

2010 Ramsey County Fair Talent Contest Rules and Information

The competition is open only to **AMATEUR** entertainers -either individuals who are Ramsey County residents or groups with at least **one** Ramsey County resident. Professionals, including **UNION MUSICIANS**, or those whose talent is a principal source of income, **ARE NOT PERMITTED TO ENTER**. **Entry Fee:** Interested individuals or groups are required to submit an **OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM** along with a **\$10.00 ENTRY FEE**. Your fee must be paid prior to your performance and received by Saturday, July 17, 2010, 1:00pm.

Divisions:

There are three divisions: Open, Teen and Pre-teen. The Open Division is open to any contestant, regardless of age. In cases where the act consists of a group of people, choose the division that is appropriate for the majority of the group members. Contestants must be age 13 through 18 to compete in the Teen Division. Contestants must be age 12 and under to compete in the Pre-teen Division.

Past Winners:

If a contestant is a former winner of the Minnesota State Fair Amateur Talent Contest, they may not compete in the same division for the County Fair Talent Contest.

Auditions: NO AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD. The competition will be held on **Sunday, July 18 from 5-8 p.m.** Pre-teen Division will compete first; Teen Division second; and Open Division last. The competition will be held at the Ramsey County Fairgrounds, 2020 White Bear Avenue, St. Paul. There will be a cash prize for first, second and third place in each division. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

First Place \$65

Second Place \$45

Third Place \$25 Winners of each Division will go on to compete at the Minnesota State Fair as representative of the Ramsey County Fair. If you previously placed first in any other county fair talent show competition prior to competing at the Ramsey County Fair Talent Show, and your act places first at the Ramsey County Fair Talent Show, you will still win the first place prize, but the second place winner will go on to represent Ramsey County at the State Fair.

Time Limit:

The time limit is four minutes and points will be deducted for contestants going over the limit. Musical groups and vocalists are allowed to perform a medley of tunes, but must remain within the four-minute time limit. Judges will be instructed to mark off penalty points resulting in a **LOWER SCORE** for contestants going **OVER TIME**. Any other rule violation would likely result in disqualification from further competition.

Accompanists:

An accompanist, when not a part of the act, may be any age. Vocalists may use recorded accompaniment on a CD, provided the CD contains musical accompaniment only. Absolutely **NO VOCALS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED** on vocal performance accompaniment compact discs. No lapel microphones or headset microphones will be allowed. You must use the equipment provided by the Ramsey County Fair.

Compact Discs:

Be sure Compact Discs are of high quality. A bad recording detracts from a performance. Music will be collected when contestants are called to perform. **COMPACT DISCS MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED ON WHAT TRACK TO CUE FOR PLAY PRIOR TO YOUR PERFORMANCE.** For vocalist CDS, they **MAY NOT HAVE ANY VOCALS OF ANY KIND.** **Vocal acts WILL BE DISQUALIFIED** if there are vocals on the accompaniment CD.

Judging:

Contestants are judged on quality of performance (talent), stage presence (use of stage/microphone, eye contact, etc.), entertainment value (was the audience entertained, did they enjoy the act) and selection (did the selection fit the contestant's ability to perform, was it appropriate for the performer/venue/audience). The judges' decisions are final and score sheets are not released to contestants or the public.

Check In:

Contestants must check in with the Coordinator at the performance location prior to the show and should plan to arrive at least one-half hour before the competition begins.

**OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR AMATEUR TALENT CONTEST
RAMSEY COUNTY FAIR - 2010**

NAME: _____
AGE/S: _____
ADDRESS: _____
HM PHONE: _____
CITY, _____ STATE, _____ ZIP: _____
WK PHONE: _____

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (one person must be from Ramsey County): _____

DESCRIPTION OF ACT:

IF GROUP, NAME OF GROUP: _____

NUMBER IN GROUP: _____

GROUP MEMBER NAMES:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____ 6. _____

HAVE YOU EVER PERFORMED THE ABOVE TALENT AS A PROFESSIONAL ON A
REGULAR EMPLOYMENT BASIS? (CIRCLE ONE) YES NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN:

PLEASE SHARE SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF AS PART OF YOUR ACT
INTRODUCTION (FAVORITE COLOR, HOBBIES, INTERESTS, GOALS, ETC.):

Please Check the Division you are Competing In

- Preteen Division (Age 12 and under) Teen Division 13-18**
 Open Division Any age (see rules)

***I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THE INFORMATION AND AGREE
TO ABIDE BY THE ENTRY RULES, AND THAT THE PERSONAL INFORMATION AS
SET FORTH IS TRUE AND CORRECT.***

Signature of Contestant or Group Leader

**A \$10 ENTRY FEE MUST ACCOMPANY THIS ENTRY FORM. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE
RAMSEY COUNTY FAIR AND RETURN THIS FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO THE RAMSEY
COUNTY FAIR, 2020 WHITE BEAR AVENUE, ST. PAUL, MN 55109. DEADLINE IS SATURDAY, JULY 17
AT 1:00pm. FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE TALENT SHOW COORDINATOR, KAT AT
651.334.9680, OR CALL THE FAIR OFFICE AT 651.770.2626.**