



Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search 2023 Official Rules

Galaxy of Stars – P.O. Box 3566 – Brentwood, TN 37024-3566

Contestants must be legal U.S. Citizens and a Nebraska Resident. To enter and have the opportunity to qualify for the Galaxy of Stars® Finals, contestants may enter a Partner Talent Search or submit a Preliminary Video Entry to the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search in one of three Age Divisions: Comets (12 & Under), Shooting Stars (13 to 18) and Novas (19 & Over). Contestants compete in their age division against all talent (vocal, dance, instrumental and variety, whether individual or group). The age of the contestant as of August 31, 2023 determines the Age Division. If entering as a Group, the oldest member of the group as of August 31, 2023 determines the Age Division. A Personal Release form must be signed by every contestant (and each Group member) and, if under 18, by a Parent or Legal Guardian. All performances must be family friendly with no age inappropriate or explicit lyrical content.

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO ENTER A PRELIMINARY GALAXY OF STARS® TALENT SEARCH:

PRELIMINARY VIRTUAL VIDEO CONTEST EMAIL VIDEO LINK, MP4 or SHARE VIDEO DIRECTLY FROM YOUR SMART PHONE): The Video must be a “Live” recording. It *cannot* be a professionally produced, fine-tuned or mixed production. A digital or video camera, smartphone or other video recording device is acceptable. Scan and email or take a picture of entry materials with your Smartphone and send all required entry materials along with a link to the video from You Tube or share the video directly from your phone to galaxyofstars@comcast.net. If you are sending an MP4 because of the large file size it must be sent through an online transfer service such as We Transfer or Hightail. Contestants must include with all video submissions the contestant name, age division and song title. Videos will be judged on talent and quality of performance and not on the highest quality of recording. Contestants may use backup tracks, one instrument for accompaniment or, if Vocal, sing a cappella. Instrumental talent may use an acoustic or electric instrument. Only small acoustic ensembles and small groups less than 8 members are accepted.

Performance Time is Four (4) minutes or less. An additional 30 seconds can be used for an *optional* introduction. The entry fee is \$35.00 for each video entry submitted. Only one video entry may be submitted for each category. A Contestant may enter multiple categories as an individual/group dancer, singer, instrumentalist or variety act. A separate Video Entry, Entry Form, Personal Release, Entry Fee and other required forms must be submitted for *each performance*. Entry fee may be mailed or paid via the PayPal link or Venmo link on the Galaxy of Stars® Website. Materials submitted will not be returned. Professionals in the music industry in Nashville, TN will judge the video entries. **All video entries must be received in the Galaxy of Stars® office by midnight September 24, 2023 .** Entries will receive a confirmation email or text when all required materials have been received. **Judges Comments will be given for each entry.** All required forms for the Preliminary Video Contest are online and can be downloaded at www.galaxyofstarstalentsearch.com.

Contestants qualifying to advance from the Preliminary Video Contest are selected according to the Highest Performance Scores in their Age Division. Qualified contestants advance to the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Finals to perform LIVE on stage in the finals. Video Contestants advancing to the Finals Competition will include three (3) performances from each Age Division and may include up to ten (10) of the next Highest Scoring Performances, regardless of Age Division. **Preliminary Video Contest qualifying contestants advancing to the Finals will be posted on the Galaxy of Stars® website by October 1, 2023.**

FINALS INFORMATION The 2023 Finals will be held at 4:00 PM at College Park in the Hornady-Marshall Theater, 3180 West US Why 34 in Grand Island, NE. Contestants advancing to the Finals Competition from the Preliminary Video Contest or from a local Partner Talent Search will receive the contestant letter and entry information by email. The contestant letter will also be available to download on the official website. **Registration Forms are to be completed either online, emailed or mailed to the Galaxy of Stars®, along with an Administration fee of \$75.00 by October 9, 2023.** If a contestant has a business sponsor, the business will be listed in the Galaxy of Stars® State Fair Program Book. Online submission and payment are accepted. Contestants using backup tracks for their performance will need to mail a high quality CD or email a WAV or high quality MP3. Clearly label the CD or email the WAV/MP3 with the following information: Individual or Group Name, Age Division, Track Number and Title of Song to galaxyofstars@comcast.net. **A head shot (over 1 MG) for the Galaxy of Stars® State Program Book is to be emailed by October 9, 2023.** Entry materials may be digitally submitted to galaxyofstars@comcast.net and the registration fee may be paid via the PayPal or Venmo link on the Galaxy of Stars Website.

