

PERFORMING ARTS & LIVE ART COMPETITIONS

Troy Stanhope, Superintendent
Center Stage
Performing Arts Showcase

ELIGIBILITY

Unless otherwise designated, all divisions in these competitions are open to residents or producers of Stanislaus County and the part of North Merced County, north of the Merced River and served by the Turlock Irrigation District.

NEED HELP WITH ENTERING

Phone: During office hours at (209) 668-1333, ext. 315

Email: exhibits@stancofair.com

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS:

1. Submission of an entry constitutes agreement to all rules and regulations of the Stanislaus County Fair.
2. **Entries must be made online. Enter online at the fair's website:**
3. If an exhibitor submits entries using a paper entry form, a \$4.00 processing fee will apply.
4. All General, Local, and State Rules govern this competition. Exhibitors are responsible for reading and understanding all rules contained in this handbook and on the Fair's website and must comply with them.
5. Entry fees are non-refundable. No refunds will be issued for any reason. By submitting an entry, exhibitors acknowledge and accept this no-refund policy.
6. Fair Management reserves the right to return entries, cancel any division or class, or combine divisions or classes when, in its judgment, entries are insufficient to provide adequate competition.
7. Judges have the authority to disqualify or transfer any entry that does not meet the requirements of the division or class in which it is entered. Judges' decisions are final.
8. Every reasonable precaution will be taken to ensure the safe handling of exhibits; however, the Fair assumes no responsibility for loss, theft, or damage that may occur from any cause.
9. Youth entries must be authorized by a parent or legal guardian, and the exhibitor's birth date must be included on the entry.
10. All dance routines must be original choreography. Performances may not copy or closely resemble routines from television programs, movies, competitions, or online sources.
11. Checks issued by the Fair become void six (6) months from the date of issue. Requests for reissued checks will be subject to a \$25 handling fee.
12. Ribbon awards may be given for First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention, as warranted. Ribbons will be awarded at the time of judging and may be picked up during Entry Release.

Entry Deadline is May 28th. Enter Online: <https://stanis.fairwire.com/>
If you have any questions, please email tstanhope@stancofair.com or call 209-668-1333 Ext. 300

DANCE

Performing Arts

LIMIT: 1 entry per soloist, duo, or group

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 per entry

Class is based on Exhibitor's age as of January 1st

DANISH JUDGING

Cash awards may be given for Best of Show in each division and for one overall Grand Champion across all performing contests.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Online Entries Open	Wednesday, April 1
Entry Deadline	Thursday, May 28, by 11:00 p.m. (online only)
Performance Day	Saturday, July 11, 12:00pm – 8:00pm
Judging Results	Saturday, July 11, 8:30pm Center Stage

RULES:

1. **Exhibitors will perform during the Fair, July 11th, 2026**, on the Center Stage.
2. The Dance category is split into Division 7001 (Solo/Duo) and Division 7002 (Group).
3. These divisions are dedicated to rhythmic movement and physical expression.
4. Performances are evaluated based on the dancer's technical skill, choreography, and overall performance quality.
5. Duo and Group entries must list all participating members on the entry form.
6. The time limit for all dance entries is 1:30 to 3 minutes
7. Exhibitors must provide family appropriate music as an MP3 file in advance.
8. Exhibitors will be contacted before Fair for their MP3 file and to schedule their performance time slot.

DIVISION 7001 - SOLO/DUO DANCE

DIVISION 7002 - GROUP DANCE

CLASS

1. Youth - Ages 5-12
2. Intermediate - Ages 13-17
3. Adult - Ages 18 & older

Entry Deadline is May 28th. Enter Online: <https://stanis.fairwire.com/>

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VOCAL

Performing Arts

LIMIT: 1 entry per soloist, duo, or group

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 per entry

Class is based on Exhibitor's age as of January 1st

DANISH JUDGING

Cash awards may be given for Best of Show in each division and for one overall Grand Champion across all performing contests.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Online Entries Open	Wednesday, April 1
Entry Deadline	Thursday, May 28, by 11:00 p.m. (online only)
Performance Day	Saturday, July 11, 12:00pm – 8:00pm
Judging Results	Saturday, July 11, 8:30pm Center Stage

RULES:

1. **Exhibitors will perform during the Fair, July 11th, 2026**, on the Center Stage.
2. The Vocal category includes Division 7003 (Solo/Duet) and Division 7004 (Group).
3. This division features live singing performances, which may be a cappella or accompanied.
4. Judges will primarily focus on the competitor's vocal quality, pitch accuracy, and song interpretation.
5. Performances must be between 1 to 3 minutes in length.
6. Any backing tracks used must not contain lead vocals.
7. Exhibitors will be contacted before Fair for their backing track MP3 file and to schedule their performance time slot.

