

Milestone Anniversary Launches big changes for Idol



Portland, Oregon – February 29, 2016 - Nonprofit program 'Teen Idol' announced its 10th Season is now open but radical changes are in store for all. Notwithstanding the diversification of having both Spanish and Russian competitions, the program has changed its core English program, added contests and programs and have rebranded. Here are some of the changes for Season 10:

- New Logo to mark the 10th Anniversary
- All-Star Competition added for students from all 10 years
- Teen Leadership Council for 3.5 GPA students
- Alumni and Volunteer team created
- Chapter to State rollup vs. one contest
- Online Auditions accepted for the first time
- 4 Rounds of competition vs. 3 for English program

Live auditions start in March and online submission is available now until the first week of April for new contestants trying out for the English Singing program. Former semi-finalists of Teen Idol, finalists of acquired Beaverton Teen Idol and finalists from Hillsboro Teen Idol* can skip audition requirements.

Spanish, Russian and Standup competitions will remain open through June 1st and the All-Star Competition Remains open until the English Finale scheduled for June 25th at Lake Oswego High School.

Teen Leadership Council (TLC), Teen Idol Alumni Association and Teen Idol Volunteers programs are open year round.

Teen Idol celebrates the final year of American Idol, the inspiration behind the program, as many Portland area success stories are also former Teen Idol finalists including Aubrey Cleland AI - 11th place (S3 TI Finalist), **Lovey James AI top 20 (S5 TI Finalist)** and both Moorea Masa (S1 TI Finalist) and Madison Shanley (S3 TI Finalist) both made top 100 on AI. American Idol top 24 Haley Johnsen from Beaverton, also participates as a volunteer judge and performer.

Students can sign up online and is free to participate. Finalists receive professional photo shoot and summer tour. Top placement includes cash prizes. Dates and locations of physical auditions and details can be found at TeenIdol.org.

Professional musicians, music teachers or teens who don't wish to compete, may volunteer by signing up from the home page as well. Teen Idol background checks volunteers over age 18 spending one on one time with students. Sponsors are still needed Teen Idol staff says.

General qualifications for the English, Spanish, Russian and Standup contests include being 13-18 years old, living within 35 miles of Portland, speak and sing the language applying for, agree to go on summer tour and not have significant public performance experience as an artist. All-Star program is open to all ages but but me former Teen Idol finalists and be members in good standing of the Alumni Association.

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ABOUT TEEN IDOL

Teen Idol is a teen talent and skills organization designed to provide hands on real life experience for teens wanting to learn more than what is available through school and includes English, Spanish & Russian singing and standup competitions currently. Teen Idol provides non-contest programs for new and existing participants such as the Teen Leadership Council for High School Juniors and Seniors with a 3.5 GPA and the Teen Idol Alumni Association for former finalists and volunteers. Program is managed and produced by Dennis Gleason of Dark Wing Productions who is also the OMPA Treasurer and recognized as an 'Ultimate Volunteer' by KATU's Steve Dunn as part of the "Every Day Hero" program. Teen Idol can be found on social media including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and others as well as online at www.TeenIdol.org.

Teen Idol began under Portland Parks as an English only program to help get students off the streets. In 2011, Dark Wing Productions acquired the program, expanding scope and capabilities to become one of the largest teen programs not operated by a school with applicants ranging from over 50 local schools. Beaverton Teen Idol was created in 2013 by the Beaverton Mayor's Youth Advisory Board in conjunction with Teen Idol, later acquired in 2015. *Hillsboro Teen Idol is an associated program but not part of Teen Idol.

To learn more about this release, please contact

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