



Category: Most Creative Holiday Production

Description: This category honors excellence and innovation in a production that features exceptional entertainment value with a holiday theme, excluding Halloween and haunt themed entertainment.

Holiday production themes may include but are not limited to: Chinese New Year, Christmas, Independence Days, Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, Diwali, Chanukah, and more. We encourage parks to submit productions that celebrate their favorite holiday productions.

Note: If your production is Halloween or haunt themed, please enter in the "Most Creative Halloween Production" category.

Criteria:

Performances will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Characterization:
 - a. How effectively performers bring their roles to life and work with show elements to captivate the audience
2. Physical Appearance as Supports the Performance:
 - a. How well production pieces such as costuming, set and scenic design, props, lighting, effects, venue and location work together to support the story, script or central concept of the production.
3. Creative show content:
 - a. How well performance elements such as story/idea/presentation, script, music and lyrics, lighting, sound, special effects, and more support the story or concept of the production
4. Overall production value:
 - a. Overall quality and evaluation of the collective technical, physical, and creative elements of a show, such as creativity/originality, talent, scenic, lighting, costumes, music, scripts/storytelling, props, technology, innovation, and more
5. Audience Engagement
 - a. How effectively the production as a whole sparks emotional connection and relates to the audience as a whole



Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about your production or show including but not limited to an overall description of your show, technical production, and key learnings
- A full video of your show or production
- A three (3) minute maximum sizzle reel of your production
- A signature photo of your show
- A logo and signature photo of your facility
- Any other supporting materials highlighting your submission

Suggested full length video specs:

File format: Use MP4 (.mp4) for the widest compatibility.

- Resolution: Aim for at least HD resolution, which is 1280x720 pixels (720p) or 1920x1080 pixels (1080p). Higher resolutions are fine (like 4K) but will result in larger file sizes.
- Aspect ratio: The most common aspect ratio is 16:9, which is ideal for widescreen viewing.
- Frame rate: 23.98 fps (frames per second), 29.97 fps, or 59.94 fps are all common choices. Higher frame rates can provide smoother motion but create larger files.
- Bitrate: This refers to the amount of data used per second in the video. A higher bitrate means better quality but a larger file size. Aim for a balance between quality and file size. Many platforms recommend a bitrate that is 2x the highest viewing resolution.

Please note: Your application will still be considered even if you do not meet the video specifications listed above. The suggestions are for optimal viewing purposes only.





Category: Most Creative Halloween Production

Description: This category honors excellence and innovation in a production that features exceptional entertainment value with a Halloween or haunt theme.

Halloween themed productions may include but are not limited to: Haunted houses, mazes, atmospheric and interactive entertainment, stage shows, haunting grounds, and more.

Criteria:

Performances will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Characterization:
 - a. How effectively performers bring their roles to life and work with show elements to captivate the audience
2. Physical Appearance as Supports the Performance:
 - a. How well production pieces such as costuming, set and scenic design, props, lighting, effects, venue and location work together to support the story, script or central concept of the production.
3. Creative show content:
 - a. How well performance elements such as story/idea/presentation, script, music and lyrics, lighting, sound, special effects, and more support the story or concept of the production
4. Overall production value:
 - a. Overall quality and evaluation of the collective technical, physical, and creative elements of a show, such as creativity/originality, talent, scenic, lighting, costumes, music, scripts/storytelling, props, technology, innovation, and more
5. Audience Engagement
 - a. How effectively the production as a whole sparks emotional connection and relates to the audience as a whole

Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about your production or show including but not limited to an overall description of your show, technical production, and key learnings





- A full video of your show or production
- A three (3) minute maximum sizzle reel of your production
- A signature photo of your show
- A logo and signature photo of your facility
- Any other supporting materials highlighting your submission

Suggested full length video specs:

File format: Use MP4 (.mp4) for the widest compatibility.

