



City of Gaithersburg
2011 Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne
Music & Dance Competitions
**Gaithersburg's Top Talent
Competition**

Basic Information and Forms

Application Deadline:

JULY 15, 2011

Live @ Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne Festival

City Hall Concert Pavilion

31 S. Summit Ave., Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Sunday, September 18, 2011

Basic Information

Welcome to the first Gaithersburg's Top Talent Competition, hosted by the City of Gaithersburg. We hope that this program will be a wonderful experience for everyone.

In this packet you will find information that will help prepare for a successful event and help you understand what we will expect at the competition.

INFORMATION FOR DANCERS

- All dance acts will need to prepare a 2 - 4 minute routine. Points will be deducted for going over or under.
- Dance entries can be as small as one individual or as large as can safely perform on the stage measuring 16' X 40', which will be provided. Please keep safety in mind when forming your dance group. You may have sub-dance groups as long as the routine is fluid and uninterrupted and fits within the time allotted.
- You must provide your own prepared music either on CD or in MP3 format. Upon notification you are a finalist for the competition please forward your music in the format that will be use for your dance routine for the competition. Please refer to **LYRICS/MUSIC** section of the application for music rule details.
- A sound technician will be present at the event and they will be responsible for queuing up the music for the dancers.

▪ **INFORMATION FOR MUSICAL INDIVIDUALS GROUPS**

- Musical acts must play a 12 - 14 minute set. Points will be deducted for going over or under.
- Individuals and musical groups must supply all of their own instruments with the exception of drums and keyboards, which will provided on stage and ready for use. Amplifiers and a sound system will be provided along with a sound technician. Specifications of the sound equipment will be provided closer to event.
- All musicians are eligible including bands (garage bands, Jazz bands, R&B groups, etc) and solo, duets and trios acts. There are no limits on the number of members you can include in your group.
- Original songs are welcome, however, you will be judged on audience appeal and audience reaction. This event is a family-oriented event for all ages, so song selection will be crucial to your group's success. Please refer to **LYRICS/MUSIC** section of the application for music rule details. It is recommended that if you choose to play original music, you also include one or two cover songs.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL ENTERIES

The information below pertains to ALL who are submitting applications for the competition. It is the group's responsibility to ensure that ALL members are aware of these conditions. All participants must sign that they have read and understood the rules.

A registration fee of \$50 per application will be required for an individual or group participating in the competition (check payable to the City of Gaithersburg or a credit card will be accepted).

- We will accept a total of 5 dance entries and 5 musical entries in the final competition at the Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne Festival.
- Your band can have members as young as 11 and as old as 21 years, with no member of the group being over the age of 21 on the date of the competition (9/18/11).
- You must perform in your audition the same way you will perform on stage.
- Your dress must be appropriate as this is a family event. No exposed midriffs, no shirtless members and no T-shirts with lewd language, symbols or actions. Violation could subject the entire group for disqualification.
- Your performance **cannot** contain vulgarities, profanities, lewd comments or actions, suggestive body language, racist remarks, sexual content, etc. Individuals or groups violating this rule will be stopped and disqualified from the competition immediately.
- Musical groups will be given 7 minutes for set-up and 3 for take down.
- Dance groups will be given 2 minutes for set-up and take down
- City of Gaithersburg employees and their family members are not eligible to participate in the competition.
- Good luck and have fun!

Additional information or questions please contact:

Maura Dinwiddie 301.258.6350 - mdinwiddie@gaitthersburgmd.gov
Youth Services

Elizabeth Poole 301.258.6350 - epoole@gaitthersburgmd.gov
Arts & Special Events

*City of Gaithersburg Parks, Recreation and Cultural
506 S. Frederick Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD 20877*

Audition/Performance

APPLICATION

Each act must submit application along with a quality audition video in the form of demo CD, video tape, video clip, YouTube, Facebook, website, or other viewing media that will give us a good idea of what your performance would be like on stage. This will be viewed by the reviewing panel to determine who will be selected as our finalists. The quality of sound and picture are essential for the panel to determine who will perform at the Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne Festival.

LYRICS/MUSIC

If you are selected to perform as a finalist you must submit a copy of the lyrics/music to ALL songs that will be performed or used in dance routines. Remember that lyrics/music must be non-offensive and must be free of vulgarities and profanity. Please put your individual or group's name on each lyric sheet or music CD's submitted and submit no later than **August 5, 2011 only if you have been selected as finalists**. The clean version of the music must be used which is appropriate for all ages. If during the performance the lyrics/music has been changed from what was submitted such that they no longer meet the standards as outlined in the rules of the competition, the performance will **IMMEDIATELY** be stopped and the group **DISQUALIFIED**

JUDGING CRITERIA

The preliminary judging panel will consist of 5-9 judges. These judges will select our finalists that will compete at the Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Town Festival. The competition judges will consist of a panel of three qualified judges who will use a points system to rate each performing act. Many factors will be used to rate the performances. Please review the score card to understand how the overall scoring will be calculated. In addition to the judge's scores, we will give the audience the opportunity to participate by purchasing a vote for \$1 each. The money raised will be given to the City of Gaithersburg Student Union, a high school club that promotes and participates in community outreach, service projects, and extracurricular activities for high school students. Voting booth will be located near the City Hall Concert Pavilion. Please encourage your friends and family to support your music or dance with a vote!

