



## Rules of Future Stars Festival 2020

1. Entrants must be originally from, or live within the Harrogate district, or nearby surrounding areas of Ripon, Knaresborough, Wetherby etc. If in doubt, give the festival team a shout!
2. Future Stars is a festival to encourage young people's endeavours in the creative and performing arts. We also have certain categories where adult performers and creatives may enter certain awards, please ensure you are entering a category suitable for your age.
3. Please ensure your entry video/film is not shared on social media until the end of the competition on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
4. All entries should be sent via the website online entry form.
5. Entries should be uploaded through Wetransfer.com and the generated link should be copied and pasted into the entry form for Future stars Festival to download and view.
6. Entry Fees must be paid in full at the point of entry.
7. Fees will only be refunded if the entry is not accepted, for not adhering to these rules.
8. Closing date for entries is 6pm on Sunday 26th July 2020.
9. No late or incomplete entries will be accepted.
10. The age of the performer is taken as their age on the 1st July 2020.
11. No performer may make more than one entry in any one award category, however they may enter as many **different** awards as they wish.
12. Each performer will be sent an e-mail confirmation of entry.
13. This year, because of social distancing rules in place, we will not be accepting group entries or opening our group award categories. We are sadly unable to hold the festival in a physical space, offering the usual performance opportunities. Entrants may therefore enter as a solo or duo performance in any category, however, they will need to be able to share the prize between them, however they see fit, if a duo win the award. There are to be no more than 2 performers in an entry video.
14. No performer, coach, teacher or anyone connected to an entrants performance should approach the Future Stars Festival Team, to try to gain feedback or discuss individual performance pieces, unless invited to do so, otherwise the performer may be disqualified.
15. All Judges decisions are final.
16. Winners' certificates and trophies will be awarded, and all entrants will receive a graded certificate at the end of the festival. The grading system is as follows:

<b>Honours</b>	<b>An outstanding performance of exceptional talent and ability</b>
<b>Distinction</b>	<b>An amazing performance of excellent talent and ability</b>
<b>Commendation</b>	<b>An impressive performance of considerable talent and ability</b>
<b>Merit</b>	<b>A promising performance of developing talent and ability</b>

17. Winners certificates and awards are to be collected from a central Harrogate venue, tbc, on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm, where press photographs will be taken. Winners must be available for this event. Participants may collect their certificates on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August at an agreed social distancing time to suit

between 3-6pm. Any certificates, which have not been collected by the end of the Festival will be retained by the Festival team for one month. If uncollected, they will be destroyed.

18. Participation Certificates may be posted out upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

19. The Festival team reserves the right to:

- Engage an additional judge should the need arise.
- Change the prizes should the need arise.
- Cancel awards/categories with insufficient entries.
- Disclaim all responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any performer.
- Disclaim all responsibility for copies of copyright works used without permission of the copyright owners.

20. Any breach of these rules by performers may result in disqualification.

21. Performance time is taken from the first word or note of the piece, to the last note or word of the piece. We cannot accept entries that are longer than the specified time limits. These will receive a participation certificate but will be excluded from being selected for the Judges Grand Final.

22. Accompaniments, if used, can be live or pre-recorded.

23. Copyright for performances should be sought by performers at the time of entry, if applicable.

24. Performers must not change the words of the playwright, if the scene has been taken from a published source. Pieces for acting purposes may be original, or published and from any time period.

25. All performances in all award categories must be suitable for a mixed audience, which may include children. Unsuitable material will be disqualified. For this rule only, the specifically unsuitable words of the songwriter or playwright that are unsuitable may be modified.

26. Costumes may be worn and are indeed encouraged. Performing in the kind of clothes your character would wear helps a performer and your audience to invest in your performance. Props may be used and please do consider your background/set before filming. These are not essential elements though, you may be just as successful in this festival without any props, costume or background/set.

27. All performances must be from memory.

28. By entering the festival, you consent to your talents and entry being shared on social media, the Future Stars blog/website and the media. Young people under the age of 16 will need parental agreement to enter the festival.

29. Complaints or compliments on the Future Stars Festival will be welcome and should be made to [info@futurestarsfestival.co.uk](mailto:info@futurestarsfestival.co.uk), before the end of the Festival on 7<sup>th</sup> August.

## Participant Etiquette

We have 4 rules:

- Be brave
- Be kind
- Be supportive
- Be respectful

We have a no tolerance policy for unnecessary negativity in our social media policy. We adhere to the adage 'If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all.' Every performer is on their own unique journey, and even as the professionals, we are still training and learning every day. Working hard, staying focused and being encouraging of others is how to succeed in the industry. If we hear of any activity that goes against this guidance, all involved parties will have their entries removed from the festival. This is a professional opportunity to share your talent and develop your experiences and as such, we expect your industry-standard professionalism, at all times.

*Wishing you the very best of luck!*

*The Future stars Festival Team!*