



A VOICE FOR HABITAT 2019 SINGING COMPETITION

BENEFITTING
ERATH COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. Any applications missing required information listed on page 2 will be considered incomplete and not entered into the competition. The entry fee will be forfeited.

TIMELINE

- Registration package and fees are due by **August 30, 2019**.
- Round 1 video auditions will be completed by September 6, 2019.
- Round 2 live auditions will be completed by September 13, 2019.
- Sound checks and run through for the finals will be held the morning of Friday, October 4, 2019.
- Final competition and fundraising event date is the evening of Friday, October 4, 2019

THE COMPETITION will take place at Twisted J Live, 2285 North US Highway 377, Stephenville, Texas. It will be held in three rounds: video auditions, live auditions, and the finals.

AVAILABLE EXPOSURE FOR FINALISTS

- Programs will be provided to those attending the finals round. Each finalist will have a full page of the program dedicated to that contestant. That page will contain the contestant's name, photo, biography, and booking information. Booking information is optional but encouraged.
- Each finalist will be asked to do radio interviews to promote their entry, themselves, ECHH and the singing competition. Interviews will be arranged by ECHH.
- In promoting the singing competition and fundraiser, ECHH will promote each finalist including, but not limited to, the EHCC website and social media pages, radio stations, billboards, newspapers, flyers and any other means of advertisement.

PRIZES

- The first place winner will receive
 - \$1,000,
 - a professionally produced recording of one song, and
 - will be the opening act at a *Twisted J Live* show.
- The second place winner will receive \$500.
- The third place winner will receive \$250.
- Cash awards will be made by one check and not split amongst contestant's team members.

WHO MAY ENTER?

- Anyone who is unsigned may enter. Unsigned is defined as an artist who does not currently, or by the date of the final competition, have a signed contract with a record label.
- Contestant may be a solo performer or a lead vocalist with a band.
- Contestants under the age of 18 must have their natural or legal guardian's permission to participate and be present during all aspects of the competition.
- Past, first place winners are not eligible to re-enter. However, they may be invited to perform.

PERFORMANCE

- A karaoke machine or screen will not be allowed.
- Backline equipment (including drum kit, base and guitar amps) monitors and microphones will be supplied for the finals. A keyboard or stringed instruments will not be supplied but may be used.
- All clothing should be modest, not revealing, free of profanity, and suitable for family entertainment.
- The order of performance will be determined by random selection.

MUSIC SELECTION

- Songs must be suitable for family entertainment. The judges and the ECHH reserve the right to disqualify any performer whose performance, dress attire, or song does not meet family entertainment standards.
- Accompaniment music for all rounds must be free of lead vocals. No sing-a-longs.
- Upon check-in, contestants must provide their own accompaniment music – either live or on a thumb drive. No DVDs.
- Thumb drives must only contain the music to be used for your performance(s).
- Contestants are encouraged to bring a backup thumb drive with their accompaniment music in case of malfunctions.
- Thumb drives must be sealed in an envelope marked with the contestant's name and the name of the song.
- Thumb drives may be picked up after your performance. All recorded media provided by the contestant not picked up will be destroyed after the competition. They will not be mailed back to the contestant.

REGISTRATION

Entrants must submit the following by **August 30, 2019**. All applications must be submitted as one package. If any items are missing, the application will be considered incomplete. You will not be entered and the entry fee forfeited.

1. \$35 non-refundable entry fee
2. Video
3. 3"x5" photo
4. Completed and signed registration form
5. Permission and release form with notarized signature by natural or legal guardian for those who are under age 18

VIDEO AUDITION ROUND #1

- Videos must be one song limited to two minutes.
- Videos may be made using a tablet, smart phone, camcorder, or other digital device. They do not have to be professional quality, but the vocals must be heard clearly.

- Accompaniment music for all rounds must be free of lead vocals. No sing-a-longs.
- Submit an unlisted YouTube link with the phrase, “This is my submission for A Voice for Habitat 2019 Singing Competition”.
- Contestants advancing to the next round will be notified by midnight of September 6, 2019.

