

Ford County Fair Talent Contest Show Rules

The Ford County Fair will be hosting a talent show at the Fair dance building in Melvin, IL, on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 @ 6:30 pm. There will be two age divisions, and the winner of each division will represent Ford County in Springfield at the Illinois Association of Agricultural Fairs Convention in January, 2025. The Ford County Fair will pay the \$75 entry fee to sponsor the winners of this competition.

Rules of the Contest:

(IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE RULES, PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO RULES 1, 4 & 5, THEY HAVE CHANGED.)

1. The contest is open to anyone 21 years of age or younger. You do not have to live in Ford County to participate **but must agree to represent Ford County if you are a winner in this county's talent contest.**
A professional entertainer is someone who has a lot of experience or skill in a particular job or activity.
For this contest you may not participate if you have been paid fees for performing in your area of talent. **Example:**
A dancer who has been paid may enter as a singer. The dancer may not enter as a dance contestant. Engaged in a specified activity as one's paid occupation rather than as a pastime.
2. Junior Division contestants must be 14 years of age or under by June 25, 2024. Senior division contestants must be between 14 and 21 years of age by June 25, 2024.
3. A person can enter in only one event. They may not enter in a solo and duet in the same age division.
4. Age limits each division:
 - a. Junior Division: All contestants can be 14 years old or younger on the day and date of the local contest. Junior division contestants can be 15 years old when competing at the State Level in January, if they met the age requirements at their local contest.
 - b. Senior Division: Contestants cannot be over 21 years of age on the day and date of their local contest. Senior division contestants can be 22 years old when competing at the State Level in January, if they met the age requirements at their local contest.
5. **New update: All competitors that have previously competed at the state level are now eligible to perform at the local level and if they win they may perform at the state competition.**
6. The second place act may represent Ford County at State in the event the winner cannot compete.
7. There will be a panel of judges, and their decision will be final. Interpretation of the rules will be determined by the talent show committee.
8. Each act will be judged in the following four categories. A perfect score is 100.
Costume/Stage Presentation = 30 points Audience Entertainment = 30 points
Technical Merit = 40 points
9. Any act that goes over the four minute performance time limit will be disqualified.
10. No voices, synthesized voices of vocal utterances are allowed on any taped accompaniment used by any vocal act. No taps or tap effects are allowed on a tapped recording used by a dancer. In an instrumental solo, the accompaniment allowed is a live or taped acoustical piano. In piano solos, no accompaniment allowed. In the use of electronic keyboard, the contestant must create all sounds live on stage. CD's may be reviewed by the committee or judges to be sure no additional voices, instruments or taps are prerecorded. CD's must be cued ready to perform.
11. There will be a piano furnished.
12. Prize money to be awarded: \$50 for third place, \$100 for second place, \$200 for first place with \$100 being awarded at the fair and the other \$100 after the state competition in Springfield in January of 2025.
13. **Entry deadline is June 11, 2024.**
14. **The entry fee of \$5.00 must be sent with entry form.**

For more information, contact:

Ashley Morris, 615 South Sangamon, Gibson City, IL 60936 • (217) 714-5816 or e-mail the Fair at ashleymccullough@hotmail.com.

2024 Ford County Fair Talent Show Entry Form

Name of Contestant or Group: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name(s) of group member(s) _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

BY SIGNING WE ARE AGREEING TO REPRESENT FORD COUNTY AT STATE IN JANUARY 2025.

Sign: _____

Type of Performance:

Vocal Solo Vocal Duet Vocal Group Dance Solo Tap Ballet Contemporary Modern Other

Instrumental Solo Instrumental Duet Instrumental Group

Kind(s) of Instrument(s) _____

**Entry Deadline: June 11, 2024 MAIL TO: Ashley Morris 615 South Sangamon, Gibson City, IL 60936
(217) 714-5816 • ashleymccullough@hotmail.com**