



South Florida Folk & Acoustic Music Festival Singer/Songwriter Competition

www.southfloridafolkfest.com

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS page 1

Dear Singer/Songwriter,

We once again would like to extend a warm invitation to participate in this year's Singer/Songwriter Competition. The competition was created by the South Florida Folk & Acoustic Music Festival to encourage and facilitate growth for singer/songwriters. This year, we require each entry to include two songs at the performer's discretion, noting that variety and contrast are elements of the judging criteria. Songs need not be unpublished but they must be your originals. You may submit as many entries as you wish at \$15 for each two-song entry. Since evaluation of art is by its very nature subjective, we strive to obtain noteworthy yet discerning persons from the folk music community to act as our final judges at the festival. We utilize a panel of preliminary judges from the local folk community to determine who the 20 finalists will be from the many entries we receive.

Submission Instructions... PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

Failure to follow these rules could result in rejection of your entry

To enter this year's showcase, please submit:

1. CD or Cassette recording containing two original contrasting songs. If submitting a previously released CD or cassette with multiple songs on it, clearly mark the two songs being entered in the competition. If more than one entry is submitted, all songs may be put on the same CD or cassette but each two-song set must be clearly labeled. If submitting a non-production cassette, both songs must be on the same side with that side clearly marked. You will still need a separate application for each submission if making multiple entries. **We prefer submissions on CD rather than cassette, if possible.**
2. Legible and titled lyric sheets for each song submitted (missing lyric sheets shall be cause for rejection).
3. Completed application (signed by the artist or an authorized representative)
4. \$15 non-refundable entry fee. Checks are to be made payable to: **The Broward Folk Club, Inc.**
5. Entries are to be sent to the address listed on the application and must be postmarked by **OCTOBER 4, 2004.**
 - Each submission shall be clearly labeled with your name and the song titles. Entries cannot be returned.
 - In the interest of keeping the competition as fair and equal as possible, each selected finalist may perform with no more than two accompanists. All instruments except for bass must be acoustic. (A keyboard is provided by the festival)
 - If more than one entry is submitted, each two-song entry must be on a separate application. You need not send them separately or enclose separate checks for each entry fee, but you must indicate clearly on your application that there is more than one submission.
 - Remember that your songwriting and performance are being judged, not your production ability. Ideally, we would like to hear the songs as close as possible to the way they will be performed at the festival, however you will not be penalized for submitting professionally produced studio recordings. This does not mean that you need to go back into the studio and re-mix your songs. We want to hear your lyrics, vocals and instruments clearly so use your best judgment.



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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS page 2

Lyric Sheets

- DO NOT send any bios, press kits, or other literature at this time.
- Submit lyrics on 8-1/2 x 11 light colored paper, NO HEAVY STOCK.
- Combining each song's lyrics on one sheet is acceptable, provided they are clearly separated and legible. For multiple submissions, each set of lyrics must be on a separate sheet.
- Judging is done blind (each submission is given a number and each judge does not know who the name of the artist). Any artist information on lyric sheets will be blacked out for the judging process.
- It is your obligation to make sure your application is complete and legible.
- **LISTEN TO YOUR ENTRY.** Check the volume! We cannot consider what we cannot hear.

The Process

- Twenty finalists will be chosen. Each will perform their two songs on Saturday, January 15, 2005 at the festival. We are planning to notify finalists around Mid-November 2004, by phone and/or e-mail. All finalists will also play "in the round" on various stages throughout the two day festival.
- The final judges at the festival will select three winners. Winners will receive cash prizes as well as an invitation to perform at the following year's South Florida Folk & Acoustic Music Festival (additional prizes to be announced).
- Enclosed is the sample preliminary judging form, showing the criteria for determining the top 20 finalists. This is for your information only and is not to be returned with your entry.
- The festival will provide for the finalists: food (for the weekend), free camping or housing, assistance with block booking where available, limited local transportation, assistance with home hospitality, CD & Tape sales.
- Each artist has approximately 10 minutes to perform their two songs, including set up time. For this reason, percussion must be kept to a minimum. If percussion is used, insure that it can be carried on stage and removed quickly as this set-up time will effect your performance time. Festival performance may not include pre-recorded music or synthesizers. The festival will provide a professional grade keyboard for those who need one.

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY OCTOBER 4, 2004

Please do not send your entry via registered mail. We cannot pick up entries at the post office!



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OFFICIAL APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

WEBSITE _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

Festival performance may not include pre-recorded music or synthesizers. The festival will provide a professional keyboard.

SONG TITLES

SONG #1: _____

SONG #2: _____

Don't forget to include :

- Check for \$15.00 for each two song entry made out to the BROWARD FOLK CLUB
- Lyric sheet for each song (typed or hand printed legible and titled)

Please tell us how you heard of us.

City Link Magazine

Radio Station

Dirty Linen Magazine

Music Store - name: _____

Newspaper - name: _____

Friend

Performing Songwriter Mag.

Acoustic Guitar Magazine

New Times Magazine

Received postcard in mail

Other print media - name: _____

Other (please explain) _____

This entry form serves as a release to the SOUTH FLORIDA FOLK & ACOUSTIC MUSIC FESTIVAL to use entered material for promotional purposes, including radio, print media and television.

Submissions can not be returned. Copyrighting and performance rights are the sole responsibility of the artist.

The South Florida Folk Festival and the Broward Folk Club assume no responsibility for copyright infringements.

For further information call: 305-595-1901 (leave a message for Betty)

or e-mail: songwritercomp@southfloridafolkfest.com.

For more info visit our web site at www.southfloridafolkfest.com.

Please do not send via registered mail. We do not wish to pick up entries at the post office!

Send your submission(s) postmarked by October 4, 2004 via US Mail to:

Singer/Songwriter Competition

7531 Southwest 95 Place

Miami, FL 33173

Thank you for your interest and good luck on your submission



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PRELIMINARY SINGER/SONGWRITER JUDGING FORM

ARTIST NUMBER: _____

JUDGE: _____

SONG #1 TITLE: _____

SONG #2 TITLE: _____

JUDGING INSTRUCTIONS

Quality of recording is not a factor. • **Highest** number reflects best score

CRITERIA	SONG #1	SONG #2
Lyrics	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____
Originality	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____
Would you want to hear the song again?	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____
Does music style support the lyrics/subject?	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____
Do you understand the point of the song?	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____
Musicianship	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____	1 2 3 4 5 POINTS _____
Variety & Contrast	1 2 3 POINTS _____	
GRAND TOTAL		