

~2026~

THE
Talent
SHOW

Hamilton County Talent
Show

Information Packet

Hamilton County Rules

State Fair Rules

Entry Form

Due to Extension Office by

Noon, Saturday July 18, 2026

Hamilton County Youth Talent Contest

Hamilton County Exhibition Center

Monday, July 20, 2026

Share your talent at the Hamilton County 4-H Fair! The Hamilton County 4-H Council, Inc. will be hosting a talent show for youth ages 18 and under. The show will be held on the stage in Exhibition Center Hall A and will consist of a maximum of 20 Junior and 20 Senior acts in various categories. Entry forms are available online or from the Purdue Extension Hamilton County Office and are accepted on a first come, first served basis. The winners of each category will be eligible to participate in the State Fair Talent Show.

Online Entry Form: <https://forms.gle/zrWF1i8yqo9stDhF9>

Categories:

Vocal Solo	Variety Solo (Includes Tumbling & Novelty)
Vocal Group	Variety Group (Includes Tumbling & Novelty)
Instrumental Solo	
Instrumental Group	
Dance Solo (Includes Clogging)	
Dance Group (Includes Clogging)	

Talent Show Rules:

All rules that are in the State Fair rule book are enforced at the county level. Additional rules are added to make the county contest fair and enjoyable for the participants and everyone involved.

Enter here: <https://forms.gle/zrWF1i8yqo9stDhF9> . Paper entry forms are also available from the Purdue Extension Hamilton County Office.

1. Contestant must be either:
 - a. A resident of Hamilton County.
 - b. Or a 4-H member in Hamilton County.
2. Completed entry forms must be turned into the Extension Office no later than 12:00 p.m. Noon Saturday, July 18, 2026
3. The deadline for changing music, members, and/or categories is the same as the deadline for entering the contest, July 18, 2026
4. Contest is limited to the first 20 contestants per age division. If the contest becomes full and a contestant backs out before the deadline for entering the contest, then the earliest entry from a contestant on the waiting list will be given the option of competing.
5. The time limit for a solo performance is two minutes; two minutes and thirty seconds for duets and groups of three or more; and a five-minute limit for band performances. If a contestant exceeds the time limit there will be a ten-point deduction from the total score.

State Fair book Rules: [2026 state fair rule book](#)

OPEN ENTRYBOOK

YOUTH

TALENT

CONTEST



INDIANA
STATE FAIR

Youth Talent Contest

2026 OPEN ENTRY BOOK

Entry Department

entry@indianastatefair.com

Office and Fax: (317) 927-7515

OPEN COMPETITIONS & EVENTS GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. By submitting an Indiana State Fair Entry Form or online entry, Open Exhibitors agree to all Terms & Conditions.
 - a. Exhibitors entered under one account are also responsible and held accountable to all Terms and Conditions.
2. In the interest of all exhibitors, the Indiana State Fair Board, the agriculture industry, and all breeders of livestock, the following general terms, conditions and listing of prohibited activities are presented to maintain, insure and present a wholesome, high quality educational program. As the showcase of Indiana, it is imperative to promote and allow only ethical behavior by exhibitors at the Indiana State Fair.
3. The Indiana State Fair Board reserves the final and absolute right to interpret any and all terms and conditions, contained in any and all parts of the Handbook/Premium List and to unilaterally settle and determine all matters, questions or differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incidental to the Indiana State Fair. They further reserve the right to resolve unforeseen matters not covered by general or Department terms and conditions published in the Handbook/Premium List, to amend or add to these terms and conditions as in its judgment it may determine, and to withdraw all premium offerings in all Departments should any emergency exist and circumstances demand.
4. Fraud, deception, any prohibited activities, or violations of general or Departmental terms and conditions, or any activity determined to be improper or unethical by the Board or Department Superintendent shall not be allowed. Any exhibitor found in violation is subject to sanction and/or disqualification.
5. TAMPERING, ALTERING, AND/OR MISREPRESENTATION relative to any exhibit is prohibited
6. No Exhibitor may take exception to the decisions of an official and/or judge in an unprofessional and/or public manner nor shall any exhibitor or person representing the exhibitor interfere with or show disrespect to any judge or show official.
7. Advertising – Commercial advertisement names or insignia, farm names and family names on 4-H exhibitors or exhibits while showing is prohibited. Distribution or posting of flyers, advertisements or posters are prohibited from being hung in the Coliseum, Youth Arena or any other building, except for those in preapproved areas.

