

“a vocal competition in the individual performance of arranged Negro spirituals, to provide African-American senior high school students a chance to earn tuition assistance grants for college matriculation”

PRIZE

A tuition assistance grant in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) and a cash prize in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300) will be awarded to adjudged winners in the separate categories of Female Vocalist and Male Vocalist. Grant monies are supplied directly to an accredited institution of higher learning where a winner is actually accepted and enrolled within two years of date of graduation from high school. A cash prize in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) will be awarded to each remaining entrant who competes. All participants will be recognized for their achievement with certificates.

ELIGIBILITY

Academically qualified senior high students (grades 11-12) of Afro-ethnic descent who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents currently attending school in any district of the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee are eligible. Individuals who are currently contracted with musical or theatrical professional management are not eligible. Previous recipients of any GRADY-RAYAM PRIZE tuition assistance grant are not eligible to return to competition.

REPERTOIRE

Each entrant will be required to perform two songs, one assigned and one selected. Entrants will be sent study copy of the assigned piece, which will be performed to the accompaniment of a single keyboard instrument (acoustic piano) using a staff accompanist. Entrants will be sent a list of songs recognized as Negro spirituals to assist them in choosing a second selection to be performed to the accompaniment of a single keyboard instrument (acoustic piano) using an accompanist they have secured. Entrants are required to provide an original score to this selection for use by the judges. Entrants will be required to perform from memory. A panel of three judges will sit at each site.

COMPETITION

The competition will be held Saturday, 27th March 2010 at LeMoyne Owen College in Memphis, Tennessee. This competition will be open to 20 singers maximum – 10 males and 10 females. Entrants are required to submit biographical statement on the day of competition. Decisions of the judges are final.

Performance Criteria

Competitors will be evaluated in three areas of performance by a panel of judges each of whom will separately award numerical scores using an established point system.

1. Points will be awarded for Technique based upon tone quality, intonation, and vocal production.
2. Points will be awarded for Musicianship/Artistry based upon inflection, diction, authenticity, rhythmic energy, and memorization.
3. Points will be awarded for Stage Presence based upon demeanor, posture, and sincerity of delivery.

In the first round each vocalist will perform the required piece, which the judges will separately evaluate by points. In the second round each vocalist will perform a selected piece, which will in turn be evaluated by points.

APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL DISTRICT (COUNTY) _____

GRADE LEVEL (Check One): 11th 12th

GENDER (Check One): FEMALE MALE

VOICE RANGE (Check One):

SOPRANO MEZZO ALTO

TENOR BARITONE BASS

TEACHER/VOCAL COACH _____

TEACHER/COACH TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

TEACHER/VOCAL COACH ADDRESS

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PAYMENT METHOD (Check One):

Check is enclosed

Money Order is enclosed

Credit Card has been called in

COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS APPLICATION (OR A PHOTOCOPY) BY 12th FEBRUARY 2010 ALONG WITH A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20.00) PAYABLE TO "NS" SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION. PAYMENT CAN ALSO BE MADE BY CREDIT CARD. THE FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE. APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED WITHOUT PAYMENT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED. At the start of the competition period each entrant will be sent a competition number, a day-of-competition schedule, detailed rules and judging criteria for competition, a Negro spiritual description sheet, a list of titles, music copy for the assigned competition piece, biographical statement, and detailed information on how to get to the competition site.

MAIL OR FAX APPLICATIONS TO:

MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:

GRADY-RAYAM PRIZE Committee:

"NS" Scholarship Foundation

PO Box 547728

Orlando FL 32854-7728

Telephone: 407/841-NSSF (6773)