

# The 53rd Annual Dutchess County Fair's Talent Search

No Auditions

Participants compete Tuesday through Friday during the Fair for a chance to be asked back for the finals on Saturday. At the end of the competition Saturday, the top three acts in both junior (12 years old and under) and senior (13 and up) categories receive a cash prize and corresponding 1st, 2nd or 3rd place ribbon. Participant ribbons are awarded to all who perform. A panel of professional judges renders the decision on the winners of the competition. The top 25 finalists in both the junior and senior categories are eligible to compete in the New York State Fair Talent Search held in Syracuse, New York. Applications for the State Fair will be available on the day of the finals. Any questions regarding the NYS Fair Talent Search may be directed to Jason Mark.

There are no age limits and no auditions. The categories are compiled after the acts are sorted and include junior/senior and solo/group distinctions. All acts must be strictly amateur.

The Talent Search provides a stage, piano, dressing tents, a sound/light system, and a well seasoned staff including the Mark family to keep the show running smoothly.

**There is an ENTRY FEE charged per act.**  
**Solo (one person): \$5.00 per act**  
**Group (2+ people): \$10.00 per act**  
**Please make checks payable to DCAS, Inc. and**  
**mail with the completed application**

[www.dutchessfair.com](http://www.dutchessfair.com)

For further information or questions please call  
Jason Mark 845-889-4099

## General Rules

1. All types of acts are invited to participate. In the past we have showcased the offerings of musicians (solo, group/instrumental, and vocal), comedians, actors/actresses giving dramatic monologues, poets, dancers, acrobats, magicians, and various other entertainers. There are only two main requirements that all contestants must meet; only amateurs may participate (meaning participant does not receive any compensation for performing on a regular basis) and first prize winners of last year's competition are also exempt from entering in the same category.
2. There are two age divisions for each category—contestants 13 years and older compete in the Senior Division, while those under 13 compete in the Junior Division.
3. The 50% rule concerning groups will strictly be adhered to—in a duo, if one contestant is 12 or under and the other is 13 or over, they will compete in the Senior Division. In a group of three or more, if 50% or more of the group is 13 or older, they will compete in the Senior Division.
4. No fire/pyrotechnics allowed on stage during the competition.

5. **All acts must be limited to 5 minutes.**
6. Contestants must be **strictly amateur**. (Anyone who receives any compensation for performing is NOT eligible.)
7. A contestant can perform a **maximum of three (3) times**—One (1) solo and as a member of two (2) other unique groups or as a member of three (3) different groups with No solo. If this rule is violated, the contestant and the group will be **DISQUALIFIED!**
8. **Previous first place winners are NOT eligible to enter the finals in the SAME CATEGORY**, e.g., a solo winner may not return as a soloist the next year. He or she may, however, perform as part of a duet, trio, or group.
9. Teachers are not permitted to compete or perform in their professional talent, e.g., a dance teacher could not compete as a dancer. This rule does NOT apply to students under scholarship who assist in teaching.
10. Due to time constraints, **NO ROCK BANDS** are permitted.
11. **THE DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES WILL BE FINAL!!!**
12. **There is an entry fee of five dollars (\$5) per solo act and ten dollars (\$10) per duo or group act. Please make checks payable to DCAS and return with your completed application**

The stage at the Talent Search is equipped with a piano, electrical outlet, dressing tents, and a fully equipped sound system. You must furnish all other equipment necessary for your act. Please have all recorded music on CD.

Please fill out the enclosed application and forward it to Jason Mark, P.O. Box 344, Staatsburg, NY 12580. **Applications should be postmarked by August 1st. (NOTE: TO AVOID BEING CLOSED OUT OF THE CONTEST, SEND IN APPLICATION ASAP AS SPACE IS LIMITED).** Once all applications have been received, the Talent Show Committee will set up a show schedule which will be mailed out to all applicants. You may expect to receive this letter in August. If you have a preference as to which day you would like to perform (Tues thru Fri.), please indicate this on your application. We will do our best to accommodate as many people as we can. If scheduling is a big concern to you, it is in the best interest to return your completed application as soon as possible. If you should have any questions or need more information, please contact **Jason or Christina (845)889-4099**. Good Luck!

## NO LIABILITY

1. **EVERY POSSIBLE PROTECTION AND COURTESY WILL BE EXTENDED TO EXHIBITORS AT THE DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR BUT THE BOARD SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS OF EXHIBITS, ANIMALS OR EQUIPMENT IN CASE OF FIRE, THEFT OR LOSS FROM ANY OTHER CAUSE.**
2. **THE DUTCHESS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INC., ITS AGENTS, SERVANTS, AND EMPLOYEES SHALL NOT BE HELD LIABLE IN CASE OF INJURY TO EXHIBITORS, CONCESSIONAIRES, OR THE PUBLIC ON THE GROUNDS OR IN THE BUILDINGS FROM ANY CAUSE WHATSOEVER WHILE ON THE GROUNDS OF THE DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR.**

**2017 Talent Search Application  
Dutchess County Fair  
Find Raphael's Talent Search on Facebook  
or email us at  
dcfairtalentsearch@gmail.com**

Please review enclosed rules carefully and fill out all information below. If you fail to provide adequate information (zip codes, phone numbers, etc) we may not be able to reach you and you will not receive appropriate information. Please complete application in its entirety. Applications need to be postmarked **no later than August 1, 2017** and sent to: JASON MARK, PO BOX 344, STAATSBURG NY 12580.

**\*\*\*\*\*There is an entry fee to be included with this application –see below\*\*\*\*\***

**Type of act** (please indicate below):

Dance \_\_\_\_ Vocal \_\_\_\_ Instrumental \_\_\_\_ Other:(please indicate): \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Information:** If yours is a solo act, please complete column 1 (Participant 1). For more than one person per act please fill out remaining columns. Any act with more than three people should fill out this information (name, address, age) for each participant on the back of this form or on a separate piece of paper.

	<b>Participant 1</b>	<b>Participant 2</b>	<b>Participant 3</b>
<b>Name</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>Age</b>			
<b>Phone No.</b>			

Please write a brief introduction below. This is how the emcee will announce your act. Typically, this would include your name(s), where you are from, etc. Keep in mind, this is how the emcee will introduce you so do NOT write in first person (I, me). Please keep it brief. Any intro that is too long will be edited.

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Please circle your preference for preliminary performance: TUES WEDS THURS FRI

**THE PRELIMINIARIES ARE TUES. 8/22 THRU FRI. 8/25 WITH THE FINALS ON SATURDAY 8/26/2017**

**\*\*\*\*\*There is an entry fee this year of \$5/solo act and \$10/duo or group act\*\*\*\*\***

**Please make checks payable to DCAS and include with completed application**

If you have any questions regarding this application, please refer to the rules & regulations first. Usually most questions can be answered with this information. Otherwise please call Jason or Christina at 845-889-4099