DETERMINATION OF VIOLATIONS OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

8. The Executive Director or their designee assigned by the Indiana State Fair Board to the Department where a violation of any term or condition established for the Indiana State Fair is reported to have occurred prior to, during or after judging shall make an initial determination as to whether a violation has occurred upon determining a violation has occurred, the Executive Director or their designee shall make a determination as to the appropriate penalty to impose upon the violating person(s). The Executive Director or their designee may choose to impose one, all, or a combination of the following penalties.

PENALTIES

9. The exhibitor in question is disqualified and forfeits all entry and other fees and all premiums, trophies, and awards from the Department.
10. Any or all State Fair premiums, trophies and awards won by an exhibitor in any and all State Fair Departments shall be withdrawn and required to be returned to the State Fair. All entry and other fees are forfeited.

11. The exhibitor and/or his/her immediate family shall be barred from State Fair competition for a period determined by the Executive Director or their designee that may include up to a lifetime.
12. The Executive Director or their designee may impose any other penalty deemed appropriate.

DUE PROCESS

The following due process rights and right of appeal shall be utilized.

13. The Executive Director or their designee shall notify the exhibitor in writing of the violation and penalty imposed within 15 days of the determination of a violation.
14. Within 15 days of receipt of written notification, the exhibitor may appeal the decision in writing to the Indiana State Fair Board. The written appeal must be delivered to the office of the State Fair Board within the 15 days.
15. Within 15 days of receipt of the written appeal, the Executive Director or their designee may rescind his/her initial determination. No further determination as to the reported violation may be subsequently made by the Superintendent. The exhibitor shall have no further remedy available upon the rescission of the initial determination.
16. Should the Executive Director or their designee take no action on the appeal within 15 days from the date of receipt in the office of the Fair Board, the exhibitor may request an appeal hearing no later than 18 days of the initial violation determination. Requests for an appeal hearing must be sent to the State of Indiana Office of Administrative Law Proceedings (OALP) by submitting a petition for review. To submit a request, go online to <https://www.in.gov/oalp/>, select that you are an individual filing for a petition for review. Then:
 - a. Fill out the online form via the link at the bottom of the page (you will be asked to upload a copy of the violation determination);
 - b. Download a paper copy of the request form and mail it to OALP; or
 - c. Personally appear at OALP's office located at 100 N. Senate Avenue N802, Indianapolis, IN 46204.
17. OALP shall appoint an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to conduct an appeal hearing. The ALJ shall issue an order to parties setting a date for the appeal hearing.
18. OALP's assigned ALJ shall issue a final order concluding the Administrative Review.
19. Either party wishing to appeal the ALJ's final order may file for judicial review of the order. Any judicial review shall take place in a competent court situated in Marion County, Indiana.

GRIEVANCE

20. Within twenty-four (24) hours of observing any suspected infraction, Exhibitors competing in an Open Class competition shall personally present a Grievance Form (found at www.indianastatefair.com) to the Entry Office in the Communications Building. No other persons have standing to present a Grievance Form. In all cases of grievance affecting an exhibitor, the statement must be verified.
21. A grievance must also be personally presented to the Entry Office within 24 hours of the occurrence of the suspected infraction for all livestock activities and for all other activities prior to the official closing of the State Fair (5 pm the last Sunday of the Fair). In the event a grievance is presented after judging has begun on the item or activity in question, the judging will proceed, and the grievance will be handled as if the grievance were presented following the judging.
22. A grievance must be presented in writing, verified and accompanied by a \$500 cash or money order made out to the Indiana State Fair. The grievance must state the name of the exhibitor, the exhibit and class in question, the specific reason for ineligibility and the terms and conditions that govern the case.
23. The \$500 will be returned if the grievance is upheld. The \$500 will be forfeited if the grievance is not sustained.
24. The Executive Director or their designee shall notify, in writing and within 15 days of receiving the grievance, the person(s) submitting the grievance as to his/her determination of the validity of the grievance and the actions taken as a result of upholding the grievance. If the grievance is denied, the notifications shall state the reasons for denial.
25. The person(s) submitting the grievance shall have the due process rights set forth in the Due Process section of this Entry Book.

