

OFFICIAL 2026 CONTESTANT HANDBOOK



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World Championships of Performing Arts®

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28th Annual World Championships of Performing Arts®

MONDAY, JULY 13th - TUESDAY, JULY 21st, 2026

Departure: WEDNESDAY, JULY 22nd

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

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Dear Official Delegate,

I am thrilled to congratulate you on qualifying to represent your Country and compete your talent(s) at the 28th Annual World Championships of Performing Arts® (WCOPA)! For the first time in WCOPA history, we are headed to Las Vegas, Nevada, and we cannot wait for you to experience all the opportunities and excitement this premier destination for world-class entertainment has to offer.

The mission of the World Championships of Performing Arts® is to provide international entertainers with an unparalleled and inclusive platform where they can showcase their talent in a nurturing environment and network with industry professionals to gain valuable experience and education. WCOPA also fosters personal and professional growth by providing individuals with the opportunity to earn talent-based, continuing education scholarships, securing their continued development within their respective talent(s)' industry.

I am confident that you and all delegates will accept the responsibility of competing with professionalism, good sportsmanship, and mutual respect. Please read the 2026 Contestant's Handbook thoroughly and complete all requirements by the deadlines established by your National Director or Scout.

On behalf of Mr. Griff O'Neil, Founder of WCOPA, myself and the Executive Team, we encourage you to take this time to hone your craft and mentally, physically and emotionally prepare for the opportunity ahead so you can be sure to get the most out of this exceptional experience. We look forward to seeing you in Vegas!

Go for the gold,

Nancy Bianconi

Nancy Bianconi, President
World Championships of Performing Arts®

28th Annual World Championships of Performing Arts®

MONDAY, JULY 13th - TUESDAY, JULY 21st, 2026

WESTGATE LAS VEGAS RESORT & CASINO

3000 Paradise Rd.

Las Vegas, NV 89109

EVENT SCHEDULE

(subject to change)

National Directors Reception

SUNDAY, JULY 12th

National Directors Meeting

MONDAY, JULY 13th

Event Registration

MONDAY, JULY 13th

Contestant Orientation

TUESDAY, JULY 14th

Worldstars® Boot Camp

TUESDAY, JULY 14th

Opening Ceremonies of the Parade of Nations

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15th

Preliminary Competition

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15th - FRIDAY, JULY 17th

Semi-Finals, Go-Sees & Finalists Announcement Party

SATURDAY, JULY 18th

Final Show Rehearsal

SUNDAY, JULY 19th - MONDAY, JULY 20th

Final Show (Finals)

Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino

MONDAY, JULY 20th

Award Ceremony & Celebration Party

TUESDAY, JULY 21st

Departure

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22nd

WHAT IS THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS OF PERFORMING ARTS®?

Griff O'Neil, CEO and former Executive of Miss Universe, created the World Championships of Performing Arts® as an opportunity for aspiring entertainers and performers from around the world to showcase their talents.

Recognized as the only international talent competition, the World Championships of Performing Arts® (WCOPA) is an international performing arts competition where qualified performers of all ages (5+) from around the world are invited to compete in acting, dancing, singing, modeling, instrumental, and variety acts to earn Gold, Silver, or Bronze and the prestigious titles of Junior (15 & under) and Senior (16+) Grand Champion Performers of the World.

During this 9-day event, Contestants will:

- ★ Represent their respective Country/Territory by participating in the Opening Ceremony of the Parade of Nations in their Team Uniform or National Costume
- ★ Attend Worldstars® Boot Camp: a full day dedicated to education and instruction from industry professionals in their respective talent tracks
- ★ Compete in Preliminary Competition to qualify for Semi-Finals and attend a Finalists Announcement Party
- ★ Attend 1-on-1 meet and greets at Go-Sees with judges (industry professionals)
- ★ Participate in/or attend the Finals: a live-staged production streamed worldwide
- ★ Enjoy a Celebration Party
- ★ Attend an Awards Medal Ceremony in their Team Uniform
- ★ Receive the opportunity to win scholarships for continued education
- ★ Network with performers from all over the world!

WHAT IS WORLDSTARS® INTERNATIONAL, INC.?

Worldstars® International, Inc. is the parent company of and operates under the name World Championships of Performing Arts®. Worldstars® International, Inc. is a proud member of the Better Business Bureau, alongside an International Advisory Council that provides administrative support for the event.

WHO ARE WORLDSTARS®?

Talented performers who have been screened, qualified and invited to compete at WCOPA to represent their Country are called “Worldstars®!”

HOW MANY COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED?

There are currently 72 licensed countries with the ability to invite qualified performers to compete at WCOPA. The number of countries represented at the WCOPA event varies each year.

HOW ARE CONTESTANTS SELECTED?

Every Contestant attending WCOPA is screened, qualified, and invited to participate by a certified entity (licensed National Director) and/or Scouts from their Country.

Contestants may be professional or non-professional in their career. An official Contestant must be a citizen or resident in good standing of the Country they are representing.

All Contestants must be citizens of the United States, have a U.S. passport, or a visa, if necessary. If you are from a Country that requires a U.S. visa and do not have one, please contact your National Director and have them start the visa application process immediately.

All regulations are determined by and under the jurisdiction of WCOPA, and all participating Contestants must sign and comply with the rules and regulations established by the World Championships of Performing Arts® in this official Contestant’s Handbook and Contestant Contract. (see pg. 41)

IS AGENCY REPRESENTATION OR EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEED?

No. The World Championships of Performing Arts® does NOT solicit nor guarantee employment or representation for Contestants. WCOPA provides the

opportunity and exposure for potential representation and/or employment of Contestants from agents, managers, and other industry professionals who conduct educational seminars, judge, and attend WCOPA.

All Contestants, however, will have the opportunity to meet judges 1-on-1 at Go-Sees and be awarded potential continuing education and talent-based scholarships.

It is not guaranteed that all judges on the panel will be available to attend Go-Sees.

PARTICIPANT vs. CONTESTANT vs. ATTENDEE

A **Participant** is a person selected to be a delegate of their respective Country, wears a Team Uniform, walks in the Opening Ceremony of the Parade of Nations, and represents their Country at the events throughout the week. Participants are welcome to participate in Worldstars® Boot Camp and receive scholarship opportunities.

A **Contestant** is a delegate of their respective Country, wears a Team Uniform, attends and participates in all events, **in addition to competing**, and has the potential to be awarded Scholarship opportunities, Medals, and Titles.

An **Attendee** is a spectator only.

CONTESTANT/PARTICIPANT & ATTENDEE PHOTOS and BADGES

All Contestants/Participants and Attendees are required to have a Badge for the event. To ensure your delegation has Badges, it is required for all Contestants/Participants and Attendees to provide their National Director with a recent photo (small JPG image) to be uploaded by the Director in the WCOPA portal in order to receive a Badge. Scanned images will not be accepted.

Please contact your Director for due dates and deadlines.

GENERAL COST FOR CONTESTANTS/PARTICIPANTS

All charges to Contestants/Participants must be stated and itemized by the National Director or Scout. If you feel you are being misinformed, please email info@wcopa.com.

