

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 any vocal background may be used for accompaniment. This includes recorded live voices and voices that are produced and recorded synthetically (i.e. synthesizers or digitally sampled). No lip-sync.

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 should be acrobatic or gymnastic movements. This should 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, ex: 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: a. Assignment to this category is at the discretion of the State Fair. b. the Shelby County Fair Youth Talent Competition (i.e. 6 through 12). Assignment to this category is at the discretion of the Shelby County Fair & Horse Show. Performers who fit the description of another category may not appear in the Variety Category.