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**Elkhart  
County  
Fair**  
4-H

**YOUTH  
TALENT CONTEST**



*The Hub of Our Future*

**TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2009  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2009**

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

## ORGANIZATION OF CONTEST

1. The Elkhart County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest consists of two divisions:

- Junior Division (Ages 12 and under) as of January 1, 2009
- Senior Division (Ages 13 through 18) as of January 1, 2009

Each act will be assigned to the appropriate division based on a contestant's age as of January 1, 2009.

2. Group acts must compete in the division determined by the ages of the majority of the group. No one older than 14 may compete in the Junior Division.

3. Entries will be accepted in the following eleven categories for both the Junior Division and the Senior Division.

- |                         |                        |                     |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) Vocal Solo - Female | (5) Instrumental Group | (9) Novelty Group   |
| (2) Vocal Solo - Male   | (6) Dance Solo         | (10) Tumbling Solo  |
| (3) Vocal Group         | (7) Dance Group        | (11) Tumbling Group |
| (4) Instrumental Solo   | (8) Novelty Solo       |                     |

The following descriptions are to be used as guidelines and are subject to interpretation by the Coordinators of the Youth Talent Contest.

**(A) Vocal Solo - Female / Vocal Solo - Male:** Shall consist of a solo performance by a vocalist. Instrumental accompaniment by herself/himself or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. Any background vocal on tape must be minimal. If composition is written by performer and he/she wishes this to be judged as part of the act, it will be placed in the Novelty Category. (No props allowed.)

**(B) Vocal Group:** Shall consist of a performance by two or more vocalists, males and/or females. Instrumental accompaniment by themselves or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. Any vocal background on tape must be minimal. If composition is written by performer and he/she wishes this to be judge as part of the act, it will be placed in the Novelty Category. (No props allowed.)

**Note: The judges feel props can detract from an act.**

**Acts are judged on performance only.**

**(C) Instrumental Solo:** Shall consist of a solo instrumental performance by a male or female without vocal utterance. Accompaniment is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the solo performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed.

**No instrument of the same nature may be used for accompaniment.** If composition is written by performer and he/she wishes this to be judged as part of the act, it will be placed in the Novelty Category.

**(D) Instrumental Group:** Shall consist of a group instrumental performance by a male or female without vocal utterance. Accompaniment is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the group performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed.

**No instrument of the same nature may be used for accompaniment.** If composition is written by performer and he/she wishes this to be judged as part of the act, it will be placed in the Novelty Category.

## ELKHART COUNTY 4-H FAIR YOUTH TALENT CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Please provide the following information about contestant:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Performance \_\_\_\_\_

**Division:** \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Senior

Category: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of 4-H Members \_\_\_\_\_

_____ Vocal Solo/Female	_____ Vocal Solo/Male
_____ Vocal Group	_____ Instrumental Solo
_____ Instrumental Group	_____ Dance Solo
_____ Dance Group	_____ Novelty Solo
_____ Novelty Group	_____ Tumbling Solo
_____ Tumbling Group	

**Please provide the following information of the group act, including all group members:**

Name of Other Contestant(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Equipment:** Will be using, check all that apply (*only things provided*):

Cassette \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no CD \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Microphone w/stand

\_\_\_\_\_ Piano \_\_\_\_\_ Handheld Microphone

**Registration Deadline: Friday, July 10, 2009**

Return Entry to: Elkhart County 4-H Fair Office • 17746 C.R. 34, Goshen, IN 46526

Attention: Daryl Fradenburg

**2009 Elkhart County 4-H Fair  
Youth Talent Contest**

**COMPETITION SCHEDULE**

Location: PARK STAGE

Solo and Group Competition by Category

Junior Division .....Tuesday, July 21, 2009  
 5:30 p.m. - Check-In  
 6:00 p.m. - Competition Begins

Senior Division .....Wednesday, July 22, 2009  
 5:30 p.m. - Check-In  
 6:00 p.m. - Competition Begins

**AWARDS**

Junior Division Solo and Group Competition by Category:	Senior Division Solo and Group Competition by Category:
1st Place.....Trophy & \$40	1st Place.....Trophy & \$40
2nd Place.....Ribbon & \$25	2nd Place.....Ribbon & \$25
3rd Place.....Ribbon & Gift Certificate	3rd Place.....Ribbon & Gift Certificate



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**(E) Dance Solo:** Shall consist of a solo performance by a male or female dancer. Accompanists are permitted on stage. Ballet, pointe, tap, jazz and clogging will be judged in this category. Acts may use acrobatics or tumbling moves such as cartwheels, roud-offfs, flips and aerials. A limit of two acrobatic or tumbling moves will be permitted. Props must be part of costume.

**(F) Dance Group:** Shall consist of a performance by two or more dancers, male and/or female. Accompanists are permitted on stage. Ballet, pointe, tap, jazz and clogging will be judged in this category. Acts may use acrobatics or tumbling moves such as cartwheels, roud-offfs, flips and aerials. A limit of two acrobatic or tumbling moves will be permitted. Props must be part of costume.