MANDATORY COSTS include:

★ **Contestant/Participant Registration**

○ Includes:

■ **ALL-ACCESS BADGE:**

- Admittance with photo ID Badge to all WCOPA events (Orientation, Opening Ceremony of the Parade of Nations, Worldstars® Boot Camp, Competition Rooms, Go-Sees, Finalists Announcement Party, Final Show, Award Ceremony, Celebration Party)

■ **Full page in Contestant Directory**

- Includes photograph, sponsors, and contact information

■ **Souvenir Program Book**

■ **Worldstars® Boot Camp Certificate & Program Book**

★ **9-night minimum stay at Host Hotel**

○ Offered at discounted group rates through WCOPA

★ **Team/Country Uniform**

★ **National Costume** (if applicable)

CONTESTANT DIRECTORY

The Contestant Directory will remain digital, unless at least 500

Participants/Contestants are registered in the WCOPA portal with all photo(s) and information submitted by May 1, 2026. We encourage Contestants to pay your License dues to your National Director as early as possible, so we can offer this exclusive marketing tool in physical form to both Contestants and industry professionals.

SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOK

The Souvenir Program Book may be purchased at Event Registration and during the event for \$20.00 USD. These special edition books will provide everlasting memories of your special honor of participation among performers from around the world at the 2026 World Championships of Performing Arts®.

Thank your sponsors by giving copies of this souvenir to them.

Every Contestant will receive a Souvenir Program Book included in their respective Registration fee.

VARIABLE COSTS dependent on the Contestant, including, but not limited to:

- ★ **Competitive event(s)**
- ★ Training for the event (if applicable)
 - Price(s) must be itemized by National Director when package pricing
- ★ Travel, Wardrobe, Meals, Tips, Souvenirs, Shopping, Sightseeing, Photography/Video, etc.

National Directors may add to the items listed above, but should always provide you an itemized list of what you are paying for. Please check with your Director for more information, and if you suspect misinformation, please inquire at info@wcopa.com.

KEEP IN MIND: A Contestant can seek sponsorships and/or participate in fundraising endeavors to raise money so that there is no cost to the Contestant and/or parents to compete/attend WCOPA.

GENERAL COST FOR ATTENDEES

[PERSON(S) ACCOMPANYING CONTESTANT]

Please note: ALL MINORS (under 18) MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

MANDATORY COSTS include:

- ★ **Guest Badge Options** (parents, coaches, visitors, guests, etc.)
 - **ALL-ACCESS BADGE**
 - Admittance with photo ID Badge to all WCOPA events (Orientation, Opening Ceremony of the Parade of Nations, Worldstars® Boot Camp, Competition Rooms, Go-Sees, Finalists Announcement Party, Final Show, Award Ceremony, Celebration Party)
 - **LIMITED ACCESS BADGE**
 - Admittance to all events except Worldstars® Boot Camp and Celebration Party
 - **SHOW ONLY BADGE - \$125.00 USD**
 - Premium seating at Final Show (Finals)

Please contact your National Director for Guest Badge rates. If you feel you are being misinformed, please email info@wcopa.com.

BADGES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE AND MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AFTER MAY 1, 2026.

★ **Minimum 9-night stay at Host Hotel**

- Offered at discounted group rates through WCOPA

VARIABLE COSTS dependent on the individual, including, but not limited to:

- ★ Travel, Wardrobe, Meals, Tips, Souvenirs, Shopping, Sightseeing, Photography/Video, etc.

INCENTIVES FOR EARLY REGISTRATION

2 Competition Events per Contestant (expires January 15th, 2026)

2 for 1 All-Access Badge Promotion (expires January 15th, 2026)

Please contact your National Director for rates. If you feel you are being misinformed, please email info@wcopa.com.

FUNDRAISING & SPONSORS

FUNDRAISING AND SPONSORS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

One of the essential skills a performer must have is the ability to market themselves and have the confidence to network and build relationships. WCOPA strongly encourages Contestants to raise money to pay for mandatory and variable costs through individual and/or corporate sponsorships, fundraisers, and/or government funding. WCOPA believes that through sponsorships and fundraising, all mandatory and potential costs for a Contestant and/or Participants can be covered.

Be kind and stand out by writing a personal letter asking potential sponsors like local businesses you frequent, family and friends to contribute to making your dreams a reality! Offer to give honorable mentions publicly on your social media platforms which helps to promote their business. Set up a GoFundMe campaign, a neighborhood fundraiser selling items/products/services to raise money.

Any company/service/business that is helping you achieve your goals by competing at WCOPA will benefit from sponsoring you so they receive exposure and publicity. For example, dance studios, hair salons, personal trainers, vocal coaches, dentists, etc. If you believe in yourself, they will too! Be mentally prepared for people to say no, however, do not give up. Someone will say yes and continue to proceed with positive determination, excitement and passion!

Please contact your National Director to obtain Sponsor Forms for tracking donations.

THE COMPETITION

This is a family-friendly event. Please be sure to perform routines that are in good taste and age-appropriate.

AGE GROUPS:

★ **JUNIORS** (ages 5-15)

- Age Groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-12, 13-15

★ **SENIORS** (ages 16+)

- Age Groups: 16-17, 18-24, 25-29, 30+

HOW IS AGE CALCULATED?

The age of the Contestant on July 1, 2026, determines the age category to compete in.

For all groups (2 or more Contestants), calculate the average age:

- ★ *Please add every member's age as of July 1, 2026, and divide by the total number of members in the group. If the average age of the group ends in 0.5 or higher, please round up to the next highest age.*

PERFORMANCE TIME

Performance time of 1 minute (60 seconds) is strictly enforced.

Performance time begins when the music starts and the time will stop when the music stops. If you are performing a routine with no music, time begins either when you first speak, or begin moving once set on stage (whichever comes first).

A 25% score deduction may be taken for any performance going over the time limit.

EXCEPTION: Variety Acts have 1.5 minutes (90 seconds) to perform their routine.

SPORTSMANSHIP

It is important to keep in mind that although this is a competition, it is expected that you conduct yourself appropriately and be mindful of yourself and respectful to others. It is important to set a good example and represent you, your Team and Country well.

WCOPA has a zero tolerance policy for bullying, and if anyone (Contestant, Parent, Teacher, Director, Scout, Family member, etc.) is seen being rude, disrespectful, or bullying other Contestants, WCOPA and its Staff associated with all competitions and activities reserves the right to disqualify a Contestant or have a Guest Badge revoked immediately.

EXPECTATIONS

Contestants, Participants and Guests are expected to follow written as well as verbal instruction. Staff in each competition room have the right to disqualify for acts of profanity, inappropriate dress, or not following verbal instruction.

In addition, any Contestant leaving trash in a competition room/dressing room risks being disqualified. Contestants, Parents, Attendees, Directors, Scouts, Guests and Staff are all held to the standard of picking up after themselves. It is mandatory that everyone must put trash in the trash bins provided in the competition rooms, dressing rooms, and general meeting areas. Event rooms will be off limits to bringing food and beverage inside if attendees are not respectful of the space and do not put trash in the trash bins provided.

NO COACHING ALLOWED

Parents, family, friends, agents, hairdressers, dressers, teachers, or make-up artists are not allowed behind the stage before or during competitions. No coaching is allowed backstage or in the audience.

UNAUTHORIZED MATERIALS

Distribution of unauthorized material such as pamphlets, brochures, magazines etc. at the site of the World Championships of Performing Arts® is strictly prohibited.

MUSIC

It is required that all music must be on a USB Drive, and each Competition Event routine's music must be on separate USB Drives. Not having music on separate drives for each competition will disqualify a Contestant. **It is required to bring back up drives for each performance.** Check purchased music on a computer player and confirm it has been recorded in MP3 format. **All music is required to be formatted in MP3 format ONLY.**

Each USB Drive must have a label with:

- ★ Contestant or Group name
- ★ Event
- ★ Style
- ★ Age Division

Example: Mary Jane, Dance, Jazz, 16-17 years

WCOPA Music Clearance Forms (see pg. 16) are required for all routines using music that is NOT registered with BMI, ASCAP, or SESAC. If you are not sure, please fill out a WCOPA Music Clearance Form and give it to your National Director at the WCOPA event.

