



- **Date:** Sunday, August 12, 2018
- **NEW Location:** Associated Bank Amphitheater
- **Time:** Noon – 6:00 p.m.
- **Two divisions:** Youth (2-12 yr), Teen (13-18 yr)
- Four basic talent areas: Dance, Vocal, Instrumental, Variety
- One winner from each division at the local/county event will advance to the Wisconsin State Fair Competition
- Prize structure compliments of Jack's Pizza®
 

<u>Youth Division</u>	<u>Teen Division</u>
○ 1 <sup>st</sup> : \$4,000	○ 1 <sup>st</sup> : \$4,000
○ 2 <sup>nd</sup> : \$2,000	○ 2 <sup>nd</sup> : \$2,000
○ 3 <sup>rd</sup> : \$1,000	○ 3 <sup>rd</sup> : \$1,000
○ Jack's Supreme: \$500: This 7th prize will be awarded to the contestant who captured the judges but did not place in the overall event.	
- The 1st Place winner in each division could receive a 1-year supply of Jack's Pizza®; 2nd place winner in each division could receive ½ year supply of Jack's Pizza® and the 3rd place winner in each division could receive ¼ year supply of Jack's Pizza®
- The 1st Place winner in each division could receive a Jack's Pizza® kit that could include items such as a rolling cooler, chairs, umbrella, and more
- Performances limited to 3 minutes each, one-minute set-up
- Championship round will be conducted based on number of contestants
- All participants must be legal residents of Wisconsin
- The Junior Amateur Talent Competition is a state wide program. The competition will not be limited to a specific county or area
- Minimum of 3 judges (maximum of 5), industry professionals
- Plaques and large checks will be awarded at the state level
- Local/county events determine their own prize structure
- No more than 5 participants in an act
- No rock bands or similar groups permitted - this is NOT a battle of the bands competition
- Wisconsin State Fair admission provided only to the contestant
- 2017 had a whopping 37 participants at the state level!

## 2018 Show Coordinator Rules

1. The program is best presented as a “Free Admission” event for a local celebration or county fair. Young people cannot be charged a fee for participation in the talent show. All participants must be legal residents of Wisconsin.
2. The Junior Amateur Talent Competition is a state-wide program. We encourage competition in your local show to be open to anyone in Wisconsin. Please do not limit the competition to a specific county or area. Winners from earlier shows around the state can compete in any subsequent local shows to get as much experience as possible. If such an act in your show is an earlier winner at another show and is already qualified for State Fair Competition, and that act wins first place in your show, they receive the local award. The second-place act will advance, unless they have already qualified at an earlier show, then the third-place act will advance, and so on. The Master of Ceremonies must ask the acts if they have already qualified for the State Fair Junior Amateur Talent Competition.
3. **Judges:** A minimum of three judges are required, and up to five are allowed. The Junior Amateur Talent Competition is broken down into four basic areas: Dance, Vocal, Instrumental and Variety. We strongly advise using judges with a background in these areas. Please access music, dance, and vocal teachers from the area, but they cannot have direct ties to the competitors. College students may be used, if necessary, but they must have a declared major in one of the areas. No high school students or relatives of participants are allowed to judge.
4. **Advancing:** There will be competition in the Youth and Teen Divisions with the first-place act in each group advancing to the Wisconsin State Fair. Only one act may advance in each category. No ties for first place are permitted. Upon completion of your program it is your responsibility, as the show coordinator, to send the following items to Justine Vergeer via email at justine.vergeer@wistatefair.com or fax them to (414) 266-7007. It is very important that the results are sent in immediately as scheduling is a detailed process.
  - a. Show Results Form - COMPLETELY filled out
  - b. Winner’s W9. W9 to include winner’s name, complete address, birth date, age, social security number, phone number (include area code), and type of talent. Multiple member acts need one of the group members to act as a contact person with all information going through them. Additional members of the act need only birth date, age and town. Wisconsin State Fair will provide W9.
  - c. Photos from your event to be used by Wisconsin State Fair for marketing and communications.
5. **Judging Comments:** The Wisconsin State Fair Junior Amateur Talent Competition presents a nice opportunity for professional judges to help foster growth and improvement with all the young Wisconsinites that compete in the program. Please make comment sheets available for all performers. These do not have to be lengthy, just some brief, constructive comments.

