

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nebraska State Fair and Vision Productions, Inc. Present the 8th Annual GALAXY OF STARS® Talent Search

"Shine Like the Star You Are"

VOCALISTS * DANCERS * INSTRUMENTALISTS * VARIETY ACTS * SONGWRITERS

All Ages to compete for over \$5,000.00 in cash, prizes, trophies & recording sessions at the 2012 Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search at the Nebraska State Fair Bristol Windows Stage at Fonner Park in Grand Island. A Preliminary Mail-In Video Contest will determine the qualifying contestants advancing to the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search two day competition at the Nebraska State Fair. Semi-Finals will be held on Saturday, September 1st, 1:00 - 5:00 PM with the exciting Finals Sunday, September 2nd, 1:00-5:00 PM.

Local Talent Search Opportunity: The Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search has an exciting opportunity again this year. Communities that host a local talent search or an organization that would like to start a talent search may apply to the Galaxy of Stars® to advance their local winner(s) to represent their community and compete at the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Semi-Finals at the Nebraska State Fair.

The GALAXY OF STARS® Talent Search is open to Nebraska Residents only. Contestants competing at the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search at the State Fair will be selected from the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Mail-In Video Contest and the local partner talent searches. All Mail-In Video and Songwriting Contest entries will be judged by professionals in the music industry in Nashville, Tennessee. The Entry Fee is \$35.00 for each video performance and original song submitted. Mail entries to: Galaxy of Stars, P.O. Box 3566, Brentwood, TN 37024-3566. <u>All entries must be received on or before June 30th</u>. Qualifying video entries and top songwriters will be posted on the Galaxy of Stars® website by July 18th.

Video Contestants enter in one of Three Age Divisions: Comets (12 & Under), Shooting Stars (13 to 18) and Novas (19 & Over) and compete in their age division against all individual and group talent (vocal, dance, instrumental and variety). A video (DVD or VHS) can be made with a digital or video camera. Talent and quality of performance is emphasized, *not* the highest quality of recording. The Galaxy of Stars® Songwriting Contest is open to all ages. Songwriters submit a CD or Cassette. Entry Forms can be downloaded at <u>www.galaxyofstarstalentsearch.com</u>. A minimum of 20 qualified Video contestants will advance to the State Fair competition along with the winners of the Galaxy of Stars® Partner Talent Searches from across the State of Nebraska.

The Songwriting Contest winners are selected from the Mail-In Songwriting Contest according to a rank of the highest scoring songs. The top 3 songwriters will showcase their songs at the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Finals at the Nebraska State Fair. The highest scoring 15 songs will be announced at the finals and Nebraska songwriters will receive their awards during the award ceremony on September 2nd.

The 2012 Nebraska State Fair opens August 24th and will run through Labor Day, September 3rd. For more information on the Nebraska State Fair visit <u>www.statefair.org</u>.