

Woody Guthrie Folk Festival Songwriting Competition 2020

Official Rules

The Oklahoma Songwriters & Composers Association, in association with the Woody Guthrie Coalition, is proud to present the Annual Woody Guthrie Folk Festival Songwriting Competition. This international, folk-oriented songwriting contest is held in conjunction with the annual Woody Guthrie Folk Festival, held in Woody's hometown of Okemah, Oklahoma, each July. This year's festival will be held virtually the week of Woody Guthrie's birthday, July 14th.

Song Criteria: Songs should represent the spirit of Woody Guthrie's music and may fall into one or more of these general areas: topical songs about current events, songs containing political or social commentary, folk ballads, songs relative to Americana and related topics, and songs for children and/or pertaining to family life. Both traditional and newer styles of folk are encouraged. Songs must be original and should be copyrighted at time of entry.

Song Submission & Fees:

Songs are to be submitted online at <https://www.woodyfest.com/songwriting-contest/>. A maximum of three songs may be entered per submission, but multiple submissions are permitted. This year's entry fees will be waived. All entries must be submitted by 10am CT on May 24, 2020.

Judging: Entries will be judged on originality, melody, lyrics, rhythm, and relevance to the criteria. Entries will not be judged on production or performance. Professional songwriters, publishers, or other music industry professionals will judge all contest entries. All decisions by judges will be final.

Eligibility: The Woody Guthrie Folk Festival Songwriting Contest is open to amateur songwriters. For the purposes of this contest, an amateur songwriter is defined as someone who doesn't have a song which has been commercially released, nor is represented by professional management as a songwriter. Songs released independently with a total issue of 1,000 copies or less are acceptable. Entrants under 18 years of age must submit an affidavit of parental guardian approval, and attached to the entry form.

The signed entry form releases OSCA from product and all other liability and allows OSCA, and the Woody Guthrie Coalition, the use of winners' names, song titles, lyrics, addresses and e-mail addresses for contest promotional purposes and to provide to our sponsors, without further compensation to the winner. In the event co-writers win, the division of prizes will be the responsibility of the person whose name is listed first on the entry form.

Winners and Prizes: The first place winner will have the opportunity to send in a video performance of the winning song to be included in the 2020 virtual festival. Second and third place winners have the opportunity to send in video performances of their winning songs for posting on social media & our website. First, second, and third place winners will be announced prior to the 2020 Festival and notified immediately by the quickest possible means.

Please direct any questions to Tom Marshall at booking.tom.marshall@gmail.com. Best of luck!