

THE 2009 VOICE OF PRIDE COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

The 2009 Voice of Pride Competition is coordinated by the Dallas Tavern Guild in conjunction with our June Pride Month Celebration and will consist of several Preliminary Competitions around the community and will begin in early June and continue through the end of the month. We continue to have two (2) Elimination Rounds where the preliminary winners will be narrowed to a total of twenty-four (24). Those twenty-four (24) will compete at the Semi-final Competition where we will select the top 12 to compete at the Final Night. There will be a complete listing of locations and times for these competitions in all Tavern Guild clubs as well as advertising in the Dallas Voice. The winner will win a cash prize of \$3,000, and will ride in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and perform at the Festival in Lee Park on September 20th, 2009. This year the winner will also receive two (2) round-trip tickets to Hawaii. The rules of the competition are as follows:

1. All contestants must be 21 years of age or older, have a valid Texas I.D. and be a resident of the Dallas Metroplex area.
2. These preliminaries are open to anyone in the LGBT community. The only stipulation is that you may NOT be currently making a living as a singer. It does not matter if you have had a professional career in the past as long as you are currently not working as a professional singer, or earning a living as a singer. At each level the contestants will be judged in three (3) categories; Vocal ability, presentation of song and general appearance. This year at semi-finals and finals we will have a panel of seven (7) judges who will score the contestants. We will drop the high and low score and use the 5 middle scores.
3. In each Preliminary Competition, a panel of two (2) qualified judges will choose two (2) finalists. An additional finalist will be chosen by audience response. A total of three (3) singers will qualify to move on to the Elimination Rounds.
4. In each Preliminary, the contestants will perform two (2) songs of their choice. These songs must be no more than 5 minutes in length, but can be as short as 3 minutes. The combination of their two (2) scores will determine the winners for the two judges selections. The audience choice will be made after the two (2) judges selections are announced.
5. All of the preliminary winners will move on to compete in one of two (2) Elimination rounds. At the end of their Preliminary, the three (3) winners will draw a slip of paper from the contest coordinator. That paper will have the date and time of the Elimination Round where they will compete. The contest coordinator will record this information immediately so there is NO trading or swapping of dates.
6. At each of the two (2) Elimination rounds, the five (5) judges will select twelve (12) singers to advance to the Semi-final Night Competition. The contestants will sing one (1) song only at each at these Elimination Rounds. Again, these songs must be no more than 5 minutes in length, but can be as short as 3 minutes. The twenty-four (24) qualifying singers will move on to the Semi-Final Night competition.
7. At the Semi-Final Night Competition, the twenty-four (24) qualifying singers will again sing one (1) song only. The seven (7) judges will select twelve (12) singers from that group to move on to the Final Night Competition.
8. At the Final-Night Competition the contestants will prepare two songs of their choice. A variety of style is suggested but not required. The songs must also be no more than 5 minutes in length, but can be as short as 3 minutes. There will be NO variable speed, tunable CD players, so be sure the song is in your key. The combined scores of both songs will determine the winner. We will use a panel of seven (7) judges at finals.
9. Remember, this is a solo vocal competition. No props, dancers, back-up singers, productions or wardrobe changes. This also means no-lip-sync. Please, no acapella vocals or live instrumental accompaniment. All singers must have accompaniment tracks.
10. You must check in and turn in your music at all Preliminaries, and Elimination Rounds 30 minutes before the scheduled start time of the event. No music or entries will be accepted after that time. There are NO exceptions to this rule.
11. Prior to the Semi-Final Night Competition all qualified contestants will receive specific instruction as to how the competition will be run. Those instructions are to be followed without exception. This will also be done for Final Night Competition.
12. After the two (2) Elimination Rounds, the Judges comments will be compiled and made into an e-mail document that you may request to be sent to you. You may request **ONLY** your own comments. Actual placement scores will **NOT** be made available to any of the contestants. This will also be done for Semi-Finalists and the Finalists.

13. You must furnish your own music on CD to the sound technician. No borrowing House music is allowed. Only instrumental tracks will be accepted. Any back-up vocals on the track must be minimal. Again, this is a solo voice competition.

14. Since this is a solo vocal competition, the majority of your score will be based on vocal ability. However, there will be additional points given in the areas of presentation and personal appearance. Make an effort to dress appropriately.

15. The winner of the competition will receive \$3,000 in cash, ride in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and will perform at the Pride Festival in Lee Park on Sunday, September 20th, 2009. 2nd and 3rd place finalists will also ride in the parade and perform at the Festival. The winner will also receive two (2) round-trip tickets to Hawaii. The 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th place finalists will receive cash awards as well.

Please read these rules carefully before completing the Contestant Application & Release and submitting it to the Voice of Pride Coordinator. You must comply by all the rules and requirements in order to qualify to compete at each level. Keep page one for your own information and give this page to the Coordinator when you sign up.

Cut here and bring the bottom portion to the competition and turn it in to the Coordinator.



CONTESTANT APPLICATION & RELEASE

I have read and understand the rules and requirements of the 2009 Voice of Pride Competition. I further understand that any attempt to defraud or deceive the competition committee, judges or the Dallas Tavern Guild will result in my immediate disqualification. I am a resident of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex area. I will abide by the judges and committee's decision in all matters. I also confirm that the information I give below is true and accurate. If chosen as the winner, I will be available to appear in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and perform at the Festival in Lee Park. Failure to appear or perform will result in forfeiture of any and all prize monies. Any official photos taken will be available for local and regional promotions.

Name: (please print or type) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Club Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

VOICE OF PRIDE COORDINATOR/OFFICIAL NOTES
Do Not Write In This Section. For Official Use Only.