



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRAND ISLAND – The Nebraska State Fair and Vision Productions, Inc. presented the 15th Annual Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search two day competition at Fonner Park in Grand Island, the Semi-Finals on Saturday, August 31st and the Finals on Sunday, September 1st. Since its beginning in 1993, the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search has grown to be the biggest talent search in Nebraska, featuring singers, dancers, instrumentalists and variety acts of all ages. Twenty-seven acts from across Nebraska competed on the CHI Health Stage in the Family Fun Zone. All Semi-Finalist Contestants received a Galaxy of Stars® Medal. The Highest Scoring performances in the Talent Search advanced to the Finals with contestants competing for over \$7,500.00 in prizes, cash, trophies & a Nashville Recording Package.

FINALISTS - Nineteen acts, listed in random order, advanced to the Finals:

COMETS (12 & Under) - **Taelyn Baumert**, Dance, *Clarkson*; **Steps At Tiffany's Prep Team**, Dance: **Tynzlee Hake**, *Clarkson*; **Jurnee Mullenhoff**, *Leigh*; **Addison Heard**, *Howells*; **Alyvea Groteluschen**, *Columbus*; **Ava Baumert**, *Clarkson*; **Ella Baumert**, *Clarkson*; **Chelsy Brabec**, *Clarkson*; **Raegan Roebuck**, Dance, *Genoa*.

SHOOTING STARS (13 to 18) - **Elise Anderson**, Vocal, *Lincoln*; **Sarah Koca**, Vocal, *Martell*; **The Renegades**, Group Vocal: **Aaron Vrbka** (tenor), **Bede Fulton** (Lead), **John Blatchford** (Bass), **Nik Barger** (Baritone), *Lincoln*; **Logan Becher**, *Leigh*, & **Quintessence Indra**, *Clarkson*, Group Dance; **Azreyah Cole**, Vocal, *Lincoln*; **Adysen Ziemann**, *Pleasant Dale*, & **Trinity McMillan**, *Crete*, Group Dance; **Daelyn Mues**, Vocal, *Culbertson*; **Taylor Smith**, Vocal, *Kearney*; **Chandler Schmit**; Vocal/Guitar, *Lincoln*; **BSD Dancers: Kenzie Tonigies**, *Osceola*; **Kianna Cruise**, *St Edward*; **Macyn Norris**, *Columbus*; **Morisyn Marker**, *Columbus*; **Emersyn Prosocki**, *Osceola*; **Liberty Larsen**, *Columbus*.

NOVAS (19 & Over) - **Mason Harouff**, Vocal, *Lincoln*; **Melissa McBride**, Variety/Baton, *Omaha*; **Tazalea Scott**, Vocal, *Westerville*; **Jared Ehrke**, Vocal, *Lincoln*; **Sonie Kuhlman**, Vocal, *North Platte*; **Breezy Ortega**, Vocal, *McCook*.

NEBRASKA STATE FAIR AWARDS AND WINNERS

Cash Awards were presented by Vision Productions, Inc. and the Nebraska State Fair. Trophies and Medals presented by Awards Plus, Kelly Kava & Michelle Mariani, Grand Island, and Vision Productions, Inc. Nashville Recording Package for Overall Vocalist presented by Terri Krolikowski, Ideal Health, Lincoln, Mark Allen, Benchmark Productions, Nashville, and Vision Productions, Inc., Nashville.

Overall Awards:

MEGA STAR (Highest Scoring Contestant Overall)
\$1,000.00 Cash & Trophy: **Sonie Kuhlman**, Vocal, *North Platte*

SHINING STAR (Highest Scoring Contestant(s) in Star Quality, “The Shine Factor”)
\$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Sonie Kuhlman**, Vocal, *North Platte*

SUPERSTAR (Voted Overall Best Performance by All Contestants)
\$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Steps At Tiffany’s Prep Team:**
Tynzlee Hake, Jurnee Mullenhoff, Addison Heard, Alyvea Groteluschen, Ava Baumert, Ella Baumert, Chelsy Brabek
Group Dance, *Clarkson, Leigh, Howells*

PEOPLES CHOICE (Voted Overall Best Performance by Audience)
\$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Steps At Tiffany’s Prep Team,**
Group Dance, *Clarkson, Leigh, Howells*

DANCE AWARD (Highest Scoring Dance – All Age Divisions)
Raegan Roebuck, *Genoa*

VOCAL AWARD (Highest Scoring Individual or Group – All Age Divisions)
Presented by Terri Krolikowski, Ideal Health Lincoln, Mark Allen,
Benchmark Productions, Inc., Nashville, & Vision Productions, Inc.

Nashville Recording Package (\$4,500.00 Value) - Includes Production Consultation, National Song Search, Studio Musicians, Background Singers, Produced, Mixed and Mastered.
Sonie Kuhlman, Vocal, *North Platte*

Age Division Awards:

COMETS (12 & Under)

1st Place \$250.00 Cash & Trophy: **Raegan Roebuck**, Dance, *Genoa*

2nd Place \$150.00 Cash & Trophy: **Steps At Tiffany’s Prep Team,**
Group Dance, *Clarkson, Leigh, Howells*

3rd Place \$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Taelyn Baumert**, Dance, *Clarkson*

SHOOTING STARS (13 to 18)

- 1st Place** \$250.00 Cash & Trophy: **Azreyah Cole**, Vocal, *Lincoln*
2nd Place \$150.00 Cash & Trophy: **BSD Dancers**, Group Dance,
Columbus, Osceola, St. Edward
3rd Place \$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Elise Anderson**, Vocal, *Lincoln*

NOVAS (19 & Over)

- 1st Place** \$250.00 Cash & Trophy: **Sonie Kuhlman**, Vocal, *North Platte*
2nd Place \$150.00 Cash & Trophy: **Melissa McBride**, Variety/Baton, *Omaha*
3rd Place \$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Tazalea Scott**, Vocal, *Westerville*

GALAXY OF STARS® FEATURED ENTERTAINERS included 2013 Mega Star Justin Kane, *Oakland*; 2017 Mega Star Carly Cremers, *Hastings*; Candace Sutter, *Council Bluffs, IA*; Katie Goesch, *Gresham*, and Janelle Grace, *Nashville*.

NEBRASKA STATE FAIR VETERANS DAY PROGRAM . . . Featured entertainer was 2013 Mega Star and Navy Veteran Justin Kane from Oakland.

To schedule an interview with local winners contact Wynne Adams at 615-495-7375.
For additional information, award and performance pictures go to the official Galaxy of Stars® website at www.galaxyofstarstalentsearch.com and visit the Nebraska State Fair at www.state-fair.org.

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