

Uptown Entertainment Alliance presents the UPTOWN ENTERTAINMENT ALLIANCE (UEA) SONGWRITING COMPETITION

RULES & REGULATIONS

Contest Rules

1. The Uptown Entertainment Alliance Songwriting Competition is open to all songwriters and co-songwriters that are residence of Chester County and/or have performed four (4) verifiable shows in the Chester County area within the past two (2) years. Contestants that are or have ever been part of a staff writing deal with a publishing company or those that obtain the majority of their income from songwriting may not enter. No songs under professional contract or any that have been previously published can be submitted.
2. **Only original songs that can be performed live may be submitted.** Entries cannot infringe any copyrights or other third party rights. Entries may have multiple co-writers, but only one name should be designated on the entry form. Each contestant, upon entering, guarantees that they have the absolute right to enter (including approval from non-contestant co-writers). By entering, the contestant agrees to indemnify and hold The Uptown Entertainment Alliance Songwriting Competition (UEASC) produced by the Uptown Entertainment Alliance harmless from and against any claims inconsistent with the aforementioned.
3. Song entries cannot be more than five minutes in length. Entries over five minutes in length will not be considered.
4. Contestants must submit ONE original song on CD or electronic files (mp3, preferred) with the name of contestant clearly marked on each. It is the contestant's responsibility to ensure that the submitted song(s) are complete and playable. Submission materials will not be returned to the contestant. UEASC is not responsible for late, lost, damaged, misdirected, postage due, stolen, or misappropriated entries. Deadline for submission is **March 16th, 2016.**
5. Entries will be screened by UEASC, and songs meeting the guidelines will be sent to a panel of judges who will select five (5) finalists. The judging committee will consist of high-profile music industry professionals, including record label executives, producers, and artists. Songs will be judged equally on melody, composition, originality, lyrics, and most importantly, commercial appeal.
6. The 5 finalists chosen will perform three songs, of which two must be original, at a spotlight performance at Sprout Music Collective in West Chester, PA. One cover song will be allowed. Should a finalist be unable to perform at the spotlight performance, they will be disqualified from the competition and an alternate performer will be chosen. Winner and runners-up will be based upon the votes of the crowd in attendance at the spotlight performance.

7. All prizes will be awarded to the first name as it appears on the entry form, and division of prizes among co-authors is the responsibility of winners. UEASC does not give feedback or a critique to contestants.

8. The top 5 finalists will be posted on the UEASC website the week of **March 23, 2016** and the Grand Prize winner will be selected at the performance on **April 13, 2016**.

9. Each finalist will be notified by email or phone and will be required to sign an affidavit confirming that the submitted song is original and he/she holds rights to the song. Failure to sign and return the form within the required time period or provision of false information may result in disqualification and an alternate finalist may be selected. Affidavits are subject to verification by UEASC and its agents. Entry constitutes a non-exclusive license for permission to use finalist's name, likeness and voice for future advertising and publicity purposes without additional compensation.

10. Should a contestant's song(s) be selected as a top 5 finalist, he or she agrees that the Uptown Entertainment Alliance shall have the right to include the finalists and winning song(s) on an Uptown Arts Alliance Compilation CD to be used for promotional purposes in the marketing efforts of Uptown Arts Alliance.

11. Contestant understands that all songs entered may be distributed to judges selecting the top 5 finalists and Grand Prize winner, and agrees to release, indemnify, and hold UEASC, its sponsors, and judges harmless for liability, damages, or claims for injury or loss to any person or property relating to, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, participation in UEASC.

12. By entering the Uptown Entertainment Alliance Songwriting Competition, contestants agree to accept and be bound by the decisions of UEASC and its judges which are final and binding in all matters. Contestant agrees to be bound by all terms of these official Uptown Entertainment Alliance Songwriting Competition Rules and Regulations as established herein.

14. Uptown Entertainment Alliance employees and committee members are not eligible to enter.

15. Contestants must be at least 18 years of age to enter the Competition.

16. The entry fee to enter the Competition is Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) per participant.

Contest Prizes

All Contest finalists (Top 5) will receive:

- Uptown Entertainment Alliance Songwriting Competition Certificate of Recognition.
- Uptown Entertainment Alliance Gift Bag (\$50 AV).

The Grand Prize winner will receive:

- \$500 Cash Prize.
- 10 hours of studio time at Tribesound Productions, LLC in West Chester, PA.

1st Runner up will receive:

- \$200 Cash Prize.
- Discounted studio time at Tribesound Productions, LLC in West Chester, PA.

2nd Runner-up will receive:

- \$100 Cash Prize.
- Discounted studio time at Tribesound Productions, LLC in West Chester, PA.

No transfer or substitution of prizes will be accepted, except as necessary due to availability, in which case a prize of equal or greater value will be awarded. If it is necessary to substitute a prize, UEASC reserves the right to give the winner a cash substitute determined by the wholesale value of the prize. All winners agree to release UEASC and sponsors including: TribeSound Productions, LLC, and the Uptown Entertainment Alliance from all liability regarding prizes won. All federal, state, and local taxes, and customs fees, when applicable, are the sole responsibility of winner. UEASC will not pay taxes on behalf of the winner.

How To Enter

Mail completed entries to:

UEA Songwriting Competition

204 Ford Circle

West Chester, PA 19380

Upload electronic entries to:

Go to <https://www.wetransfer.com/>

Entries will be accepted February 13, 2016 – March 16, 2016. All entries must be postmarked on or before midnight March 16, 2016.

To be considered, each entry must include:

1. One completed entry form with contestant's original signature, or e-signature. Please type or print legibly.
2. The song entry should be recorded on CD, or you may submit an MP3, online at <https://www.wetransfer.com/>. Please make certain that the contestant's name is marked directly on the CD. If entering a CD, the entry must be shipped in a regular-sized CD case (not an ultra-thin case) and the spine must be labeled with contestant's name in black marker. If submitting an MP3 online, make certain to include the artist name in the filename. Entries without names will be immediately disqualified.
3. Ensure all personal information, including phone number and email address, are entered accurately. Submissions found with false information will be immediately disqualified from consideration. Minors submitting songs for consideration MUST have contact information of a parent and/or legal guardian.