- Resolution: Aim for at least HD resolution, which is 1280x720 pixels (720p) or 1920x1080 pixels (1080p). Higher resolutions are fine (like 4K) but will result in larger file sizes.
- Aspect ratio: The most common aspect ratio is 16:9, which is ideal for widescreen viewing.
- Frame rate: 23.98 fps (frames per second), 29.97 fps, or 59.94 fps are all common choices. Higher frame rates can provide smoother motion but create larger files.
- Bitrate: This refers to the amount of data used per second in the video. A higher bitrate means better quality but a larger file size. Aim for a balance between quality and file size. Many platforms recommend a bitrate that is 2x the highest viewing resolution.

Please note: Your application will still be considered even if you do not meet the video specifications listed above. The suggestions are for optimal viewing purposes only.





Category: Most Creative Atmosphere Production

Description: This category honors excellence and innovation in an atmospheric production that features exceptional entertainment value.

Atmospheric productions are defined as any production, performance, presentation, show, or similar that takes place in a location that has not been specifically designed for a show. Examples include stairs, sidewalks, streets (excluding parades), parks, landings, platforms, and other unique locations where guests are drawn to watch performances seemingly "appear" unexpectedly. Atmosphere productions should not have seating.

Criteria:

Performances will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Characterization:
 - a. How effectively performers bring their roles to life and work with show elements to captivate the audience
2. Physical Appearance as Supports the Performance:
 - a. How well production pieces such as costuming, set and scenic design, props, lighting, effects, venue and location work together to support the story, script or central concept of the production.
3. Creative show content:
 - a. How well performance elements such as story/idea/presentation, script, music and lyrics, lighting, sound, special effects, and more support the story or concept of the production
4. Overall production value:
 - a. Overall quality and evaluation of the collective technical, physical, and creative elements of a show, such as creativity/originality, talent, scenic, lighting, costumes, music, scripts/storytelling, props, technology, innovation, and more
5. Audience Engagement
 - a. How effectively the production as a whole sparks emotional connection and relates to the audience as a whole



Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about your production or show including but not limited to an overall description of your show, technical production, and key learnings
- A full video of your show or production
- A three (3) minute maximum sizzle reel of your production
- A signature photo of your show
- A logo and signature photo of your facility
- Any other supporting materials highlighting your submission

Suggested full length video specs:

File format: Use MP4 (.mp4) for the widest compatibility.

- Resolution: Aim for at least HD resolution, which is 1280x720 pixels (720p) or 1920x1080 pixels (1080p). Higher resolutions are fine (like 4K) but will result in larger file sizes.
- Aspect ratio: The most common aspect ratio is 16:9, which is ideal for widescreen viewing.
- Frame rate: 23.98 fps (frames per second), 29.97 fps, or 59.94 fps are all common choices. Higher frame rates can provide smoother motion but create larger files.
- Bitrate: This refers to the amount of data used per second in the video. A higher bitrate means better quality but a larger file size. Aim for a balance between quality and file size. Many platforms recommend a bitrate that is 2x the highest viewing resolution.

Please note: Your application will still be considered even if you do not meet the video specifications listed above. The suggestions are for optimal viewing purposes only.





Category: Most Creative Spectacle

Description: This category honors excellence and innovation in spectacle production that features exceptional entertainment value.

Spectacle productions are defined as any production, presentation, show, or similar that happens once(or twice a day/season, and is meant to keep people in the park and celebrate the day. It may use multimedia, live actors, fireworks, etc, and is often highly technical with limited if any performers. Spectacles may include, but are not limited to parades, drone shows, multimedia shows, fountain/water shows, projection mapping shows, firework shows, and more.

Criteria:

Performances will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Characterization:
 - a. How effectively performers bring their roles to life and work with show elements to captivate the audience
2. Physical Appearance as Supports the Performance:
 - a. How well production pieces such as costuming, set and scenic design, props, lighting, effects, venue and location work together to support the story, script or central concept of the production.
3. Creative show content:
 - a. How well performance elements such as story/idea/presentation, script, music and lyrics, lighting, sound, special effects, and more support the story or concept of the production
4. Overall production value:
 - a. Overall quality and evaluation of the collective technical, physical, and creative elements of a show, such as creativity/originality, talent, scenic, lighting, costumes, music, scripts/storytelling, props, technology, innovation, and more
5. Audience Engagement
 - a. How effectively the production as a whole sparks emotional connection and relates to the audience as a whole





Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about your production or show including but not limited to an overall description of your show, technical production, and key learnings
- A full video of your show or production
- A three (3) minute maximum sizzle reel of your production
- A signature photo of your show
- A logo and signature photo of your facility
- Any other supporting materials highlighting your submission

Suggested full length video specs:

File format: Use MP4 (.mp4) for the widest compatibility.