JUDGES AND JUDGING

26. The awards will be made by judges who are hired by the Executive Director or their designee.
27. The time at which the judges will pass upon the different classes is determined by the Executive Director or their designee. All exhibition times are subject to change without announcement.
28. Any exhibit not presented promptly when called will be ruled out.
29. The judge, must, if any attempt be made by an exhibitor or his agent to interfere with or influence his decision, report the fact at once to the Executive Director or their designee.
30. An exhibitor who removes a placing ribbon, or authorizes another person to do so, in the presence of the judge, or in any manner insults the judge, shall forfeit all premiums, and be excluded from exhibiting, and the Fair Board may impose any additional penalty it so desires.
31. Regardless of the number of entries in each class by one exhibitor, only two premiums will be paid in any of the single classes and only one premium in any of the group classes.
32. Judges shall not award prizes to unworthy exhibits, whether there is competition or not, nor shall they award premiums on articles incorrectly entered or incorrectly named.

APPEALS FROM DECISIONS OF JUDGES

33. The right of an exhibitor to appeal the decision of a judge will exist only when it is charged that the award has been made in violation of the terms and conditions governing the exhibit, or when it is charged that the decision of the judges has been influenced or interfered with by another person.

34. The appellant must give verbal notice to the Executive Director or their designee in which the judging occurred within 2 hours of the judging. The written appeal as described below must be received within 24 hours of the verbal notice. The written appeal must be given to the Entry Office.
35. Appeals from the decision of a judge must be made in writing and must contain at least one specific charge, stating at length the facts relied upon and the term and condition violated, and naming witnesses and their addresses by whom proof is to be made.
36. The Executive Director or their designee shall notify the exhibitor in writing within 15 days of receipt of the appeal as to their findings and actions resulting therein.
37. The exhibitor shall have the due process rights _____ forth in the Due Process section of the Entry Book.

PREMIUMS

38. Premium checks will be mailed in October for all departments.
39. Premiums will be paid according to official judges' result sheets and payable to exhibitor name as entered.
40. To expedite delivery of premiums, any exhibitor receiving \$600.00 or more in monetary awards will be required to provide the Indiana State Fair with a completed IRS Form W-9 (W-8BEN for foreign exhibitors) providing a taxpayer identification number. Failure to provide this information will result in the forfeiture of all premium monies. Forms may be picked up at the Barn Offices, at the Entry Office in the Communications Building, or found on the IRS website www.irs.gov.
41. Questions and/or discrepancies noted in issued premium checks must be addressed to the Indiana State Fair Entry Department prior to December 1, 2026 for resolution. Premium records will be considered closed on December 1, 2026 and any exhibitor right of protest or re-issue is thereafter relinquished. A \$35.00 handling charge will be subtracted from a replacement check if check is lost, shredded, not cashed timely etc. Premium checks must be cashed within 90 days of receipt.

LOSS OR DAMAGE Waiver

42. It is mutually agreed that the Indiana State Fair assumes no liability for any loss of property or any claim for personal injury, including death. The exhibitor herein agrees to release, discharge and indemnify the Indiana State Fair Commission, its component members, and their successors from liability by reason of injury to property and/or persons, including death, which may occur within or upon the premises herein described in any manner connected with use thereof by exhibitor.

