

MUSIC CITY SONGWRITING COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

Contest Rules

1. The Music City Songwriting Competition is open to amateur songwriters and co-songwriters only. 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 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 Music City Songwriting Competition (MCSC) produced by Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau 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 may submit as many songs as desired; however, each song entry must be submitted on separate CDs or files 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. MCSC is not responsible for late, lost, damaged, misdirected, postage due, stolen, or misappropriated entries.
5. All entry fees are non-refundable.
6. Entries will be screened by MCSC, and the semi-finalists will be sent to a panel of judges who will select the top 25 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. Quality of performance and production will not be considered.
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. MCSC does not give feedback or a critique to contestants.
8. The top 25 finalists will be posted on the MCSC website the week of February 20, 2012 and the Grand Prize winner will be selected on or around March 5, 2012. MCSC will make every effort to announce the finalists at the designated time, but will not be held liable for any unforeseen delays.
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 MCSC 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 25 finalist, he or she agrees that the Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau shall have the right to include the finalists and winning song(s) on a Music City Compilation CD to be used for promotional purposes in marketing efforts of Music City.

11. Winning song could be subjected to single song contract. If chosen, the Grand Prize winner acknowledges and agrees to transfer all ownership rights in and to the winning song to Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau pursuant to the single-song publishing contract between the company and winner. Although the winner retains the right to reject the terms of the contract offer by Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau, the rejection of such contract shall constitute a forfeiture of this portion of the Grand Prize. The winning song will be used on GAC TV and Sirius XM Satellite Radio and all rights are cleared as part of this contract.

12. Contestant understands that all songs entered may be distributed to judges selecting the top 25 finalists and Grand Prize winner, and agrees to release, indemnify, and hold MCSC, 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 MCSC.

13. By entering the Music City Songwriting Competition, contestants and/or their parents or legal guardian (if contestant is a minor) agree to accept and be bound by the decisions of MCSC and its judges which are final and binding in all matters. Contestant agrees to be bound by all terms of these official Music City Songwriting Competition Rules and Regulations as established herein.

14. Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau employees are not eligible to enter.

Contest Prizes

All entrants will receive a copy of Craig Morgan's January 2012 release – *This Ole Boy* (\$15 AV)

Contest finalists (Top 25) will receive:

- Music City Songwriting Competition Certificate of Recognition
- Music City Gift Bag (\$50 AV)

The Grand Prize winner will receive:

- Two roundtrip Southwest Airlines tickets to and from Nashville (winner must fly from a SWA serviced airport and is responsible for their own transportation to and from the SWA serviced airport in that city) (\$800 AV)
- Transportation from Nashville International Airport to hotel and return from hotel to airport (\$50 AV)
- 5 Nights at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel (\$500 AV)
- \$1,000 Cash Prize

- Winner will be interviewed on GAC TV
- Winning song will be played on the Sirius XM show, "Music City Connection: Heroes Behind the Hits"
- Interview with Storme Warren on Sirius XM's "Music Row Happy Hour with Storme Warren"
- Featured Interview with American Songwriter Magazine
- Personalized Autographed Craig Morgan CD
- Mentoring session with Craig Morgan
- One hour writing session with a professional songwriter
- Demo recording session at Sound Stage Studio
- Single song publishing deal with Black River Entertainment
- 1 Music City Backstage Pass which offers complimentary admission for 2 to over 30 Nashville attractions (\$1000 AV)
- Nashville Music City Gift Bag (\$50 AV)
- 1 Pair of Durango Boots (\$120 AV)

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, MCSC reserves the right to give the winner a cash substitute determined by the wholesale value of the prize. All winners agree to release MCSC and sponsors including: Nashville Convention & Visitors Bureau, American Songwriter Magazine, Now Playing Nashville.com, Durango, Great American Country, Sirius XM Satellite Radio, f.y.e., Southwest Airlines, and Renaissance Nashville Hotel from all liability regarding prizes won. All federal, state, and local taxes, and customs fees, when applicable, are the sole responsibility of winner. MCSC will not pay taxes on behalf of the winner.

How To Enter

Mail completed entries to:
 Music City Songwriting Competition
 P.O. Box 190633
 Nashville, TN 37219-0633 USA

Upload electronic entries to:
www.americansongspace.com/contest/musiccity2011

Entries will be accepted November 1, 2011 – January 31, 2012. All entries must be postmarked on or before midnight January 31, 2012.

To be considered, each entry must include:

1. One completed entry form with contestant's original signature. Please type or print legibly.
2. The song entry should be recorded on CD, or you may submit an MP3, online at www.americansongspace.com/contest/musiccity2011. 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.

3. If you are submitting multiple songs, please put each entry on a separate CD. Each entry must also include two copies of the lyric sheet (please include English translation if applicable). Please do not send sheet music with your entry.

4. A \$25 (US currency only) entrance fee is required for the first submission. Additional entries are \$15 each. (For example, if you enter one song your fee is \$25. If you enter two songs your fee will be \$40. If you enter three songs, the fee is \$55, and so forth.) Checks and money orders should be made payable to: Nashville CVB. Payment from countries outside the U.S. must be in the form of a bank check, money order, cash, or credit card. Personal checks are not accepted from outside the U.S. All entry fees are non-refundable.

5. Online MP3 entries must be paid with a credit card at the time of submission. Please note: you must register as a American Songspace user to enter online - www.americansongspace.com/contest/musiccity2011