6. **Birthdays:** A person's age for the Wisconsin State Fair competition is determined at the time they win at a qualifying show. If a 12 or 18-year-old has a birthday after qualifying for the State Fair competition, they will compete in the division they were in when they qualified.
7. **Wisconsin State Fair Championship Show:**  
Youth Division Champions: All Youth Champions in the Youth Division must sit out one year before they may re-enter the competition. They also must re-qualify when returning after the one-year absence, and be 12 years old or younger.  
Teen Division Champions: All Teen Champions in the Teen Division must sit out one year before they may re-enter the competition. They also must re-qualify when returning after the one-year absence, and be 18-years-old or younger. The 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner of the Teen division is no longer allowed to compete at the State Fair Junior Amateur Talent Competition.  
The only exception to the one-year absence will be for Youth division champions who were 12 years old when they won. They do not have to sit out a year and are automatically qualified for the next State Fair. They will, however, be competing in the Teen division. It is highly recommended that they compete at the local level as a Teen to get a feel for the older division.
8. **Teens and Youths must qualify within the age requirement. For example, if you are 18 and don't qualify before you are 19 you are ineligible. All Youth acts must qualify for the State Fair at the age of 12 or younger.**  
**Division Breakdown:** Youth: 2 through 12 years. Teen: 13 through 18 years. All divisions are in competition.
9. Youth acts will be permitted to have one performer who is 13 years old only. If a performer in a Youth act turns 13 before the State Fair, thus making the Youth act have two or more 13 year olds, that act will automatically become a Teen act. Any performer who is 14 years or older will not be allowed to perform in a Youth act.
10. **Winners:** Only one winner from your show is permitted to advance to the Wisconsin State Fair from each division (Youth and Teen). **No ties for first place are permitted.**
11. The local sponsoring group is encouraged to provide prizes, which may include ribbons or trophies. The prize value should be equal for each division. Meaning if a Youth Winner's 1<sup>st</sup> Place prize is valued at \$25 the Teen Winner's 1<sup>st</sup> Place prize should also be valued at \$25.
12. **Staging:** You will receive materials from the Wisconsin State Fair that must be included within your event. These include a 4' x 6' Jack's Pizza® logoed banner and 11" x 17" Jack's Pizza® posters. The banner needs to be displayed during your event on the stage. Posters can be used for pre-event promotion. A script will also be sent for the show's Master of Ceremonies to use throughout the event.

13. **Staging set up:** The stage should measure 16' by 32' or larger to accommodate acrobatic dance acts, and it should have a smooth surface; no carpet please. This is very important to the dancers. Please provide them with a quality stage area. Provide a well-tuned piano with a full keyboard. Please provide a public-address system, with a competent sound engineer. You must also provide a CD player that will play through the PA system and be prepared for any digital playback from iPod, MP3's and other digital devices.
14. To help us schedule the acts as they advance to the Wisconsin State Fair, please categorize them as follows:
- **Vocalists:** classical, country, or contemporary areas
  - **Dancers:** tap, jazz, ballet, pointe, acrobatic, or baton
  - **Instrumental:** classical or contemporary categories
  - **Variety:** everything else
- Vocalists are strongly encouraged to practice and perform with the assistance of a vocal coach and/or a live accompanist. We understand that live accompanists are expensive, and sometimes very difficult to obtain for some performers. We will allow prerecorded accompaniment and suggest that it be a single track. We understand that "Musical Theater" acts will have multiple tracts, but we are trying to develop vocalists and do not want the State Fair Junior Amateur Talent Competition to turn into a karaoke contest. Any prerecorded tape with backing vocals is not allowed and the act will be disqualified. Coordinators and Judges, please pay close attention to this!*
15. **Check In:** Acts should meet with your Master of Ceremonies a minimum of 45 minutes to an hour prior to the show to be checked in. The Youth division performs first, followed by the Teen division. Judging is to be done between each division to give the judges plenty of time for their decision. Awards to follow each division.
16. There must be four acts signed up ahead of time in each division to qualify as a Wisconsin State Fair sanctioned show. No more than five persons are allowed in an act. Accompanists are not considered part of the act and can be of any age. Please limit the number of accompanists to three. **You must also have registered your show with the Wisconsin State Fair by filling out the Show Application by the deadline of Friday, June 1, 2018. Failure to do this will result in having an unsanctioned show and your winners will not advance.**
17. **Timing Acts:** Acts must keep the performance to three minutes. Acts timed past three minutes are subject to possible disqualification or point deduction. Five seconds over would be a starting point to begin deductions, if ten seconds to three minutes over you are well within your right as a judge for disqualification. This is at the judges' discretion and should be monitored closely. At the local level this would be a great opportunity to let an act know that they were over the time limit. Please don't allow an act to advance to the State Fair competition only to be disqualified at that level. We have two different timers at the State level so we are very serious about the three-minute rule. Set up time is not included. Please try to limit set up time to one minute.