**(G) Novelty Solo:** Shall consist of a solo performance by a male or female in any act that has not been previously described (such as comedians, mime, skits, etc.). This category will include acts using a combination of skills from two different categories where one skill does not stand alone (such as singing and dancing, playing an instrument and singing, lip-syncing and dancing, and the use of props). Note: Props are determined as anything that is hand carried and not considered to be part of the performer's costume.

**(H) Novelty Group:** Shall consist of two or more performers, male and/or female in any act that has not been previously described (such as comedians, mime, skits, etc.). This category will include acts using a combination of skills from two different categories where one skill does not stand alone (such as singing and dancing, playing an instrument and singing, lip-syncing and dancing, and the use of props). Note: Props are determined as anything that is hand carried and not considered to be part of the performer's costume.

**(I) Tumbling Solo:** Shall consist of a solo performance by a male or female tumbler. This category was created for the dance routines that incorporate more than two acrobatic tricks. Everyone is responsible for his/her own mats and runners. Two people per mat may place mats on stage. Tumbling moves are as follows ... cartwheels, round offs, flips or aerials. These tricks are considered as one trick each.

**(J) Tumbling Group:** Shall consist of two or more tumblers, male and/or female. This category is for group dance routines that incorporate more than two acrobatic tricks. Everyone is responsible for his/her own mats and runners. Two people per mat may place mats on stage.

4. The Coordinators of the Youth Talent Contest reserves the right to assign acts to what they determine to be proper categories. In the event that fewer than three acts are entered in any one category of competition, the director of the Youth Talent Contest reserves the right either to cancel the category or combine it with another category. Any questions shall be resolved by the coordinators of the Youth Talent Contest and their decision is FINAL.

**ENTRIES**

5. The Elkhart County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest is open to nonprofessionals only. "Professional" is defined as anyone who is a union member, who has a professional manager, or whose principal and/or self-supporting income is derived from performing.

6. Every contestant in the Youth Talent Contest must be an ELKHART COUNTY RESIDENT.

7. A contestant may have one entry in as many as two categories of competition at the Elkhart County 4-H Youth Talent Contest.

8. First place winners in all categories (Junior & Senior Division) of the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Youth Contest shall be awarded the opportunity to compete in the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest. An entry fee of \$20.00 for each act is required to enter the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest. The \$20.00 entry fee shall be the responsibility of the performer.

9. If a performer wins in two categories on the county level, he/she must choose only one of the categories for his/her performance at the Indiana State Fair.

10. Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest Entry Forms will be provided to eligible winners of county contests or to eligible representatives by the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest Director.

11. A one day fair pass shall be mailed to contestants and **ONE** parent/guardian, approximately one week prior to contest. A limited number of entries are available. All entries will be taken on a first come first serve basis. Advanced registration required. Registration Deadline: Friday, July 10, 2009.

12. A group act in the Elkhart County competition may drop a member who is listed on the Youth Talent Contest Entry Form, but **MAY NOT ADD OR REPLACE** any member listed on the entry form submitted to the Indiana State Fair. Any group act that performs in the Finals Competition must be the same act with the same participants that won in the Elkhart County competition; however, if necessary, a group act performing in the Finals competition may drop a member but **MAY NOT ADD OR REPLACE** any group member.

13. No fire will be allowed on the stage. Any attempt to circumvent this rule shall result in disqualification.

14. Each act will be allowed a total of three minutes performance time. An official timer will be present at the competition during the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest. Ten penalty points will be deducted from the score of any act that exceeds the three-minute time limit.

15. Timing beings:

- (a) when music begins, when music is used, OR
- (b) at first movement or vocal utterance of performer without musical accompaniment.

16. The Elkhart County 4-H Fair **DOES NOT** provide any equipment except for the lighting and sound equipment. All acts will use **ONLY** the lighting system provided by the Elkhart County 4-H Fair.

17. All acts will use only the sound system and sound operator provided by the Elkhart County 4-H Fair; however, instrumentalists may bring their own amplifiers, if needed. All music must be on cassette tape or CD (good quality), cued, correct side marked, labeled with act's name and address, and brought to registration of the Youth Talent Contest on the day of competition. **Be sure only competition song is on tape/CD. misc-cueing will result in a penalty deduction of 10 points.**

18. Any recorded accompaniment for any act entered in any vocal category must be purely instrumental; except those entered in Novelty Solo and Novelty Group.

19. Only the performers will be allowed on stage. (Exception - accompanists.)

20. Only one person other than the performer(s) visible on stage will be allowed backstage with each act. This includes all parents and teachers.

### JUDGING

21. A panel of three or more judges will serve at all competitions during the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest.

22. Scoring will be based on the following criteria:

- (a) PERSONALITY & POISE..... 10 points possible  
(Confidence - Smile - Showmanship)
- (b) EXECUTION & ORIGINALITY..... 10 points possible  
(Body Lines - Correct Technique - Balance - Projection)
- (c) RHYTHM & SOUND..... 10 points possible  
(Timing - Style - Musical Range - Choice of Music)
- (d) COSTUME..... 10 points possible  
(Appropriate - Fit - Appearance)
- (e) GENERAL IMPRESSION..... 10 points possible  
(Difficulty - Effect)

23. Any ties will be broken by all judges.

24. Awards will be presented at the end of all competition.