



WELCOME !!
2026 "SPOTLIGHT ON TALENT" CONTEST
** PARENTS, TEACHERS and CONTESTANTS **
CAREFULLY READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Have fun today! Remember to smile, acknowledge the judges, and good luck!

If you have any props with your act, sign in first. Then have the registrars alert backstage to meet you at the door at the back of the building next to the loading dock to receive your props.

At the auditions, we are sorry, but there are no warmup rooms or dressing rooms available. The bathrooms can be used for changing if needed, but no make-up is allowed in there.

The judges will be using a 50 point range of scores - 40 for raw talent, 5 for stage presence, and 5 for appropriate appearance.

In the theater during prelims, only record your student's act or students in your own studio.

When you are called to the stage to audition, you may not leave that area, and if you are not in place when it is time for you to go on, your audition will be canceled.

Today, sorry again, but NO parents, teachers or chaperones will be allowed on stage or the stage wings!

Notification of finalists – posted by 8:00 am Sunday, March 1 at heritagearts.org.

Look for an email (both finalists and non-finalists) BY THE END OF NEXT WEEK which will include all your information about the finals. Let us know if you don't get that by March 7! You will also be sent a copy of the judges' comments – just be patient on that.

There will be TWO final competitions on Saturday, March 28 in this same theater. The group category may be split between the 2 shows or combined into 1 category - this will be decided after prelims and will be announced on the website. The younger solos will be included in the Matinee and the older solos in the Evening, the split also determined after preliminary tryouts. The curtain will open for the Matinee at 12:00 noon, doors open at 11:30. The Evening show will start at 7:00 p.m. and doors will open at 6:30.

All contestants who do not make the finals are invited to attend the final shows free of charge, and all finalists can attend the other show as our guests!

SHOULD YOU BE SELECTED TO BE IN THE FINAL COMPETITION, please review your Finalist Letter and each detail carefully with your parents and teachers! This includes important information for you, parents, chaperones, and teachers regarding time schedules for the finals, sound checks, backstage rules, tickets, etc. You will be responsible to know all this information!

Before finals, keep checking the website at heritagearts.org for possible important updates!

Questions or concerns? Email the producers at spotlight@heritagearts.org, or call (352) 424-0135. Thank you very much for your participation, and *BREAK A LEG!* Barbara Friedman, Executive Producer