



MASTER LIST OF STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES:

[FULL GUIDELINES FOR EACH CONTEST AND AUDITION MAY BE DOWNLOADED HERE](#)

Version update: 12/19/19

1. **Verge Awards Contests:** These are the main contests that award a total of \$10,000 in cash and prizes to winning students and \$TBD (based on sponsor support) to their schools. Finalists perform/present at the live championships at the Oakdale Theatre

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

1. Singing – soloists, duos, small groups
2. Dance – soloists, duos, groups
3. Music – soloists, duos, small groups
4. Visual & Media Arts – all media
5. Comedy & Novelty Acts – soloists, duos, small groups
6. Technology & Innovation (*Finalists qualify through partner competitions – CT Invention Convention, CT Science and Engineering Fair, and ExpoFest*)

PRIZES: \$10,000 total prizes awarded to students across all categories;
\$(TBD) awarded to winning schools!
Perform/present at the live championships at the Oakdale Theatre
Singing finalists receive one (remote) mentoring session from Hunter Hayes!

JUDGING: For EACH category, eight (8) finalists will be determined by adjudication and two more (2) selected by public voting, totaling ten (10) per category to advance to the live event at the Oakdale Theatre.

Final champions in each category to be determined by pool of judges in audience and by statewide People's Choice online voting prior to event

DEADLINE: Entries are due March 15th by midnight.

UPLOAD TO: <https://verge.awardsplatform.com>

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2. **Auditions:** These are opportunities to perform at/participate in the live championships at the Oakdale Theatre.

7. Hunter Hayes bandmates and background singers - will perform “I Want Crazy” with him onstage at the Oakdale Theatre– these can be an existing student band or individual guitar, bass, keyboard or drum musicians and background vocalists
8. Two (2) drum ensembles to open the main event – any percussion format including vocal (beatboxing)
9. Opening acts - Mariachi, garage, jazz and other small student bands, DJ's, comedians/skits, spoken word artists, etc. to perform in the Dome at Oakdale between 3-5 PM
10. Event emcee or duo to host Dome performances and co-host main event

PRIZES: The experience and exposure, college application and audition material

JUDGING: Performers will be selected by The Verge Awards

DEADLINE: Varies from January 31 – March 8

UPLOAD TO: <https://verge.awardsplatform.com>

3. **Special challenges:** to develop The Verge Awards visual assets and music identity

PRIZES: To be used at/recognition given at Oakdale Theatre; credit given on all artwork and music; excellent portfolio builder; *some may pay flat rates*

JUDGING: Selected by The Verge Awards, some pieces may go to public voting

DEADLINE: Varies

UPLOAD TO: <https://verge.awardsplatform.com>

CHALLENGES:

- A. **Produce The Verge Awards theme song** - Musicians, composers, music producers –work with music director of Broadway shows and Amateur Night at the Apollo
- B. **Visual assets** - 6 challenges:
 - 1) Trophy – sketch, mold or otherwise represent a design of the Verge Awards trophy
 - 2) Contest poster - representing teens engaged in each contest category, and an uplifting celebration of all kinds of teens – must be print-ready
 - 3) Stage design– may be hand drawn
 - 4) Illustrations of each contest category – may be hand drawn
 - 5) Pictogram/icon series - representing teens engaged in each contest category (ala “Life is Good” stick figure Jake) – may be hand drawn
 - 6) Two (2) Billboard designs to encourage students to *enter contests* and students and the public to rally around and *vote* for contestants
- C. **Multimedia** - 4 challenges:
 - 7) 1 min. promotional video or animation (“Sizzle reel”) to engage contestants and fans
 - 8) Explainer video (animation) of the contest process (upload, rally votes, perform, win!)
 - 9) Animation - introducing each contest category on stage and in digital promotions
 - 10) Stage design - multimedia backdrop for stage projection at all live events

[MORE]

4. **Statewide Pep Squad!** offering community service or Capstone credit and pay

Following our mantra of “by teens for teens,” we’re forming a pep squad of student leaders and creatives to help us build a statewide movement to celebrate all kinds of teen on the verge of greatness!

This statewide pep squad will be guided in developing a strategy for and implementing marketing and communications tools that

- encourage students to participate in Verge Awards contests,
- rally schools and communities to cheer for their hometown contestants,
- ensure the Oakdale Theatre is filled with supportive and encouraging fans for all finalists, and
- discover, capture and share heartwarming and inspirational stories of student achievement.

Note that you must attend our mandatory kickoff session February 8th and 9th (Location TBA)

If you would thrive in this creative, uplifting, high energy environment, please apply by January 20th on our website.

APPLICATIONS DUE: January 20, 2020 via [Pep Squad application](#)

If you'd like to speak with us about our approach and whether it satisfies your capstone or community service requirements, please contact your advisor and have them email Ineaton@thevergeawards.com.

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Visit <https://www.thevergeawards.com/> for more information