Original music is encouraged for all routines in which music is used, however if you must purchase music, please do so from quality outlets. Pirated online music has poor sound quality with fluctuations in volumes when played on professional sound systems. Every time music is cut and re-recorded it loses quality.

Please record all music from the master and not from copies. If given the option for input/output volumes when recording, record volumes in the middle of the range given.

If when performing music you must hear the first note to start your performance, let the Room Coordinator know when you are on deck so the volume on the sound system can be raised. Please keep in mind Preliminary and Semi-Final competitions are in audition format. There is only one minute to perform and no sound checks.

The judges understand the difference between a performance error and sound issue. If there is a performance error, you will not be able to re-perform your routine. If there is a sound issue outside of your control, you will be able to re-perform your routine.

No music will be used for the Finals (Final Show) that does not meet the quality recording standards.

PERFORMANCE CLEARANCE

Contestants must fill out these forms. Please give a copy to your National Director and keep a copy for your records as you will need to turn a copy in if you are selected for the Finals. No act will be included in the Final Show without the proper clearance.

MUSIC

Creative work listed with BMI, ASCAP or SESAC beneath the song title, means the creative work is registered with one of the main publishing companies. In this case, a clearance form is not required.

All other works not listed with BMI, ASCAP, SESAC or original works must have a clearance form filled out. If your work is original, the original producer/writer must sign. (see pg. 16)

CHOREOGRAPHY

It is required that the Choreographer/Studio who owns the intellectual property of the choreography, has given the right to the dancer(s) to perform said choreography. A statement signed by the Choreographer should include mentioning:

The choreography that is being performed/competed by (insert Contestant Soloist Name or Group Name) at the 2026 World Championships of Performing Arts® is my intellectual property. I am aware and approve that my routine/choreography may be used in any broadcast (taped, televised, or published) and on all social media platforms, by the World Championships of Performing Arts®.

Choreographer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Do not register a Contestant, until they receive clearance from their Choreographer/Studio Director.

MODELING

Each photograph must have a label with the following information on the back of the photo:

I am aware and approve that my photography may be used in any broadcast (taped, televised, or published) and on all social media platforms, by the World Championships of Performing Arts®.

Photographer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

2026 WCOPA MUSIC CLEARANCE FORM

The following form is required for all routines using music that is NOT registered with BMI, ASCAP, or SESAC.

Solo or Group Name: _____

Category: _____ Event: _____ Style: _____

Music Title: _____ Copyright Year: _____

Music Artist: _____ Publisher: _____

Distributor: _____ Manufacturer: _____

Category: _____ Event: _____ Style: _____

Music Title: _____ Copyright Year: _____

Music Artist: _____ Publisher: _____

Distributor: _____ Manufacturer: _____

Category: _____ Event: _____ Style: _____

Music Title: _____ Copyright Year: _____

Music Artist: _____ Publisher: _____

Distributor: _____ Manufacturer: _____

Category: _____ Event: _____ Style: _____

Music Title: _____ Copyright Year: _____

Music Artist: _____ Publisher: _____

Distributor: _____ Manufacturer: _____

If you are entering additional events, you must copy this form and fill out a clearance for every event. Questions concerning clearance may be answered at the following websites: www.BMI.com www.ASCAP.com www.SESCAP.com

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

We ask that EVERYONE (Contestants, Parents, Coaches, Directors, Scouts, etc,) please do NOT approach the Sound Board (Audio Personnel) unless Audio Personnel has called you over. If you have questions or challenges, approach the Room Coordinators who are located on the side of the performance stage.

COMPETITION EVENTS

The non-refundable, non-transferable Contestant Registration fee allots Contestants the opportunity to compete in Solo and Group events at an additional fee. There is no limit on the number of Competitive Events (entries) a Contestant can compete in which they've been qualified by their National Director or Scout.

For an itemized list of fees, please contact your National Director. If you feel you are being misinformed, please contact info@wcopa.com.

Contestants may only enter one Competitive Event in the style of their choosing within a category. "Open" Categories may be used for a second performance of the same style. For example, if you are a Jazz dancer and want to compete two Jazz routines, please register one routine in the Jazz style of the Dance category, and the other routine in the Open style of the Dance category.

We do not recommend performing the same routine more than once.

SOLO vs. GROUP

Contestants may choose either to compete as a Soloist or be assigned to a Group. A Group profile will enter the Contestant in all styles assigned to that Group. Keep in mind, a Group must consist of the same members in every style they compete. If you reduce or add to the Group, a new Group name profile must be established to avoid someone being left out of the Group or paying when not competing.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

- ★ ACTING
- ★ DANCE
- ★ INSTRUMENTAL
- ★ MODELING

- ★ VARIETY ACTS
- ★ VOCAL
- ★ VOCAL SELF-ACCOMPANIMENT (VOCAL SA)

Contestants may compete SOLO or GROUP (2 or more) in every category EXCEPT Modeling.

ACTING

All acting performances must be age appropriate, in good taste and suitable for families.

Routines that are not age appropriate may be disqualified.

No music/backing track is allowed.

- ★ Solo and Group allowed
- ★ All props used during acting must be carried on and off stage by Contestant.
 - Fake blood, confetti, water, or other substances that require the stage to be swept/cleaned are prohibited. Nothing should be left behind on stage or thrown into the audience. Contestants leaving props on the stage will be disqualified.

DANCE

A dance floor of interlocking black sections or facsimile approximately twenty (20) feet deep by thirty (30) feet wide will be provided.

- ★ Solo and Group allowed

INSTRUMENTAL

Contestants must provide amps and cords (if applicable) for electrical instruments. We will provide mics and a sound system to mic non-electric instruments. We have one plug and play amp that may be used but it is the Contestant's responsibility to have cords and hook ups for their instrument.

For drum kits, please contact your National Director.

- ★ Solo and Group allowed
- ★ A tuned piano and designated practice time will be provided.
- ★ Original music is highly encouraged.

MODELING

All models will be divided by age, height, and size, except Juniors.

Juniors (15 & under) are divided by age ONLY.

A runway is provided from the back of the stage and will be approximately 28 feet long. This will be made of interlocking wooden sections or facsimile placed on the floor or raised.

Modeling Pattern: *You will be cued to enter from stage right or left, hit center and travel to the "top of the runway", continue to stage left to pose, then to stage right to pose. This is only a suggestion. You may work the runway in your own style. Please do NOT use props of any kind, unless you are competing as a SPOKESMODEL.*

During the SPOKESMODEL event, the Contestant will go to the end of the stage and perform a commercial, announcement, or monologue (max 60-seconds).

The Contestant must carry any props on and off stage with NO assistance.

Bringing props on from the audience is prohibited.

Models should model runway style and not photoshoot style. *This means do not sit, bend down or do handstands on the stage. All Models who receive the opportunity to advance to the Finals (Final Show) will be expected to walk runway style.*

Music is provided. Swimwear and Casual will be upbeat while Formal will be slower. It is suggested to keep your pace with the music playing.

★ SOLO ONLY

★ For Senior Females, there are 3 divisions:

- Runway: taller than 5'7"
- Petite: under 5'7"
- Plus: 36"+ hip size

★ For Senior Males, there are 2 divisions:

- Runway: taller than 5'10"
- Commercial: shorter than 5'10"

★ **EVERYDAY MODELS**

- 1 Model is selected from the Female Petite, Female Plus and Commercial Male divisions for the Finals (Final Show) and they each receive a professional photoshoot on site during the WCOPA event

★ **To be selected for the Finals, it is required for Female and Male Senior Models to compete in Swimwear and Formal; whereas it is required for Juniors to compete in Casual and Formal**

VARIETY ACTS

If rigging is required, please contact your National Director to ensure accommodations are requested and approved.

