

**MINI & MAXI TALENT  
HUNT CONTESTS**  
**David Baker - Coordinator**  
**(315) 478-2772 Home**  
**(315) 487-7711 Fair, ext. 1430 or 1338**  
**www.nysfair.org**

The New York State Fair Talent Showcase is an annual event for the sole purpose of providing a vehicle for encouragement, development and discovery of amateur entertainers.

**Reminder: There is a \$10 fee per group competing, made payable to the New York State Fair.**

The Talent Showcase does not organize any preliminary contest. Talent Showcase sponsorship is non-commercial.

**Contestants may enter only one county competition to be eligible to perform in the NYS Fair Talent Showcase Competition.**

Cash awards for the contest will total \$3,000.00 for the Mini and Maxi Talent Hunt Contests. All awards will be paid after the 2019 New York State Fair.

The New York State Office of the State Comptroller requires state agencies to document Payee ID (social security number or federal ID number) prior to issuing payment. Failure to provide the New York State Fair with your social security number or federal identification number will result in the forfeiture of all prize money.

**MINI & MAXI TALENT HUNT CONTEST  
GENERAL RULES**

ONLY AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED - NO PHOTO COPIES OF THIS APPLICATION ALLOWED. EACH APPLICATION IS NUMBERED AND CODED BY THE NYS FAIR TALENT SHOWCASE.

1. The NYS Fair Talent Showcase will accept up to, but no more than, the Top 25 Mini, and up to, but no more than, the Top 25 Maxi acts from county level preliminary talent competitions.
2. **Age limits are:**
  - Maxi Talent - 13 years of age and over. Mini Talent - 12 years of age and under. **(Age of each contestant as of 9/1/19).**
  - **The 50% rule will be strictly adhered to concerning groups.** In a duo, if one contestant is 12 and under and the other is 13 and over, then they will compete in the MAXI DIVISION. In a group of three or larger, if 50% or more of the group is 13 and over, they will compete in the MAXI DIVISION.
  - **No one over the age of 14 may perform or be a part of a Mini Division Group.**

3 Time limit for each act must not exceed five (5) minutes **MAXIMUM – INCLUDING INTROS**. Any act running over 5 minutes will be disqualified. Acts will be timed.

4. No acts using batons, machetes, or knives, etc. will be accepted.

5. No fire will be allowed on stage during the competition.

6. Contestants must be strictly amateur. They must not be/have been under contract or received reimbursement for their performance. Also, performers holding union cards are not eligible. Expense money, however, should not be considered reimbursement for performance.

7 To be eligible for the New York State Fair Talent Showcase, contestants must have performed **and** placed in the top 25 in a County Fair Talent Show or County Talent Contest sanctioned by the New York State Fair. You must fill in the required information on the Showcase Entry Blank concerning this part of your entry requirement. **Again...please remember that contestants who audition in one county are not eligible to audition in another county.** Contestants may represent one county only (groups and solos)...and up to the Top 25 Mini and Top 25 Maxi winning acts will be allowed to enter the NYS Fair Talent Showcase.

**SPECIAL NOTE: In a group situation, if all performers do not reside in the same county, the group should compete in the county that the majority of performers reside. Age requirements for groups as outlined in rule number two (2) above, are also in effect.**

#### **Attention County Chair people:**

The NYS Fair Talent Showcase must receive from each County Contest Chairperson a list of the top 25 winners in Mini and the Top 25 winners in Maxi competitions within five (5) days after their local contest has concluded. This list should include names **and** ages of all personnel, as well as the name of the act, type of act and music used for the performance.

8 Contestants must perform the EXACT same act that they performed at the county level. There can be no performance changes of any kind. The same personnel must be used; the same routines; music; costumes; clothing/attire, etc. No changes of any kind allowed. **This also applies to our Prelims, Semi-Finals & Finals. Any violation of this rule will result in a disqualification.**

9. A contestant can perform a maximum of three times -- **One** (1) solo and as a member of only **Two** (2) other groups or 3 groups with **no solo**. Two or more performers constitute a “group”. If this rule is violated, the contestant and the group will be disqualified.

10. **Mini Contest** - The daily top 10 place winners will be eligible to enter the Semi-Final Mini Contest on **Saturday, August 31** at 11:00 a.m.