LIVE AUDITION ROUND #2

- Contestants will perform one song limited to four minutes. It does not have to be the same song used in the video audition round #1.
- Upon check-in, contestants must provide their own accompaniment music – either live or on a thumb drive. No DVDs.
- Thumb drives must be sealed in an envelope marked with the contestant’s name and the name of the song.
- Thumb drives may be picked up after your performance. All recorded media provided by the contestant not picked up will be destroyed after the competition. They will not be mailed back to the contestant.
- Contestants advancing to the next round will be notified by midnight of September 13, 2019.

FINALS ROUND #3

- The finals round will consist of 12 finalists who will perform before qualified, celebrity judges and a live audience on the evening of Friday, October 4, 2019.
- Two alternate finalists will also be expected to attend the sound check and be available to perform in case a finalist must forfeit.
- Sound checks and a run through will be held the morning of Friday, October 4, 2019.
- Contestants will perform one song limited to four minutes. It must be the same song performed at the live audition round #2.
- Contestants will be allowed up to 5 minutes to set up on stage (but no sound checks) and up to 3 minutes to strike the stage before the next performance.
- Contestants exceeding their performance time will be faded out.
- The backstage area and the green room are restricted to only the contestants and the legal guardians of minors.
- No one will be allowed into the venue without a pass or a ticket.
- Finalists must be present to receive awards at the end of the competition at approximately 10:15 pm on Friday, October 4, 2019.
- The winning contestant will be expected to perform an encore after the announcement of the winner. The encore performance can be, but is not required to be, the same song performed for the finals.

JUDGING

- Three individuals with a background in singing, music production, promotion, etc. will be assembled to judge the live audition round #2 and the finals round #3.
- At no time should the contestants, their family, or their friends have any communication or interaction, verbally or otherwise, with the judges before or during the competition.
- If you’d wish to receive a copy of the judges’ scores for your performance, please provide a #10 self-addressed and stamped envelope at check-in.
- Decision of the judges is final.
- Each contestant shall be judged by the following criteria on a scale of 1-10, with a total of 50 points being possible:
 1. Singing ability – tone, technique, range and vocal quality

2. Appearance – attire and cleanliness
 3. Stage presence -expression, poise, confidence and appropriate movement
 4. Knowledge of the song – accuracy of text, rhythm and pitch
 5. Judge’s overall impression
- In the live audition round #2, the judges’ scores will be tallied using Microsoft Excel software and provide 100% of the guide for who wins. In the event of a tie, the judges will deliberate to determine the placing.
 - In the finals round #3, the judges’ scores will be tallied using Microsoft Excel software and provide 75% of the guide for who wins. 25% of the contestant’s score will be determined by the people’s choice judge. In the event of a tie, the judges will deliberate to determine the placing.

PEOPLE’S CHOICE JUDGE

- A people’s choice judge will be utilized in the finals round #3 only.
- Once the 12 finalists are determined, a widget will be available on the ECHH website (www.erathcountyhabitatforhumanity.org) for fans to vote by donation under the finalist of their choice.
- The finalist with the most monetary votes (raises the most money) will place first under the people’s choice judge; the second most monetary votes will place second under the people’s choice judge; and so on.
- The people’s choice judge will consist of 25% of the total score for each finalist.
- People’s choice judging will be opened as soon as the finalists are determined and closed 10 minutes after the last finalist’s performance on October 4, 2019.
- Finalists are encouraged to use social media and any other means to promote their entry and get monetary votes in any amount with a minimum of \$5 per vote. There is not a maximum amount any one fan may donate.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The ECHH reserves the right to cancel or modify the event as necessary and without notice. Contestants will be notified of any changes or cancellations via email.
- All contestants must release Erath County Habitat for Humanity, its officers, members, volunteers and sponsors from any liability resulting from their performance or attendance at this event.
- All contestants must consent to allow the ECHH unrestricted authorization to use their name, photo, voice recording, video recording, entry materials, or likeness in promotional materials without compensation.
- By submission of an application and entering this contest, each contestant represents and warrants his or her and their team’s compliance with these rules and regulations.
- Exceptions will be determined by the event committee on a case-by-case basis.

QUESTIONS may be emailed to erathhabitatforhumanity@gmail.com. Please provide a detailed message, contact name and phone number for return calls.