

Talent Information/Rules

Time Limit – Ninety (90) seconds. *Nothing longer will be accepted.* This will be strictly enforced. The judges will be informed immediately if a contestant runs over the allotted time of two minutes and instructed to adjust scores accordingly. There will be absolutely no exceptions to this ruling. If your talent presentation CD exceeds this time limit, it will be returned to you immediately and a new one must be cut.

Accompanying oneself with a pre-recorded tape – A contestant may pre-record herself as a back-up vocalist or instrumental accompanist and use it to accompany her live talent performance. However, it cannot be announced to the judges that the accompaniment CD contains any performance by the contestant. She will be judged solely on what she is doing live, no exceptions will be made to this. A talent cannot be performed electronically.

Double Talents – If a contestant wishes to perform a double talent, i.e. singing and dancing, or singing and piano playing, she must do both live on stage. She will only receive points for what is done live. For example, if a contestant danced to a pre-recorded CD of herself singing, she would only be judged on her dancing. If she sang and performed a dance segment with it, she would be judged on both singing and dancing.

Talents involving original work or material – Any contestant who plans to present a talent act that involves prior original work on her part, i.e., own painting, dress making, music arrangement, song writing, dramatic reading, etc., must send ***notarized authentication*** that she created that work if she wishes to receive credit for the same.

There can be no duplication of a talent act among the contestants. This will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis. The first contestant to register her talent with the National Office by sending in her completed ***Talent Request Form A*** is the one who will have the preference. **A contestant may not include in a vocal medley the same song another contestant is planning to sing as a solo or as a part of a different medley.** The same song, though, may be played on a musical instrument by a second contestant or used as accompaniment for a dance.

Props

No props will be permitted unless they are absolutely functional. Therefore be advised...

- No mood setters or background enhancers.
- No props that imitate those used in a Broadway or screen version of your music.
- No props that require excessively large stage areas and complicated set-up.
- No use of motion pictures, slides or projection of any kind.
- No live animals.
- No props involving safety hazards, such as fire batons, sword and/or knife twirling, bow and arrow skills.

Music Requirements

All CD's must be of good quality:

- CD's
- No noise reduction/Dolby stereo