- Resolution: Aim for at least HD resolution, which is 1280x720 pixels (720p) or 1920x1080 pixels (1080p). Higher resolutions are fine (like 4K) but will result in larger file sizes.
- Aspect ratio: The most common aspect ratio is 16:9, which is ideal for widescreen viewing.
- Frame rate: 23.98 fps (frames per second), 29.97 fps, or 59.94 fps are all common choices. Higher frame rates can provide smoother motion but create larger files.
- Bitrate: This refers to the amount of data used per second in the video. A higher bitrate means better quality but a larger file size. Aim for a balance between quality and file size. Many platforms recommend a bitrate that is 2x the highest viewing resolution.

Please note: Your application will still be considered even if you do not meet the video specifications listed above. The suggestions are for optimal viewing purposes only.





Category: Most Creative Theatrical Production: Limited Operation

Description: This category honors excellence and innovation in a stage production that features exceptional entertainment value.

Stage productions must be included in the ticket to the attraction, e.g. there can not be a separate fee just to see the show.

Note: Limited operation facilities are considered as facilities that are open 9 months or less of the calendar year.

Criteria:

Performances will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Characterization:
 - a. How effectively performers bring their roles to life and work with show elements to captivate the audience
2. Physical Appearance as Supports the Performance:
 - a. How well production pieces such as costuming, set and scenic design, props, lighting, effects, venue and location work together to support the story, script or central concept of the production.
3. Creative show content:
 - a. How well performance elements such as story/idea/presentation, script, music and lyrics, lighting, sound, special effects, and more support the story or concept of the production
4. Overall production value:
 - a. Overall quality and evaluation of the collective technical, physical, and creative elements of a show, such as creativity/originality, talent, scenic, lighting, costumes, music, scripts/storytelling, props, technology, innovation, and more
5. Audience Engagement
 - a. How effectively the production as a whole sparks emotional connection and relates to the audience as a whole





Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about your production or show including but not limited to an overall description of your show, technical production, and key learnings
- A full video of your show or production
- A three (3) minute maximum sizzle reel of your production
- A signature photo of your show
- A logo and signature photo of your facility
- Any other supporting materials highlighting your submission

Suggested full length video specs:

File format: Use MP4 (.mp4) for the widest compatibility.

- Resolution: Aim for at least HD resolution, which is 1280x720 pixels (720p) or 1920x1080 pixels (1080p). Higher resolutions are fine (like 4K) but will result in larger file sizes.
- Aspect ratio: The most common aspect ratio is 16:9, which is ideal for widescreen viewing.
- Frame rate: 23.98 fps (frames per second), 29.97 fps, or 59.94 fps are all common choices. Higher frame rates can provide smoother motion but create larger files.
- Bitrate: This refers to the amount of data used per second in the video. A higher bitrate means better quality but a larger file size. Aim for a balance between quality and file size. Many platforms recommend a bitrate that is 2x the highest viewing resolution.

Please note: Your application will still be considered even if you do not meet the video specifications listed above. The suggestions are for optimal viewing purposes only.





Category: Most Creative Theatrical Production: Year-Round Operation

Description: This category honors excellence and innovation in a stage production that features exceptional entertainment value.

Stage productions must be included in the ticket to the attraction, e.g. there can not be a separate fee just to see the show.

Note: Year-round operation facilities are considered as facilities open 10 months or more of the calendar year.