Youth Talent Contest

Tim Phelps- Indiana State Fair Board

TBD, Coordinator: Jane Stevens, youthtalent@indianastatefair.com

Terms & Conditions

1. The 2026 Youth Talent Contest will be held in the Purdue Extension Building. See the schedule for specific locations, dates, and times.
2. If your county is NOT holding a Youth Talent Competition, please contact us by email at YouthTalent@indianastatefair.com. There will be other avenues to compete to enter the State Fair Youth Talent Competition.
3. For the County Contest Coordinators: Each county holding a Youth Talent Contest with the intention of advancing its winners to the 2026 Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest must submit the Application for Sanction of a Preliminary Contest. Download the sanction form at www.indianastatefair.com
 - The application/sanction form must be submitted by email to youthtalent@indianastatefair.com no later than August 7, 2026.
 - A list of county winners eligible to advance to the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest must be submitted by email to youthtalent@indianastatefair.com no later than THREE DAYS following completion of the county event. Please title email "Youth Talent Contest Winners _____ County". If the county contest is scheduled for August 6, 2026 or after, email youthtalent@indianastatefair.com immediately to discuss the entry process.
 - The Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest Coordinator will verify those who entered online are eligible to compete in the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest.
4. For Contestants: The Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest consists of two divisions:
 - Jr. Division: 12 years or less of age (*If you turn 12 years of age during the 2026 calendar year, you must enter the Junior Division.*)
 - Sr. Division: 13-18 years of age (*If you turn 13 years of age during the 2026 calendar year, you must enter the Senior Division. If a performer will turn 18 years old during the 2026 calendar year, they must be no more than 18 years of age at the time of their respective County Fair Youth Talent Contest in order to participate at the 2026 Indiana State Fair.*)
5. Group acts must compete in the division determined by the ages of the majority of the group. No one older than 14 may compete in the junior division.
6. Every contestant in the Youth Talent Contest MUST BE AN INDIANA RESIDENT.
7. Each sanctioned Indiana county may send to the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest one (1) act in each category for both the Junior Division and Senior Division. Each sanctioned county may also (but is not required) send their 2nd place finisher in each category and age division IF the county official(s) and county contest judges agree the 2nd place finisher/act deserves to compete in the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest. Third (3rd) place finishers will be accepted into the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest if 1st or 2nd place is forfeited

on the county level. Written notification must be received by the contest coordinator at youthtalent@indianastatefair.com from the county coordinator.

8. Each contestant coming to the State Fair contest may perform in two (2) categories. The combination may be one in the solo category of their choice, and the group category of their choice, or two (2) different category groups. No contestant may be a soloist winner in two different categories.
9. All acts in the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest must first compete in and win their sanctioned county fair talent contest, or place 2nd at the county level IF the county chooses to send 2nd place finisher(s). State Fair eligibility will be verified with the county. (Winners of a non-sanctioned county Youth Talent Contest are not eligible for entry into the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest.)
10. Original music from sanctioned contest must be used.
11. Language and actions must be appropriate.
12. Any attempt to circumvent these terms & conditions shall result in disqualification.

13. Entries will be accepted in the following 8 categories for both the Junior Division and the Senior Division.
 1. Vocal Solo
 2. Vocal Group
 3. Instrumental Solo
 4. Instrumental Group
 5. Dance Solo (Includes Clogging)
 6. Dance Group (Includes Clogging)
 7. Variety Solo (Includes Tumbling and Novelty)
 8. Variety Group (Includes Tumbling and Novelty)

14. Cheerleaders and Baton twirlers or similar acts using batons, machetes or sharp instruments will not be accepted in the Youth Talent Contest. (Note: The Indiana State Fair has separate competitions for cheerleading and baton twirling.)
15. The Youth Talent Contest Coordinator and Indiana State Fair Entry Manager reserve the right to assign acts to what they determine to be the proper categories. Any questions shall be resolved by the Director and the Indiana State Fair Executive Director or their designee
16. In the event that fewer than three acts are entered in any one category of competition, the Youth Talent Contest Coordinator reserves the right either to cancel the category or combine it with another category.

17. **America's 250th Celebration Award**

In recognition of our nation's 250th birthday, the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest will present a special America 250 Celebration Award. Participants in any contest category – Vocal Solo, Vocal Group, Instrumental Solo, Instrumental Group, Dance Solo (including Clogging), Dance Group (including Clogging), Variety (including Tumbling and Novelty) – may choose to perform an act with a 250th Celebration/Patriotic theme to be considered for this award. The America 250 Celebration Award will be presented to one act whose performance best honors the spirit and milestone anniversary of the United States.

Entry Information

1. All entries must be made in accordance with the terms and conditions.
2. Online Entry - To enter the Indiana State Fair, please go to <https://exhibitorscorner.indianastatefair.com/> and enter online and follow the prompts. Each exhibitor/act is required to pay an entry fee at the time of entry. An exhibitor / act will not be considered entered in the Indiana State Fair until payment is made in full. Payment can be made online with a valid credit card. Entries will not be accepted over the phone.

3. Entry Deadlines and Fees

Enter between May 1, 2026 – July 1, 2026	Enter between July 2, 2026 – August 11, 2026
-Solo: \$30 -Duets or Groups: \$20 per person	-Solo: \$40 -Duets or Groups: \$30 per person

4. If your county contest is held July 31, 2026 or after, email entry@indianastatefair.com immediately to discuss the entry process.
5. Entry fees will include one (1) Fair admission ticket and one (1) one-day parking voucher per entrant.
6. The Exhibitor's Fair admission ticket and one-day parking voucher will be sent electronically to the email address submitted through Exhibitor's Corner with the paid entry. In order for the exhibitor to receive their fair admission ticket and 1-day parking voucher, the county needs to put the name and email address of the actual participant not the county coordinator.