- ★ Solo and Group allowed
- ★ NO FIRE ACTS

VOCAL

Each track must be pre-recorded on a separate USB per routine with a backup USB for each. All accompaniment must be pre-recorded on the USB. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Lavalieres, headsets, corded and cordless handheld microphones will be available. Please keep in mind not all types of microphones may be available, but every effort will be made to accommodate your needs.

- ★ Solo and Group allowed

VOCAL SELF-ACCOMPANIMENT (SA)

If you register as Vocal Self-Accompaniment, you MUST play the instrument and sing.

If a Vocalist is accompanied by a pianist (or other), this does NOT qualify as Vocal Self-Accompaniment and is prohibited.

- ★ Solo and Group allowed

COMPETITION STYLES

DANCE

- ★ Acrobatic/Gymnastic
- ★ Ballet
- ★ Ballroom
- ★ Contemporary
- ★ Ethnic/Folklore
- ★ Hip Hop/Funk
- ★ Jazz
- ★ Lyrical
- ★ Musical Theater/Character
- ★ Open
- ★ Production Line
- ★ Song-Dance*
- ★ Tap

* 50% must be dance

ACTING

- ★ Classical
- ★ Comical
- ★ Contemporary
- ★ Dramatic
- ★ For TV
- ★ Open

VOCAL/VOCAL SA*

- ★ Broadway
- ★ Contemporary
- ★ Country & Western
- ★ Gospel
- ★ Latin
- ★ Open
- ★ Opera
- ★ Original Works
- ★ Pop
- ★ R&B/Soul/Jazz
- ★ Rap
- ★ Rock
- ★ Variety
- ★ World

INSTRUMENTAL

- ★ Classical
- ★ Contemporary
- ★ Jazz
- ★ Open
- ★ Original Works

MODELING

- ★ Casual
- ★ Formal
- ★ Pageant
- ★ Photo
- ★ Spokesmodel
- ★ Swimwear/Beachwear
- ★ Male Senior Only
 - Commercial* Casual
 - Commercial* Formal
 - Commercial* Swimwear
- ★ Female Senior Only
 - Petite**/Plus*** Casual
 - Petite**/Plus*** Formal
 - Petite**/Plus*** Swimwear

* under 5'10"

** under 5'7"

*** 36"+ hip size

VARIETY ACTS*

- ★ Aerial Silks/Rope
- ★ Manipulation & Equilibristic
- ★ Contortion
- ★ Hand Balancing
- ★ Tumbling
- ★ Juggling
- ★ Open
- ★ Magic w/ Assist or w/ out
- ★ Magic Sleight of Hand
- ★ Magic Open

*NO FIRE ACTS

*Contestants must provide amps for electrical instruments for the Vocal SA/Instrumentalist category.

This is a family-friendly event. Please be sure to perform routines that are in good taste and age-appropriate.

ACTING

★ **Classical:** a performance style that focuses on external behavior, using a strong emphasis on voice, movement, and precise script analysis to bring a character to life; it requires actors to use their body and voice to convey the character's emotions and intentions, often through a meticulous study of the text and a disciplined execution of physical actions and vocal control

★ **Comical:** a performance style that focuses on entertaining and making an audience laugh through humor and satire; it relies on a mastery of timing, rhythm, physicality, and an in-depth understanding of character and text to create a memorable and funny performance; may be Stand Up or Variety (comedy routine integrated with magic, puppets, etc.)

★ **Contemporary:** a performance style that often blends traditional techniques with modern approaches and frequently challenges traditional theatrical boundaries by using innovative techniques to explore current social, political, and philosophical themes, such as identity, power, and human connection

★ **Dramatic:** a performance style that characterizes portraying characters and situations that stir deep emotions, involving the actor's use of action, dialogue, and body language to create a story with tension and conflict; it is about becoming a character to drive a narrative forward through their motivations and actions, which are influenced by their internal psychological states and external circumstances; the goal is to create a sense of realism and emotional connection with the audience by communicating the character's desires, fears, and the pressure they are under

★ **For TV:** category for those wanting to work on film; this is a close-up, live camera shot; use this event to show the value of expression; it is prohibited to use prerecorded materials

★ **Open:** a routine combining any forms of Acting or a routine that does not fit any category listed; Contestants can use the Open category to compete a 2nd routine in the same style they've already competed in

DANCE

★ **Acrobatic/Gymnastic:** a routine consisting of controlled acrobatic and/or gymnastic movements involving balance and flexibility; routine must include choreography, dance technique and fluid movement (**please contact National Director about mat availability**)

★ **Ballet:** a classical dance form that uses precise, graceful, and flowing movements to express emotion, tell a story, or create a visual experience; it is a theatrical art form performed to music and characterized by its formalized technique (classical, neo-classical, or contemporary), which includes specific positions, steps, and gestures; performed in ballet shoes or pointe shoes

★ **Ballroom:** a routine competed as a soloist, with a partner, or group of an International (Standard and Latin) or American (Smooth and Rhythm) style

★ **Contemporary:** an expressive dance form that combines elements from various genres like modern, jazz, lyrical, and ballet; it is characterized by its fluidity, versatility, emphasis on individual expression, and willingness to experiment with movement; contemporary dance is not a single, fixed style but a style that is current, evolving, and often rooted in modern dance

★ **Ethnic/Folklore:** a culturally-appropriate routine consisting of dance styles of a particular ethnic group

★ **HipHop/Funk:** dynamic street-style dance that emphasizes a variety of improv, freestyle and choreographed movement; key styles and techniques include popping (quick contractions and releases of muscles), locking (freezing in place), and breaking (floor work and acrobatic moves)

★ **Jazz:** a dynamic and expressive style of dance that blends African rhythmic patterns with European techniques; key characteristics include isolation of body parts, a grounded style with bent knees, syncopation, and a strong emphasis on rhythm and musicality

★ **Lyrical:** a style that blends ballet, jazz, and contemporary techniques to express the emotions and story conveyed in a song's lyrics; it emphasizes fluid, expressive movements, facial expressions and body language; the style is often emotional, focusing on the connection between the dancer, the music, and the audience

★ **Musical Theater/Character:** a theatrical presentation interpreting a song from a "Broadway" or movie musical, or a routine portraying a character from a play, movie, television show or a stereotype (i.e. doctor, policeman, etc.) through any style of dance

★ **Open:** a routine combining any forms of dance styles or a routine that does not fit any category listed; Contestants can use the Open category to compete a 2nd routine in the same style they've already competed in

★ **Production Line:** minimum of ten (10) participants but all of them do not have to be on the floor at the same time

- Dancers of all ages and all styles of dance may be used in the production
 - Age Division will be calculated by finding the Group's average age
- Singing, props, and costume changes are welcome but must be handled by the Group and accomplished within the 60 seconds (be mindful, during Preliminary and Semi-Finals, there are no wings for privacy if quick-changing)

★ **Song & Dance:** a routine where the Contestant(s) sing and dance, with at least 50% being dance

★ **Tap:** a dance in which the rhythm or rhythmical variation is audibly tapped out with the toe or heel by a dancer wearing shoes with special hard soles or with taps

INSTRUMENTAL

★ **Classical:** instrumental music from the Classical music era (c. 1750-1830); features compositions for instruments alone, without vocals, focusing on formal structure, technical skill, and emotional expression through melodies and harmonies

★ **Contemporary:** a modern music genre characterized by blending various styles like pop, jazz, and electronic to create a wide range of moods and textures; known for being forward-thinking, with an emphasis on instrumental melodies, harmonies, and rhythms, and often includes music created with contemporary production methods and the latest musical vocabulary

★ **Jazz:** a genre of music featuring improvised solos and complex harmonies played on instruments like the saxophone, trumpet, piano, bass, and drums, without vocals; combines West African and European musical traditions, characterized by distinctive rhythms, syncopation, and a strong emphasis on improvisation, often built on a rhythmic and harmonic foundation

★ **Open:** a performance combining any forms of Instrumental styles or a genre of music that does not fit any category listed; Contestants can use the Open category to compete a 2nd routine in the same style they've already competed in

★ **Original Works:** self-produced compositions; **highly encouraged!**

MODELING

★ **Casual:** clothes should be "HIP/DRESSY"

- For males: sportswear casual (jacket and pants)
- NO COSTUMES!

