

**SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATIONS OF FAIRS & CELEBRATIONS  
CORN PALACE FESTIVAL  
STATE YOUTH TALENT CONTEST**

**CATEGORY DESCRIPTION**

*The South Dakota Youth Talent Committee reserves the right to assign contestants to what it believes to be the proper categories. Any questions shall be resolved immediately by the South Dakota State Youth Talent Coordinator and their decision is final. The following is a list of categories and description of each. These are used as guidelines and are subject to interpretation by the South Dakota State Youth Talent Coordinator.*

**VOCAL SOLO FEMALE**

*Vocal solo - female - shall consist of solo performance by a female vocalist. Instrumental accompaniment by herself or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. No vocalist may play any musical instrument during the vocal performance except for the purpose of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand-alone if the accompaniment were removed. FOR CONTESTANTS ENTERED IN ANY VOCAL CATEGORY, ACCOMPANIMENT TRACTS WITH VOCAL UTTERANCE ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS INCLUDES RECORDED LIVE VOICES AND VOICES THAT ARE PRODUCED AND RECORDED SYNTHETICALLY (i.e. SYNTHESIZERS OR DIGITALLY SAMPLES).*

**VOCAL SOLO MALE**

*Vocal solo - male - shall consist of a solo performance by a male vocalist. Instrumental accompaniment by himself or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. No vocalist may play any musical instrument during the vocal performance, except for the purpose of accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand-alone if the accompaniment were removed. FOR CONTESTANTS ENTERED IN ANY VOCAL CATEGORY, ACCOMPANIMENT TRACTS WITH VOCAL UTTERANCE ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS INCLUDES RECORDED LIVE VOICES AND VOICES THAT ARE PRODUCED AND RECORDED SYNTHETICALLY (i.e. SYNTHESIZERS OR DIGITALLY SAMPLES).*

**VOCAL GROUP**

*Vocal group shall consist of two or more vocalists, male and/or female. Instrumental accompaniment by themselves or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of accompaniment. Acts in which the instrumental accompaniment assumes equal importance with the vocal performance will be assigned to BAND/INSTRUMENTAL GROUP upon the recommendation of the Youth Talent Coordinator. No vocalist may play any musical instrument during the vocal performance, except for the purpose of accompaniment. FOR CONTESTANTS ENTERED IN ANY VOCAL CATEGORY, ACCOMPANIMENT TRACTS WITH VOCAL UTTERANCE ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS INCLUDES RECORDED LIVE VOICES AND VOICES THAT ARE PRODUCED AND RECORDED SYNTHETICALLY (i.e. SYNTHESIZERS OR DIGITALLY SAMPLES).*

**BAND/INSTRUMENTAL GROUP**

*Band/Instrumental group shall consist of any group of two (2) or more persons, with or without vocal, using amplified or non-amplified instruments and/ or rhythm section (i.e. drum, acoustic or electric bass, piano or electric piano). No accompaniment is allowed. All performers on the stage must meet the age qualifications of the South Dakota State Youth Talent Contest.*

### **INSTRUMENTAL SOLO**

*Instrumental solo shall consist of solo instrumental performance without vocal utterance. The only accompaniment allowed is a live or taped acoustical piano. In piano solo, no accompaniment is allowed. (NO TAPED ACCOMPANIMENT IS ALLOWED).*

### **DANCE SOLO**

*Dance solo shall consist of solo performance by a male or female dancer. There must be no tap or tap effects on a taped recording used by a dancer. Accompanists are permitted on the stage, but must not assume visual importance in the performance. Vocal performance by a solo dancer will not be judged. ACROBATIC OR GYMNASTIC MOVEMENTS ARE ALLOWED.*

### **DANCE GROUP**

*Dance group shall consist of a performance of two or more dancers. There must not be taps or tap effects on a taped recording used by a dancer. Accompanists are permitted on stage, but must not assume visual importance in the performance. ACROBATIC OR GYMNASTIC MOVEMENTS ARE ALLOWED.*

### **VARIETY**

*Variety shall consist of one or more persons and intended to provide a proper showcase for those acts which are truly dependent upon the display of multiple talents of equal importance. COMBINATIONS OF CATEGORIES (such as Song and Dance) IS ALLOWED, but the individual category rules apply. Performers who fit the description of another category may not appear in the Variety category.*

**NOTE:** *The Youth Talent Contest does not judge baton performances or any performance of this character - machetes, knives, etc. Attempt to circumvent this rule shall cause disqualification. No fire, smoke or smoke effect will be allowed on the stage during the South Dakota State Youth Talent Contest.*