



Showcasing Artistically Gifted and Talented Youth For Over 15 Years

For more than 15 years, **RISING STARS** has been recognized and embraced in South Carolina for highlighting Artistically Gifted and Talented students across the state. Originally created by arts educator and administrator Larry Barnfield, RISING STARS assembles a cast of students from a variety of classical arts disciplines for a showcase of talent. Students not only have an opportunity to share their artistic talents with a real audience, but are also invited to chat with the host to share their thoughts in creating the art they just shared on stage.

This year, Rising Stars performances will take place at TWO exciting, high profile performance venues that recognize their exceptional artistic talent. The programs will be presented in Charleston during the 2024 Spoleto USA/Piccolo Spoleto Festival on Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day weekend), and Saturday, June 1. New this year, the last weekend of Rising Stars performances will take place in the artistic hotspot of the upstate, Greenville. By providing performance opportunities in multiple venues, Rising Stars can be more accessible for more students.

New this year, students accepted to the Rising Stars program will be paired with a mentor who is a professional artist in their field. Students will have the opportunity to learn from our mentors on how to succeed in artistic practice through college and career opportunities.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

The programs will feature students between the ages of 9 through 18 years of age who are not full-time college students who are residents of the Southeast US. Students who are gifted visual artists, actors, dancers, creative writers, solo musicians (instrumental and vocal), and ensemble groups of no more than 12 members, may apply. Previous Rising Stars student performers are not eligible to apply.

How Can I Apply?

- Complete the online application form that applies to your arts area. The application includes a request for a teacher recommendation, a brief student essay, and evidence of artistic work.
- Visual Artists should submit five to seven works in one of the following media: drawing, photography, painting, printmaking, or sculpture.
- Actors should submit up to ten minutes of monologue material and can include two different monologues to show contrasting styles. Improv comedy groups are also encouraged to apply. Please submit up to 10 minutes of performance footage that showcases as many members as possible.
- Dancers (soloists and ensembles) should submit up to ten minutes of dance that may be in two different styles. Due to limited performance space, ensembles are limited to 4 members.
- Writers should submit performances of up to ten minutes of poetry or verse. Contrasting styles are acceptable.
- Musical soloists should submit up to ten minutes of musical performance consisting of no more than two different works.
- Musical ensemble groups should submit up to ten minutes, which may consist of two works. Groups should have no more than 12 members.

NOTE: if selected for a Rising Star program, your performance will be approximately six minutes.

Is There an Application Fee?

- No! For the first time, Rising Stars applications are free for all students.

When Are Applications Due?

Applications must be submitted by March 17, 2024. All applicants will be notified of their application status by April 5, 2024. Those selected to perform on the Rising Stars Programs will be notified at that time of the date and procedures for their performance.

If Selected?

- If selected, you will receive a letter of congratulations and an agreement to perform on a specific date and location.
- You will have seven days to return the letter accepting the performance date and location. Program organizers will take into account location preference, but cannot guarantee location preference will be available for all who request it.
- Students will be paired with a mentor who will offer advice and guidance for students in preparing for their Rising Stars performance and discuss a

student's next steps in their artistic development. Students will meet in groups with a mentor once before the performance and on the performance day.

- All performers are responsible for their own travel to Charleston or Greenville depending on scheduled performance.
- On the day of your performance, all students (visual and performing artists) will arrive at the theater 2 hours before the performance for instructions, meeting with a mentor, and rehearsal before the performance.

Performance Schedule

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>City</u> |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Monday, May 27 | 11:00AM | St. Matthew's Lutheran Church | Charleston |
| Monday, May 27 | 3:00PM | St. Matthew's Lutheran Church | Charleston |
| Saturday, June 1 | 11:00AM | St. Matthew's Lutheran Church | Charleston |
| Saturday, June 1 | 3:00PM | St. Matthew's Lutheran Church | Charleston |
| Saturday, June 8 | 11:00AM | TBD | Greenville |
| Saturday, June 8 | 3:00PM | TBD | Greenville |

Who Will Select Participants?

A three-person panel for each of the arts areas will select those to be featured. Each panel is composed of representatives from higher education and professional artists.

What Assistance Will Be Provided?

- If needed, an accompanist will be provided.
- Music stands and piano will be provided.