11. **Maxi Contest** - The daily top 10 place winners will be eligible to enter the Semi-Final Maxi Contest on **Sunday, September 1** at 11:00 a.m.

12. The top 25 place winners from the Semi-Final Mini Contest and the top 25 place winners from the Semi-Final Maxi Contest will be eligible to enter the **Final Competition**, held on **Monday, September 2, 2019**.

13. Previous **First Place Maxi Final Winners** and previous **First Place Mini Contest Winners** are not eligible to enter the Finals in the same category, e.g., a solo winner may not return as a soloist the next year. He or she may, however, perform as part of a duet, trio or group.

14. Teachers are not permitted to compete or perform in their professional talent, e.g., a dance teacher could not compete as a dancer. This rule does not apply to students under scholarship who assist in teaching.

15. Contestants using recorded music for their performance must deliver a cd in "new condition" to the Talent Showcase Registration Table (back-stage) at sign-in time. CD's should be labeled "**stereo**" or "**mono**" and have the name of your act on it. **The cd must contain only the selection to be performed on it.** Because of the high quality sound system that we have at Talent Showcase, it would add to any act to supply a high quality cd for your performance.

16. **We will be video-recording each act, upon request. If you bring a new format DVD marked: -R, we will video-record your performance. Present your DVD to the registration people when you check in. PLEASE – ONE DVD FOR MINI ACTS AND ONE DVD FOR MAXI ACTS.**

17. A piano and sound system is provided by Talent Showcase.

18. There is no rock band contest. No rock bands will be scheduled.

19. Transportation to and from the Fair, meals and lodging are the responsibility of the contestant.

20. **There is a \$10 entry fee for each act.**

21. The decision of the judges will be final.

22. **Judges' scores will ONLY be mailed to those contestants who supply us with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, PRIOR TO THE END OF THE FAIR. Please include the name of your act, your code number, performance number, date of performance and if a Mini or Maxi Division contestant. No requests received after the NYS Fair is over will be honored. (There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule.)**

23. Every act scheduled to perform at the NYS Fair Talent Competition will receive a written confirmation. This confirmation also will include date of appearance. Everyone then must report to the Talent Showcase at 10:00 a.m. for sign-in on the scheduled appearance day listed on the confirmation notice.

**There is only one check-in daily at 10:00 a.m**

24. Sponsor is not held accountable for judges' decisions. Any questions regarding the judges' decisions should be directed to **David Baker, (315) 478-2772.**

25. Submission of an application to participate in the New York State Fair Talent Showcase signifies acceptance on the part of all participants, contestants, chair people, teachers, parents, etc., of all terms and conditions set forth in any of our rules, regulations and communications.

26. Exhibitor assumes risk associated with, resulting from or arising in connection with Exhibitor's participation or presence at the New York State Fair, including, risks of theft, loss, harm or injury to the person, property, whether caused by negligence, intentional act, accident, Act of God or otherwise. Exhibitor has sole responsibility for its property or any theft, damage or other loss to such property, whether or not stored in any courtesy storage areas. The New York State Fair, nor any of their respective officers, directors, employees, representatives or assigns, shall be liable for, and Exhibitor hereby releases all of them from, and covenants not to sue any of them with respect to, risks, damages and liability described in this paragraph.

**PRIZES - \$3,000**

Every contestant will receive a participation ribbon. The following premium money will be paid by the New York State Fair Talent Showcase **to contestants only**:

**Final Mini Contest and  
Final Maxi Contest**

- 1st.....First place ribbon & \$500.00
- 2nd ..... Second place ribbon & \$400.00
- 3rd ..... Third place ribbon & \$300.00
- 4th ..... Fourth place ribbon & \$200.00
- 5th ..... Fifth place ribbon & \$100.00
- 6th place ..... ribbon only
- 7th place ..... ribbon only
- 8th place ..... ribbon only
- 9th place ..... ribbon only
- 10th place ..... ribbon only

Mini Contest  
August 21 – August 30 - 11:00 a.m.  
Semi-Final Mini Contest  
Saturday, August 31 - 11:00 a.m.  
Final Contest  
Monday, September 2 (Labor Day) - 11:00 a.m.

Maxi Contest  
August 21 – August 30 – 2:00 p.m.  
Semi-Final Maxi Contest  
Sunday, September 1 - 11:00 a.m.  
Final Contest  
Monday, September 2 (Labor Day) - 2:00 p.m.