accompaniment. This includes recorded live voices and voices that are produced and recorded synthetically (i.e. synthesizers or digitally sampled). ANY BACKGROUND VOCALS = DISQUALIFICATION.
5. In the Instrumental categories, live or taped accompaniment is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone. The use of any instrument(s) for accompaniment of the same type as instrument(s) being judged is not allowed. If the playing of an electronic keyboard is to be judged, no preprogrammed music is allowed; the contestant must create all sound live on stage.
6. In the Dance categories, accompanists are permitted on stage but must not assume visual importance in the performance. There must be no taps, or tap effect (e.g. "rimshots") on a taped recording used by a dancer or dancers.
7. In the Vocal and/or Instrumental Group category, any combination of vocal and/or instrumental performance will be accepted, including bands with or without vocals.
8. Solo performers who wish to be judged on any combination of singing and playing, plus all performers who wish to be judged on any combination of singing and choreography, singing and drama, etc. as well as all comedy or novelty acts, magic acts, ventriloquism acts, etc. must enter in the Variety category. While a combination of categories is allowed, the individual rules will apply, and contestants must give sufficient prominence to each element of the performance for the judges to properly evaluate the individual talents.
9. Contestants must be available on all dates shown for Senior Talent Search or Junior Talent Search competitions. No exceptions.
10. Organizers reserve the right of final decision on any matters pertaining to the Senior or Junior Talent Search not covered by the rules.

