

Youth Competition Rules & Entry Form

1. Age 18 years and under for both individual and band members. Must have parent or guardian to accompany contestant at registration.
2. Registration will begin at 10:00 am, and continue throughout day up until the end of the competition. Competition starts at 12:00 noon.
3. Categories and Program Order:
 1. Fiddle
 2. Guitar
 3. Mandolin
 4. Clawhammer Banjo
 5. Bluegrass Banjo
 6. Other (traditional dance, other instruments)
 7. Band
4. Only string instruments can be used. No electric instruments.
5. Only one contestant and one backup instrument. Backup instrument cannot be the same as contestant instrument.
6. Time limit 2 1/2 minutes for both individual and band category.
7. Band must consist of guitar, banjo, and fiddle or mandolin. Band limited to 7 members. NO adults.
8. Scoring Criteria:
 1. There will be a total of 100 points awarded per tune per judge. These points are divided into 5 scoring categories. All scores will be added together to arrive at the contestant's scores.
 2. SCORING CATEGORIES – FIDDLE, GUITAR, MANDOLIN, AND BANJO
 1. Rhythm and Timing - 15 points - The judges will listen for even, consistent rhythm. Rushing, dragging, or unevenness in performance will result in lost points in this category.
 2. Creativity - 15 points - The judges will listen for variations, improvisations and "good licks". Repetitious performance (i.e., using the same "licks" over and over in the same tune) will result in lost points.
 3. Authenticity and Taste - 30 points - The judges will listen for selection of authentic performance styles in each category. Indiscriminate use of variations that make the base tune unclear (for example, in fiddle categories the use of "hokum" bowing or "double shuffle" where not a part of the traditional tune), and inappropriate modern licks will result in lost points. For fiddle categories, recognized fiddle styles should be adhered to and use of classical, jazz or other non-traditional improvisation will result in lost points.
 4. Expression - 20 points - The judges will listen for the feeling that the contestants put into their performance. Flat, mechanical, unfeeling performances will result in lost points, as will excessive "showmanship".

5. Execution - 20 points - The judges will listen for tone quality, clarity, and general command of the instrument(s). Bad tone and muffled notes will result in lost points.
9. Awards 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each category. Awards will be given out after competition is over.
10. Awards Payments:

Individual Instruments

1st: \$75

2nd: \$50

3rd: \$25

Band

1st: \$125

2nd: \$100

3rd: \$85

Youth Music Festival Entry Form

Individual Contestant:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Instrument:

*You may enter in multiple instrument categories

- Banjo – Bluegrass
- Banjo – Clawhammer
- Fiddle
- Guitar
- Mandolin
- Other:

Please note what instrument/dance here: _____

Bands:

*A band must consist of at least a of guitar, banjo, and fiddle or mandolin and be no more than 7 people. No adults.

Band name: _____

Band Contact: _____

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