★ **Formal:** focuses on showcasing the clothing in a professional demeanor

- Using longer strides and can be seen as runway modeling and used in fashion shows
- For Females: formal wear should be modest
- For males: tuxedos or black suits are strongly encouraged

- ★ **Pageant:** focuses on personality and confidence with a slower, more intentional walk to connect with the judges/audience
 - Pageant Modeling is often seen in Beauty Pageants

- ★ **Photo:** Contestants bring at least one (but not more than three photos) to turn in when they line up for Photo Model
 - Black and white, or color accepted
 - All photographs must include a typed label with:
 - Contestant's First and Last Name
 - Age Group**AND** a Photographer's Release Form (see pg. 15)
 - Staff have the right to disqualify provocative photos lacking good taste (no photos(s) with a picture frame or mat will be accepted)
 - Contestants will be asked to stand on the runway (no modeling)
 - **Reminder: DO NOT SEND PHOTOS WITH REGISTRATION!**

- ★ **Spokesmodel:** a Contestant performs a 60-second commercial, announcement or speech with the intention of being hired to represent a brand, product, or service at promotional events, in commercials, and through various media channels
 - Spokesmodels act as the on-brand face of a company, creating a positive impression, increasing brand awareness, and often engaging directly with the public to answer questions and promote the brand's values
 - **REMINDER: FAMILY FRIENDLY AND AGE APPROPRIATE!**

- ★ **Beachwear (JR)/Swimwear (SR):**
 - **Beachwear (JR)**
 - *Fun, fashionable, hip attire to wear to the beach*
 - Cover-ups are required.
 - **Swimwear (SR)**
 - **Required to be selected for Finals (Final Show)**
 - One or two-piece swimwear may be worn
 - No bikini thongs are to be worn. A swimsuit should cover buttocks.
 - Swimwear "cover-ups" are not recommended for Seniors

VARIETY ACTS

★ Aerial Silks/Rope:

- **Aerial Silks**
 - An acrobatic performance on a piece of suspended fabric
- **Aerial Rope**
 - An acrobatics discipline performed on a single, vertically hanging rope

Both are Aerial Arts that require strength, flexibility, and courage, where performers climb, wrap, and move their bodies in intricate patterns without safety lines.

REMINDER: Please contact your National Director in regard to rigging accommodations and approval.

★ Manipulation & Equilibristic:

- **Manipulation**
 - Refers to the skillful handling of objects to produce an artistic, entertaining, and often magical effect
 - The focus is on the manual dexterity of the performer as they control and move props
- **Equilibristic**
 - Refers to a performer's ability to maintain balance in challenging and unusual situations
 - A discipline that showcases feats of balance and control over the performer's body and, sometimes, an object

★ **Contortion:** a performance style that combines extreme flexibility with the structure and showmanship of a variety show; "contortion" refers to the acrobatic art of twisting and bending the body into unusual and often astounding poses

★ **Hand Balancing:** the art of supporting your body in an inverted position using only your hands; requires significant strength, balance, and body control, and can be performed individually or with a partner; includes a wide range of skills, from basic handstands to more complex movements like one-arm handstands, and can be done on the floor or on apparatus like canes

★ **Tumbling:** is the execution of acrobatic, sequential movements like flips, somersaults, and handsprings, typically performed on a floor or mat without apparatus; involves connecting these skills into a pass to demonstrate power, skill, and continuous motion, with the goal of achieving speed, height, and complexity (**please contact National Director in regard to mat availability**)

★ **Juggling:** an act of entertainment involving the skillful and continuous manipulation of objects, such as balls, clubs, or torches, by tossing and catching them without dropping them; can involve a variety of props and techniques like tossing, bouncing, or contact juggling

★ **Open:** a routine combining any forms of Variety Arts or a routine that does not fit any category listed; Contestants can use the Open category to compete a 2nd routine in the same style they've already competed in

★ **Magic (with Assistant or without):** theatrical art of creating the illusion of impossible or supernatural feats through natural, deceptive means; can be achieved with or without a magician's assistant

★ **Magic (Sleight of hand):** is the use of manual dexterity, skill, and misdirection to perform visual tricks that deceive onlookers; the foundation of close-up magic, relying on hidden movements to make things appear, disappear, or otherwise defy expectations; the term literally translates to "trickster fingers" and involves psychological and verbal misdirection, timing, and natural choreography in addition to physical skill

★ **Magic (Open):** a routine combining any forms of Magic or a Magic routine that does not fit a Magic category listed; Contestants can use the Magic Open category to compete a 2nd routine in the same style they've already competed in

VOCAL & VOCAL SELF-ACCOMPANIMENT (SA)

★ **Broadway:** diverse genre that combines music, lyrics, dance, and spoken dialogue to tell a story and has evolved significantly, incorporating influences from jazz, rock, pop, and hip-hop

★ **Contemporary:** any music composed and performed in recent decades, distinguishing it from older or historical styles; refers to a diverse range of genres currently being written and performed, or a specific approach to composition and performance that emphasizes current cultural influences, new sonic territories, and genre fusion

★ **Country/Western:** a genre of American popular music that originated in the early 20th century in the Southern United States, blending American folk, blues, gospel, and Appalachian music with "cowboy" Western music styles; characterized by instruments like the guitar, fiddle, steel guitar, and drums, and combines ballads with dance tunes

★ **Gospel:** is a genre of music centered on Christian belief, characterized by its strong vocal harmonies, emotional intensity, and rhythmic structure, often featuring a call-and-response format; originating from African American communities in the late 1800s, it blends traditional hymns with elements of blues, jazz, and spirituals to express faith and tell biblical stories

★ **Latin:** a broad category of music from Latin America and the Spanish-speaking communities of the United States, defined by its blend of Indigenous, African, and European influences; its diversity is reflected in a wide range of genres, such as salsa, merengue, bachata, and reggaeton, each with its own distinct rhythms and history

★ **Open:** a performance combining any forms of musical styles or a genre of music that does not fit any category listed; Contestants can use the Open category to compete a 2nd routine in the same style they've already competed in

★ **Opera:** a form of theatrical drama where the story is conveyed through music, combining singing, orchestral accompaniment, acting, costumes, and scenery; it is a collaborative art form, typically created by a composer and a librettist, and its performance includes vocal pieces like arias and duets, along with instrumental parts such as overtures and interludes

★ **Original Works:** an original arrangement including composition, melody, harmony, rhythm, and any lyrics, created by a songwriter or composer; **highly encouraged!**

