

# NEW JERSEY STATE SONG

## GUIDELINES & ENTRY FORM



NEW JERSEY  
STATE  
COUNCIL  
ON THE  
ARTS

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### Department of State

The Honorable Lonna R. Hooks, *Secretary of State*

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Large  
Print

This Application is available in Large Print. Call 609-292-6130 (voice); 609-633-1186 (TDD)

### THE COUNCIL

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts is a division of state government in the Department of State. Created in 1966 by P.L. C:214, the Council consists of 17 members appointed by the Governor to three-year terms and 3 ex-officio members. The Council receives and administers an annual appropriation from the State of New Jersey and funds from the National Endowment for the Arts through which it encourages and gives financial support to artists, arts organizations and arts programs throughout the state. Council supported programs raise tens of millions of dollars from private sources and result in thousands of public events annually attended by millions of New Jerseyans and out of state visitors.

### THE STATE SONG

Though hundreds of songs about or mentioning New Jersey have been written throughout the last 300 years, none has ever officially been adopted by state government as *THE* State Song. These guidelines and application forms lay out a competitive process that the New Jersey State Council on the Arts will administer by which an official New Jersey State Song will be adopted by the State Legislature.

New Jersey State Council on the Arts

9190  
1998

## NEW JERSEY STATE SONG CONTEST GUIDELINES

**Purpose:** The purpose of this program is to conduct a competition by which three songs will be recommended to the New Jersey Legislature for its consideration in selecting an official New Jersey State Song.

**Eligible Contestants:** Any person(s) whose official place of residence is the State of New Jersey and has been so for at least one year prior to contest entry may enter. In the case of collaborative efforts, ALL persons involved in the musical composition and lyric writing must be residents of New Jersey. Eligible contestants may submit **ONLY ONE ENTRY** containing **ONE SONG**. Collaborators should take care. Any contribution to any submission will be considered that person's **SINGLE ALLOWABLE ENTRY**.

Members of the State Arts Council, its staff, the contest evaluators, the Department of State, and the State Legislature as well as their respective immediate families are ineligible to apply.

**Eligible Songs:** All submissions must be songs **combining ORIGINAL music and lyrics**. It is the contestants' full responsibility to assure the originality of the lyrics and music and that neither the lyrics nor music infringe on any copyright.

**Note on Eligibility:** Any song that was proposed for designation as the State Song by legislation that was pending before the Legislature on January 26, 1995 will be given consideration as required by law.

**Evaluation Criteria:** All submissions will be evaluated for the presence and extent of two things:

- Quality of both the music and lyrics
- Ability of the song to promote pride in New Jersey, its heritage and culture

**Evaluation Process:** All submissions will be evaluated by an independent panel composed of persons expert in musical composition, song writing, lyric writing and musical performance and at least one member of the general public. Depending on the volume of applications received, this may involve successive levels of review. From this review process three songs will be selected and forwarded in priority order to the Legislature for it to consider the final selection of a State Song.

**Notification:** Applicants will be notified of the results of the Council's actions in writing.

**Deadline for Submission:** Contestants must complete, sign and submit an entry form along with the specified song materials to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts by **March 20, 1996**. Only complete applications received in the Council's office by **5:00 PM** on or before that day or containing an accurate postmark of that day or before will be accepted. **There are no exceptions.**

**Acceptable Formats for Submitting Song Entries:** Under **NO CIRCUMSTANCES** should a contestant submit the "Original" or sole copy of anything specified below. The Council will bear no responsibility for the maintenance or return of submitted materials. This competition permits submission of material in a variety of formats that can accurately convey the contents and merits of the song. However, whichever format(s) the applicants chooses, that submission must actually convey those merits. The Council will bear no responsibility to review any submissions which cannot clearly convey the quality of both the music and lyrics of the song. The following are acceptable formats:

- **Musical Score:** A full musical score for the song with key signature and both bass and treble clefs notated, suitable for performance on a keyboard instrument is strongly suggested. Scores containing only the complete melody line and complete chord structure will be accepted.
- **Lyrics:** Full lyrics should be presented within any musical score; however, it is acceptable to present the first verse within the score and any remaining verses on a separate portion of the score sheet. An alternative to this is to provide the first verse within the score and a completely separate sheet indicating the complete lyrics. All lyrics must be in English, although individual words of different languages may appear within the lyrics.
- **Audio Cassette Tape:** An audio cassette tape, clearly labeled with the name of the applicant and title of the song and accurately cued to the beginning point of the song may be submitted **either in addition to or in lieu of a score**. If in lieu, an accompanying lyric sheet **must** be provided and **no** other material

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excepting the actual performance of the song is permitted to be on the tape.

- **Compact Disks:** Same as audio cassettes

Contestants are strongly encouraged to submit both a score and cassette or CD provided they present the same and only the same, song.