Competition Schedule

Date	Time	Description	Location
Saturday, August 15	9:30 am – 10 am	Greeting/Registration	Purdue Extension Building
	10:00 am	Competition Begins: Jr. Vocal Solo and Group, followed by Jr. Instrumental Solo and Group followed by Jr. Novelty Solo and Group *awards ceremony to follow*	
	1:30 pm – 2:00 pm 2:00 pm	Greeting/Registration Competition Begins: Sr. Vocal Solo and Group, followed by Sr. Instrumental Solo and Group follow by Sr. Novelty Solo and Group *awards ceremony to follow*	
Saturday, August 22	9:30 am – 10 am	Greeting/Registration	Purdue Extension Building
	10:00 am	Competition Begins: Jr. Dance Solo and Group followed by Jr. Variety Solo and Group *awards ceremony to follow *	
	1:30 pm – 2:00 pm 2:00 pm	Greeting/Registration Competition Begins: Sr. Dance Solo and Group followed by Sr. Variety Solo and Group *awards ceremony to follow*	

Category Guidelines PLEASE NOTE: The Novelty category is for a solo or group performance in any act that has NOT been previously described A-E. See Novelty description below

- A) **VOCAL** – Solo male, solo female, or group (2 or more performers, male or female): This category shall consist of a solo or group performance by a vocalist(s). Instrumental accompaniment is allowed but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. Any background vocal on a CD must be minimal. (No props allowed)
- B) **INSTRUMENTAL** – Solo or group (2 or more performers, male or female): This category shall consist of a solo or group instrumental performance without vocal utterance. Accompaniment is allowed but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the solo performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. No instrument of the same nature may be used for accompaniment.
- C) **DANCE**—Solo male, female, or group (2 or more performers, male or female): This category shall consist of a solo or group dance performance. Accompanists are permitted on stage. Ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical, modern, hip-hop, step will be judged in this category. Dance-related acrobatic/tumbling skills will be allowed but should not exceed two (2) skills per solo and four (4) skills per group routine. The final determination of what constitutes appropriate acrobatic/tumbling skills for dance will be at the discretion of the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest judges and contest coordinator. Props must be part of the costume ie: hat, cane, umbrella, parasol, etc.
- D) **CLOGGING** – Solo male, female or group (2 or more performers, male or female): This category shall consist of a solo or group clogging performance. Accompanists are permitted on stage. Freestyle, artistic expression, traditional moving line, hoedown, precision, artistic expressions are all allowed. Props must be part of the costume. No tumbling is allowed. E) **TUMBLING/RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS** – Solo male, female or group (2 or more performers, male or female), Floor exercise only: This category was created for the dance routines that incorporate more than two

acrobatic/tumbling tricks. Everyone is responsible for his/her own mats and runners. Props and scenery are allowed. No spotters. Two (2) minute limit, set-up time.

- F) NOVELTY – Solo male, female or group (2 or more performers, male or female) The following acts are in this category: Skits, impersonators, Lip Sync, comedians, magicians, recitations (original or otherwise), mimes, jugglers (pins, balls, plates, etc.), unicyclist, hoola hoops, reenactments, dramatic presentations (theatrical), jump rope. THIS CATEGORY DOES NOT INCLUDE SINGERS, DANCERS, TUMBLERS, CLOGGERS OR INSTRUMENTALISTS. Props are allowed. Two (2)-minute limit, set-up time.

IMPORTANT

Performance Rules PLEASE NOTE: State Fair time limits may be different from your county. You must adjust your performance time to State Fair times.

