**Vocal Competition Overview & Guidelines**

The vocal competition will take place in three (3) distinct phases:

1. Video Audition pre-qualification
2. Semi-finals
3. Finals

Semi-finals will be held on Sunday, July 7, 2024 and Finals will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2024. Semi-finals and finals will take place as part of the Transplant Games in Birmingham, AL.

Medals will be awarded in three (3) divisions: Division I covers organ recipients, Division II includes living donors, corneal & tissue recipients, and bone marrow recipients, and Division III includes donor families and living donor families with no age, gender, or musical style classifications. An additional People’s Choice selection will be awarded based on on-line voting results.

All competitors must first meet all Conditions of Entry as outlined in the “Waivers” section of this website.

Competitors will be judged on both technical issues and overall presentation. Technical issues will include pitch, vocal quality, originality, phrasing, and rhythm. Overall presentation will include musicality, stage presence, and audience appeal.

Judging will vary depending upon the phase of the competition. The process will include input from qualified music professionals, celebrities and luminaries. People’s Choice award will be by on-line voting of qualified semi-finalists.

Semi-finalists will perform one (1) song not more than three and a half minutes in duration, with musical backing track if desired, before the Transplant Games audience and a panel of judges.

Finalists will perform two (2) songs not more than three and a half minutes in duration, with musical backing track if desired, before an audience and a panel of judges.

Decision of the judges will be final.

Auditions will be limited to the first 100 submissions.

**Phase 1 – Video Audition Guidelines**

Competitors must submit one (1) unedited 90-second video of themselves singing a song of their choice. Cell phone videos are encouraged. Video quality will not be judged. However, as this is a vocal competition, the sound must be of sufficient quality to clearly hear the contestant's voice. It is recommended that recording takes place indoors in a quiet environment.

Videos must be uploaded to a video hosting site (YouTube or similar) and the video link sent to: vocals@transplantgamesofamerica.org by May 31, 2024. A link to a digital video is the only acceptable means of submission. (CD’s, DVD’s, and tapes will not be accepted.)

Judges will select twelve (12) semi-finalists.

Semi-finalists will be notified via e-mail the week of June 5, 2024(or earlier). Audition videos of semi-finalists will then be posted on-line for People’s Choice voting.

Registration for the 2024 Transplant Games is not required for consideration during the audition phase, but registration must be completed prior to final acceptance as a semi-finalist.

\*\*See below for more audition information and recommendations.

**Phase 2 – Semi-finals**

Semi-finalists will perform one (1) song not more than three and a half minutes in duration, with musical backing track if desired, before an audience and a panel of judges. Judges will determine finalists.

**Phase 3 – Finals**

Finalists will perform two (2) songs not more than three and a half minutes in duration, with musical backing track if desired, before an audience and a panel of judges.

Winners will be announced upon completion of finals competition.

**\*\*Audition Tips**:

As stated in the Vocal Competition guidelines, digital video audition submissions are due by Midnight (12:00am ET) on May 31, 2024. Auditions must be performed live, be unedited, and have no musical background. We want to hear you, and only you.

You must upload your audition video to an appropriate video site. YouTube is free and it’s relatively easy to set up an account and upload to. Any similar site where we can easily view your audition video is acceptable. Once your video is viewable, please double-check the link and then send that link to vocals@transplantgamesofamerica.org Links are the only acceptable means of submission.

On your audition video, please state your name before you begin singing, so we know who you are.

If selected for the semi-finals, you will be expected to provide your own back-up tracks unless you’ll be singing acapella. Good quality backing tracks can be obtained on-line at a number of websites for a small fee.

Final note: Though this competition will utilize background tracks, originality is part of the judging. We look forward to receiving your audition video. Good luck!