



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LINCOLN – The Nebraska State Fair and Vision Productions, Inc. presented the 5th Annual GALAXY OF STARS® Talent Search September 5th and 6th in the Open Air Auditorium at the State Fair Park in Lincoln. Since its beginning in 1991, the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search has grown to be the biggest talent search in Nebraska, featuring singers, dancers, instrumentalists, variety acts and songwriters. Forty-three contestants of all ages took the stage during the Semi-Finals on September 5th to compete for over \$5,000.00 in cash, recording sessions and trophies.

Twenty-five contestants from the Semi-Finals advanced to the Finals on September 6th:

COMETS: Kayleah Moravec, **Seward**-Vocal; Andrea Hoffman, **Chadron**-Dance; "Twin Stars" Mariclaire & Merrilee Prill, **Holdrege**-Dance. **SHOOTING STARS:** Brekkan Rae Martinosky, **Paxton**-Vocal; Micah Urbanek, **Kearney**-Vocal; Adam Keller, **Eustis**-Vocal; Teresa Scanlan & Brittany Charles, **Gering**-Vocal; Lianna Prill, **Holdrege**-Vocal; Abbey Klein, **Adams**-Vocal; Amy Dunn, **Falls City**-Vocal; Haley Zimmerer, **Verdigre**-Vocal; Desire Valentine, **Lincoln**-Dance; Sabrina Blaser, **Columbus**-Vocal; Tori Osler, **Elsie**-Vocal; Kyle J. Evans, **Hebron**-Vocal; Torie Egger, **Columbus**-Vocal; Claire Wilkinson, **Lincoln**-Vocal; Sheila Molczyk-**Spalding**-Vocal. **NOVAS:** Don "Shuggy" Mittan, **Beatrice**-Vocal; Ronald R.Grimes, **Central City**-Vocal; Todd Kramer, **Arthur**-Vocal; Jared Daily, **Papillion**-Vocal; Sara Gellinger, **Friend**-Vocal; Keith Long, **Oxford**-Vocal; Risa Mann, **Burwell**-Vocal.

Nebraska State Fair Winners & Awards:

Cash prizes presented by the Nebraska State Fair & Vision Productions, Inc.; Recording Sessions presented by Ware House Productions and Trophies presented by Laser Art Design and Vision Productions, Inc.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS were given to individuals and businesses that have gone Above and Beyond to support and encourage Nebraska talent: **Above and Beyond Awards:** INTELLICOM, INC.-**Kearney**; Tom & Terri Ware, WARE HOUSE PRODUCTIONS-**Omaha**; Fran Wilson-**Kearney**; Josh Mackey, KOGA RADIO-**Ogallala** and Zach Lehman, RAMADA INN -**Lincoln**. A **"Dream, Believe, and Achieve" True Inspiration Award** – Dare to "DREAM" big, "BELIEVE" in your God given talents and strive to "ACHIEVE" your highest goals and aspirations - was presented for exemplifying the vision of the Galaxy of Stars®: **"Dream, Believe and Achieve" Award:** Robert DeBusk, Nebraska NSAI Chair-**Eagle**.

MEGA STAR: Highest Scoring Contestant Overall - \$500.00 Cash & Trophy:
Don "Shuggy" Mittan, Nova, Vocal, Beatrice

SHINING STAR: Highest Scoring Contestant in Star Quality, "The Shine Factor" -
\$100.00 & Trophy: **Haley Zimmerer, Shooting Star, Vocal, Verdigre**

SUPERSTAR: Voted Overall Best Performance by All Contestants - \$100.00 & Trophy:
Adam Keller, Shooting Star, Vocal, Eustis

COMETS (12 & Under)

First Place: Trophy, \$200.00 Cash: **"Twin Stars" Mariclaire & Merrilee Prill, Dance, Holdrege**

Second Place Trophy, \$100.00 Cash: **Kayleah Moravec, Vocal, Seward**

Third Place Trophy, \$ 50.00 Cash: **Andrea Hoffman, Dance, Chadron**

SHOOTING STARS (13 to 18)

First Place Trophy, \$200.00 Cash: **Sabrina Blaser, Vocal, Columbus**

Second Place Trophy, \$100.00 Cash: **Haley Zimmerer, Vocal, Verdigre**

Third Place Trophy, \$ 50.00 Cash: **Kyle J. Evans, Vocal, Hebron**

NOVAS (19 & Over)

First Place Trophy, \$200.00 Cash: **Don "Shuggy" Mittan, Vocal, Beatrice**

Second Place Trophy, \$100.00 Cash: **Risa Mann, Vocal, Burwell**

Third Place Trophy, \$ 50.00 Cash: **Jared Daily, Vocal, Papillion**

HIGHEST SCORING VOCALISTS: 2 Hours/\$300.00 Value Recording Session Award

COMET (12 & Under): **Kayleah Moravec, Seward**

SHOOTING STAR (13 to 18): **Sabrina Blaser, Columbus**

NOVA (19 & Over): **Don "Shuggy" Mittan, Beatrice**

OVERALL VOCAL (Out of 3 Age Divisions): **Don "Shuggy" Mittan, Nova, Beatrice**

Galaxy of Stars® Songwriting Contest: The Top Five Songwriters of the Galaxy of Stars® Songwriting Contest showcased their winning songs during the Finals Competition and were presented their awards at the Finals Awards Ceremony. All Top Fifteen songwriters were acknowledged on stage during the Awards Ceremony.

First Place: \$200.00 Cash, 2 Hour/\$300 Value Recording Session & Trophy; **Second Place:** \$100.00 Cash, 1 Hour/\$150.00 Value Recording Session & Trophy and

Third Place: \$50.00 Cash & Trophy.

Fourth & Fifth Place: Honorable Mention & Galaxy of Stars® Metal

1 st	Matthew Chandler-Smith, Grant	"Passing Through"
2 nd	Rae Welch, David City	"Pale Blue Cotton"
3 rd	Don "Shuggy" Mittan, Beatrice	"I'm A Soldier"
4 th	Royce Swain, Omaha	"Up To Now"
5 th	Rob Barnhardt, Lincoln	"Broken Heart Condition"

For additional information go to the official Galaxy of Stars® website at www.galaxyofstars.us and visit the Nebraska State Fair at www.statefair.org.