# CLEBURNE COUNTY FAIR YOUTH TALENT CONTEST RULES

# September 10, 2022 7 pm

#  Cleburne County Fairgrounds

## QUALIFICATIONS & RULES

1. The purpose of the Cleburne County Fair Youth Talent Contest is to discover, develop, and encourage talent in the youth of Arkansas. It is designed primarily for amateur talent, but any act which qualifies otherwise is eligible even if the act received pay at some time EXCEPT where the person(s) are engaged in the entertainment business or paid instructors of the Arts. Acts that may be considered professional should be brought to the attention of the County Fair Manager who will be responsible for notifying the State Youth Talent Director. The State Youth Talent Director will determine the contestant’s eligibility. Their decision will be final.
2. **Junior Contestants must be 10 years of age and not more than 15 years of age by the opening day of the Cleburne County Fair. Senior Contestants must be 16 years of age and not more than 21 years of age by the opening day of the Cleburne County Fair.** Any contestant appearing younger or older than the age limits specified should be prepared to furnish proof of age to the County/State Contest Director.
3. Contestants must be legal residents of the state of Arkansas. Contestants must not have ever been convicted of any crime or have any criminal charges pending.
4. No contestant will be allowed to compete in more than two categories.
5. Contestants can only compete in the county contest and win the Youth Talent Contest sanctioned by the County which they legally reside in. In the event a contestant’s parents are divorced and live in separate counties and have been court ordered to reside jointly with both parents, the contestant can only compete in one of the two counties in which the contestant’s parents reside. **The State Fair is now requiring the county send their county winners to the state competition.** ***All other county contestants can compete at the State Fair competition, but must apply and pay entry fee****.* (See Mrs. Pam for information)
6. All acts must be performed on the stage.
7. Contestants are required to be on time for all rehearsals and contests. Absent or tardy contestants are subject to disqualification, at the discretion of the Contest Director and Cleburne County Fair Management.
8. Entry forms must be legible and signed by each of the following: (1) contestant(s); (2) contestant’s parent or guardian
9. Any display of poor sportsmanship and/or unbecoming conduct, any interference and/or disturbance, or any other behavioral problem created by a contestant, parent, county or district director, relative, or even a supporter of a contestant could result in disqualification of the contestant not only from this year’s contest but also from future participation.
10. Any inappropriate lyrics of a song in the vocal division, or inappropriate moves in the dance and variety categories will result in immediate disqualification. The contest director has the right to interrupt a performance if it is not deemed suitable for the Youth Talent Competition.
11. No decorative or background props of any kind will be allowed. A prop must be used as a functional part of the contestant’s act. Questionable props must be discussed and approved by the State Contest Director before arrival.
12. The director and/or county fair management of the Cleburne Countyfair youth talent contest reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with, or incident to the contest, and the right to amend or add to these rules as their judgment may determine. Any contestant who fails to abide by any of the above rules will be disqualified from the regional and state contests by the state contest director and/or state fair management**.**

### ENTRY FORMS

#### Entry forms must be legible and received prior to the competition. Deadline to enter is 5pm Friday September 9, 2022. Once the entry form is received by the director, addition or correction to the entry form will not be allowed.

**LENGTH OF PERFORMANCE**

All acts must not exceed the **3-minute time limit** (including recorded introduction). CD accompaniment is also subject to the same **3-minute time limit**. **The music being used for the talent acts must be the only music on the CD. No phones, iPods or MP3 Players will be able to be used.** The music must meet time limit requirements. **No fading or stopping of the CD by the sound techs will be allowed.** All acts are limited to a 1-minute time limit in setting up equipment. NO EXCEPTIONS! Setups and performances will be timed.

## COMPETITION CATEGORIES

There are six (6) categories in the Cleburne CountyFair Junior Youth Talent Contest. Competing acts must qualify by one of the following category descriptions:

1. **VOCAL SOLO** shall consist only of a vocal performance by one vocalist. CD’s used for accompaniment will be allowed to provide limited vocal background but is not suggested.

**2. VOCAL GROUP** shall consist of two or no more than ten vocalists. No other talent may be performed. CD’s used for accompaniment will be allowed to provide limited vocal background but is not suggested.444

**3. DANCE SOLO** shall consist of one dancer. No other talent may be displayed in conjunction with the dance performance. All types of dancing will be judged in this category – tap, jazz, ballet, folk, ethnic, fad, etc. Gymnastics, tumbling, acrobatics, or any other form of gymnastics is not included in this category.

4. **DANCE GROUP** shall consist of two or no more than fifteen dancers. No other talent may be displayed in conjunction with the dance performance. The same rules listed under Dance Solo apply.

5. **VARIETY** shall consist of a performance of one or no more than fifteen people. This category is intended to provide a proper showcase for those acts in which multiple talents are displayed. Acts that fit the description of any other category will not be allowed to compete in this category. The following acts qualify for this category: vocal with accompaniment, juggling, ventriloquism, magic, Gymnastics, and tumbling are the only allowable categories. **No act may include a drum set(s), beat boxing, paint/watercolor, swords, any open flame or any form of liquid**.

6. **INSTRUMENTAL SOLO** shall consist of an instrumental performance without vocal utterance by one performer. Taped accompaniment may be used. Contestants are encouraged to memorize their piece rather than using sheet music while performing. All contestants must use the keyboard that is provided. NO DRUMS!

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT CATEGORY ON THE ENTRY FORM.**

**INSTRUMENTS AND MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT**

 Professional sound equipment including a CD player and 5 microphones are provided, and their use is required. **No personal CD players, MP3 players, microphones or any other sound/tech equipment will be allowed.**

Musical accompaniment for any act must be recorded. Contestants must furnish their own CD’s, which must contain only the music needed for performance and **must not be longer than 3 minutes**. **Any act whose CD** **contains more than the music needed for their performance will be automatically disqualified**. It is recommended you bring a second CD to have in case of an emergency. All CDs must be properly cued and labeled in advance and should be of good quality.

All CD’s should be clearly marked with contestant(s) name, county/district represented, time of tape, and music title. All CD’s must be claimed at the sound table immediately following the contest. The Arkansas State Fair Youth Talent Contest assumes no responsibility for CD’s left unclaimed.

**REHEARSAL**

No formal rehearsals will be held for any division / category of the Youth Talent Contest. A one minute microphone set-up and CD check will only be conducted from 6-630 pm on Saturday September 11, 2021.

**DRESSING AND BACKSTAGE**

The dress code is a must! (Sunday Best). No holes in pants or shirts. All acts will be judged on talent, appearance, preparedness and entertainment value. All contestants’ appearance and talent packages are subject to approval of the County Contest Director. Dressing areas are provided for contestants who will perform in costume.

**ONLY CONTESTANTS WILL BE ALLOWED BACKSTAGE**

**FAILURE TO ABIDE BY COMPETITION RULES MAY RESULT IN CONTESTANT DISQUALIFICATION.**

**JUDGING**

The judges will be appointed by the Cleburne County Fair Talent Director. They will be persons well qualified to judge a contest of this kind. Their decision will be final. Judges' scores are confidential, and critiques are NOT allowed to be given to anyone. All acts will be judged on talent, appearance, preparedness and entertainment value. The judges will be required to break any tie(s) by considering the overall appeal of an act.

Please contact the director, Pam Son, if you have any questions.

Text or leave a message at 501-278-7651 and I will get back to you as quickly as possible OR email ccfpageants@gmail.com.