1. A group act in the county preliminary competition may drop a member who is listed on the Youth Talent Contest Online Entry Form but MAY NOT ADD OR REPLACE any member that was not listed on the original entry form submitted to the Indiana State Fair. Refer to the contest brochure under the Competition Schedule for the date and time that they should report to the Purdue Extension Building Auditorium. If contestants are unable to arrive on time for the Greeting/Registration, they must provide notice to the Indiana State Fair Entry Coordinator two days prior to competition. Approximate line-up time will be given to contestants at registration. Disqualification may result if tardy.
2. Performance time allotted shall be: 2:00-minute limit for solo act; 2:30-minute limit for duets and groups of three or more; 5:00-minute limit for band performance. The definition of a band is one (1) lead singer, one (1) bass player, one (1) lead guitarist and one (1) drummer/percussionist. A band must consist of four (4) or more members. An official timer will be present at each competition during the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest. Ten penalty points will be deducted from the score of any act that exceeds the designated time limit for that act.
3. Timing begins: a) When music begins, (when music is used), OR b) At first movement or vocal utterance of performer without musical accompaniment. Set-up time for all props, including mats, is 2 minutes only. Music must end within the designated time limit. Ten penalty points will be deducted if set-up time exceeds 2 minutes.
4. The Indiana State Fair DOES NOT provide any equipment (including gymnastic mats), except for the lighting and sound equipment. All acts will use ONLY the lighting system provided by the Indiana State Fair.
5. No fire, dry ice, or fog will be allowed.
6. All acts will use the sound system and sound operator provided by the Indiana State Fair (ISF). Instrumentalists may bring their own amplifier if needed. All music must be either on a CD (one song, good quality, scratch free) and/or an Apple or Android device. ISF will provide an 1/8-inch plug to connect the headphone jack on an Apple or Android device. Contestants must provide a person to operate these devices and the device may need to be removed from its' case to insure proper connection. CDs will be collected, and devices will be tested during the registration time on the contestant's performance day. Each CD should be labeled with the contestant's name and county. ISF is not responsible for lost or damaged CDs or devices.
7. Only one parent, guardian or teacher will be allowed in the private dressing area. Failure to comply with these terms & conditions may result in disqualification.
8. Recording will be allowed only in areas specified for that purpose.

Judging

1. A panel of three or more judges will serve at all competitions during the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest.
2. Judging will include, but is not limited to the following criteria:
 - (A) Artistry & Creativity
 - (B) Technique
 - (C) Execution
 - (D) Timing & Rhythm
 - (E) Degree of Difficulty
 - (F) Performance Factors
 - (G) Showmanship & General Impression
 - (H) Age-Appropriate Words and Songs
 - (I) Entertainment Value
3. Any ties will be broken by the judges, Youth Talent Contest Coordinator, and Competitive Exhibits Committee Representative
4. Awards ceremony – see competition schedule above.

Awards

Junior Division- Solo & Group Competition by Category

Description	Awards	Premiums
All Exhibitors	Indiana State fair Ribbon	
1 st Place	Blue Ribbon/Act	
2 nd Place	Red Ribbon	
3 rd Place	White Ribbon	
Overall Dance/Variety-1 st Place	Grand Champion Plaque/Act	\$300
Overall Dance/Variety-2 nd Place	2 nd Place Plaque/Act	\$150
Overall Dance/Variety-3 rd Place	3 rd Place Plaque/Act	\$50
Overall Vocal/Instrumental- 1 st Place	Grand Champion Plaque/Act	\$300
Overall Vocal/Instrumental- 2 nd Place	2 nd Place Plaque/Act	\$150
Overall Vocal/Instrumental- 3 rd Place	3 rd Place Plaque/Act	\$50
Americas' 250 th Celebration Award	Trophy	\$250

Senior Division- Solo & Group Competition by Category

Description	Awards	Premiums
All Exhibitors	Indiana State fair Ribbon	
1 st Place	Blue Ribbon/Act	
2 nd Place	Red Ribbon	
3 rd Place	White Ribbon	
Overall Dance/Variety-1 st Place	Grand Champion Plaque/Act	\$300
Overall Dance/Variety-2 nd Place	2 nd Place Plaque/Act	\$150
Overall Dance/Variety-3 rd Place	3 rd Place Plaque/Act	\$50
Overall Vocal/Instrumental- 1 st Place	Grand Champion Plaque/Act	\$300
Overall Vocal/Instrumental- 2 nd Place	2 nd Place Plaque/Act	\$150
Overall Vocal/Instrumental- 3 rd Place	3 rd Place Plaque/Act	\$50
Americas' 250 th Celebration Award	Trophy	\$250

INDIANA STATE FAIR

Safety Information

All emergencies, safety concerns and suspicious activity should be reported immediately to the Indiana State Fair Operations Center at (317) 927-7520.

