

NOW Talent 2018 - win cash prizes!!

NOW Talent is back for 2018!

We will again be holding two competitions in SA:

25th-26th August - NOW Talent Balaklava

22nd-23rd September - NOW Talent Evanston

20th October – NOW Talent Brighton

24th-27th January – NOW Talent Finals

Entries open shortly (watch this space) and close either 6 weeks before each competition or when the competition is FULL.

ENTRY FEES

Solos \$25

Duo/Trios \$30

Groups \$40

There are NO extra competitor fees. All performers receive a FREE Performer Pass which will gain them entry to all sessions in the competition they are competing in. There are NO REFUNDS once an entry has been made, unless the event is cancelled. If a competitor is unable to perform due to illness or injury, they may contact us to discuss a transfer into one of our future competitions (a Medical Certificate will be required).

ENTRY PASSES

Every performer will receive a FREE Performer Pass which will gain them access to watch any session in the competition they are performing in. All spectators must purchase a Spectator Pass which costs (per session):

Adult \$12

Child (age 5-17) \$8

Child (under 5) FREE

Discounted 'Season Passes' are available for competitions with multiple sessions. All persons entering the building who are not performing will require a Spectator Pass even if they intend to stay in the dressing area. Passes are given out as wristbands which will be checked regularly both Front of House and backstage. Teachers who have entered groups will be able to claim a FREE Teacher Season Pass - please contact us in advance of the competition to discuss your requirements.

SECTIONS

Each section will be split into age groups based on the entries received. There will be no more than 10 competitors in each section and no more than 3 years between the youngest and the oldest in the section. Ages are taken at the first day of the competition. Duo/Trios and Groups are calculated using the 'average age' rule (the age of all competitors are added together and then divided by the number of performers in the group - all decimals are rounded down).

The North competition is open to all ages, however, all entries from performers aged 18+ should be placed in Open Talent. Individuals can enter this section as many times as they like.

The South competition is only open to performers who are under 18 on the day of the competition (duo/trios must have an average age of 17 or less). There are no Group sections at the South competition.

Our competition is split into DANCE, DRAMA, SINGING, MUSICAL THEATRE and TALENT:

DANCE includes the following sections:

- ★ **Jazz Solo (including Broadway Jazz)**
- ★ **Tap Solo**
- ★ **Ballet Solo (including Demi-Character)**
- ★ **Lyrical Solo (including Neo-Classical)**
- ★ **Contemporary Solo**
- ★ **Hip Hop Solo**
- ★ **Calisthenics Solo**

Performers can only enter each of the above Solo sections once (i.e. one Jazz Solo, one Ballet Solo etc). No Song & Dance, Acro or Student Choreography in this section (see TALENT for these styles). No performers over 18.

- ★ **Dance Duo/Trio (all styles)**
- ★ **Dance Group (all styles)**

Performers can enter the above Duo/Trio and Group sections more than once as long as each performance is different. There are no separate style sections and performers who enter more than once will compete against themselves. No Song & Dance, Acro or Student Choreography in this section (see TALENT for these styles). Average age of all performers in each duo/trio or group must be under 18.

DRAMA includes the following sections:

- ★ **Drama Solo**

Performers can only enter the above section once. Performances which include singing should be entered as MUSICAL THEATRE. No performers over 18.

- ★ **Drama Duo/Trio**
- ★ **Drama Group**

Performers can enter the above Duo/Trio and Group sections more than once as long as each performance is different. Performers who enter more than once will compete against themselves. Performances which include singing should be entered as MUSICAL THEATRE. Average age of all performers in each duo/trio or group must be under 18.

SINGING includes the following sections:

- ★ **Singing Solo**

Performers can only enter the above section once. Song can be any style and marks are given for vocals and performance. A handheld microphone is available for use if desired. Please consider whether a song that is taken from Musical Theatre should be entered in this section or MUSICAL THEATRE where marks are given for characterisation, movement etc. There are no marks for playing an instrument and if your performance includes playing the guitar/keyboard etc, you should enter it as TALENT. No performers over 18.

- ★ **Singing Duo/Trio**
- ★ **Singing Group**

Performers can enter the above Duo/Trio and Group sections more than once as long as each performance is different. Performers who enter more than once will compete against themselves. Song can be any style and marks are given for vocals and performance. Only 2 microphones are usually available at each venue - performers should be prepared to perform without microphones if required. Average age of all performers in each duo/trio or group must be under 18.

MUSICAL THEATRE includes the following sections:

- ★ **Musical Theatre Solo**

Performers can only enter the above section once. A monologue can be included as long as the total performance is within the time limit. The song should be from Musical Theatre or a Musical Film/TV Show. A handheld microphone

is available for use if desired. Marks are awarded for characterisation and movement as well as vocals. Song & Dance Solos which are set to music from Musical Theatre should be entered in this section. No performers over 18.