**Ineligible Formats:** Under no circumstances will reel to reel tapes, vinyl records, video tapes or means of presentation other than those specified above be accepted.

**Proofs, Claims and Waivers:** ALL persons contributing to the creation of the entered song will be listed on and will sign the entry form. All signatures must be notarized and sealed by a Notary Public of New Jersey. In signing the entry form and in having the signature(s) notarized the signatory(ies) will be furnishing an affidavit that certifies and affirms the following:

- that they are and have been residents of the State of New Jersey for at least one year prior to entering this contest. The winner(s) will be required to prove residency by producing documents such as voter registration card, utility bills, tax returns, etc. at the time of any award. This requirement pertains to all persons who may have collaborated on an entry.
- that they have clear, unencumbered ownership of any song (including both music and lyrics) submitted at the time of entry under penalty of prosecution for fraudulent misrepresentation.
- that they assume full and total responsibility for the preparation of a complete and accurate entry and for its arrival in Council offices in good condition.
- that they release the Arts Council, Department of State, and State of New Jersey from all liability for maintenance and return of any and all materials submitted and from any responsibility to review and evaluate any submission which, for whatever reason, becomes damaged or otherwise unable to be reviewed and evaluated regardless of how or by whom that condition occurs.
- that at the time of entry they forfeit to the State of New Jersey all claims to the right to use, sell, market, promote or profit from the use, sale, marketing and promotion of the entered song

until a State Song is selected. The rights to all entries not selected to be the State Song shall be returned to the contestant(s) immediately with and by the Act of the Legislature selecting the State Song.

- that if the submitted entry is selected to become the State Song, the State of New Jersey shall hold those forfeited rights in perpetuity.

**The Complete Submission:** A complete submission will consist of the following:

- **One** (1) completed entry form *signed in blue ink* by all parties involved in the composition of the song (music and lyrics) with each signature duly notarized
- **Five** (5) *copies* of any score and/or lyric sheet clearly labeled on each copy with the name of contestant(s) and the title of the song on each

and/or

- **One** (1) copy of a cassette audio tape or compact disk clearly labeled with the name of the contestant(s) and the name of the song, with five (5) copies of a lyric sheet

**Where to Send Your Entry:** Mail your entry to

*State Song Contest  
New Jersey State Council on the Arts  
CN 306  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625*

The Council will not provide information on whether your entry or any other entry has been received. If you wish verification of receipt of your entry, you are strongly urged to mail it by Certified Return Receipt Requested Mail.

You may also hand deliver your entry. The Council maintains offices on the third floor of the Roebing Building, 20 West State Street in Trenton.

**Further Information:** For further information on the contest and assistance in preparing the submission, call the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (609) 292-6130 between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday and ask to speak with the State Song Contest Coordinator.

You Are Viewing an Archived Report from the New Jersey State Library  
**NEW JERSEY STATE SONG CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

**New Jersey State Council on the Arts**

CN 306, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; (609) 292-6130; (609) 633-1186 VOICE/TDD

Name of Entrant (Must be either composer or lyricist or both): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Song Entered \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone Number (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Song's Music Composer(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Song's Lyricist: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE:** With my (our) signature(s) below, I (we) certify that I (we) have read, understand and agree to abide by all terms, conditions and rules setforth in the guidelines and that the song contained herein as my (our) submission to the contest to select a New Jersey State Song is completely original in its lyrics and its musical composition and does not infringe on any copyrighted composition under penalty of law. I (we) do further certify and affirm that I and all persons who may have collaborated on this song are currently official residents of the State of New Jersey and have been since March 20, 1995. I (we) do further assume full and total responsibility for the preparation of a complete and accurate entry and for its arrival in Council offices in good condition. I (we) release the Council, Department of State, and State of New Jersey from all liability for maintenance and return of any and all materials submitted and from any responsibility to review and evaluate the submission if for whatever reason and regardless of the source of same it becomes damaged or otherwise unable to be reviewed and evaluated. I (we) do hereby transfer to the State of New Jersey all claims to the right to use, sell, market, promote or profit from the use, sale, marketing and promotion of the entered song during the time of its evaluation as a competing entry and in perpetuity in the event that it is selected to become the State Song. I (we) understand and agree that the State shall lay no such claim to any entered song that is not adopted by the State of New Jersey. Finally, I (we) do affirm that the song entered hereby is the only such song being entered by me (us) and there is no other song being entered to which I (we) have in any way contributed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Above Entrant

Sworn and subscribed to before me

this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1996

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Officer Administering Oath)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Signatory

Sworn and subscribed to before me

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Please  
Be Sure  
To Read  
The Entire Contents

*And*

Follow Directions Closely

Call the Arts Council  
With Any Questions  
You May Have

(609) 292-6130

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CN 306  
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