

**SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS & CELEBRATIONS
CORN PALACE FESTIVAL
STATE YOUTH TALENT CONTEST**

GENERAL RULES

1. Age limits are 13 through 19, inclusive. All contestants must be at least 13 years of age and not more than 19 years of age as of the first day of the Corn Palace Festival, August 24, 2011.
2. It is recommended that an act should run no more than three minutes and under no circumstances should an act run more than four minutes. Any act running over four minutes will be disqualified.
3. Baton twirlers or similar acts using baton or machetes, knives, etc, will not be accepted.
4. No fire, smoke, or smoke effects will be allowed on stage during the Corn Palace Festival.
5. A contestant may enter only one category at the State Youth Talent Contest.
6. No member of a Grand Prize Award winning act may compete again at the State Youth Talent Contest.
7. A vocalist may change songs or a dancer may change music or style of dance between the time of invitation and State Contest time as long as it does not alter the category.
8. All props must be inanimate with the exception of Variety Category.
9. Does not require state residency to participate at State Contest.
10. Once you qualify at a preliminary contest and are invited to the State Contest, you cannot compete in another contest. If you do, you are ineligible to participate at the State Contest.
11. In any vocal category, instrumental accompaniment by the persons in the act or others is allowed but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. No vocalist must play any musical instrument during the vocal performance except for the purpose of accompaniment.
12. No voice, voices, record, or tape with vocal utterance may be used for accompaniment by the contestants entered in any vocal category.
13. There must be no taps or tap effects on a taped recording used by a dancer.
14. In an instrumental solo, accompaniment is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the solo performance would stand alone if accompaniment were removed.
15. In an instrumental solo, accompaniment must be piano, either taped or live.
16. In a Band/Instrumental Group, no accompaniment is allowed. All performers on stage must meet the age qualifications of the South Dakota State Youth Talent Contest.
17. In any dance category, accompanists are permitted on stage but must not assume visual importance in the performance.
18. In a Variety act, all persons assuming visual importance in the act must meet the age qualifications of the South Dakota State Youth Talent Contest. Combination of categories is allowed, but the individual category rules will apply.
19. Performers who fit the description of another category may not appear in the Variety Category.

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CATEGORY DESCRIPTION

The South Dakota Youth Talent Committee reserves the right to assign contestants to what it believes to be the proper categories. Any questions shall be resolved immediately by the South Dakota State Youth Talent Coordinator, and the decision is final. The following is a list of categories and description of each. These are used as guidelines and are subject to interpretation by the South Dakota State Youth Talent Coordinator.

VOCAL SOLO FEMALE

Vocal solo – female – shall consist of a solo performance by a female vocalist. Instrumental accompaniment by herself or others is allowed but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. No vocalist may play any musical instrument during the vocal performance except for the purpose of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. **FOR CONTESTANTS ENTERED IN ANY VOCAL CATEGORY, ACCOMPANIMENT TRACTS WITH VOCAL UTTERANCE ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS INCLUDES RECORDED LIVE VOICES AND VOICES THAT ARE PRODUCED AND RECORDED SYNTHETICALLY (i.e. SYNTHESIZERS OR DIGITAL SAMPLES).**

VOCAL SOLO MALE

Vocal solo – male – shall consist of a solo performance by a male vocalist. Instrumental accompaniment by himself or others is allowed but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. No vocalist may play any musical instrument during the vocal performance except for the purpose of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. **FOR CONTESTANTS ENTERED IN ANY VOCAL CATEGORY, ACCOMPANIMENT TRACTS WITH VOCAL UTTERANCE ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS INCLUDES RECORDED LIVE VOICES AND VOICES THAT ARE PRODUCED AND RECORDED SYNTHETICALLY (i.e. SYNTHESIZERS OR DIGITAL SAMPLES).**

VOCAL GROUP

Vocal group shall consist of two or more vocalists male and/or female. Instrumental accompaniment by themselves or others is allowed but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. Acts in which the instrumental accompaniment assumes equal importance with the vocal performance will be assigned to BAND/INSTRUMENTAL GROUP upon the recommendation of the Youth Talent Coordinator. No vocalist may play any musical instrument during the vocal performance except for the purpose of accompaniment. FOR CONTESTANTS ENTERED IN ANY VOCAL CATEGORY, ACCOMPANIMENT TRACTS WITH VOCAL UTTERANCE ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS INCLUDES RECORDED LIVE VOICES AND VOICES THAT ARE PRODUCED AND RECORDED SYNTHETICALLY (i.e. SYNTHESIZERS OR DIGITAL SAMPLE).

BAND/INSTRUMENTAL GROUP

Band/Instrumental group shall consist of any group of two (2) or more persons with or without vocal using amplified or non-amplified instruments and/or rhythm section (i.e. drum, acoustic or electric bass, piano or electric piano). No accompaniment is allowed. All performers on the stage must meet the age qualifications of the South Dakota State Youth Talent Contest.

SOUTH DAKOTA YOUTH TALENT CONTEST DEFINITION OF A PROFESSIONAL ENTERTAINER

The South Dakota Youth Talent Contest is designed for competition among amateur entertainers. A professional entertainer is hereby defined as one who earns more than one-half his normal living expenses by performing in any of the categories of competition participating in the South Dakota Youth Talent Contest (i.e. a professional dancer may not compete in the South Dakota Youth Talent Contest and an amateur singer, musician, etc.). A professional is further defined for Youth Talent Contest purposes as one who is a union member or one who has signed a contract with a professional agent or manager who is paid with either salary or commission for services rendered in securing employment in the entertainment field. Furthermore, an entertainer who sings or otherwise performs on any record released for commercial distribution through normal retail outlets shall be considered a professional by the Youth Talent Committee. This does not prohibit an entertainer from self-producing a record for sale or distribution to friends and associates such as in church group activities.

If an entertainer should be designated a professional for any of the above reasons and his circumstances should change, which possibly would permit him to renounce his professional standing, he may apply to the Youth Talent Committee for declaration of his amateur standing. For example, if any entertainer should disassociate himself from a managerial contract, he may wish to petition Youth Talent for such a declaration. Similarly, he would apply for reinstatement as an amateur for Youth Talent purposes. Such a request for reinstatement shall each be reviewed on an individual basis and shall be entirely at the discretion of the Youth Talent Contest Committee.