★ **Musical Theatre Duo/Trio**

★ **Musical Theatre Group**

Performers can enter the above Duo/Trio and Group sections more than once as long as each performance is different. Performers who enter more than once will compete against themselves. A monologue can be included as long as the total performance is within the time limit. The song should be from Musical Theatre or a Musical Film/TV Show. Only 2 microphones are usually available at each venue - performers should be prepared to perform without microphones if required. Song & Dance Duo/Trios and Groups which are set to music from Musical Theatre should be entered in this section. Average age of all performers in each duo/trio or group must be under 18.

TALENT includes the following sections:

★ **Talent**

Performers can enter the above section more than once as long as each performance is different. Performers who enter more than once will compete against themselves. All Solos, Duo/Trios and Groups will compete against each other. Only performances which do not fit into any of the other sections should be entered as TALENT. A suggestion of performances which should go in the Talent section:

Acrobatics, Student Choreography, Musicians (including singers also playing an instrument), Bands, Martial Arts, Gymnastics, Cheerleading, Song & Dance (using music that would not fit into the MUSICAL THEATRE section) - if you are uncertain, please contact us to discuss.

No performers over 18. No live animals. No fire or other dangerous activities.

★ **Open Talent**

ANY performance by someone aged 18+ or where the average age of a Duo/Trio or Group is 18+. Performers can enter the above section more than once as long as each performance is different. Performers who enter more than once will compete against themselves. No live animals. No fire or other dangerous activities.

TIME LIMITS & MUSIC

Time limits are as follows and should be strictly adhered to in order to ensure the smooth running of the competition day:

Solos - 3 mins

Duo/Trios - 4 mins

Groups - 5 mins

The setting and removal of props must be completed within the above time limits. Judges may deduct points for acts which go over their time limit.

Music can be supplied on CD, USB or any Audio Device that will connect to a regular audio jack. Music must be checked in at the Music Desk at least 30 minutes before your scheduled performance time. Please label all CDs and Devices clearly with the performer's name. Tracks provided on USB must be clearly labelled with the title of the performance.

PROGRAMMING

Each competition schedule is created as quickly as possible after entries for that competition close. This is either 4 weeks before the competition or when the competition is full. Competitors will receive confirmation of their performance days/times by email as soon as they are ready. Copies of the full program are available to purchase for a small fee at the event. Performance Titles must be sent to us at least 4 weeks before the competition in order to be

included in the printed program. Any changes to titles after the 4-week deadline must be made at the event - there is no charge for changes. It is not possible to change entry sections once the program has been created.

SCORING

Scores will be given to each act and score sheets will be available to collect after the awards. Judges will score each act on the following criteria:

Creativity (25 points)

Presentation (25 points)

Technique (25 points)

Performance Skills (25 points)

Except TALENT entries which are scored as follows:

Creativity (25 points)

Presentation (25 points)

Audience Appeal (25 points)

Performance Skills (25 points)

Each act is then awarded a Ribbon as follows:

Platinum Award (90-100 points)

Gold Award (80-89 points)

Silver Award (70-79 points)

Bronze Award (60-69 points)

Participation Award (59 points or less)

When more than one judge is present, the scores will be averaged. Scores below 60 points will only be eligible for a Participation Award and cannot place 1st, 2nd or 3rd. The judges decision is final and no further discussion will be entered into after the awards have been presented.

PRIZES

Prizes are awarded at the Awards Presentation which takes place soon after each session is complete. Prizes available at each competition:

Solo Star of the Show - \$150 cash plus trophy

Awarded to the Solo with the highest score of the competition (all sections except Open Talent)

Duo/Trio Star of the Show - \$150 cash plus trophy

Awarded to the Duo/Trio with the highest score of the competition (all sections except Open Talent)

Group Star of the Show - \$150 cash plus trophy

Awarded to the Group with the highest score of the competition (all sections except Open Talent)

Open Talent Award - \$100 cash plus trophy

Awarded to the highest score in the Open Talent section

Every performance is awarded with a Ribbon - these are graded as follows: Participation, Bronze Award, Silver Award, Gold Award, Platinum Award. The level of award given is based on the overall score for that performance.

Cash prizes require a minimum of 5 entries in that section. Less than 5 entries and the cash prize will be reduced accordingly.

Medals are also awarded to those who place 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each section (Trophies for Groups).

Certificates are awarded to the Overall Highest Scores for Solos (Top 10), Duo/Trios (Top 5) and Groups (Top 5).

**** YOU MUST BE PRESENT AT THE AWARDS PRESENTATION TO RECEIVE YOUR PRIZES - NO AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN OUT AFTER THE EVENT OR TO THIRD PARTIES ****

FINALS

To qualify for Finals, you need to receive a Bronze Award or higher at one of the regional events. When you qualify, you only qualify in that genre. However, a maximum of TWO extra entries can be entered at Finals provided you also enter at least one qualifying entry. Finals sections will be split into ability levels – Bronze, Silver, Gold & Platinum – based on your qualifying level. Ability levels may be combined if there are a low number of entries in that section. More details about Finals will be available when entries open.