Prohibited Items

- No alcoholic beverages may be brought on to the Fairgrounds during the annual Indiana State Fair.
- No person in possession of a deadly weapon shall be permitted onto or be permitted to remain on the Fairgrounds, unless that person can demonstrate that the deadly weapon is intended for sale or trade at an event that is taking place on the Fairgrounds (Indiana Administrative Code, Title 80, Section 11-2-2(b)).
- The definition of a deadly weapon includes firearms, knives or sharp bladed items (regardless of blade length), or any object carried or possessed with the intent to be used as a deadly weapon.
- Exhibitors will be permitted to carry and use knives and other tools necessary for the proper care of their animals, tack, and equipment. However, these items may only be carried within the confines of the barn in which the animal(s) is housed. Knives and other tools carried outside of the barn are subject to confiscation under the deadly weapon rules found in the Indiana Administrative Code, Title 80, Section 11-2-2.
- Any deadly weapon found in the possession of a person while on the Fairgrounds is subject to immediate confiscation by persons authorized to provide security protection services as well as city, county, and state police agencies. Federal, state, or local law enforcement

officers or those employed or authorized by the Indiana State Fair Commission are excepted from this rule (Indiana Administrative Code, Title 80, Section 11-2-2 (a), (c), and Section 11-2-3 (1) and (2)).

- Any person properly licensed to carry a firearm must secure the firearm in a locked compartment of his/her vehicle and it shall not be visible to passersby (Indiana Administrative Code, Title 80, Section 11-2-2(d)).
- No generators (not attached to a working/in transit RV/trailer/living quarters) or animal scales are permitted on the Fairgrounds except those furnished by the State Fair.

Animal Policies & Procedures

- The only animals permitted on the Fairgrounds during the Indiana State Fair are animals registered, boarded or entered for exhibition, show or other competition; animals that will be used in a scheduled performance or to perform work at the Fair; law enforcement animals and service animals. Household and family pets, whether domestic or wild, and service animals not recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Section 36.104 are not permitted on the Fairgrounds during the Indiana State Fair. No person in possession of or having control over an unauthorized animal shall be permitted onto or be permitted to remain on the Fairgrounds (Indiana Administrative Code, Title 80, Section 11-2-4).
- Animals entered for exhibition, show or competition and animals scheduled to perform must remain in approved areas at all times. Violation may be disqualifiable offenses. See individual department terms and conditions for more specific information.

General Safety Policies & Procedures

- Smoking is not permitted inside barns and buildings. Smoking is only permitted in designated areas on the Fairgrounds.
- Cameras are located throughout the Fairgrounds for security and promotional purposes.
- Motorized vehicles, including golf carts, are not permitted in any barns or buildings (IFC 313.1). This does not apply to personal mobility devices. A valid State issued driver's license is required to operate a motorized vehicle including a golf cart on the Fairgrounds.
- Fans are permitted, so long as they have safety-approved shrouds. See individual department requirements pertaining to size, allowable number, and placement of fans.

Tents, Canopies, & Stall Coverings

- Any tent, canopy, or stall covering in a building must be made of a material to allow for or not block water distribution as well as meet or exceed NFPA Standard 701.
- A portable fire extinguisher must be located under each tent, canopy, or covering.

Fire Safety

- The Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office conducts regular inspections of all barns and buildings during the Indiana State Fair to identify any potential fire hazards or threats to life safety. The decisions of the fire marshal are final and will be enforced.
- Fire extinguishers are located throughout every barn and building. They may be used for approved purposes only. Do not use a fire extinguisher if you are not trained on its proper use.
- Most buildings and barns are equipped with fire alarm and/or fire suppression systems. In the event of a fire, these systems should be activated.
- Emergency exits are clearly marked in all barns and buildings. In the event of an emergency, calmly evacuate through the nearest accessible emergency exit.
- Do not store tack/supplies in primary aisle or in front of exit doors.

Severe Weather

- In the event of severe weather impacting the Fairgrounds, be it a severe thunderstorm or tornado, you may receive instructions over the barn or building public address system. If the barn or building is not equipped with a public-address system, State Fair staff will notify people in person.
- During a severe weather situation, you will be asked to remain inside, away from windows and doors whenever possible. Staff may be instructed to close all doors and windows, including overhead doors.
- Larger barns and buildings will be used for shelter-in-place (points of refuge) to allow Fairgoers to seek shelter. This may cause an influx of people into livestock areas and result in the postponement of a show or exhibition. Exhibitors should be mindful of this, keep aisles and walkways clear, and tend to their animals accordingly.