★ **Pop:** short for "popular music;" a broad genre defined by its goal of achieving wide mainstream appeal through accessible, catchy, and memorable songs; typically features simple, repeatable choruses, strong rhythms, memorable melodies, and lyrics about common themes like love

★ **R&B/Soul/Jazz:** distinct yet interconnected genres of music with shared roots in African American culture, blending blues, gospel, and jazz; R&B, or rhythm and blues, is a genre characterized by a strong backbeat, which originated in the 1940s by combining elements of jazz, blues, and gospel; Soul music is a subgenre of R&B that emphasizes emotional, gospel-influenced vocals and often uses live instrumentation, while jazz is a more improvisational genre that can be combined with R&B to create soul jazz, a subgenre known for its strong bass lines and soulful melodies

★ **Rap:** a musical genre characterized by rhythmic, spoken-word or chanted lyrics delivered over a beat or musical accompaniment; often incorporates rhyming, street vernacular, and a strong sense of rhythm, or "flow," and is a primary component of hip-hop culture; Rap can be used to tell stories, boast, or express political viewpoints, with themes just as diverse as the styles in which it is performed

★ **Rock:** a genre of popular music characterized by a strong beat, electric guitars, bass, and drums, which originated in the 1950s by blending elements of blues, country, and rhythm and blues; often features amplified instruments, a prominent lead vocalist, and a driving rhythm, and it is also defined by its cultural and social themes, which frequently revolve around rebellion, youth culture, and social change

★ **Variety:** in music can refer to two main concepts: musical variation (a compositional technique) or diversity (a characteristic of a musical piece, album, or a person's taste); musical variation is the process of altering a theme through changes in melody, harmony, rhythm, or timbre, while musical diversity describes a collection of different musical styles, genres, or performance acts within a single work

★ **World:** popular and folk music originating outside Western European and North American pop and rock traditions, encompassing diverse styles from Africa, Latin America, Asia, and other regions; while some definitions emphasize music from different cultures and their cultural context, others highlight its use to promote a category of commercial music that blends these traditional styles with Western pop and fusion

WHO ARE THE JUDGES?

Each year, WCOPA ensures all industry professionals invited to lead Boot Camps, judge competitions, and attend Go-Sees are professionals within their scope of the industry. This can include, but is not limited to: talent and modeling agents, managers, casting directors, music industry representatives, choreographers, and more. Stay tuned on our social media for announcements of industry professionals who are attending this upcoming year's event!

WHAT ARE THE JUDGES LOOKING FOR?

Judges look at the performance as a whole and take into consideration a Contestant's technique, marketability, and stage presence. They keep their eye out for standout talent and place a special emphasis on entertainment value.

SCORING (Scoring Scale, Medals)

Contestants with the highest average scores by the panel of judges in their respective events move on to compete at the next level of competition in the Preliminary, Semi-Final, and Final rounds. It is important to note that scores **do not** roll over into the next round. Entries competing a second or third time are being judged on that performance alone, not previous performances.

SCORING SCALE

- ★ **SUPERIOR: 90-100 pts.**
- ★ **EXCELLENT: 80-89 pts.**
- ★ **GOOD: 70-79 pts.**
- ★ **FAIR: 69 pts and below**

During the Semi-Finals, the entry with the highest number of points from the panel of judges receives a Gold Medal, the next highest receives a Silver medal, and the third highest receives a Bronze medal.

If there is only one (or two entries) in a category, **one of the routines must meet a pre-determined score to receive a medal.** For example, 90-100 pts. to be awarded a Gold Medal or 80-89 pts. to be awarded a Silver Medal.

The scores from the Semi-Finals determine the Overalls for each category. The highest scores will be awarded Overalls for each age division within a category.*

*Note: Not all categories will receive Overall Awards if the scores do not meet the pre-determined criteria of Gold, Silver, or Bronze medal.

Finalists are selected by the professional judging panel in their respective categories.

Finalists exhibit a strong presentation of skill/talent, technique, stage presence, professionalism, and entertainment value. The selected Finalists compete in the live-staged production, streamed worldwide, with the opportunity to receive a 'Champion' Title within their respective talent category or be awarded the Grand Title of the 'Junior Grand Champion Performer of the World' or 'Grand Champion Performer of the World.'

MEDALS

Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals are awarded in every event category, style, and age group that meets the score-based criteria. Please note that not all Contestants who compete will receive a Bronze, Silver, or Gold medal; however:

- ★ All Contestants receive a Certificate of Achievement
- ★ All Semi-Finalists receive a Semi-Finals pin
- ★ All Finalists receive a Finalist medal

SCHOLARSHIPS, TITLES & GRAND PRIZE

SCHOLARSHIPS

Throughout the week, there are multiple opportunities for Contestants to impress industry professionals at Worldstars® Boot Camp, during Competition, and at Go-Sees for the potential to earn a scholarship. All scholarships are talent-based and awarded by industry professionals. This is a great opportunity for Contestants, for if they **do not** move on in the competition based on their adjudicated score, Contestants still have the opportunity to earn a continuing education scholarship.

The World Championships of Performing Arts® offers more than \$400,000 worth of continuing education in scholarships.

Previous years' scholarships have included:

SCHOLARSHIPS

(subject to change)

ACTING

New York Film Academy, NYFA.edu

- ★ One full 1-year tuition scholarship (\$36,000.00 value)
- ★ 10 - \$15,000.00/year scholarships for long-term Film or Musical Theatre Programs
- ★ 10 - 25% off Summer Camp Programs

Total Value: \$400,000 USD

DANCE

Millennium Dance Complex, <https://www.millenniumdancecomplex.com/>

- ★ 2 - 1-week scholarships to all classes regularly scheduled at Millennium Dance Complex, Studio City

Total Value: \$850.00 USD

cont'd.

MODELING

Darienne Arnold, <https://vimeo.com/39526976>

- ★ 1 hour consultation on having a modeling career covering the type of model you are, the business of modeling, training, headshots, and networking (consultation must be done at WCOPA event)

Total Value: \$1,500 USD

VOCAL

Marc Williams of Indasoul Entertainment/Los Angeles, <https://www.indasoulent.com>

- ★ Indasoul Entertainment will write and produce a full song.
 - Includes studio time, producer & engineering costs, mix down, & editing
 - Indasoul assists with the release and marketing of said composition.

Total Value: \$10,250 USD

Jeff Weber of Weberworks Entertainment Group, https://youtu.be/4sXO05_emlQ

- ★ 6 - 30-minute consultations dedicated to creating a plan designed for the recipient's career
- ★ Consultations include evaluating material, vocal ability, musicianship, and management expectations for the performer to excel and sustain their career.

Total Value: \$15,000 USD

Manny Mijares of Upscale Records/Los Angeles, <https://mannymijares.com>

- ★ 1 song production and recording deal that includes establishing the artist's genre and music preference, creating customized tracks, writing, and producing a demo

Total Value: \$10,000 USD

TITLES

Titles will be awarded during the Finals to the following categories (if represented):

JR CHAMPION	CHAMPION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Actor of the World★ Dancer of the World★ Dance Group of the World★ Female Model of the World★ Male Model of the World★ Instrumentalist of the World★ Variety Act of the World★ Vocalist of the World★ Vocal Group of the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Actor of the World★ Dancer of the World★ Dance Group of the World★ Every Day Model of the World★ Female Model of the World★ Male Model of the World★ Instrumentalist of the World★ Variety Act of the World★ Vocalist of the World★ Vocal Group of the World

All Champion Title Holders receive Crystal Trophies.