18. Contestants may only appear once in any given show. This applies to qualifying shows as well as the competition at the Wisconsin State Fair. They may not perform “solo” and then return in the same show in a duet or trio. Contestants are allowed to perform in different acts in different qualifying shows, but they may only qualify for the State Fair Show with one act.
19. Professionals are NOT permitted to compete. This includes Union musicians and anyone whose principle source of income is from their talent. Compensation for performing at weddings, etc. does not constitute principle source of income.

## 2018 Contestant Rules

1. Show is open to legal residents of the state of Wisconsin only. Acts must appear in a locally sponsored/Wisconsin State Fair sanctioned show somewhere in the state of Wisconsin and win to be eligible to compete at the Wisconsin State Fair. Judge’s decisions are final.
  - Prize structure - compliments of Jack’s Pizza®
 

Youth Division	Teen Division
○ 1 <sup>st</sup> : \$4,000	○ 1 <sup>st</sup> : \$4,000
○ 2 <sup>nd</sup> : \$2,000	○ 2 <sup>nd</sup> : \$2,000
○ 3 <sup>rd</sup> : \$1,000	○ 3 <sup>rd</sup> : \$1,000

    - Jack’s Supreme: \$500 - prize will be awarded to the contestant who captured the judges but did not place in the overall event.
2. The 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner in each division could receive a 1-year supply of Jack’s Pizza®; 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner in each division could receive ½ year supply of Jack’s Pizza® and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in each division could receive ¼ year supply of Jack’s Pizza®
3. The 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner in each division could receive a Jack’s Pizza® kit that could include rolling cooler, captain’s chairs, umbrella, and more
4. **Youth Division: 2 through 12 years**  
**Teen Division: 13 through 18 years**  
 A person’s age for the Wisconsin State Fair competition is determined at the time they win a local show. A 12-year-old (or 18 year old) could turn 13 (or 19) by State Fair and still be eligible in the Youth (or Teen) division, as they met age requirements at the time of qualification.
5. Youth acts will be permitted to have one performer who is 13 years old only. If a performer in a Youth act turns 13 before the State Fair, thus making the Youth act have two or more 13-year-olds, that act will automatically become a Teen act. Any performer who is 14 years or older will not be allowed to perform in a Youth act.

6. Acts are required to keep the performance at three minutes or less. Acts running longer than three minutes are subject to possible disqualification or point deduction. This will be at the judge's discretion. Set-up time is not included in the three-minute limit. Please limit set-up time to one minute.
7. No more than five persons are allowed in an act. Accompanists are not considered part of the act and can be of any age. Please limit the number of accompanists to three. Drums, amps, etc. are discouraged due to the one-minute set-up time. No rock bands or similar musical groups permitted. This is NOT a battle of the bands competition.
8. Vocalists are strongly encouraged to practice and perform with the assistance of a vocal coach and/or a live accompanist. We understand that live accompanists are expensive and sometimes very difficult to obtain for some performers. We do allow recorded accompaniment. The judges' preference is a single instrument. Multiple tracks, although permitted, are not suggested. This is not a karaoke contest. Any prerecorded track with backing vocals is not allowed, and the act will be disqualified.
9. Acts are asked to not dance onto or off the stage before introductions. After introductions, contestants may take any position they wish to begin their performance.
10. Contestants may only appear once in any given show. This applies to qualifying shows as well as the competition at the Wisconsin State Fair. They may not perform "solo" and then return in the same show in a duet or trio. Contestants are allowed to perform in different acts in different qualifying shows, but they may only qualify for the State Fair Show with one act.
11. Professionals are NOT permitted to compete. This includes Union musicians and anyone whose principle source of income is from their talent. Compensation for performing at weddings, etc. does not constitute principle source of income.
12. Acts will need name, complete address, birth date, age, phone number (include area code), and type of talent. Acts with multiple contestants need one member to act as a contact person, and all information will go through them. Additional members of the act need only name, birth date, age and town.
13. **Providing personal information:** Winners (or their parent / guardian) will be required to fill out state issued W9 forms at the county level event. Name, address, and social security numbers are required. All W9 forms will be submitted to the State Fair upon advancement.

