



RISING STAR 2010 RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Junior Rising Star: All contestants must be at least 6 years of age and not older than 12 by September 5, 2010. Please note that these age limits will be strictly enforced and contestants will be asked to provide identification with proof of age at the audition.
2. Youth Rising Star: All contestants must be at least 13 years of age and not older than 21 by September 5, 2010. Please note that these age limits will be strictly enforced and contestants will be asked to provide identification with proof of age at the audition.
3. This competition is open to legal residents of Ontario only. A limit of 300 applications per age division will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.
4. All Rising Star contestants must be of amateur status. For the purpose of this contest, a professional entertainer is:
 - A. One who earns more than one-half of his or her income by performing in any of the categories of competition (i.e. a professional dancer may not compete in the contest as a singer, musician, etc.) or,
 - B. One who is a union member (i.e. ACTRA, TMA, Actors' Equity, etc.) or,
 - C. One who has a professional agent or manager who is, or will be paid a fee for securing employment in the entertainment field or,
 - D. One who sings or otherwise performs on any recording released for commercial distribution through standard retail outlets. (This does not prohibit an entertainer from self-producing a record for sale or distribution to friends and associates or performing on a self-produced recording of a school or church choir group for charitable fundraising purposes).
5. A contestant in the Youth Division must not have participated in any other program leading to the current year's C.A.F.E. Canadian Youth Talent Competition Finals, including the Western Fair Youth Talent Search.
6. An act must be no more than 4 minutes 30 seconds in duration. Any act running over this time will be disqualified. Timing begins with the first word, note, or action.
7. Acts using machetes, knives, batons, etc. cannot enter. Fire and/or pyrotechnics are not allowed on stage at any time. No profane language, swearing or suggestive lyrics or actions not suitable for a family audience as determined by the Administrator or the Judge. The administrator or the judge may refuse to accept an entry containing any of the aforesaid.
8. In any vocal category, instrumental accompaniment by the persons in the act or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of the accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed.

9. No background voice or voices, vocal utterance including synthesized vocal utterance is be used for accompaniment by contestants entered in the vocal categories. There must be no taps or tap effects on a CD used in the dance categories. **Two copies of your CD shall be submitted for auditions and for the competition. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS**
10. In Instrumental Solo, the only accompaniment allowed is a live or taped acoustic piano. In piano solo, no accompaniment is allowed. In the case of any electronic keyboard, the contestant must produce all sounds live on stage. No programmed music is allowed.
11. A contestant may enter only one category. A previous Youth Grand Champion may not enter the contest a second time in the youth division. They may enter the other division when they reach the age requirements. A previous Junior Grand Champion may enter the contest again but is limited to a maximum of two Grand Champion wins.
12. A contestant may not enter the contest if employed by the Canadian National Exhibition, CNEA contract employees, members of the Board of Directors, Exhibition Place, Board of Governors of Exhibition place, contractors and agents of the CNE directly involved in the Competition nor any other persons directly associated with the Competition, nor the immediate families of any of the aforesaid persons nor any other person residing in the same household, are eligible to enter or compete in the Competition.
13. Contestants who do not appear one half-hour prior to the competition will be disqualified from any participation from the competition.
14. Judges will select a Contestant in the Youth Division to represent the CNE at the 2010 Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (C.A.F.E.) Canadian Youth Talent Competition in November 2010 in Calgary, AB. The selected Youth Contestant must qualify within the rules and regulations of C.A.F.E. If the selected Contestant can not participate in the C.A.F.E. competition, an alternative Youth representative will be chosen by the Judges. A contestant can only represent the CNE at the C.A.F.E CYTC **ONCE.**
15. Contestants selected to advance to the preliminaries will be notified by the end of July.
16. As a condition of the contestant being permitted to compete in the Rising Star Competition, each contestant (A) grants permission to the CNE to use, without compensation of any kind, any photograph, audio, or video tapes or other audio or visual images or recordings, including digital recordings, in such manner as the CNE may determine including any promotions or advertising, and (B) waives any right to any fee or compensation for any of the aforesaid and (C) releases the CNE from any loss, damage, injury or expense, which the contestant may suffer or incur as a result of his or her participation in the event, how ever caused.

CONTEST CONSIDERATIONS

Natural Ability	20%	Audience Appeal	20%
Showmanship	20%	Quality of Performance	40%