GRAND PRIZE

GRAND CHAMPION TITLES

**JR GRAND CHAMPION
PERFORMER OF THE WORLD**

**GRAND CHAMPION
PERFORMER OF THE WORLD**

Grand Champion Title holders receive the Grand Prize of:

- ★ Invitation to perform/be featured in the following year's WCOPA Final Show
 - Hotel Room accommodation provided (3 nights)
- ★ \$1,000 USD (to be used towards expenses)*
- ★ Scholarship for cont'd education (\$1,000 value)**
- ★ Grand World Champion Crystal Trophy
- ★ Attend an exclusive VIP Party after the Final Show to network with judges and industry professionals
- ★ Publicity & Promotion Campaign
 - WCOPA Spotlight Article in the following year's program and multi-platform social media campaign

*The title holder must attend the following year's event to receive

**not guaranteed for Junior Grand Champion due to age restrictions

Total Value: \$7,500 USD

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

Professional photographers are scheduled for each event. Specially priced packages are available for Contestants to purchase all of their performance photos on USB (ask your Director for more information).

Camera Passes are available for purchase on site at the event for \$25.00 USD which allows an individual to take additional performance photos that the official photographers might not capture. The Camera Pass covers non-professional equipment, such as personal cameras, video cameras, and camera phones.

Anyone without this tag during the Opening Ceremony of Parade of Nations, in the competition rooms or during the Award Ceremony will be asked to leave and their Event

Badge will be taken. One will then be required to purchase another badge at \$200.00 USD for the violation. **THIS IS STRICTLY ENFORCED. OUR STAFF ARE AWARE AND YOU WILL BE TOLD TO LEAVE THE ROOM/EVENT SPACE.**

Only Official WCOPA photographers are allowed in Worldstars® Bootcamp and Go-Sees with cameras. No flash cameras of any type will be allowed at Finals (Final Show), however, cameras may be used without a flash if you have purchased a camera pass.

A photography session will take place after the event. Winners will be escorted to a press conference immediately after the event at the VIP Party.

HOTEL

HOST HOTEL

WESTGATE LAS VEGAS RESORT & CASINO

3000 PARADISE RD.
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89109
U.S.A.

- ★ National Director/Scout Check-in: SUNDAY, JULY 12th, 2026
- ★ Contestant/Participant/Attendee Check-in*: MONDAY, JULY 13th, 2026
- ★ Check-out: WEDNESDAY, JULY 22nd, 2026

DISCOUNTED RATES

Single/Double Occupancy Room: \$141/night
Total: \$1,269.00 USD

Triple/Quad Occupancy Room: \$151/night
Total: \$1,359.00 USD

Totals are based on the required 9-night minimum stay. This negotiated rate includes reduced weekend rates, taxes, resort fees, in-room wifi, and processing fee.

*WCOPA encourages Contestants to fly in a day early to have time to get settled and relax before the event begins on Monday.

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS

Worldstars® USA, Inc. is responsible for facilitating all the hotel room reservations to any of the official Host Hotels contracted to the WCOPA event. This year, a Group Discount Rate has been negotiated for Contestants/Participants, families, friends and guests of the WCOPA event.

Every Contestant/Participant, Parent/Guest, Director and Director's staff associated with the WCOPA event is REQUIRED to stay at the WCOPA Host Hotel (9-night minimum). If not, the Contestant(s) will be disqualified.

ALL HOTEL ROOM ASSIGNMENTS FOR CONTESTANTS/PARTICIPANTS AND ATTENDEES MUST BE MADE TO YOUR NATIONAL DIRECTOR. PLEASE DO NOT ASK FOR EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY AND DO NOT CONTACT THE HOST HOTEL.

It is REQUIRED you must share your LEGAL FIRST and LAST NAME (shown on your ID), with proper spelling, and accurate ages with your National Director for ALL PERSONS you will be sharing a Hotel room with to ensure a smooth check-in when you arrive.

All-Access Badges will only be released to Contestants/Participants and Attendees with hotel room assignments at the official Host Hotel through Worldstars® USA, Inc. with the required 9-night minimum stay.

If a Contestant is without a National Director, please have them contact Dreama Fritts, Accounts Manager/Hotel Administration, at hotel@wcopa.com.

No rooms are booked until FULL payment is received. Once received, Worldstars® USA, Inc. reserves your hotel room assignment(s) based upon room requirements and availability at the time of final payment. **ALL PAYMENTS ARE FINAL AND NON-REFUNDABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE.**

It is highly recommended to have all payments paid in full by the due dates and deadlines established by your Director. If rooms are requested after May 1st, 2026 and available, a \$250.00 USD Late fee will be added to reserve any hotel room assignment(s). It is also not guaranteed that any assignments/reservations made after the May 1st, 2026 deadline will receive the same discounted group rate. In

this circumstance, the participants will be held accountable for the increased cost of 9-night minimum stay, in addition to the \$250.00 USD Late fee.

For this reason, we encourage you to pay your Hotel Room dues to your National Director in a timely manner as Hotel room rates may also increase after blocks are full. Please keep in mind, the tax rate may increase without notice.

Hotel rooms will be inspected on the day prior to check out. Any damage to the hotel rooms will be charged to those assigned to the room. Your Director will be responsible for collecting damages. All awards will be withdrawn if damage fines are not collected.

Please be respectful of others and respectful of the hotel property. The actions of few cost everyone. Be mindful you represent your family, Country and those who will follow in your steps in the future.

For questions, comments and concerns about all things hotel room-related, please contact Dreama Fritts, Accounts Manager/Hotel Administrator, at hotel@wcopa.com.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & CONCERNS

If you have any questions concerning anything that was stated in this Handbook, please contact your Scout or National Director. If your Scout or National Director cannot answer your question, they will contact the Executive Team for clarification. It is important that all your questions and concerns are directed through your National Director and addressed so you can enjoy the event.

NEXT STEPS

Once your National Director receives your signed contract and you have made a deposit or paid in full, you will be an Official Delegate representing your Country at the 2026 World Championships of Performing Arts®! Here are some next steps:

- Please REVIEW and SIGN your Contestant Contract (see pg. 41) and return to your Director. Please keep a copy for your records.
- Make a partial or full payment to your National Director to ensure you do not miss any deadlines.
- Schedule a meeting with your National Director to discuss your Competition Event(s), Guest Badge(s) and Hotel Room Assignment
 - Please share the BIRTH DATES and LEGAL FIRST and LAST NAMES (proper spelling on Gov't Official ID) of yourself and anyone who will be staying in the Hotel with you and attending the WCOPA EVENT
 - RECALL: ALL MINORS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.**
 - Please send a JPG image of yourself and any of your Attendees who purchased a Guest Badge to your National Director
- Share the exciting news on all social media platforms, local businesses you frequent, local papers and local TV/radio shows/stations.

2026 WCOPA CONTESTANT CONTRACT

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

It is required for ALL CONTESTANTS to review and sign the OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS Contestant Contract. If the Contestant is under 18 years of age, this Contract must be reviewed and signed by a Parent or Adult Legal Guardian.

Once signed, you are to return a copy to your National Director to be submitted to WORLDSTARS® International, Inc. to complete your registration. Please keep a signed copy for your records.

