

STRAWBERRY IDOL 2009 REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS / CONTEST RULES

* Registration and \$20 registration fee are required. Checks / money orders should be made payable to: Belleville National Strawberry Festival

* Registration forms are available at the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce / Belleville National Strawberry Festival office located at: 248 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111; Talent Live Studios, Canton, www.nationalstrawberryfest.com or email: MainStEnt@aol.com

* The Strawberry Idol competition will be held on the Main Stage (Main Street near 3rd Street) during the Belleville National Strawberry Festival on Sunday, June 21, 2009. Three age divisions: Junior ~ ages 12 and under; Teen ~ ages 13 – 19; Adults ~ ages 20 and over. Age is considered as of the day of contest, June 21, 2009. Proof of age may be required. Please be prepared to validate age if requested.

Prizes to be awarded:

First place in each division will be awarded a 2 hour professional studio recording session provided by Talent Live Studios, Michigan Ave., Canton. Second and third place in each division will each receive a 1 hour recording session at Talent Live Studios.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place division winners will be invited to participate in the Michigan State Fair Talent Showcase (non-judged event). Admission package will be sponsored by the Michigan State Fair.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place division winners will receive a trophy provided by the Belleville National Strawberry Festival.

* Contestants are required to check in at the stage 30 minutes prior to the start of each division. Junior division to begin at 1 PM (check in 12:30); Teen division begins at 3 PM (check in 2:30); Adult division begins at 5 PM (check in 4:30). Performance order will be determined by a random draw of numbers at check in. Please turn in your background music marked with your name and track number at check in. Contestant's CDs will be available shortly after the conclusion of each division. Please remember to pick up your CDs from the sound technician!

* Each contestant will sing one song, 4 minutes or less in length. Please choose age appropriate material.

* Contestants are required to supply their own background music on standard "karaoke type" CD – **NO lead vocals**. Sound system and microphone will be provided. Commercially available CDs should be used. Please be advised that if contestants choose to use "homemade" CDs they may not play on our equipment. Contestants will be allowed to use their own microphone if equipment is compatible with our sound system.

* **NEW THIS YEAR:** Contestants will be allowed to accompany themselves on guitar or keyboard instead of using a CD. Contestants must furnish instrument and any necessary accessories. Contestants must perform solo and are not allowed to have additional performers on stage.

* A qualified judging panel selected by the Belleville National Strawberry Festival will score the contest. The winners will be determined by total point score from various vocal / performance categories. In case of a tie score, the contestants that are tied will be asked to sing again. Contestants may choose to sing the same song or a different song. The contestants will be scored again to determine the final winner. Sample score sheets are available.

* Contestants agree to maintain the family atmosphere of the festival in their choice of performance material, costumes, choreography, etc. Please choose age appropriate material. Violations may result in disqualification without refund of registration fee.

* Contestants / parents agree to release any photos, video and/or audio recordings of their performance for use as determined by the Belleville National Strawberry Festival.

* All decisions made by the Belleville National Strawberry Festival and its Board of Directors, Entertainment Director and Strawberry Idol judges are final.