

Great River Folk Festival

2018 Songwriting and Performance Contest

The Mission

This contest is designed to promote the spirit of songwriting for all. The Great River Folk Festival hopes to encourage amateur songwriters and performers, and to give them a venue to perform original material. Please be courteous to all the participants and judges.

The Rules:

All entries must be considered within one or more of following categories or styles of music. (Folk, Acoustic, Singer/Songwriter, Old time, or Bluegrass)

Entrants may perform as a solo or as a duo act.

Songs should be submitted on CD format, no mp3 submissions please.

The entry fee is non-refundable. Great River Folk Festival is not responsible for late, lost, damaged, misdirected, postage due, stolen, or misappropriated entries.

Each song submitted must be contestant's original work. Songs may not exceed five (5) minutes in length.

No song previously recorded and released through national distribution in any country will be eligible. Songs may have co-writers, but please designate one name only on the application, that of the entrant.

Contest is open to amateur artists and songwriters. (Amateur is defined by the as an original artist who has not obtained "national distribution" from a major record label)

You may have recordings available for purchase nationally via website which is permissible. (National Distribution is defined as a contract with a major record label)

Contest winners will be chosen by a panel of Great River Folk Festival judges.

Artists will be judged on: Songwriting composition, lyrics, melody, instrumental and vocal performance, and the performers stage presence. The songs must be the artist's original work!

Quality of the CD recording will not be judged, but it will be important for judges to hear the composition, vocals, and music clearly.

Prizes will be awarded to the author on the entry form.

Division of prizes to co-writers or duo partners is responsibility of winners.

All federal, state, and local laws and regulations apply. Void where prohibited.

Overview

Twelve finalists will be selected to perform two songs each at the **Great River Folk Festival** on **Sunday August 26th**. Songwriters will be evaluated on songwriting and performance by a panel of Great River Folk Festival judges.

All entries will receive a free pass to the festival for Sunday the 26th. The first place act will receive a cash prize, a day in a recording studio, and will perform as the opening act on the main stage later Sunday afternoon. Second and Third places will also receive a cash prize. The twelve finalists will be contacted by e-mail and be listed on the GRFF web site at: www.greatriverfolkfest.org

To enter you must submit:

- A CD recording containing the two original songs that you would sing at the festival if selected as a finalist. (no longer than 5 minutes per song and no mp3s and please)
- A lyric sheet for each song
- A \$20 per person entry fee or \$40 for a duo (check made out to "Great River Folk Festival") No credit cards accepted.
- A completed application form

Send entries to:

Great River Folk Festival, 1143 Stuhr Court, Onalaska, WI 54650

Entries must be received by:

Thursday July 19th, 2018 - (No late entries will be considered)

Prizes:

All entrants will receive one free pass for Sunday August 26th

- **1st Place** : \$150 cash and one day in the studio at Soundstrations Audio Productions of LaCrosse, WI (an \$850 value) And a performance of your two songs at the Sunday afternoon concert
- **2nd Place**: \$ 75 cash
- **3rd Place**: \$ 50 cash

Judging will be calculated by the following criteria:

Songwriting (composition, lyrics, melody)
Instrumental performance
Vocal performance
Performers stage presence