CONTESTANT/PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. I understand that I am responsible for all my expenses such as meals, travel, lodging, processing entry registration, etc. as related to the competition and during the competition week. These expenses may be partly and/or fully sponsored by a third party. WORLDSTARS® International, Inc. (WSI), WCOPA is not responsible for funds raised or distribution of such funds. Funds raised are solely the responsibility of the person raising funds. Any misappropriation makes the person liable. WCOPA, WSI, and WORLDSTARS® USA assumes no liability for appropriation of funds.
2. I understand that all Contestants must stay at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort and Casino designated by WCOPA and that a special rate has been established for the group. Hotel reservations and payments *must* be made through my National Director, or National Organization (Licensee). A Contestant will be disqualified if they are not staying at the designated Host Hotel.
3. Shuttle bus transportation between the Hotel and to any official WCOPA show sites, will be provided, if necessary. Every Contestant and Guest Pass will include transportation, if necessary. A parent or designated chaperone must travel with minors. I understand WCOPA is not responsible for minors traveling without supervision.
4. I agree to use good sportsmanship before, during, and after this competition week. Any exhibition of bad sportsmanship, bullying, or disruptive behavior may lead to immediate disqualification of any event and/or dismissal. All such disqualification or dismissal will be final with no right for appeal.
5. I understand that each entry is responsible for a "Contact/Supporter(s)" full page in the Contestant Directory and must follow the instructions and directions for camera-ready copy to be submitted to WCOPA before and by the deadline. The Contestant's photograph, contact information, and competitions entered are in the top half of the full page with supporter(s) and sponsor(s) in the bottom half of the page. I also am aware that this will remain digital unless at least 500 Contestants are registered in the portal before May 1, 2026. If so, it will be printed.

6. I understand payment made for Contestant Registration Fee Packages are non-refundable and non-transferable in order to be an official Contestant.
7. I understand that I am to wear the official Team Uniform representing my Country during specified WCOPA activities such as the Opening Ceremony of the Parade of Nations (if not wearing costume) and Awards Ceremony.
8. All Contestants, Guests and everyone considered accompanying Contestants must have an All-Access or Limited Access Badge. Contestants are required to provide a Passport Photo to the National Director for their official ID badge. Guests are required to give the National Director a photo when paying for an All-Access Badge. The ID badge must be displayed at all times for access and entry to *any and all* official events. The cost of a lost badge is \$200.00 USD. I understand badges will only be sold at the event if space is available at a much higher rate than pre-sale rate.
9. All photos, videos, paperwork, CDs, USB and music submissions of any kind become the property of WCOPA, and may not be returned to the Contestants.
10. I understand the no-refund, non-transferable policies as stated in the “Contestant Handbook” and by WCOPA/ WORLDSTARS® International, Inc.
11. I understand that this is an invitation only event. Entries are screened, qualified and invited by Scouts and National Directors who are independent contractors, not employees, representatives or agents of WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International, Inc. Contestant-at-large screening and invitation processes also occur.
12. I understand that a webcast or television special or series may be produced from WCOPA 2025/2026. Therefore, it is understood and accepted that WCOPA has sole jurisdiction in the format, production, content, rights and distribution of the event, shows and broadcast.
13. A Contestant is responsible to obtain written release and/or license for the use of any and all copyrighted and registered materials, including but not limited to: music, dance, scripts, variety acts, etc. for performances at WCOPA. *WCOPA has rights to use music registered with BMI, ASCAP, and SESAC. Therefore, if a Contestant is using music registered with BMI, the Contestant only has to write on the clearance form “registered with BMI”.* However, a Contestant must obtain prior permission for original music and music from smaller companies if not with BMI. Also, many songs or types of music within a performance can be difficult to clear or may be too expensive for clearance; therefore, this should not be done. Remember, acts that use music which cannot be cleared or is too expensive may be eliminated from an appearance in the finals. As an option and only where possible, some music (i.e. modeling, dance acts, etc.) may be substituted by editing in original music and may be done if clearance is difficult or expensive.

STAGE CONDUCT:

14. Each official Contestant will receive an All-Access Badge to WCOPA activities, a Souvenir Program book, Certificate of Achievement, Bootcamp Certificate, and access to the Contestant Directory (if not printed). All others, including Guests, Parents, families, friends, and coaches must purchase their own All-Access or Limited Access Pass to WCOPA activities, or a Show Only Badge.
15. Parents and guardians will be responsible for their minor children at all times before, during, and after the competition. At no time does WCOPA assume liability for *individual participants, parents or attendees* conduct while attending this event.
16. Parents, family, friends, agents, hair dressers, dressers, coaches, scouts, National Directors, make-up artists, and other retinues are not allowed behind the stage before or during the competition. However, one adult will be allowed to assist minor Contestants.
17. No videotaping or photography is allowed at any WCOPA competition event, without a Camera Pass. Covering the event will be professional photographers and videographers who are private contractors and are not affiliated in any manner with WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International, Inc. WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International, Inc. is neither responsible nor liable for these photographers and videographers and their respective products, services, and rates. Contestants can purchase a copy of photographs or videotape from these independent professionals at pre-set prices.
18. If I use any type of music in my act and it is not listed with BMI, ASCAP, or SESAC, I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain clearance to use the music, and I further understand/agree to complete and submit the WCOPA Music Clearance Form to my National Director and keep a copy in case I am chosen for the Finals (Final Show), on or before the deadline. Refer to #13.
19. I understand/agree that all decisions of the Official Judges are final.
20. I understand/agree that trophies, plaques, and medals may be awarded at this event. If I am not present and do not send a designee to pick up my awards at the Awards Ceremony, the awards will NOT be saved or distributed to me.

HOLD HARMLESS:

21. I understand/agree that the WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International, Inc. and any affiliates cannot be held liable or responsible for any misprints, errors or omissions in the Official Souvenir Program and Contestant Directory.
22. I agree to hold WCOPA, WORLDSTARS® INTERNATIONAL Inc., WORLDSTARS® USA, Inc. and any affiliates, including but not limited to, the Westgate Las Vegas Resort and Casino and International Theater, or any other sites of official activity and their staff harmless and blameless from any loss of personal items, injuries, or liabilities while at this competition. Contestants,

families, guests, directors and all others participating at the event should purchase in advance medical insurance as all associated, directly and indirectly, with WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International Inc., WORLDSTARS® USA, Inc. are not responsible for any type of medical coverage.

23. I do hereby agree and grant WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International Inc./WORLDSTARS® USA, Inc. and its employees, agents, and assigns all rights to use my name, voice, likeness, statements, videos, and photographs for promotional, advertising and broadcasting purposes including but not limited to photography, video, audio, print, and the internet.

24. I agree to abide by all Rules and Regulations established by WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International Inc. including deadlines and codes of conduct relating to this competition. Additionally, I understand that WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® International Inc. reserves the right to make changes in competition events, styles, categories, schedules, procedures, rules, finals, shows, deadlines, and any other activity, situation or factor so as to maintain the professional quality and produce a superior event.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND PROMISE TO ABIDE BY THEM. MY SIGNATURE, OR THAT OF MY PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN IF I AM UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, MAKES THIS A BINDING AGREEMENT AND SAID FORM WILL BE TURNED INTO WCOPA/WORLDSTARS® INTERNATIONAL, INC. BEFORE/BY THE PRESCRIBED DEADLINE.

Contestant Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian (if minor): _____

Signature: _____

National Director: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature: _____

CONGRATULATIONS!

On behalf of Worldstars® International, we thank you for taking the time to read through your Contestant Handbook and Contract.

For your viewing pleasure, please watch and share:

WCOPA's 2024 FINAL SHOW

in LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA at the TERRACE THEATER

 [WCOPA Final Show 2024](#)

Please keep this link handy for promotional purposes.

We wish you a healthy, joyful and successful year, and we look forward to seeing you and celebrating the amazing talent the WORLD has to offer at the 28th Annual World Championships of Performing Arts® in LAS VEGAS, NEVADA!

Go for the gold,

Worldstars International

Executive Team
World Championships of Performing Arts®

