



2026 STATE FAIR – Fantasy Manikin Comb Out Monday September 28 – 10am State Fairgrounds

LOCATION: 13191 Dawn Boulevard in Doswell Virginia 23047 – “Blue Ribbon” Pavilion

ENTRY FEE: \$20.00 per student entering the competition. Payment is due by **September 25, 2026** to SkillsUSA Virginia – 115 Hutcheson Hall (0908), Blacksburg VA 24061. Please register on-line at www.skillsusava.org – opening Event - State Fair - Competitions.

DEADLINE: Registration will close on **September 11, 2026**.

ADMISSION TICKETS:

- Participants must have a Student Competition Ticket (\$8 student and \$12 adult) to enter the Fairgrounds.
- Teachers are responsible for ordering tickets by **September 18, 2026 ONLINE** directly from the State Fair Ticket Office at <https://www.etix.com/ticket/c/0B673755704EB0C7B865819C1BE568E9/4h-ffaadvanced-payment..>
- **Advance** payment schools must print a “Gate 2” entrance sign available on their website and will be allowed to park next to the SkillsUSA competition in “Lot K” or the overflow “Lot L”.
- Schools with **reserved** tickets must bring a check to enter the State Fairgrounds. The State Fair does not accept cash or credit cards at our special entrance gate.

CONTEST SPONSOR: Hair Cuttery

SKILLSUSA HUMAN SERVICES CLUSTER COORDINATOR: Janice Lyons Jackson – Hair Cuttery

CONTEST CHAIR: Sandra Jo Beaumont - Hair Cuttery

SKILLSUSA HOST: TBD – Alumni and Friends

NUMBER OF CONTESTANTS: Competition is limited to 50 contestants. Two students from the first twenty-five SkillsUSA Virginia chapters will be allowed to enter the contest. Addition slots will be offered to any additional chapters wishing to participate or to previously registered schools in the order of registration.

CLOTHING: Students are required to wear the following while competing: Black slacks or knee length skirt, white top with sleeves, (**no low cut necklines or bare midriffs**); black low-heeled, closed toe dress shoes (no tennis shoes). Students must present themselves with a clean professional appearance. Students need to stay in competition attire for awards.

STATE FAIR SCHOLARSHIPS: The State Fair of Virginia is offering the first place secondary Fantasy Manikin Comb Out winner a scholarship of \$100.00 to continue their educational pursuit. The State Fair champion **MUST** complete the provided scholarship form before departing the State Fairgrounds.

Theme: "Halloween or Harvest Night"

SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION: Contestants will demonstrate their ability to perform comb out and styling techniques on a manikin. The manikins will be evaluated for hair styling and creativity.

- Manikin will be either pre-set, iron curled or may be left straight prior to contest with no evidence of prior styling.
- Time will be allowed for removal of nets, clips, rollers, etc., prior to comb out time.
- Comb out will be done in the presence of judges. **ALL HAIR, ARTIFICIAL HAIR OR HAIRPIECES MUST BE COMPLETELY TAKEN DOWN AND BRUSHED THROUGH!** Examples include gelled finger waves, ponytails, braids, French twists, or other designs must be brushed out. Judges will be checking each manikin to see that the hair, artificial hair and/or hairpieces have been **COMPLETELY** brushed through and that no pre-styling exists.
- Ornamentation is at the pleasure of the contestant.
- **Two thirds of the manikin's hair must be visible. Ornamentation or artificial hair must not cover more than 1/3 of the manikin's hair. This is a hair competition not an ornament or accessory competition. NO STORY BOARDS, BACKDROPS OR TABLE ACCESSORIES WILL BE ALLOWED, MANIKINS WILL BE JUDGED ON HAIR AND MAKE-UP ONLY.**
- **Time allowed for comb out - 45 minutes.**
- Contestants will supply all tools necessary to achieve their desired comb out.
- NO ELECTRICAL outlets or appliances will be used during the comb out competition.
- **This is a fantasy competition.** Contestants are free to express their artistic ability.
- **Makeup may be used on the manikin only during the contest time but the 45-minute time limit cannot be exceeded. Artificial eyelashes will be allowed and must be applied during contest time.**

JUDGING CRITERIA: Contestants will be evaluated based on their performance in the following areas:

- Artistic ability
- Design
- Overall appearance

TOOLS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED BY CONTESTANTS: Each participant shall provide the following:

- One-page typed résumé
- All necessary implements and supplies to perform their selected manikin design
- A manikin of the contestant's choice
- Manikin holder
- Drape