FPSers,

We are excited to announce that we are opening submissions for the **FPSPI 2020 Virtual Variety Show**! We are really looking forward to compiling a video of selected acts to air live at 7:30pm EST on Saturday, June 6. However, in order for this to be a reality, we need to receive enough submissions. If we do not receive enough submissions, your video may still be available for competitors and their families to see, but we will not have an actual “Variety Show.”

**A Note on Collaboration:**

The variety show has traditionally featured collaborative acts. You are strongly advised (though not required) to work together with your affiliate teammates if possible. Collaboration with members of other affiliates is also encouraged (if you or your coach already has contact information for someone from a different affiliate), but not required. Due to the social distancing guidelines implemented in many areas around the world, we expect the majority of collaborative acts even within the same affiliate to be filmed over a video-chat medium such as Zoom, or presented as a compilation of videos filmed by group members in their own homes. We have included on this document a list of possible act ideas, as well as links to some YouTube videos that can guide you in how to present your material.

**Submission Requirements:**

- All submissions must be received by no later than 05:00 AM EST June 5th.
- All submissions 1) must be completed through [this Google form](#). (The Google form will automatically collect the name and profile photo associated with the account through which the form is submitted. For online privacy reasons, please make sure that your Google profile photo does not contain children under 13, and that the name associated with the account is not that of a child under 13.) *(If you live in China, you may submit via WeChat to gankangming, although the Google form is still preferable if possible)*

[WeChat QR]

- You will be asked to provide your group name, your affiliate(s), approximate number of people involved, an adult’s email address by which you will be notified of whether you got into the show, and a brief, one-sentence description of your act. You will **not** be asked to provide the individual names of group members.
- You will also be asked to submit the **exact video you want aired in the variety show**. This video must be under 5 minutes long, and **under 1 gigabyte**. Please test your video beforehand (maybe...
by creating your own Google Form and submitting the video through it) to ensure that the quality is appropriate. We’re not expecting 4K footage and polished studio sound, but try to avoid blurry/grainy visuals and “choppy” audio.

Variety Show Act Ideas:

This virtual variety show really provides the opportunity to think outside the box, and showcase talents that never would be able to be displayed at a regular, in-person show. The following ideas are just suggestions. Feel free to come up with your own ideas as well—we’d love to see whatever you’ve got!

- Group singing/instrument playing over Zoom (YouTube link)
- Synchronized dancing over Zoom (YouTube link)
- Special, unique talents you have (riding a unicycle? Balancing books on your head? Creative skateboarding tricks? Juggling while jumping up and down? Jump rope or hula hoop tricks? (Please ensure that whatever you choose, you can perform safely.))
- Skits or group storytelling
- Comedy or Improv

A note about attempting to synchronously produce music through Zoom — it is more difficult than you’d think. Here is a link to a video of a school’s band practice over Zoom, and some of the challenges they ran into. If you’re up for the challenge, we’d love to see what you can do, but you might want to stick to just one instrument and one singer, or at most, two instruments.

Your act may be anywhere from a few seconds to five minutes long; however, we reserve the right to shorten any act as we see fit. We might choose to shorten your act due to time constraints, or to make the Variety Show flow better as a whole. You will not necessarily be informed if we choose to shorten your act.

You are allowed (though certainly not expected or required) to use video-editing software to assemble or enhance your submission.

Choir Opportunity:

If you’d like to be featured in the FPS Choir this year, please select one or both of the following songs: “I Dare You,” by Kelly Clarkson, and “Keep Your Head Up,” by Andy Grammer. Fill out this Google Form (it is different from the general submission form) and upload a video of yourself singing the song in its entirety, with headphones. The headphones are important because we want to hear you in the video, but we do not want to hear the actual song. Listening to the song while you are singing it will help you stay on time.

Our vision for the virtual choir performance is that some lines of the songs will have multiple people singing at the same time, and other lines will be sung by individual participants. This is what the form is referring to when it asks if you’re comfortable having a solo. Saying yes does not automatically
guarantee that you’ll have a solo, but if you say no we will ensure that you are only included in parts where other people are singing as well.

3 You are still allowed to submit regular variety show acts, following the rules in the “Submission Requirements” section, regardless of how many choir songs you participate in.

4 The Google form will automatically collect the name and profile photo associated with the account through which the form is submitted. For online privacy reasons, please make sure that your Google profile photo does not contain children under 13, and that the name associated with the account is not that of a child under 13.

What We Will Not Accept:

- Material that is vulgar, culturally offensive, or contains inappropriate scenes or language. Keep in mind that some FPS competitors are as young as 8 or 9 years old. Also, FPS participants are from a wide variety of countries and backgrounds. Please dress modestly and make sure humor, songs, and actions are respectful to all.
- Files that are more than one gigabyte. You literally will not be able to upload it to the Google Form.
- Files in which the visuals or audio are so poor quality it is difficult to determine what is being said or done.
- Videos featuring people who are not 2020 FPSPI competitors (your family members can film you, but they can’t be seen or heard)
- Multiple submissions featuring the exact same group/individual⁴ (You ARE allowed to submit one act as an individual and one as part of a group. You ARE allowed to participate in multiple acts that are not all made up of the same group members. You are NOT allowed to submit multiple individual acts, or multiple acts in which all of the group members are the same). ⁴Choir submissions count separately from submissions for other acts; therefore, it is okay to submit a choir video and an individual act.

Additional Information:

As mentioned above, all submissions must be received via the Google Forms by no later than 05:00AM EST Friday, June 5. Before 11:59PM EST on Friday, June 5, an email will be sent to the email address provided on the Google Form, informing you of whether or not your act has made it into the Variety Show, and whether we will be able to proceed with the live-streamed Variety Show plan.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at FPSPlauditions@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing what amazing talents you have to offer!