

February 19, 2009

Dear Contestant(s):

Preliminary competition for the "Spotlight On Talent" contest will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2009, at the performing arts theater at Wesley Chapel High. The theater is at 30651 Wells Road, which turns off of #577 or Curley Road. To get to #577: from I75 go 2 miles east on #54; from #301 go 8-9 miles west on #54; from San Antonio go 5-7 miles south on #577 from Curley or Prospect Road. There are signs to the school at the turns.

- Your performance time will be _____. If you would like to see the entire schedule, it can be viewed at www.heritagearts.org.
- Your act is expected to appear just as it would in the final competition. Please wear the costume or outfit that you would be wearing in the finals - which will be in front of an audience of 700.
- If you have any props with your act, please take them directly back stage as you arrive. That door will be around to the left as you face the building from the parking lot. Then return to the entrance door and lobby to sign in.
- Please arrive at least 30 minutes before your tryout time, early enough to warm-up, tune up, and set up. You MUST be ready to perform at the time indicated above. YOU MAY BE PENALIZED IF YOU ARE NOT READY TO GO ON STAGE AT YOUR ASSIGNED TIME!
- There will be a taped line near the front of the stage. Please stay behind it as you perform.
- If you are performing to a tape/CD, please bring a backup copy with you to the prelims (and finals), just as a precaution!
- If you are a solo act, you are allowed a maximum of 3 minutes on stage. Duets, trios, and groups are allowed a maximum of 5 minutes. For every 15 seconds over that time, a point will be deducted from your score.
- You will be judged on talent, stage presence, and appearance. Out of 30 possible points, 20 will be for talent, 5 for stage presence, and 5 for appearance.
- How to know if you made the finals - you may go to our web site at www.heritagearts.org. The finalists, age categories, and show times will be posted there at or before 8 am Sunday morning. You can also call for a recording of the finalists, age categories and show times. You may ONLY call from 8:00 Sunday morning until midnight Sunday! The number is (352) 521-5879.
- Shortly after the tryouts, you will receive a letter from us with a copy of the judges' comments and suggestions and further details about the final competition.
- There are some important rules about use of the beautiful theater facility. The theater does not allow any food, drinks or gum inside the building. Refreshments will be offered but will need to remain outside on the covered entranceway.
- Also please note that personal videotaping will be fine for the preliminaries because no audience will be present. However, for the finals on March 28 we will have a professional videographer who will make DVDs of the entire show available for a reasonable price. There will be NO personal videoing allowed, although snapshots are fine.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at hacaspotlight@yahoo.com , or call (352) 567-1720, mornings or evenings only. If there is no answer please leave your name and number, and I will return your call.

Thank you very much for your participation and BREAK A LEG!

Barbara Friedman, Producer