

**2013 Information Packet and  
Application for Elementary Schools**



The fundraiser that's fun.

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## OUR MISSION

*To give students the opportunity to share their unique talents and abilities with their school community in a fundraising show that wholly benefits the participating school.*

## OUR STORY

Inspired by *Run for the Schools*, we wanted to establish a long-term fundraising effort benefitting ICCSD. One that students and families would be excited to participate in, and that would provide a rewarding experience in the bargain.

Given the popularity of talent shows nationally, we reasoned students would enjoy the chance to share their own abilities with one another. "**My School's Got Talent!**" was conceived as a live show featuring student (and faculty!) talent, attended by students, families and friends, and benefitting the showcased school.

When the Coralville Center for the Performing Arts was completed in 2012, we finally had an ideal venue to make our vision a reality. Our 2012 pilot, "**Weber Elementary's Got Talent!**" featured 38 acts and collected \$1,970 for Weber Elementary in an evening. Beyond the financial support it provided, Weber participants remarked on the sense of community they felt gathered in the theatre for an evening to celebrate their students.

In 2013 "**My School's Got Talent!**" will be produced for as many participating elementary schools as the CCPA schedule will allow. We look forward to a year of exciting shows and to contributing needed support to our educators and our schools.

Leslie Nolte

Founding Director  
My School's Got Talent!  
Coralville, Iowa

## HOW IT WORKS

- Choose an available **show date** from the CCPA calendar.
- Invite your students to **sign up for audition day** at your school. MSGT! will conduct auditions and give feedback to students who wish to perform.
- Invite students to **submit artwork for display** in the lobby gallery the day of the show. These works can be sold (often bought by the artists' parents!) to benefit the school.
- **MSGT!** manages all **production** aspects (auditions, rehearsal, staging, tech).
- Your school **pre-sells tickets** to the show and sells tickets **at the door** (your school keeps all proceeds).
- **Enjoy the show** with your school's faculty, parents, students and friends.

## FAQ'S

### **Q: WHAT IS THE COST FOR OUR SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE?**

**A:** There is no cost for participating schools. Proceeds are derived from ticket, refreshment, art and T-shirt sales for the event. Volunteers and supporting businesses cover production costs.

### **Q: HOW LONG IS THE SHOW?**

**A:** Shows are limited to 2 1/2 hours with one intermission. Acts are limited to 3 minutes.

### **Q: WHAT TYPES OF ACTS CAN STUDENTS PERFORM?**

**A:** Students can read poems, perform a monologue, sing, play an instrument, dance, juggle, do gymnastics or dribble a soccer ball -- whatever special talent they wish to share. Language, music and costume must be appropriate for all ages.

### **Q: DO STUDENTS NEED TO SUPPLY ANYTHING?**

**A:** Students will supply their music track, props and costume if needed. CCPA provides music stands, microphones, piano and lighting. MSGT! will conduct onstage rehearsal.

**Q: WHAT ABOUT STUDENTS WHO AREN'T PERFORMING ON STAGE?**

**A:** Students are also invited to submit their **artwork or poetry** for display in the lobby the evening of the show. If they wish, their work can be sold for a donation to their school.

**Q: WHAT DO TICKETS COST?**

**A:** Your PTO can determine a set ticket price or simply ask for a free will donation. For instance one school charged \$8 per ticket, and another will offer free tickets and accept donations at will.

**Q: WILL OUR STUDENTS BE MARKETED TO?**

**A:** No. Sponsors and volunteers are mentioned in our show program and thanked before our audience for supporting your school. The purpose of "My School's Got Talent!" is to let students shine. Support from area businesses is driven by commitment to community.

**Q: IS MY SCHOOL'S GOT TALENT! PART OF NOLTE ACADEMY?**

**A:** No. My School's Got Talent! is a fundraising effort conceived by Leslie Nolte in partnership with other business owners and elementary school parents. Nolte Academy provides volunteer time and materials in keeping with its organizational values for community stewardship. Our only expectation is a successful fundraiser.

**Q: IS THE SHOW A CONTEST WITH A WINNER CHOSEN?**

**A:** No. "My School's Got Talent!" focuses the spotlight equally on all participants and celebrates every effort. In this sense, your school's showcase night is unlike a traditional talent show.

# PILOT: "WEBER'S GOT TALENT!"

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS:

- 38 acts were staged
- Show ran 2.25 hours
- Pre show reception served 200 logo cookies and 10 gallons of lemonade
- Staff dance number was a highlight
- Tee shirts sold out and were enthusiastically worn
- Load in and out took 6 hours with backdrop and equipment, needing 4 volunteers

## TICKETS/ATTENDANCE/REVENUE NOTES:

- 70 tickets sold through pre-order sheets - \$565
- 98 tickets cash sales at desk - \$786
- 77 tickets sold at theatre - \$619
- Total number of tickets sold - 245

**Total revenues donated to Weber Elementary - \$1970**

## VALUE OF DONATIONS RECEIVED IN SUPPORT OF THE EVENT:

- Theatre rental/stage hands - \$800 *Nolte Academy*
- Backdrop - \$565 *Nolte Academy*
- Logo/branding - \$500 *Jean Rude Consulting*
- Programs - \$363 *Zephyr Printing*
- Tee shirts - \$879 (these will be sold at cost in 2013 rather than donated - to be sold early and in lobby)

**Total sponsorship value - \$3157**