

#### ELIGIBILITY:

- Contestant must be a student at a traditional public school within Orange County (FL).
- Professional entertainers are not eligible. A "professional" is defined as anyone whose livelihood is from the type of performance entered in the competition.
- Professional accompanists are permitted and must complete a **waiver** by February 13, 2026. If used, professional accompanists must appear in the audition video.
- Performance categories: singing, dancing, instrumentals, comedy, drama, and novelty acts.
- Batons tossed in air, fire and pyrotechnics, dangerous equipment or live animals are prohibited.
- Music tracks are allowed for instrumental accompaniment only.
- **Lip sync and karaoke are not permitted.**
- No equipment can be brought in for a performer for a performance if you are selected as a finalist. The Foundation for OCPS is unable to provide equipment that would have performers suspended in the air. Sports competitions will not be accepted as auditioned videos.
- Previous first place winners are ineligible to compete.

#### AUDITION VIDEOS:

- Any videos submitted for audition must be the actual performance piece with the contestant(s) in performance attire. Performances using changes in performers, music, attire or content will be disqualified. The audition submitted is the only performance that can be performed if selected as a finalist. No performance changes are permitted.
- Audition videos must be a minimum of 2 minutes and no more than 3.5 minutes in length. No exceptions.
- YouTube auditions must be made public for judging purposes and can be taken down after the selection process is completed by parent.
- All acts must be appropriate for family audiences. This determination is made at the sole discretion of the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee's decision is final.
- Waivers and professional head shots (if you have one) are required for each audition by February 13, 2026. Do not crop your photos, please.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Audition videos submitted by those not selected as finalists will be deleted, and not retained or used for any purpose.

#### FINALISTS:

- The Selection Committee will choose up to 18 acts from submitted auditions.
- Two alternate acts will be chosen in case of an emergency.
- Finalist will be named on the Foundations website at [www.FoundationforOCPS.org](http://www.FoundationforOCPS.org) on March 27, 2026.
- All finalist must provide a full color, high resolution headshot (300 dpi or higher) by February 13, 2026 with their initial application. If you are chosen as finalist, headshots will be scheduled April 1 & 2.
- Finalist will perform LIVE on April 25, 2026. There are no backup dates for performances. Please clear this date on your calendar. Top Talent LIVE 2026 will be held at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in the Alexis & Jim Pugh Theater.

#### EVENT PERFORMANCE:

- Finalist will perform at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts and must be available for a same-day dress rehearsal.
- You must perform the act and wear the same attire you submitted in your audition. No changes to your audition are permitted.
- Judges will score the finalist on overall talent, showmanship, and creativity. The decision of the judges is final.
- Equipment provided at the venue includes a piano and microphones. Finalists must bring anything else they need to the performance as long as it falls within the eligibility requirements listed above.
- A sound system will be provided at the venue. All contestants must use the sound system provided.
- All rules will be strictly enforced. Any violations will result in immediate disqualification.
- Please direct all questions to the Foundation via email ([toptalent@ocps.net](mailto:toptalent@ocps.net)) or by phone at 407-317-3261.