Youth organizations with excellent mini performance acts are encouraged to nominate youth to perform on the Youth Expo Stage at Wisconsin State Fair. A mini performance act can be any performance of interest to Fairgoers. Acts may have one to five performers and be available to perform two times between 9 am and 7 pm on their assigned day. Groups with more than five members are encouraged to submit a “Music & Drama Nomination Form.”

Suggested performances include: musical acts, mini-dramas, dance routines, interpretive readings, comedy routines, and juggling acts. Excellent vocalists and instrumentalists are especially encouraged to apply.

Mini Performance acts will be eligible to receive a 2017 Wisconsin State Fair Top Ten Award. All performances will be recorded and judging will take place after the completion of the Fair.

**Selection Process:**

1. Each county or youth organization, at their discretion, may nominate two selected acts and up to three alternate acts. Completed “Mini Performance Nomination Forms” must be postmarked by May 15. Selected acts are given first priority for performance dates. Alternate acts must be ranked as 1st, 2nd, and 3rd on the nomination form. Selections are made based on the following criteria:
   1) Stage availability
   2) County/district rankings
   3) Timeliness of nomination

2. Each act must designate a contact person who is responsible for submitting and communicating all information to Wisconsin State Fair as well as group members quickly and easily.

3. Contacts will be notified of acceptance and their performance schedule in early June. Final registration materials must be postmarked by June 30.

4. In order for individuals to receive premiums all performers must be present for both performances.

**Participant Fees:**

All participants and chaperones need to purchase one of the following options for admission:

- Advanced Wisconsin State Fair General Admission Tickets at $4 (adults and children ages 6 – 11). Children ages 5 and under are free. Advanced general admission tickets must be purchased on the final registration materials and postmarked by June 30.
- General Admission tickets purchased on-site during the Fair are $10 for adults and $6 for children ages 6-11. Children ages 5 and under are free.

Advanced Fair admission tickets may be purchased for participants, family, friends or anyone else interested in attending. Meal options are available at the Tommy G. Thompson Youth Center located on the Fair Park and can be purchased on-site.

**Participation Premium:**

Youth participating for one day will receive a premium of $30. Youth who participate two or more days will receive a premium of $40. The Wisconsin State Fair Entry Office will issue one check to the Group Contact Person who is responsible for distributing the premiums to performers appropriately.

For more information on Mini Performances contact Laura Schoenike, Youth Expo Coordinator, at (414) 750-0872 or by email at youthexpo@wistatefair.com.
1. Each act will perform two times throughout the day on the Youth Expo Stage located in the Youth Expo Hall.

2. Acts will have ONLY 10 minutes on stage including setup and takedown time. We recommend performances last approximately 5 - 8 minutes.

3. The stage dimensions are 36’ wide by 28’ deep and is raised 16” above the floor. A ramp and one set of stairs are located at the back of the stage.

4. Several small changing booths are available backstage. Props and belongings can be stored backstage between performances; however, there is no locked storage area. Backstage space is limited, so please keep props to a minimum as all groups share the backstage area.

5. The Youth Expo Stage has six handheld wireless mics and two handheld corded mics. These microphones will be set up and controlled by the stage manager. The sound system is equipped to play CDs and iPods which will be amplified through speakers. CDs are preferred and groups are encouraged to bring a back-up CD. Groups planning on using an iPod need to make sure it is fully charged and bring a back-up CD if possible.

Mini Performance acts are not allowed to bring or use their own sound equipment. This includes, but is not limited to: wireless and choral microphones, speakers, lighting, etc. Additionally, only Wisconsin State Fair Staff are allowed behind the sound table to control any component of the sound.

**STAGE MANAGER SUGGESTION:** We do our best to project the performers’ voices but there will always be unavoidable noise at State Fair, regardless of what sound equipment is used. We have a mobile audience and the area is noisy so the use of microphones is necessary for performances to be heard. Encourage your group to practice with the State Fair stage set-up in mind. To relieve anxiety, please practice projecting voices and planning how each person can best utilize the available stage microphones.

6. A keyboard, music stand, extension cord, table and chairs can be available IF requested by June 30 on the final registration materials.

7. Equipment transfer is available to and from the stage via a motorized golf cart IF requested by June 30 on the final registration materials. An equipment transportation schedule for those who request this service will be sent in late July. It is each group’s responsibility to ensure their equipment/props are ready for pick up at the Youth Center at their scheduled time.

8. Mini Performance acts will be eligible to receive a 2017 Wisconsin State Fair Top Ten Award. Performances will be recorded for judging purposes. All videos of performances will be judged after the completion of the Fair and the selected Top Ten acts will be notified via mail. Top Ten acts will receive a ribbon and their name will be displayed on the Top Ten Banner in the Youth Expo Hall at the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair.
The mini performance act I am representing has read and understands the qualifications and responsibilities for this opportunity. I am willing to serve as its Contact Person for the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair. I understand submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance. Notification and acceptance will come from Wisconsin State Fair based on the following criteria: 1) stage availability, 2) county/district rankings and 3) timeliness of group nomination.

Individual or Group Name: ________________________________
County: ________________________________
Contact Person: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: ________________________________ WI Zip Code: __________
Phone: ( ) ____________
Email: ________________________________

Does your group plan to arrive by bus? ☐ Yes ☐ No # of buses: __________

Mini Performance Title: ________________________________
Type of Performance: mini drama dance musical act interpretive reading
dancing act comedy routine other ________________________________

Number of performers in group: _______ Distance group will be traveling on day of performance: _______ miles (one way)

Onstage Time (entire time must stay within 10 minutes):
Total Set-Up Minutes: _______ Total Perform. Minutes: _______ Total Take-Down Minutes: _______

Rank, in order of preference, the day you wish to perform. "1" = first choice, "2" = second, etc. Only the dates ranked will be considered for your group’s performance.

Fri., Aug. 4 _______ Mon., Aug. 7 _______ Thurs., Aug. 10 _______ Sun., Aug. 13 _______
Sat., Aug. 5 _______ Tues., Aug. 8 _______ Fri., Aug. 11 _______

To be completed by your County 4-H Youth Development Staff or Youth Organization Leader:

Is this group the: ☐ Selected ☐ 1st Alternate ☐ 2nd Alternate ☐ 3rd Alternate
Are all the performers in this act in good standing within your program? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Signature: ________________________________ Date: __________

Must be postmarked by May 15, 2017 and sent to:
Wisconsin State Fair Park, Laura Schoenike - Youth Expo Mini Performances,
640 S. 84th St., West Allis, WI 53214