

TR Ritchie Memorial Songwriting Contest
Open for submissions April 15 to June 30, 2016
Notifications will be sent by email on August 1, 2016

Guidelines

1. Writer-performers age 18 and over are invited to submit individual song entries, not to exceed five minutes each, no later than June 30. Anyone may enter the contest except current 2016 Juniper Jam performers, contest screeners and judges, the executive director and board of the Wallowa Valley Music Alliance.
2. Co-written songs may be submitted, however, only one of the writers may submit an application and perform the song on the recording. No band entries can be accepted.
3. Songs must have been written within the last two years (after July 1, 2014). It does not matter if the songs have been published or released on recordings.
4. The submission of the entry certifies that the songwriter has all rights to the song and that the song has not been sold or contractually assigned to another entity. The writer(s) retain all rights to the song.
5. Each song may be sent in as a live, studio or home recording. We prefer that recordings are representative of the writer's live performance with solo vocal and simple instrumentation. A produced recording with other musicians will be accepted, but performances by finalists at the contest are limited to a single songwriter/vocalist performing solo or with one backup instrumentalist. Instrumental only songs are not allowed.
6. There is a fee of \$20 for each song submitted. Writers may submit as many songs as they like. Each song must be submitted with an application and \$20 fee per song. Do not send any publicity, bio or promotional materials. **DO NOT include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you as the songwriter in your audio or lyric files, or their file names.**
7. All entries will go through a blind and independent initial screening by songwriters and music professionals familiar with original songwriting and performance techniques. Ten finalists will be selected to perform in the contest at Juniper Jam on Saturday, September 3, 2016. Notification will be made by email by August 1, 2016.
8. Finalists must perform their song accepted for the contest. The songwriter/vocalist may provide their own instrumentation or have a single accompanist, but with no backup harmony or effects.

9. Booked festival artists may not accompany a finalist during the contest. Finalists may not appear onstage with a billed performer at the festival prior to the announcement of the winners. Doing so will result in disqualification.

10. Finalists must provide their own transportation to Enterprise, Oregon, the site of the Juniper Jam festival. Finalists are responsible for all of their travel arrangements, meals and overnight accommodations; however, free camping is available at the festival.

11. Finalists will be given free admission to Juniper Jam, plus one guest pass. Any additional companions must pay for their own admission.

12. Finalists must attend a meeting at noon on Saturday, September 3 at the festival site to learn the order of performances in the contest.

13. A panel of three performing songwriters will judge the contest. Finalists will be evaluated on categories of performance as well as song craft. Judges will rate contestants on a number system so that results can be tabulated to identify the top two co-winners. If there is a tie, judges will meet together to decide.

14. Two co-winners will each receive a \$200 prize and be invited to perform three songs each onstage later in the festival.

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