



Vision Productions, Inc. & the Nebraska State Fair



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LINCOLN – The Nebraska State Fair and Vision Productions, Inc. announce the 2009 Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Video Mail-In Contestants who have qualified to advance to the Nebraska State Fair Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Semi-Finals on Saturday, September 5th from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM, to compete live on stage in the Open Air Auditorium at the State Fair Park in Lincoln in Three Age Divisions, Comets, Shooting Stars & Novas. On Sunday, September 6th from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM, a minimum of 20 of the highest scoring Semi-Finalists compete in the Finals to win over \$5,000.00 in prizes, recording sessions, trophies and cash.

ADVANCING TO SEMI-FINALS:

COMETS (12 & Under) Vocal: JENNIFER EDMISTEN, Hastings; KAYLEAH MORAVEC, Seward; CHEYANNA TIETJEN, Hebron. **Dance:** MORAYAH CUPP, Champion; SYDNEY BLOME, Chadron; HALEY CECAVA, Lincoln; MARICLAIRE & MERRILEE PRILL, Holdrege; ANDREA HOFFMAN, Chadron. **Variety:** THE QUAD + 2, Surprise.

SHOOTING STARS (13 TO 18) Vocal: CLAIRE WILKINSON, Lincoln; ADAM KELLER, Eustis; KATIE GOESCH, Grand Island; BREKKAN MARTINOSKY, Paxton; SHEILA MOLCZYK, Spalding; SYDNEY ZELAZNY, Genoa; SABRINA BLASER, Columbus; MICAHA URBANEK, Kearney; ELLIE BENES, Lincoln; LIANNA PRILL, Holdrege; ABBEY KLEIN, Adams; AMY DUNN, Falls City; HALEY ZIMMERER, Verdigre; ALEX FEGLEY, Grand Island; KYLE EVANS, Hebron. **Dance:** SALEM BOEHM, Ames; AMANDA HAYES, Lincoln; DESIRAE VALENTINE, Lincoln. **Instrumental:** TERESA SCANLAN, Gering. **Variety:** TAYLOR COUNTER & TERESA SCANLAN, Gering.

NOVAS (19 & Over) Vocal: RONALD GRIMES, Central City; TODD KRAMER, Arthur; RISA MANN, Burwell; JUSTIN HANSHEW, Scottsbluff; SARA BROWN, Friend; KEITH LONG, Oxford; RENAE NESIBA, North Loup; JARED DAILY, Papillion; PAUL TIGGES, Gering; COREY MIKKELSEN, Beatrice; DON MITTAN, Beatrice; MIKAYLA DONAHOO, Lincoln.

Overall Winners from Participating Nebraska Talent Shows advancing to the Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Semi-Finals at the Nebraska State Fair are: **SHOOTING STARS (13-18) Vocal:** “Stars & Stripes” Talent Search-Hebron: CHARI MIKKELSEN, Hebron; Clarkson Czech Festival-Clarkson: BAILEY BOND, Clarkson and **Dance:** Lions Club Talent Competition-Crete: CHELSEA KUBICEK, Friend. **TBA:** Perkins County Fair Talent Show-Grant, July 28th and Columbus Days Talent Search-Columbus, August 22nd.

SONGWRITING CONTEST: The Top Five Winners of the Galaxy of Stars® Songwriting Contest, in no ranking order: **BEATRICE:** Don Mittan - “I’m A Soldier,” **DAVID CITY:** Rae Welch - “Pale Blue Cotton,” **GRANT:** Matthew Chandler-Smith - “Passing Through,” **LINCOLN:** Rob Barnhardt - “Broken Heart Condition,” and **OMAHA:** Royce Swain - “Up To Now.”

The Top Five Songwriters will showcase their talent at the Nebraska State Fair Galaxy of Stars® Talent Search Finals on Sunday, September 6th. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place for Songwriters with the highest scoring original songs will be announced and receive their awards during the Finals Awards Ceremony. All Top 15 Songwriters will be acknowledged on stage.

For additional information go to the official Galaxy of Stars® website at www.galaxyofstars.us.

The 2009 Nebraska State Fair opens August 28 and will run through Labor Day, September 7. For more information on the State Fair visit www.statefair.org.