



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 3, 2014

Contact: Chelsey Jungck, 308-382-1620 cjungck@statefair.org

Wynne Adams, 615-495-7375 galaxyofstars@comcast.net

GRAND ISLAND – The Nebraska State Fair and Vision Productions, Inc. presented the 10th Annual Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search two day competition at Fonner Park, the Semi-Finals on Saturday, August 30th and the Finals on Sunday, August 31st. 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, variety acts and songwriters. Thirty-nine performances by forty-four contestants from twenty-eight cities across Nebraska competed on the Bristol Windows Stage in the Semi-Finals. All Semi-Finalist Contestants received a Galaxy of Stars® Medal. Songwriters of the Top Five Original Songs showcased their songs during the Finals. Twenty-two of the Highest Scoring performances in the Talent Search advanced to the Finals with contestants competing for over \$9,000.00 in prizes, cash, trophies and recording sessions.

FINALISTS

The Top Five Highest Scoring Performances in each Age Division and six of the next highest scoring performances across all three age divisions advanced to the Finals. Competing in the Finals Competition in no ranking order: **COMETS** - **Raegan Gellatly**, Vocal, *Doniphan*; **Tayce Bleich**, Vocal, *Battle Creek*; **Morayah Cupp**, Vocal, *Champion*; **Kathleen Nguyen**, Piano, *Lincoln*; **Macyn Norris & Trevor Luckey**, Group Dance, *Columbus*; **Kyleigh Adkins**, Vocal, *Mitchell*. **SHOOTING STARS** - **Chelsea Arnold**, Vocal, *Crete*; **Katie Sonka**, Vocal/Guitar, *Bellwood*; **Taylor Dack**, Vocal, *Paxton*; **Phalen Sanford**, Vocal/Guitar, *Benkelman*; **Lexie Socha**, Vocal, *Grand Island*; **Shelby Stevens**, Vocal/Piano, *McCook*; **Sean Lebita**, Piano, *Lincoln*; **Grant Kubie**, Vocal/Guitar, *Blair*; **Middle E**: **Rebecca Feagin, Brielyn Borer & Emily Brewer**, Group Vocal, *Columbus*. **NOVAS** – **Ken Hoge**, Vocal, *Hubbell*; **Halle Stephens**, Vocal, *Arapahoe*; **Austin Friesen**, Vocal, *Lincoln*; **Debby Wagner**, Vocal, *Scottsbluff*; **Jesse Hake**, Vocal, *Grand Island*; **Jenna Hemenway**, Vocal, *Creighton*; **Shelby Stevens, Riley & Tyler Rambali**, Group Vocal, *McCook*.

NEBRASKA STATE FAIR AWARDS AND WINNERS

Cash Awards were presented by the Nebraska State Fair, Vision Productions, Inc. and Steve McCoy - State Farm Agent, Arapahoe, and Mc Cell, US Cellular Agent, McCook. Trophies and Medals were presented by Dee Lichtenberger, Laser Art Design, Callaway, and Vision Productions, Inc. and Recording Sessions were presented by Tom and Terri Ware, Ware House Productions, Inc., Omaha.

Above and Beyond Awards were presented to individuals, businesses or organizations that have gone “Above and Beyond” to support and encourage Nebraska talent: **Janette Drohman** - *Crete* and **Eustis Ag Society** - *Eustis*.

“Dream, Believe, and Achieve” Award was presented to **Tom & Terri Ware, Ware House Productions, Inc.** - *Omaha*, for exemplifying the vision of the Galaxy of Stars®: Dare to “DREAM” big, “BELIEVE” in your God given talents and strive to “ACHIEVE” your highest goals and aspirations.

Overall Awards:

- MEGA STAR** (Highest Scoring Contestant Overall)
\$500.00 Cash & Trophy: **Jesse Hake**, Nova, Vocal - *Grand island*
- SHINING STAR** (Highest Scoring Contestant(s) in Star Quality, “The Shine Factor”)
\$100.00 & Trophy: **Shelby Stevens, Riley & Tyler Rambali**, Novas,
Group Vocal, McCook
- SUPERSTAR** (Voted Overall Best Performance by All Contestants)
\$100.00 & Trophy: Four Way Tie:
Chelsea Arnold, Shooting Star, Vocal, *Crete*; **Macyn Norris & Trevor Luckey**,
Comets, Group Dance, *Columbus*; **Phalen Sanford**, Shooting Star, Vocal/Guitar,
Benkelman; **Shelby Stevens, Riley & Tyler Rambali**, Novas, Group Vocal, McCook
- PEOPLES CHOICE** (Voted Overall Best Performance by Audience)
\$100.00 & Trophy: **Austin Friesen**, Nova, Vocal, *Lincoln*

Age Division Awards:

COMETS (12 & Under)

- 1st Place** \$200.00 Cash & Trophy: **Morayah Cupp, Vocal, *Champion***
- 2nd Place** \$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Kyleigh Adkins, Vocal, *Mitchell***
- 3rd Place** \$ 50.00 Cash & Trophy: **Raegan Gellatly, Vocal, *Doniphan***

SHOOTING STARS (13 to 18):

- 1st Place** \$200.00 Cash & Trophy: **Chelsea Arnold, Vocal, *Crete***
- 2nd Place** \$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Grant Kubie, Vocal, *Crete***
- 3rd Place** \$ 50.00 Cash & Trophy: **Middle E: Rebecca Feagin, Brielyn Borer & Emily Brewer,**
Group Vocal, *Columbus*

NOVAS (19 & Over)

- 1st Place** \$200.00 Cash & Trophy: **Jesse Hake, Vocal, *Grand Island***
- 2nd Place** \$100.00 Cash & Trophy: **Shelby Stevens, Riley & Tyler Rambali, Group Vocal, *McCook***
- 3rd Place** \$ 50.00 Cash & Trophy: **Debby Wagner, Vocal, *Scottsbluff***

Overall Vocal or Instrumental Awards

(Highest Scoring Individuals or Groups– All Age Divisions):

Presented by Ware House Productions - Omaha

- 1st Place** Recording Session 4 Hours/\$600.00 Value: **Jesse Hake, Nova, Vocal, *Grand Island***
- 2nd Place** Recording Session 2 Hours/\$300.00 Value: **Shelby Stevens, Riley & Tyler Rambali,**
Novas, Group Vocal, *McCook*

GALAXY OF STARS® SONGWRITING CONTEST: The Top Three Songwriters of the Galaxy of Stars® Songwriting Contest were presented their awards at the Finals Awards Ceremony, and songwriters of the Top Fifteen Original Songs were acknowledged on stage during the Awards Ceremony.

Top Three Original Song Awards:

1st Place: \$200.00 Cash and Trophy. 4 Hours/\$600.00 Value Recording Session
Presented by Ware House Productions, Omaha.

“Beautiful” **Larry Owens, *Lincoln***

2nd Place: \$100.00 Cash and Trophy. 2 Hours/\$300.00 Value Recording Session
Presented by Ware House Productions, Omaha:

“Peaceful Hearts” **Conner McConnell, *Lincoln***

3rd Place: \$50.00 Cash & Trophy.

“Fighter” **Riley Rambali, *McCook***

All Songwriters of the Top Fifteen Original Songs received a Galaxy of Stars® Medal.

For additional information go to the official Galaxy of Stars® website at www.galaxyofstarstalentsearch.com
and visit the Nebraska State Fair at www.statefair.org.

###