DIVISION 7003 - SOLO/DUET VOCAL

DIVISION 7004 - GROUP VOCAL

CLASS

1. Youth - Ages 5-12
2. Intermediate - Ages 13-17
3. Adult - Ages 18 & older

Entry Deadline is May 28th. Enter Online: <https://stanis.fairwire.com/>

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THEATRE

Performing Arts

LIMIT: 1 entry per soloist, duo, or group

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 per entry

Class is based on Exhibitor's age as of January 1st

DANISH JUDGING

Cash awards may be given for Best of Show in each division and for one overall Grand Champion across all performing contests.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Online Entries Open	Wednesday, April 1
Entry Deadline	Thursday, May 28, by 11:00 p.m. (online only)
Performance Day	Saturday, July 11, 12:00pm – 8:00pm
Judging Results	Saturday, July 11, 8:30pm Center Stage

RULES:

1. **Exhibitors will perform during the Fair, July 11th, 2026**, on the Center Stage.
2. The Theatre category is separated into Division 7005 (Monologue/Duet) and Division 7006 (Scene).
3. This division encompasses live dramatic presentations, which can include traditional scenes, monologues, or musical theatre selections.
4. Key judging criteria include character interpretation, vocal projection, and commitment to the material.
5. Exhibitors will be contacted before Fair to provide their script and to schedule their performance timeslot.

DIVISION 7005 - MONOLOGUE/DUET

DIVISION 7006 - SCENE

CLASS

1. Youth - Ages 5-12
2. Intermediate - Ages 13-17
3. Adult - Ages 18 & older

Entry Deadline is May 28th. Enter Online: <https://stanis.fairwire.com/>

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INSTRUMENTAL

Performing Arts

LIMIT: 1 entry per soloist, duo, or group

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 per entry

Class is based on Exhibitor's age as of January 1st

DANISH JUDGING

Cash awards may be given for Best of Show in each division and for one overall Grand Champion across all performing contests.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Online Entries Open	Wednesday, April 1
Entry Deadline	Thursday, May 28, by 11:00 p.m. (online only)
Performance Day	Saturday, July 11, 12:00pm – 8:00pm
Judging Results	Saturday, July 11, 8:30pm Center Stage

RULES:

1. **Exhibitors will perform during the Fair, July 11th, 2026**, on the Center Stage.
2. The Instrumental category is designed for live musical performance and is divided into Division 7007 (Solo), Division 7008 (Duet/Trio), Division 7009 (Small Group, 3-10 exhibitors).
3. The focus of this competition is technical proficiency, musicality, and stage presence.
4. Exhibitors are permitted to use any acoustic or electronic instrument.
5. Competitors must provide all their own instruments.
6. The performance time limit is 2 to 4 minutes.
7. Exhibitors will be contacted before Fair for their stage plot and to schedule their performance time slot.

DIVISION 7007 - SOLO

DIVISION 7008 - DUET/TRIO

DIVISION 7009 - GROUP VOCAL Small Group (3-10 Exhibitors)

CLASS

1. Youth - Ages 5-12
2. Intermediate - Ages 13-17
3. Adult - Ages 18 & older

Entry Deadline is May 28th. Enter Online: <https://stanis.fairwire.com/>

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LIVE ART

Performing Arts

LIMIT: 1 entry per exhibitor

Only 10 exhibitors will be accepted for this division, on a first come first serve basis.

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 per entry

Class is based on Exhibitor's age as of January 1st

DANISH JUDGING

Cash awards may be given for Best of Show in each division and for one overall Grand Champion across all performing contests.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Online Entries Open	Wednesday, April 1
Entry Deadline	Thursday, May 28, by 11:00 p.m. (online only)
Performance Day	Saturday, July 11, 12:00pm – 6:00pm
Judging Results	Saturday, July 11, 7:00 pm outside exhibit building E-1

RULES:

1. Division 7010 (Live Art) is a timed, live competition where artists create and complete an original artwork (painting or drawing) on-site.
2. Judging centers on technical skill, the creative process demonstrated under pressure, and the quality of the final piece.
3. Exhibitors will be supplied with a 36" x 36" pre-gessoed canvas.
4. Exhibitors must bring their own desired medium to create (paint, pencils, mixed mediums, etc.)
5. The time limit for creation is from 12:00 pm (noon) to 6:00 pm.
6. Live Art is only open to Intermediate and Adult exhibitors; youth entries will not be accepted.
7. Artwork will remain on display until fair is over and will be available for pick-up.
8. Exhibitors will be contacted before Fair to facilitate their entry and setup.

DIVISION 7010 - LIVE ART

CLASS

1. Intermediate - Ages 13-17
2. Adult - Ages 18 & older

Entry Deadline is May 28th. Enter Online: <https://stanis.fairwire.com/>

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