**2024 Mississippi Songwriter of The Year Competition**

***TERMS AND CONDITIONS***

The 2024 Mississippi Songwriter of the year competition will be held on June 29, 2024 at The Ellis Theater at Marty Stuart’s Congress of Country Music in Philadelphia, MS. To submit an application for entry you must be a Mississippi resident of eighteen (18) years or older (or given written consent by a parent/guardian eighteen (18) years or older) and agree to perform if chosen as a top fifteen (15) finalist at the LIVE competition.

 **By entering this competition you agree to the following:**

You are a Mississippi resident eighteen (18) years or older (or given written consent by a parent/guardian eighteen (18) year or older. If selected as a top fifteen (15) finalist you agree to perform at the live competition on June 29, 2024.

1. Application Submission Requirements:
	1. Delivery of the following:
		1. One (1) original song not to exceed four (4) minutes, in mp3 format (if submitted via online application) or on a USB flashdrive (if a physical application is mailed in); The song submitted does not have to be professionally recorded but the Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition is not responsible if for illegible or inaudible content received;
		2. A lyric sheet for the song submitted (entries with explicit lyrics will be eliminated and disqualified immediately);
		3. Legal name, performer’s name (if differs from legal name), address, phone number, email address, and title/duration of song submitted (see page 4 below). Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition does not distribute this information to any third parties without explicit consent, unless you are declared the winner (see Section three (3) requirements below);
		4. Thirty ($30) dollar entry fee either electronically, by check, or money order made payable to Boswell Media submitted along with your completed application to [www.mssongwriteroftheyear.com](http://www.mssongwriteroftheyear.com), or by mail to Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition, P.O. Box 1700, Kosciusko, MS 39090.
2. General Information/Requirements:
	1. To enter the competition you must be the original songwriter of the song submitted for entry;
	2. You are not required to be the party to perform the original song submitted nor must you be the party to perform at the live competition ( it is the finalists responsibly to find a party to perform their song live) if chosen as a top fifteen (15) finalists, but it is encouraged;
	3. Fifteen finalists will be chosen by a panel of judges, solely based on the song submitted;
	4. The top fifteen (15) finalist will be announced by May 15, 2024 on mssongwriteroftheyear.com. These finalists will also be contacted via phone.
	5. If you are not contacted on the date provided in section 2(b) above, you were not selected as a finalist. Please do not contact Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition prior to the announcement date regarding the top fifteen (15) finalists.
	6. Finalists will **PERFORM THEIR ORIGINAL SONG IN AN ACOUSTIC SHOW** on June 29, 2024 in front of a LIVE audience at The Ellis Theater in Philadelphia, MS. This winner will be chosen by a panel of judges who will be present at the live competition.
	7. Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition or any of its affiliates are not responsible for the copyright of any songs submitted.
	8. The top fifteen (15) finalists will receive free admission to the competition. All other guests accompanied by finalists can purchase tickets for admission at [www.mssongwriteroftheyear.com](http://www.mssongwriteroftheyear.com) prior to the live competition for thirty ($25) dollars or at the door the night of the event for twenty-five ($30) dollars.
	9. Food and drinks will be available for sale the night of the event for additional costs.
	10. All finalists must be present thirty (30) minutes prior to the beginning of the competition along with all equipment and musicians;
	11. Each finalist will draw a number at random before the show begins to determine the order of live performance;
	12. Finalist may perform his/her song acapella;
	13. Performer cannot play pre-recorded background vocals or instrumentals
	14. If background instrumentals are required for your performance, you are not required to be the person performing instrumentals, however, if you are not the party playing the instrumentals, you must provide any additional musicians and equipment needed. You must also provide a list of additional musicians and equipment you plan to bring to Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition two (2) weeks prior to the live show.
	15. The grand prize winner will be announced the night of the competition after all performances and judging.
	16. Any questions regarding competition can be sent to Melissa Boswell at melissaboswell@boswellmedia.net or you may call 662-289-1050.
3. Requirements of Winner/Prizes:
	1. The winner will receive a $1000 scholarship to record an original song at the studio of your choice approved by Boswell Media. Check will be made payable to studio.
		1. Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition will not own the master recording or copyright of the song recorded at Wishbone Studios.
		2. Once song of choice is recorded by winner at Wishbone Studios and completed by Producer, it must be delivered to Boswell Media.
		3. Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition has the right to play the completed professional recording on all radio stations owned by affiliate, Boswell Media in perpetuity and may use the song to promote and advertise the competition winner during winner’s reign.
		4. Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year has the right to use the professionally recorded song in perpetuity in affiliation with advertising the Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition.
	2. The winner will receive an all expenses paid trip to Muscle Shoals, Alabama for a weekend for a Q&A session with accomplished songwriters.
	3. The all expenses paid trip to Muscle Shoals includes the following:
		1. One (1) room at Marriott Shoals Hotel to accommodate the winner and one guest;
		2. Three (3) meals a day for the winner and one (1) guest beginning at the time of arrival on Friday and continuing on Saturday.
		3. Guided tour the entire weekend given by an individual selected by Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition.
		4. Various performances booked by Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year for winner’s benefit.
	4. While in Muscle Shoals for the weekend mentioned in Section 3(b), artist is required to arrive to all scheduled events in a timely manner.
	5. Winner is to record his/her song of choice at Wishbone Studios in Muscle Shoals, Alabama during the scheduled recording times that are pre-booked by Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition.
	6. The song recorded by winner at Wishbone Studios must not exceed the pre-booked session time.
	7. During the reign of the Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year winner, winner is required to attend all radio/TV interviews scheduled by Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition.
	8. Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition is not required to book any events or performances on winner’s behalf, other than what is provided herein.
	9. If Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year does book and event or performance in good faith on winner’s behalf, other that what is provided herein, winner must fulfill performance obligations.
	10. At the election of the Mississippi Songwriter Of The Year Competition, winner may be required to signed a more detailed agreement stating requirements of winner