## Competition at the Wisconsin State Fair

**Championship Show:** Sunday, August 12, 2018 beginning at Noon

At the Associated Bank Amphitheater

Youth Division will perform first followed by the Teen Division. Awards to follow each division.

- 1. Birthdays:** If a qualifying show takes place after the Wisconsin State Fair, the act may be eligible to compete in the Championship Show the following year. Acts returning the following year will perform in the division they were in when they qualified. For example, if a 12-year-old wins in the Youth Division and turns 13 by the next State Fair, they will remain in the Youth Division.
- 2. Youth Division Champions:** All Youth Champions in the Youth Division must sit out one year before they may re-enter the competition. They also must re-qualify when returning after the one-year absence, and be 12 years old or younger.
- 3. Teen Division Champions:** All Teen Champions in the Teen Division must sit out one year before they may re-enter the competition. They also must re-qualify when returning after the one-year absence, and be 18-years-old or younger. The 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner of the Teen division is no longer allowed to compete at the State Fair Junior Amateur Talent Competition.
- 4.** The only exception to the one-year absence will be for Youth division champions who were 12 years old when they won. They do not have to sit out a year and are automatically qualified for the next State Fair. They will, however, be competing in the Teen division. It is highly recommended that they compete at the local level as a Teen to get a feel for the older division.
- 5.** All divisions must qualify within the age requirement. For example, if you are 18 and don't qualify before you are 19 you are ineligible, or if you are a Teen and don't qualify before you are 12 you will compete in the Teen division.



**Junior Youth Amateur Talent Competition – RESULTS**

County Fair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Show Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth Division Winner Information**

*Winner MUST be 12 years or younger at the time of placement.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Talent** (please check one)

Vocal

Dance

Instrumental

Variety

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Song Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**If multiple group members – list, from left to right, as seen from audience**

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Age Birth Date Town

3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Age Birth Date Town

4. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Age Birth Date Town

5. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Age Birth Date Town



### Teen Division Winner Information

Winner *MUST* be between 13 and 18 years of age at the time of placement.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Talent** (please check one)

Vocal

Dance

Instrumental

Variety

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Song Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**If multiple group members – list, from left to right, as seen from audience**

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
*Age Birth Date Town*

3. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
*Age Birth Date Town*

4. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
*Age Birth Date Town*

5. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
*Age Birth Date Town*



**2018 Competition Application - Return by Friday, June 1, 2018**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Show date) (Location of show)

In conjunction with \_\_\_\_\_  
(County fair, town celebration, etc.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Contact person coordinating competition)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, PO Box, Apt. #)

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Talent Show or Fair website (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Your show must be placed on our “Show List” to be a Wisconsin State Fair sanctioned show.**

**To do this, you MUST return the above application by Friday, June 1, 2018.  
The Show List will be posted on [www.wistatefair.com/competitions](http://www.wistatefair.com/competitions).**

**Return to:**

Justine Vergeer, Special Events Manager  
Wisconsin State Fair  
640 S. 84<sup>th</sup> Street  
West Allis, WI 53214  
E-mail: [justine.vergeer@wistatefair.com](mailto:justine.vergeer@wistatefair.com)  
Phone: (414) 266-7076 Fax: (414) 266-7007