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STATE FAIR OF TEXAS
Job Description
Voice of Big Tex
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ABOUT THE STATE FAIR OF TEXAS

Since its inception in 1886, the State Fair of Texas has celebrated all things Texan by promoting agriculture, education, and community involvement through quality entertainment in a family-friendly environment. The State Fair of Texas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with proceeds helping to preserve and improve our home, Fair Park; underwrite museums, community initiatives, and scholarship programs to support students throughout the Lone Star State pursuing higher education; and help improve State Fair operations. Visit BigTex.com for more information.

SUMMARY

Howdy, folks! Since 1952, Big Tex has served as the ambassador of the State Fair of Texas who greets millions of fairgoers each year. Big Tex is a cultural icon. Traits like friendliness, generosity, loyalty, persistence, and commitment are commonly used when describing Texans. Big Tex personifies what it means to be Texan. The Voice of Big Tex helps bring our 55-foot cowboy to life.

The State Fair of Texas is seeking voice talent to serve as the new Voice of Big Tex. Voice talent will perform as the Voice of Big Tex and assist with related operations during the annual State Fair of Texas event and as needed throughout the year.

The Voice of Big Tex plays a key role in influencing audiences about the annual event and the overall mission of the nonprofit organization. Recordings of Big Tex's voice could be used throughout all State Fair of Texas collateral to promote and communicate the messaging of the event and organization. We are looking for the best voice talent to help us record professional voice overs and live readings for Big Tex.

This position is independently contracted through a talent agreement and is reviewed annually based on overall job performance from the previous year. However, our goal is to create a long-lasting collaboration as we have historically with individuals in this position.

Visit BigTex.com/Voice to review and complete an application.

DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES

Essential and other important responsibilities and duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Under direction of the Senior Vice President of Public Relations, primary responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Performing, under strict anonymity, as the Voice of Big Tex and assist with related programming during the annual State Fair of Texas event, and as needed throughout the year;
- Reading provided scripts live through PA system, as requested;
- Recording provided scripts in studio prior to the Fair;
- Operating Voice of Big Tex computer system during the State Fair of Texas;
- Monitoring Big Tex operations and notifying team of any issues as soon as possible;
- Always maintaining confidentiality and anonymity as the Voice of Big Tex – the attention should be on the 55-foot cowboy. Your role is to help bring him to life;
- Project a positive image of all aspects of the State Fair of Texas within the community at all times;

- Perform additional related duties and responsibilities as assigned.

EXPERIENCE and TRAINING GUIDELINES

Preferred education, skills, qualities, and/or experience include, but are not limited to:

- A true Texan, no matter if you were born here or got here as quick as you could;
- Ability to speak with a male Texas accent and drawl;
- Ability to read provided scripts as directed;
- Ability to speak in multiple tones of voice as directed;
- Ability to speak clearly and with a pleasing voice to record several scripts given;
- Great reading and comprehension skills in English, and a variety of culturally significant languages;
- Ability to read from scripts in a natural, conversational way;
- Ability to handle confidential or sensitive information;
- Maintaining a high level of ethics and trustworthiness;
- Ability to collaborate with team members;
- Ability to take direction well;
- Excellent communication and organizational skills;
- Excellent attention to detail and follow-through;
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude;
- Ability to perform and stay calm under tight deadlines;
- Tech savvy – ability to operate a computer and microphone/PA system, as directed;
- Ability to commute to Fair Park and/or the recording studio, as needed;
- Commitment to work on site, during business hours, all 24 consecutive days of the annual State Fair of Texas;
- Willingness to work a flexible schedule, including early mornings, nights, weekends, and holidays, as needed;
- Bilingual – ability to speak English and Spanish – a plus;
- Prior experience doing voiceover work isn't required.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Environmental conditions:

- Office environment; exposure to computer screens;
- Exposure to a range of environments, including outdoors and all-weather conditions, during the annual State Fair of Texas event.

Physical conditions:

- Essential and other important responsibilities and duties require maintaining physical condition necessary for sitting or standing for prolonged periods of time; walking outdoors; working consistently requires manual dexterity.

HOW TO APPLY

- Visit BigTex.com/Voice to review and complete application;
- Upload a voiceover reading with provided Big Tex sample scripts with your application that you think best represents the Big Tex character;
- Applicants must provide 3 professional/character references;
- As candidates are narrowed down, applicant must pass a background check and drug test.

SCRIPTS FOR AUDITION READING

1. Howdy, folks! This is Big Tex. Welcome to the State Fair of Texas
2. Hola, amigos! Bienvenidos al "State Fair of Texas."
3. The State Fair of Texas' mission is to celebrate all things Texan by promoting agriculture, education and community involvement through quality entertainment in a family-friendly environment.
4. It's a beautiful day at the State Fair of Texas. Just take it from me, the view is great from up here.
5. Soar on over to the Bandshell to witness the return of the beloved World of Birds Show, presenting Soar!
6. Celebrate a fiesta of color, culture, and creativity at the Fiesta de Marionetas show located in the McDonald's

Amphitheatre.

7. Don't miss the Youth Livestock Auction today at one o'clock, to see a variety of animals from 4-H and F-F-A youth. The auction helps provide college scholarships to students throughout the Lone Star State.
8. What's a cowboy got to do to get a funnel cake around here?
9. Thanks for joining me today at the State Fair of Texas. Hope to see y'all again soon!
10. Howdy, Folks! Thank you for visiting the State Fair of Texas
11. Ad-lib three of your own lines you think Big Tex would say.

Audition tip: *Big Tex is a big guy, standing at 55 feet tall, so speak slowly and draw out your words when you are a reading in your best Big Tex voice.*