

Starry Showcase Packet

Rising Stars!® Challenge: *TwisDId History!*

To the Tournament Director:

If you will be hosting one or more Rising Stars! teams at your Tournament, this Starry Showcase Packet might be useful.

Site and Staffing Requirements

- ___ *Challenge-at-a-Glance*
- ___ Suggested Supply List for Rising Stars! Presentation Site

Materials for this Challenge

- ___ Accommodating Rising Stars! Teams
- ___ Starry Showcase Form: Rising Stars!: *TwisDId History!*
- ___ Rising Stars! Feedback Form: *TwisDId History!* [also available separately]

Suggested Schedule: Minimum 18 minutes per team

Suggested Feedback Team:

- 1 Head Feedback Person
- Up to 3 People to provide Feedback
- 1 Prep Area Facilitator

Support Officials: (May be combined with other roles)

- 1 Announcer

PRESENTATION ROOM REQUIREMENTS

The Presentation Site must include...

- **A Presentation area with:**
 - A minimum space that is 10ft. x 10ft. (3.04m x 3.04m), although a larger area is desirable
 - A 3-pronged outlet with AC power accessible within the area – check to make sure the power is ON!
- **A working area for the Feedback Team with:**
 - A long table and chairs for the Feedback people to use between Presentations.
 - All required items and paperwork listed on the Supply List
- **An assigned seating area for Adult Leaders and team members who have chosen not to participate so they can watch their team's Presentation.**

Suggested Supply List for Rising Stars!® Presentation Site

General Site Supplies: Rising Stars! Starry Showcase Sites should have the following supplies:

Forms:

- ___ *Feedback* Form
- ___ Extra blank copies of *Starry Showcase* Form
- ___ Schedules for the day
- ___ Award nomination forms
- ___ Copies of Challenge

Other Materials:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ___ A stopwatch or timer | ___ Pencils with erasers |
| ___ 'Sticky' Notes (i.e. Post-It®) | ___ Night Light (test outlets) |
| ___ Pens | ___ Paper Clips |
| ___ Name Tags | ___ Broom & Dustpan |
| ___ Paper cups & water | ___ Tables & chairs |
| ___ Clipboards | ___ Stapler & extra staples |
| ___ Signs | ___ Scissors |
| ___ Pencil Sharpener | ___ Blank 8.5 x 11 or A4 paper |
| ___ First Aid Kit | ___ Paper Towels |
| ___ Large Black Marker | ___ Garbage Bags or Can with extra bags |
| ___ Kleenex | |
| ___ Extension cord (if needed to bring power to edge of Presentation Area) | |

Accommodating Rising Stars!® Teams

If your Tournament will be hosting one or more Rising Stars! teams, provisions will need to be made to accommodate them. Here are some suggestions that have been successfully implemented.

Option One: *Rising Stars!-Only Sites:*

The Rising Stars! Presentation areas at most Tournaments are classrooms located off less-traveled hallways in order to reduce the anxiety of our youngest teams, who may become nervous and distracted around the busy traffic patterns of the competitive sites. Parents of Rising Stars! team members, often attending a creative problem-solving Tournament for the first time, are generally relieved to find that they don't have to contend with the noisy confusion of the larger competitive sites.

- ★ **Smaller Spaces an Option:** As there are usually fewer spectators for Rising Stars! Presentations, a standard-sized classroom is sufficient as a Presentation site.
- ★ **Connecting Rooms:** It often works well to use two adjoining classrooms connected by an "inside" door as the Prep and Presentation Areas, respectively. The team comes into the first room for Prep, and enters the Presentation room through the common doorway. The advantage of this is that the team is brought out of the noisy hallway into a relatively calm Prep Area environment before the members perform.
- ★ **Site Environment:** Since this is a dedicated Rising Stars! site, it can be set up and even decorated specially to honor our special youngest teams. The chairs can be placed specifically so parents and supporters can hear the little voices better. Special signs and decorations can be used to make the site festive, warm and friendly for young children.
- ★ **Feedback People Specialized:** By having a dedicated Rising Stars! Presentation site, the people who staff it and provide Feedback for the teams can be chosen and trained specifically to be responsive to and appreciative of the young Rising Stars! team members. The Challenge Master can have control over how the teams are received and treated, and can be sure the environment at the site is welcoming and nurturing.

