



Saturday, July 18



Franklin County Fair Talent Showcase

(preliminaries to Ky State Fair Talent Classic)

Saturday, July 18 — 8:00 p.m.

Hancock Pavilion

Patti Cross, chair

502-395-3709 or patticross@bellsouth.net

**Three Preliminaries in Three Age Groups:
7-12 years old; 13-21 years old; and age 22 and up!**

Grand Prize winner will receive \$200

Second Place Overall will receive \$75

Third Place Overall will receive \$25

Entry fee: \$15 per act if received by July 11

Late Registration: \$25 if received July 12 until 7:30 check in July 18

Gate admission fee must be paid – No passes

Contestants must check in by 7:30 pm EDT prior to competition.

Definitions of Categories

Vocal - Shall consist of a performance by a vocalist or vocalists. An instrumental accompaniment by the performer or others is allowed, but must assume the pure character of an accompaniment. The test shall be whether the performance would stand alone if the accompaniment were removed. No voice, voices, record or tape with vocal background may be used for accompaniment. This includes recorded live voices and synthetically produced and recorded voices — i.e., synthesizers or digitally sampling. Lip-syncing is not allowed in this competition.

Instrumental Solo or Group - Shall consist of a solo or group instrumental performance without vocal utterance. In instrumental solo, the only accompaniment allowed is a live or taped acoustical piano. If the instrument is piano, no accompaniment is allowed. In the use of an electronic keyboard, the contestant must create all sounds live on stage.

Dance Solo and Ensemble Categories - Shall consist of a performance by a dancer or dancers. Accompanists are permitted on stage, but must not assume visual importance in the performance. Acrobatics or gymnastics will be judged in another category. Vocal performances will not be judged.

Acrobatic/Gymnastic Solo or Group - Shall consist of a solo or group performance. At least one-third of the performance must be acrobatics or gymnastics, but no more than two-thirds of the performance shall be acrobatic or gymnastic movements. This shall be a choreographed performance.

Variety - Shall consist of a performance by one or more persons. This category is intended to provide a proper showcase for those acts which are not listed in any other category, e.g. ventriloquist, juggler or comedian. *(A vocalist or vocal group accompanying themselves would not normally meet this test.)* All persons assuming visual importance in the acts must meet the age qualification of the Kentucky State Fair Talent Classic. Assignment to this category is at the discretion of the State Fair. Performers who fit the description of another category may not appear in the Variety Category.

The Kentucky State Fair Talent Classic and its preliminaries showcase talented youth from across Kentucky in three age divisions: 7-12, 13-21, and 22 and up. **Franklin County Fair is a sanctioned preliminary for all age divisions.**

General Rules

— *DO ONE THING WELL*

1. This competition is OPEN to residents of the Commonwealth of Kentucky who are U.S. citizens. The winners will represent Franklin County at the state competition.
2. All Talent Classic Division contestants must be at least 7 years of age as of August 1, 2026. This includes anyone assuming visual importance except piano accompanists.
3. **This contest is not open to professionals. Professional is defined as anyone who is a union member, has a professional manager or booking agent, or whose principal and supporting income is derived from performing.**
4. Entries will be accepted in the following solo and group categories: • Vocal • Instrumental • Variety • Dance • Acrobatic/Gymnastic
5. Baton twirlers or similar acts using batons or machetes will not be accepted. No fire, smoke, or smoke effect will be allowed on the stage. Acts must be contained to the stage.
6. For contestants entered in any vocal category, accompaniment tracks with any background vocals are strictly prohibited. This includes recorded live voices and/or synthetically produced voices. Lip sync is not allowed.
7. There must be no taps or blatant tap effect on a taped recording used by a dancer.
8. In instrumental solo, the only accompaniment allowed is a live or taped acoustical piano. In piano solo, no accompaniment is allowed. In the use of electronic keyboard, the contestant must create all sound live on stage. For State Fair competition, special exception requests must be filed in writing prior to August 1, 2026.
9. A contestant may enter only once in any one category and may enter a total of two categories.
10. If a performer has won an invitation to the State Fair from a preliminary, he/she shall not perform the same act or in the same category in another preliminary.
11. If a performer wins a finals invitation in two categories in the State Fair preliminaries, he/she must choose one of the two categories for his/her final performance.
12. Any act may drop a member as listed on the entry form, but **SHALL NOT ADD OR REPLACE** any member listed on the form. An individual cannot be part of an act at the State Fair if they did not perform in the act at the preliminary.
13. **ANY ACT RUNNING MORE THAN 4 MINUTES WILL RECEIVE A 1-POINT SCORING PENALTY FOR**



EVERY SECOND OVER. An official timekeeper will be present. Timing starts with first word, note or movement and ends with the last word, note or movement. This includes bows and/or encores.

14. All contestants shall use only the lighting system provided by the Fair.
15. All contestants shall use only the sound system and sound operator as provided by the Franklin County Fair. You may use your own amps. Pirated music will **NOT** operate in the sound system. All background music must be provided on a **CD or USB drive.**
16. No teachers, parents or friends will be allowed on the stage during the competition.
17. Only one person other than those visible on the stage will be allowed backstage per act. This includes all parents, teachers and friends.
18. No member of a Kentucky State Fair Grand Prize winning act may compete in the same category at the Franklin County Fair preliminary. (Applies to Ages 13-21 only.)
19. The decision of the judges is final.
20. The contestant will be disqualified from the competition and forfeit any ribbons and prize money won up to that time for:
 - a. Any discourtesy to a judge or official of the Fair.
 - b. Any contestant, parent, teacher or friend who attempts to communicate with the judges before, during or after their adjudications.
21. All contestants, parents, teachers and friends are expected to abide by all rules and regulations of the Franklin County Fair & Horse Show.
23. All questions regarding entries, categories, rules or any other issues, shall be determined by the Talent Showcase committee. Their decision is final.
23. The Franklin County Fair Board, Lakeview Park, Franklin County Fiscal Court and their affiliates and volunteers are in no way to be held responsible for any damages, thefts or accidents.

Entry Form

Franklin County Fair Talent Showcase

Name of Participant _____ Age _____
as of August 1, 2026

Mailing Address _____

Phone No. _____ Email _____

Type of Act *(check one)*:

- ☐ Vocal
- ☐ Dance Solo and Ensemble
- ☐ Acrobatics/Gymnastics Solo or Group
- ☐ Instrumental Solo or Group
- ☐ Variety

If Act is a Group, Names of All Participants _____

Name of any Accompanists _____

Accompanying music will be requested for preview.

Music Title/Artist *(either performing or using as an accompaniment)* _____

Please enclose \$15 entry fee per act entered if received by July 11.
Late Registration, July 12 until 7:30 check-in July 18 : \$25
Gate fee must be paid. No passes.

Payment may be made by **cash, check** or **Venmo**. If paying via Venmo (@FranklinCoFairKY),
please email the Entry Form at the same time to patticross@bellsouth.net

Make check payable to: **Franklin Co. Fair & Horse Show**

Mail to: Franklin County Fair Talent Showcase, P. O. Box 4565, Frankfort KY 40604