

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS RELEASE

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South Dakota State Fair Searches for Talent Showcase Acts

HURON, S.D. - The South Dakota State Fair and Sherwin Linton Entertainment are looking for the best and brightest talent in South Dakota to perform on the AARP Centennial Stage at the 2011 State Fair.

For the past 14 years, the Centennial Stage at the South Dakota State Fair has been host to the South Dakota Talent Showcase, which is hosted and produced by South Dakota native and country music entertainer Sherwin Linton. More than 30 entertainment acts from throughout the state are featured each year.

“Our goal is to give as many performers as possible the opportunity to perform and showcase their talents at the state’s biggest ‘end of summer party,’ ” Linton said. “State Fair patrons enjoy seeing the variety of talented individuals who may live in their own neighborhoods. This show isn’t about pomp and circumstance. It’s about being down-home.”

The South Dakota State Fair talent showcase is open to both amateur and professional acts.

“Younger and new acts have found the showcase to be an excellent way to hone their skills before an appreciative audience, and professional entertainers also enjoy the exposure the show affords them,” Linton said.

Many acts that have been part of the State Fair Talent Showcase have gone on to receiving regional and national recognition for their talents, including Mallorie Haley, who has appeared on “American Idol,” popular country singers Gregg Hanson, Donnie Miller, and Hailey Steele, and two-time National Champion Whistler, Carole Skinner.

To be considered for a performance position in the 2011 South Dakota State Fair Talent Showcase, an applicant should submit a photo, CD or DVD and bio to: Sherwin Linton, Centennial Stage Showcase, South Dakota State Fair, 890 3rd Street SW, Huron, SD 57350. Deadline for entry is June 15.

The fair will run Sept. 1-5 at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds in Huron. You can find the SD State Fair on Facebook and Twitter. For more information, log onto www.sdstatefair.com