Criteria:

Performances will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Characterization:
 - a. How effectively performers bring their roles to life and work with show elements to captivate the audience
2. Physical Appearance as Supports the Performance:
 - a. How well production pieces such as costuming, set and scenic design, props, lighting, effects, venue and location work together to support the story, script or central concept of the production.
3. Creative show content:
 - a. How well performance elements such as story/idea/presentation, script, music and lyrics, lighting, sound, special effects, and more support the story or concept of the production
4. Overall production value:
 - a. Overall quality and evaluation of the collective technical, physical, and creative elements of a show, such as creativity/originality, talent, scenic, lighting, costumes, music, scripts/storytelling, props, technology, innovation, and more
5. Audience Engagement
 - a. How effectively the production as a whole sparks emotional connection and relates to the audience as a whole



Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about your production or show including but not limited to an overall description of your show, technical production, and key learnings
- A full video of your show or production
- A three (3) minute maximum sizzle reel of your production
- A signature photo of your show
- A logo and signature photo of your facility
- Any other supporting materials highlighting your submission

Suggested full length video specs:

File format: Use MP4 (.mp4) for the widest compatibility.

- Resolution: Aim for at least HD resolution, which is 1280x720 pixels (720p) or 1920x1080 pixels (1080p). Higher resolutions are fine (like 4K) but will result in larger file sizes.
- Aspect ratio: The most common aspect ratio is 16:9, which is ideal for widescreen viewing.
- Frame rate: 23.98 fps (frames per second), 29.97 fps, or 59.94 fps are all common choices. Higher frame rates can provide smoother motion but create larger files.
- Bitrate: This refers to the amount of data used per second in the video. A higher bitrate means better quality but a larger file size. Aim for a balance between quality and file size. Many platforms recommend a bitrate that is 2x the highest viewing resolution.

Please note: Your application will still be considered even if you do not meet the video specifications listed above. The suggestions are for optimal viewing purposes only.





Category: The Showstopper

Description: This category honors excellence and innovation in the creation of a single element within a show, atmosphere, immersive experience, or any other entertainment offering that within the context of the production creates a WOW moment that surprises, delights, shocks, or in some way engages the audiences imaginations and elevates the overall experience.

Showstoppers may include, but are not limited to scenic design, set pieces, props, lighting, audio/sound, costume design, special effects, hair/makeup, choreography, technology, production innovation, and more.

Note: Any submission that does not call out a specific element of their show as the 'showstopper' may be moved to a different category.

Criteria:

The Showstopper will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Element Quality:
 - a. How well is this element produced, what details within the element stand out, show off, or what makes this element stand out.
2. Element originality
 - a. How does this element propel the production in a way that is unique, unexpected, or becomes the focal point of the production. How successful is the element at elevating the production value of the show
3. Element context
 - a. How well does the element fit within the context of the story/concept of the show, and how successful is it at supporting the main storyline /concept of the show.

Application Materials:

- Preparedness to answer questions about your production or show including but not limited to an overall description of your show, technical production, and key learnings
- A full video of your show or production





- A video (maximum length three(3) minutes, or powepoint (maximum length ten (10) slides, highlighting your showstopper, how it was produced, and how it elevates the production
- A signature photo of your showstopper
- A logo and signature photo of your facility
- Any other supporting materials highlighting your submission

Suggested full length video specs:

File format: Use MP4 (.mp4) for the widest compatibility.

- Resolution: Aim for at least HD resolution, which is 1280x720 pixels (720p) or 1920x1080 pixels (1080p). Higher resolutions are fine (like 4K) but will result in larger file sizes.
- Aspect ratio: The most common aspect ratio is 16:9, which is ideal for widescreen viewing.
- Frame rate: 23.98 fps (frames per second), 29.97 fps, or 59.94 fps are all common choices. Higher frame rates can provide smoother motion but create larger files.
- Bitrate: This refers to the amount of data used per second in the video. A higher bitrate means better quality but a larger file size. Aim for a balance between quality and file size. Many platforms recommend a bitrate that is 2x the highest viewing resolution.

Please note: Your application will still be considered even if you do not meet the video specifications listed above. The suggestions are for optimal viewing purposes only.

