

TO: YOUTH TALENT COORDINATORS

FROM: Tera Heiser, State Youth Talent Contest Coordinator

RE: Youth Talent Contest Information Packet

The Heartland Association of Fairs, Festivals & Events along with the **South Dakota State Fair** would like to Thank You for your commitment to be a part of the 2020 Youth Talent Contest. Enclosed is information concerning the Finals' competition which will be held at the Dakotaland Stage on the SD State Fairgrounds Monday – September 7th, 2020.

In 2019, we opened the competition to two divisions for your talent contestants to participate in;

- The Junior Division is for those under 13 years old.
- The Teen Division is for those 13 -19 years of age.
- **If a group signed up for the junior division, but one of the participants is 13 or older, the whole group will move up to the Teen Division for competition.*

In 2020, I'm excited to announce that we have opened the contest to any Heartland Association member, regardless of where they are located.

Prizes to be awarded at the State Finals are as follows:

Junior Division:

1st Place: \$100 and trophy

2nd Place: \$50 and trophy

Teen Division:

1st Place: \$500 and trophy

2nd Place: \$250 and trophy

3rd Place: \$125 and trophy

We are still seeking sponsors for these prizes. If you know of a group who would like to sponsor a prize, please contact them and let me know!!

If events want to use HAFPE forms, that is permissible and encouraged. Events will need to adjust the contestant entry form to reflect their event information at the top and throughout the form (remove the information for State Fair and replace with your own). Save a copy with your information, and a copy with the SD State Fair information, as you will need both. You will need to do the same for the release form.

I have included an instruction sheet for contestants who move on the finals that should be given to your finalists at the completion of your contest. Please keep in mind that contestants **WILL** have to fill out the Contestant Application Form with the HAFPE information on it once the winner is chosen from your event. That form is the one that needs to be returned to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Tera Heiser

Heartland Association of Fairs, Festivals, & Events

Executive Secretary

Enclosures: General Rules

Participation Sanction

Category Description & Definitions

Contestant Entry Form

Judging Form

Instructions to Finalists

Contestant Release Form