PRIZE FOR EACH COMPETITION CATEGORY (Music & Dance)

First Place Prize

- \$400 (payable by check)
- 4 hours of rehearsal time at Impact Studio, 4 Kent Gardens Circle, Gaithersburg, MD
- 4 hours of recording time in the Youth Center recording studio (weekend)
- Festival T-shirts

Second Place Prize

- \$200 (payable by check)
- 2 hours recording time in the Youth Center Recording studio to make a debut album
- Festival T-shirts

Third Place

- \$100 (payable by check)
- Festival T-shirts

A **W-9 form** will be needed in order to process a check for the winners. The winners will be issued the check three weeks after the performance date. Groups or individuals not submitting a W-9 prior to competition or submitting incorrect paperwork will not receive their checks according to the above timeline.

STAGE PLOT FOR MUSICAL INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

Group or individual name: _____

In the space below please provide a sketch of the placement of each instrument on the stage when your band performs and the number of microphones both with and without stands. Show the name and placement of each instrument that will be used. (i.e. – Bass guitar, electric guitar, keyboard, etc.)

[BACK OF STAGE]

Concert Pavilion stage dimensions performance area 24' wide X 11'

[FRONT OF STAGE- Audience]

Each band is responsible for bringing its own instruments, except for keyboard and drums (must bring your own cymbals). All sound equipment will be provided (amplifiers, cables, etc.)

INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP BIOGRAPHY

The biography of your group will be publicized in the festival competition program and used by the emcee at the competition. List some of the events at which you have previously performed. Do not include individual group member names or ages. **Please print.** The biography should be limited to 3-5 short sentences.



DEADLINE: JULY 15, 2011 GAITHERSBURG'S TOP TALENT FORM

Entry Form (Please print information)

Group Name: _____

Style of Music: _____

Style Dance: _____

Primary Contact: (non-published information) **Please print legibly**

Name: _____ Address: _____

Studio, group or organization that the individual or group is associated with, if any

City, State, ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Adult Contact Name: _____ Adult Contact Cell: _____

(An adult contact is needed for any musical act or dance group with any members under the age of 18.)

Public Contact: (Published info for web site, programs, advertising, etc.) **Please print legibly**

Email: _____ Group's MySpace Page: _____

Group's Website: _____ Group's Facebook Page: _____

My application includes the following audition media for preliminary judging:

Please check all that apply:

Demo CD _____ Video Clip _____

YouTube _____ Facebook _____

Other viewing media. Please List: _____

Comments or instructions on how to view materials:

Audition viewing format should be compatible with Windows Media Player if possible (.avi or.mpeg). Applications must include payment of \$50, all required paperwork and viewing materials. It can be mail to 506 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg MD 20877. If you would like to electronically submit the documents and viewing materials, please email epoole@gaitthersburgmd.gov. If you would like to use your credit card for payment please call us at 301.258.6350 or fax to 301-948-8364 the phone.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Amount \$ _____ Cash _____ Check # _____ Discover/Visa MC# _____

Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

Name (print) _____

Rec'd _____ Initials _____ W P M F Pr: _____ Date _____

By signing below, each performer confirms that he or she will be between the ages 11-21 years as of Sept. 18, 2011 and has read and will follow the Rules & Regulations of this contest. Any violation of these rules by any member of the band or dance group may result in the immediate disqualification of the entire group or individual. The decision of the judges is final and cannot be contested. If your group should change members before the competition, they must sign off on necessary paperwork to be eligible for the competition. If they fail to do so, your team will be disqualified from the competition.

Students under 18 years of age please complete information below

Student's Name (Print)	Signature	Age	Parent's Name (Print)	Signature
1)				
2)				
3)				
4)				
5)				
6)				
7)				
8)				
9)				
10)				
11)				
12)				
13)				

Please complete the information below if you are between 18 - 21 years of age

Name (PRINT)	Date of Birth	Signature

(If you need more space, please list additional information and signatures on the back of this form)

**GAITHERSBURG'S TOP TALENT
MUSIC SCORING SHEET**

Possible Points	Category	Remarks	Total Score
10	Technical Proficiency	Technical expertise of performers. How well do band members know their instruments?	
10	Musicality	Accomplishment in music, quality of song construction, expressiveness, blend, balance of instruments, etc.	
10	Showmanship	Confidence, stage presence, did they enjoy performing?	
10	Audience Response	Does the audience like the music? (no mosh pits)	
10	Music Selection	Music is appropriate for the event and fits with the audience demographics (family-oriented, including children)	
-10	Time	If the performance goes over time allotted or doesn't meet the minimum time requirement there will be a deduction of points. This includes set-up and take down.	
		Total Points	

Gaithersburg's Top Talent

Dance Scoring Sheet

Possible Points	Category	Remarks	Total Score
10	Technical Proficiency	Technical expertise of performers. How well do dancers know the choreography?	
10	Choreography	Is the choreography creative and expressive?	
10	Showmanship	Confidence, stage presence, did they enjoy performing?	
10	Audience Response	Does the audience like the performance?	
10	Creativity	Originality of the performance.	
-10	Time	If the performance goes over time allotted or doesn't meet the minimum time requirement there will be a deduction of points. This includes set-up and take down.	
		Total Points	