Contestants will perform one song, dance, instrumental or variety act in the Finals. Song selection will be based on a first come first serve basis according to the time and date the entry is received in the office. There will be no duplication of a song in the contest. Make sure to return your registration packet as soon as possible.

JUDGING CRITERIA for the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Preliminary Video Contest & the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search is based on the JUDGES' RANK of the Total Performance Score in each of Three Age Divisions. Judges score 1-10 points, with 10 being the highest: 50% Overall Quality of Talent, 20% Stage Presence and Presentation (image, personality, movement, delivery/interaction, costume/props), 20% Technical Skill Level (execution, technique, control, degree of difficulty) and 10% Star Quality (The "Shine" Factor)

PARTNER TALENT SEARCH OPPORTUNITY: 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 Finals. The winners qualified to advance from each local talent search are subject to the number of local entries in each contest and a required level of proficiency and must be legal U.S. Citizens and Nebraska Residents. Final determination will be at the discretion of the judges and administration of the local talent search.

FINAL COMPETITION: All winners from the preliminary video contest and the local Partner Talent Searches will advance directly to the Finals. The Final Competition will include a minimum of nine (9) of the highest scoring Video Entries from the Preliminary Video Contest, three (3) from each Age Division (Comets, Shooting Stars and Novas) and winners from our Statewide Partner Talent Searches who have previously been approved by the Galaxy of Stars® administration. Contestants will compete in their Age Division at the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Finals. Results are determined by a panel of professional judges and audited ballots. The Awards Ceremony will follow the Finals Competition. Galaxy of Stars® is not responsible for materials not picked up.

WEATHER POLICY (Not Applicable in 2023): Should adverse weather conditions arise that would make it unsafe to continue or to hold the competition, producers reserve the right to use scores from one day of competition, either the Semi-Finals or Finals, as the determining score to award prizes. This decision would override the current policy of combining the scores from the Semi-Finals and Finals and using the composite score to determine the winners.

TALENT SEARCH AWARDS: The Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Winners will be awarded \$1500.00 in cash & trophies. Trophies and cash will be presented to 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place winners in each of Three Age Divisions, Superstar Award (Voted Best Performance by all Contestants), People's Choice Award, The Shining Star Award (Highest Scoring Contestant in "Star Quality") and the Mega Star Award (Overall Highest Scoring Performance of all Three Age Divisions). A Recording session will be awarded to the Overall Vocalist and trophy to the Overall Dance Winner. Medals will be presented to all Contestants the day of the Finals.

RECORDING PACKAGE: Overall Vocalist will win a recording package valued at \$4500.00 including production consultation, national song search, studio musicians, background vocalists, produced, mixed and mastered. Recording must be scheduled by March 30, 2023 and final project completed by August 1, 2023 or prize will be forfeited. To claim prize, artist will record at a previously selected studio in Nashville. A single song will be produced by Wynne Adams with ownership of the recording belonging to the winner of the recording package. All travel and lodging expense will be the responsibility of the artist.

CONTESTANTS cannot currently be a party to a professional recording/performance/management or publishing contract, either alone or as a member of a group. If participants have appeared on television in an amateur or semi-amateur showcase or competition, this is acceptable. However, it is not acceptable for a participant to have appeared on any prior prime time National network television program of more than thirty seconds in length. All travel, lodging and expense incurred to compete in the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search is the responsibility of the contestant throughout the competition. Decisions by the producers and/or judges are final. The Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search reserves the right, exercisable at any time during the competition and at its sole discretion, to disqualify any contestant who is untruthful or provides misleading personal details or information, uses inappropriate lyrics or gestures, displays unethical behavior or tactics or wears attire that is not appropriate.