

Rules & Regulations

1. Contest is open to amateur and professional songwriters. Employees and Board of Director members of the Columbus Arts Council and Main Street Columbus are not eligible to enter.
2. Residents of the Golden Triangle Area are eligible to enter (Lowndes, Oktibbeha, and Clay counties)
3. Each song submitted must be the contestant's original work. Songs may not exceed five (5) minutes in length. Songs may have multiple co-writers, but please designate one name only on the application (No CD's, etc., needed – live performance alone will be judged). Only one (1) entry will be allowed per songwriter or songwriting team.
4. Maximum amount of persons on a performance team: two (2). No bands will be allowed.
5. Participants must be 16 years of age or older. Participants that are under the legal age of 18 must have a parental/guardian signature on the registration form.

General Information

1. Songs will be judged based on melody, composition, originality and lyrics by a select panel of five (5) judges. The top eight (8) finalists will be chosen, contacted and invited to perform at the concert showcasing for additional judging. The top three (3) winners will be awarded cash prizes at the end of the concert showcase.

First Place:	\$ 300.00
Second Place:	\$ 200.00
Third Place:	\$ 100.00
2. Prizes will be awarded to one (1) songwriter per entry. Division of prizes is the responsibility of winners. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply.
3. Application Deadline is **Thursday, August 31, 2017**, 5:00 pm. If mailed, must be postmarked by August 31, 2017.
4. First round of judging will take place on **Friday, September 29, 2017**, at 6:30 pm in the Omnova Theater at the Columbus Arts Council. This will be a closed judging ... no audience.
5. Final judging and public performance of the top eight (8) entries will be held at the Trotter Courtyard on Tuesday, **October 10, 2017**, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Winners will be announced following the performances.
6. For additional information, please contact the Columbus Arts Council at 662-328-2787 or stop by their office at 501 Main Street, Columbus, MS, or Main Street Columbus at 662-328-6305, 107 5th Street North, Columbus, MS.

The Mississippi Bicentennial Songwriting Contest Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Additional Songwriter(s) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Song Title _____

Who will perform the entry? _____

Deadline for Entry: August 31, 2017

Entry Requirements

1. One song that is five (5) minutes or less.
2. Completed application, including signature(s).
3. Please read Rules and Regulations before entering.
4. Must be available for September 29 initial judging and October 10 possible performance.
5. Song must be about Mississippi.
6. Deadline for entry is **Thursday, August 31, 2017**

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations of the Mississippi Bicentennial Songwriting Contest.
(If entrant is under the age of 18, the signature of a parent or guardian is required below.)

Participant Signature _____

Participant Printed Name _____

Parental/Legal Guardian Signature _____
(if participant is under the age of 18)

Parental/Legal Guardian Printed Name _____

Date _____



Return entry to:
Main Street Columbus, Inc.
P O Box 1062
Columbus, MS 39703