Option Two: *Rising Stars! Teams as the Lead-Off Performers at the Competitive Team Challenge Sites:*

Another way to schedule Rising Stars! teams is to assign them to be the first Presentations at one or more of the *Team Challenge* Sites. For example, imagine that there are nine Rising Stars! teams registered for your Tournament. You can schedule three Rising Stars! teams at the *Switch!* site, three teams at the *Hit or Myth* site, and three teams at the *Dive Got a Secret!* site. The Rising Stars! teams would be the "lead off" performers at each site. Consider the advantages:

- ★ **Early In, Early Out:** Parents and Adult Leaders of Rising Stars! teams often prefer to leave the Tournament well before the Awards Ceremony, which this allows.
- ★ **Try It, You'll Like It!** Who can resist little faces, corny jokes, and hilariously energetic performances? There is no better way to "wake up and warm up" an Appraisal Team!
- ★ **A New Appraiser's "Dress Rehearsal":** By watching Rising Stars! teams, novice Appraisers are able to watch a few presentations in a relaxing way before they need to begin evaluating what they see. This is an excellent way to review what they learned at their Appraisers' Training without the pressure of having to evaluate anything. Even though they did not do the same *Team Challenge* as the older teams, there were still some required elements. The Head Appraiser or Challenge Master can point out the diverse ways each team approached the required elements, and even model for the Appraisal Team the types of questions that should be asked of the team members.
- ★ **Great Audiences:** Performing early in the day at a *Team Challenge* Site can also bring Rising Stars! teams larger audiences and greater exposure than at a Rising Stars!-Only site.

TIP: Despite its many positive aspects, distributing the Rising Stars! teams around to the competitive *Team Challenge* sites should not add more than 45 minutes, as a rule of thumb, to any site's schedule. The Tournament Director must carefully consider the "fatigue" factor of Appraisers who have a long day ahead of them, and must be confident that the time devoted to the Rising Stars! teams will not unnecessarily diminish the energy of the Appraisers and negatively impact the last few teams of the day.

Option Three: *Rising Stars! Teams as the 'Wrap Up' Performers at the Competitive Team Challenge Sites:*

A third way to schedule Rising Stars! teams is to schedule them at the END of the Presentation schedule at each site.

- ★ **The Appraisal Team has to remain at the site for at least ½ hour after the last team performs anyway:** Because of potential questions regarding the last performing team's scores, the Appraisal Team must stay on site. This gives them a very entertaining and enjoyable way to pass the time!
- ★ **Pure enjoyment!:** Since the Appraisal team's 'work' is finished for the day, evaluators can 'kick back' and just enjoy watching the youngest teams. There is no concern about 'overloading' the Appraisal team, as they don't have to evaluate anything.
- ★ **Audiences may be larger:** Towards the end of the day, most teams have completed their competitive performances and are looking for performances to watch. Nobody can resist the enthusiasm of the youngest teams.
- ★ **It encourages Adult Leaders to keep the kids on site for the Closing (Awards) Ceremony:** Sometimes Adult Leaders take their Rising Stars! teams home after they perform. Having the performances at the end of the day allows Rising Stars! teams to arrive at the Tournament later in the day and stay for the Awards, something many of these young teams would not see otherwise.

Starry Showcase Form

Rising Stars!® Team Challenge

Our Team is from: _____

Our Team Members are:

Checklist:

_____ Play: Did you make up a Play?

_____ Special Event:

- Did you choose something that happened in the past?

Did you change it and make it different?

_____ Characters:

- Do you have Characters in your Play?

_____ Song:

- Did you make a new song? Did you change the words to a song you knew?

_____ Prop:

- Did you make a Magical Prop to help you? Did you use 4 different shapes in some way on your Prop?

Side Trips (optional component):

Our team added one (or two) Side Trips. They are:

1. _____

2. _____

Rising Stars![®] Feedback Form: *TwisDId History!*

Team (Membership) # (if applicable)	
Team Name:	
City, State/Province:	

Time of Presentation: _____
Adult Leader/Feedback Person:

Instructions: Each Adult Leader / Feedback Person fills out one of these forms for each team. Please let the team know how much you enjoyed their Presentation by writing positive comments in each section. The children are looking forward to receiving positive comments and praise from you.

1. **The Play:** Write down some things you especially liked about the Play they created.
2. **The Special Event:** Write some things you especially enjoyed about the Special Event and/or the way they changed that Event.
3. **The Characters:** Tell some things you liked about the Characters in their Play.
4. **The Song:** Write about some things you liked about the Song they made up.
5. **The Magical Prop:** Tell what you liked about the Magical Prop.
4. **Side Trip 1:** _____ Tell the team what you liked about *Side Trip 1*.
5. **Side Trip 2:** _____ Tell the team what you liked about *Side Trip 2*.
6. **Teamwork:** What are some positive things you noticed about the way the team worked together?
7. **Creativity:** Tell the team what you especially liked about their creative solution to this Challenge.