

## 2008 Lyon County Fair Talent Contest

### General Rules

The Lyon County Talent Show is following the rules set by the Minnesota State Fair.

The Lyon County Fair Talent Show is on Sunday, August 10, 2008, beginning at 1:00.

**Eligibility:** Only amateur entertainers are eligible. An amateur is one who does not belong to an entertainment union or whose principle source of income is not through his/her talent. Contestants may represent only one county.

**Entry Fee:** There is no fee to enter the contest. Admission to the Fair is free, however parking is \$5.00 per car. Entrants are responsible for parking fee.

**Divisions:** There will be three divisions: Preteen (age 12 and under only), Teen (ages 13-18) and Open (any contestant, regardless of age). Age requirements are based on age at time of the Lyon County Fair (August 10). In the case of a group, use the division most appropriate for the majority of the group members. These age guidelines do not apply to accompanists if they are not part of the act (such as a pianist for a dance troupe). You may enter only one Division as an individual.

**Accompaniment:** Vocalists may use recorded accompaniment as long as there is **no vocal accompaniment** on the recording (such as background singers). CDs are preferred over cassette tapes.

**Equipment:** A sound system, up to four microphones with stands, and a CD/Cassette player will be provided. Any other equipment will be the responsibility of the performer(s). As there is no piano at the fairgrounds, you will need to arrange for your own keyboard if needed.

**Judging:** Judging is based on quality of performance (including selection), stage presence, and entertainment value. Judges' decisions are final. This is a family-oriented show—performance material should be appropriate for all ages.

**Time:** There is a four-minute time limit. A medley of tunes or a single musical work may be performed within the four-minute limit.

A schedule of individual performance times will be determined after all entries are received. A maximum of 10 entries per division will be accepted.

The order of performances will be Preteen, Teen, then open. Winners will be announced after all divisions have performed.

All contestants should check in at the Free Stage no later than 12:30 on August 10, prior to the Talent Show. If a sound check or other set-up is required prior to 12:30, please make arrangements with the Talent Show Coordinator.

**Winners:** Cash prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each Division. The winner of each Division will be eligible to compete at the Minnesota State Fair (August 23 –Sept. 3)

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Other Information:

1. The stage is a portable, elevated, wooden platform under a tent, known as the Free Stage. It is located between the Fair office and the Commercial Building. *Dancers: this is a bare wooden floor—no Marley available.*
2. There are no dressing rooms available. We will arrange a dressing area as needed.
3. The order of performances in a division is chosen to provide a mixture of vocal and non-vocal entertainment. Consideration for the movement of extra equipment (such as for a band) will also be involved. Please note: there will be no change of division or order of performance once the contest has begun, except due to extenuating circumstances.
4. Please cue cassettes to the correct section for your performance. Make sure your CDs work in a variety of playback devices prior to the show. Hand the recording to the sound person as you are announced to perform. *Do not give your recording to anyone except the sound person until that time.*
5. Please bring a brief description of your talent/song/dance on an index card for the emcee to use for an introduction (your name, the piece you're doing, your hometown, etc.)
6. The judges' decisions are final. They will have comment sheets available upon request. *Scores and judging sheets will not be shown to you or anyone else.*
7. We are limiting the number of entries to keep the show moving along. Please be ready in the "wings" one performance before yours. Remember the time limit is 4 minutes.
8. If you are one of the top three winners in your division, please stay near the stage after the show to have your photo taken, receive your prize money, and get information about the State Fair competition. You will need to know your schedule for August 21 – August 31. Certain nights are set for each division for State Fair competition (check in time is 5:30 at the State Fairgrounds). Because our fair is later in August, the State Fair forms must be sent in right away. ***Please be ready to select your dates immediately after the talent show—bring the family calendar!***
9. The County Fairgrounds open at 7 a.m. If you have equipment you need to bring in, please make advance arrangements with the Coordinator.

Questions? Send your inquiry to County Fair Talent Show c/o 2145 280 Ave, Marshall, MN 56258 or email <nemespd@hotmail.com> You can also try calling 532-2754—best time is late evening(after 9 p.m.) or during the day 507-532-5463.

Thanks for sharing your talent with Lyon County!

## 2008 Lyon County Fair Talent Contest Registration

Name (contact person): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Group Members (names, phone numbers): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Talent: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: Open (any age)\_\_\_\_ Teen (13-18)\_\_\_\_ Preteen(12 and under)\_\_\_\_

The Lyon County Fair will provide the following if needed: sound system with up to four microphones w/stands, a CD/cassette player and a stage. Sorry-no keyboard provided. Any other equipment needed will be the responsibility of the performer(s).

I/We will use the following equipment provided by the Fair:

\_\_\_\_\_ CD\_\_\_\_ Cassette\_\_\_\_

Please list any additional equipment you will be using. This will help us determine the order of appearance and staging requirements \_\_\_\_\_

The performance date is Sunday, August 10 at 1:00 p.m. at the Free Stage between the Fair Office and the Commercial Building. Performers will be designated a time slot after all entries have been received.

Performers need to check in with Coordinator by 12:30 on the 10th. If a sound check or other preparations are needed, please arrange to meet the Coordinator at an earlier time.

Promotional photos may be taken of Talent Show performers.

I give permission for any photos of my/our act to be used by the Lyon County Fair without compensation for promotional use only:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First place winners in each division will represent Lyon County at the Minnesota State Fair August 21 – Sept. 1. The Lyon County Fair will provide one admission ticket to the State Fair grounds per 1st place winner.

Transportation and all other costs for participating in the State Fair competitions will be the responsibility of the winners. The dates for State Fair Competition are determined by Division. Winners of prelims advance to Division finals on Aug. 30; 1st & 2nd place at this competition perform at the finals on August 31. Exact dates will be available at the Talent Show.

Please sign here if you are willing to represent Lyon County at the Minnesota State Fair Talent Competition: \_\_\_\_\_

Please read the enclosed rules. If you are unable to perform as scheduled, please contact the Coordinator as soon as possible. Mail or email **one signed** (your email submission is considered signed) copy of this form to: Talent Show c/o 2145 280 Ave Marshall MN 56258. Keep a copy for your records. **Registration must be received by Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2008.**