

HPR'S TWELFTH ANNUAL ART SONG FESTIVAL

Hawai'i Public Radio proudly announces the requirements and timetable for the Twelfth Annual Art Song Festival (2009). The mission of the contest is to acknowledge the excellence of Hawai'i's art song vocalists and encourage art song performance in Hawai'i.

ABOUT THE COMPETITION

Singers of all ages and levels are invited to participate in this competition, which is judged on a recording of one art song.

Qualifications

The Art Song Festival is open to state of Hawai'i residents only. Former contestants and semi-finalists may enter again. Former Winners are not eligible. Singers of all ages and levels may enter.

Repertoire

"Art Song" is poetry set to music by a classical composer for unamplified voice and piano. Opera and oratorio arias, popular, folk, rap, commercial songs, and musical theatre are not included in the definition. Transpositions are acceptable, but selections must be performed in the original language.

Any one selection of Lieder (such as Schubert, Schumann, etc.), mélodie (Fauré, Debussy, etc.), or art songs in other languages such as English, Spanish, Russian, Italian, etc. are acceptable. While no operatic arias are permitted, selections from the Anthology of Italian Song of the 17th and 18th Centuries are acceptable.

If you have questions or concerns regarding repertoire, you may email dengar@hawaii.rr.com to have your selection approved prior to the application deadline.

Special outreach is offered to singers new to art song. Resources such as PDF files of sheet music with suggested songs in English, Italian, French and German; MP3 samples of songs; and MP3 piano accompaniments are all available on HPR's website. Please note that these songs are suggestions, and they are **not** required.

Judging

1. Singers submit their recorded entries by May 31, 2009 (see application deadlines below).
2. The judges review the recordings and select 12 semi-finalists.
3. Four winners are chosen from the semi-finalists.

Singers will be evaluated on:

1. Technique: basic sound, breath management, intonation, etc.
2. Diction: language ability / accuracy, clear understanding of the meaning of the words
3. Musicianship: rhythm, style, interpretation
4. Presentation: communication and appropriate presentation of character

Recorded entries

- Entries must be submitted in the form of a CD recording of good quality that is an accurate and current representation of who you are as a singer and artist.
- Singers may submit their own recording or they may record at HPR's Atherton Performing Art Studio (O`ahu) or other venues (Neighbor Islands).
- The CD need not be professionally recorded; however, all attempts should be made to eliminate distractions such as outside noise, etc. Live recordings are acceptable as long as the judges can make a fair assessment of the entry. Excessive reverberation or other added affects may result in disqualification.
- If you cannot record yourself, free recording sessions on all islands are available. Copies of the recording are available at no extra fee.
- A pianist may be available for an extra fee.

AWARDS

Semi-finalists

Semi-finalists will have their entries broadcast on HPR's *Great Songs* program on Sunday July 26, 2009 at 7:00pm.

Winners

- Winners will sing in the Winners Recital on September 11, 2009, which will be broadcast on *Great Songs* Sunday, December 27, 2009 at 7:00pm.
- Winners should arrange a program of 3-5 songs, not to exceed 15 minutes.
- In preparation for the Winners Recital, Winners are offered five free coaching sessions with pianist Beebe Freitas, Associate Artistic Director of Hawai'i Opera Theatre. The coach will help with language, interpretation, stage deportment, ensemble, performance practice and other elements pertaining to art song performance.
- Neighbor Island Winners will have their air and hotel costs covered for the trip to Honolulu for the Winners Recital.
- Samples from the Winners Recital will be published on the HPR website.

Deadlines

The application deadline is April 15, 2009. All recordings must be received by May 31, 2009. Judging will take place in June and semi-finalists and winners will be notified once judging is complete. Application forms and other materials can be found on the HPR website at www.hawaiipublicradio.org under HPR: Events, or through HPR's *Great Songs* page.