Food Preparation/Cooking Policies & Procedures

- Cooking inside and adjacent to barns and buildings is not advised. The Indiana State Fair Biosecurity plan recommends that food be excluded from animal areas. If cooking and/or food preparation is necessary, the following policies and procedures must be followed:
 - Cooking devices that use open flames, including charcoal and gas grills, exposed heating elements and non-electric power/ fuel sources are not permitted inside or outside barns or buildings.
 - Approved cooking devices are limited to crockpots, or similar slow cookers, and microwave ovens. Cooking devices must have a cover approved for use with the device and comply with all applicable electrical and fire codes. Cooking devices are also required to be powered by approved cords that are not frayed or malfunctioning in any way.

- Exhibitors cooking in the barns and buildings do so at their own risk and assume all liability for their actions concerning food contamination from pathogens that may be present in or near a livestock area.

Extension Cords

- Extension Cords shall not be a substitute for permanent wiring. IFC 2012 (605.4.1)
- Extension Cords shall not be affixed to structures. IFC 2012 (605.5)
- Extension Cords shall not extend through walls, ceilings, doorways, or floors. IFC 2012 (605.5)
- Extension Cords shall not be buried under carpet or animal bedding.

Multi-plug Adapter/Power Strip

- Multi-plug adapter(s) are prohibited. IFC 2012 (605.4)
- Power strip(s) shall be grounded and be equipped with overcurrent protection. IFC 2012 (605.4.1)
- Power strip shall be directly connected to an electrical outlet (no piggy-backing). IFC 2012 (605.4.2) • Power strip cords shall not extend through walls, ceilings, doorways, or floors. IFC 2012 (605.4.3)

Animal Wellness & Care

The Animal Wellness & Care Plan (AWAC) was established to reinforce the Indiana State Fair's commitment and belief in the proper treatment of all animals in exhibition. The Indiana State Fair holds exhibitors of the various species of animals being exhibited to the highest standards in wellness, care and ethics of exhibition. The AWAC is responsible for ensuring the most up to date standards as well as to be a source for the public to seek answers to their questions relating to the health and safety of the animals involved in the Indiana State Fair. Failure or refusal by an exhibitor or fairgoer to comply with the Animal Wellness & Care Plan can result in penalties up to and including but not limited to removal and a ban from the Fairgrounds for the duration of the event.

Biosecurity

The Indiana State Fair Biosecurity Plan was developed to prevent the outbreak of diseases carried by both animals and humans that spread pathogens that can be transmitted to and from farm animals, as well as through the food supply. Many diseases and pathogens can be prevented through maintaining the cleanliness of facilities and encouraging good hygiene. The Biosecurity Plan will be enforced during the Indiana State Fair and all exhibitors are expected to carryout and preform basic biosecurity and hygienic task including:

- Hand Washing/sanitizing following exposure to animals and always before consuming food or drinks
- Excluding human food and food preparation from animal areas
- Maintaining general cleanliness of animals and animal areas
- Properly disposing of animal waste/soiled bedding in properly identified/designated areas
- Cleaning-up after your animal if it soils/has a biological event in a building/Fair common space
- Reporting the appearance or evidence of animal/human sickness or distress to Fair officials

Failure or refusal to comply with the above can result in penalties up to and including but not limited to removal and a ban from the Fairgrounds for the duration of the event.

The Indiana State Fair is committed to providing opportunities for all 4-H participants to show their animals as part of the State Fair. The State Fair also wants to ensure the integrity of its 4-H competitions as is evidenced by the various terms and conditions set forth in this Entry Book, including its policy with respect to testing for unauthorized substances in certain animals that are entered into these competitions and the penalties associated with positive results. By entering into these competitions, you agree to these terms and conditions and as such, we strongly recommend that you read this information carefully prior to submitting your entry.

TALENT CONTEST ENTRY FORM

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026

2:00 p.m. – Junior Division

3:30 p.m. – Senior Division

Entry Forms Due by July 18, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

street

city

state

zip

Birthday: _____

Type of Act: _____

Name of Song _____

(If performing or singing)

Background Information (How long have you been singing, dancing, etc.? Have you performed before? Why did you choose this piece?): _____

Length of Act _____ minutes

Number of Group Members: _____

Group Name: _____

