

## DSA QUARTERLY LYRIC CONTEST

Lyricists! Here's your chance to shine. DSA is very excited about hosting a quarterly, ongoing contest for lyricists. The main prize is what we all aspire to -

### RECOGNITION FOR OUR LYRICAL WORK!

1st place winning lyricists will receive a \$50 cash prize. 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners and lyrics will be published both in the DSA "Songwriters Notes" newsletter and the website. Entry fee is \$10 per lyric.

### LYRIC CONTEST RULES

Deadline for Entries: May 10th

You must submit a separate entry form for EACH lyric you enter. Photocopy for additional forms. Read the following song contest rules carefully. Signing the entry form signifies that you have read and agreed to all contest rules.

1. The DSA Lyric Contest is open to any lyricist.
2. Judges and their families are not eligible to enter.
4. Enter as many lyrics as you like HOWEVER, you must send an entry form, fee, & lyrics TYPED for each entry (Sorry, no handwritten lyrics will be accepted.) EACH LYRIC CAN ONLY WIN FIRST PLACE ONE TIME. There are no categories, however, intended genre(s) for lyric submitted is suggested to guide judge's critique.
5. All entries must be received by no later than October 31, 2004. DSA is not responsible for lost, damaged or misdirected entries.
6. Entry material WILL NOT BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. DO NOT SEND YOUR ONLY COPY OR S.A.S.E.
7. The decision of the judges is final!
8. Entrants agree that if their song is a winner of any prize in the contest, the sponsors and DSA will have the right to publicize the winners names and likeness, and reprint the winning lyrics in the DSA "Songwriters Notes" newsletter and/or website. By accepting the prize, winner releases DSA of any and all liability regarding prizes awarded. All warranties and performance of services promised are the sole responsibility of the sponsors providing such service.
9. Entrants retain all publishing and copyrights to their lyric(s).
10. Entries may not infringe upon any existing copyright or other rights of a third party. By signing the entry form, the entrant agrees to release DSA from any and all liability for copyright infringement of any entry submitted by entrant.
11. Lyrics of previous first prize winning songs of any DSA sponsored annual song or lyric contest are excluded.

Please direct inquiries and entries with check, or money order, VISA or MasterCard number w/Exp date to: Dallas Songwriters Association LYRIC CONTEST, c/o Sammons Center For the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd Box 20, Dallas, Texas 75219  
Or enter online at [www.dallassongwriters.org](http://www.dallassongwriters.org)  
Send inquiries by email to Sherrie Davis: [sherriesong@verizon.net](mailto:sherriesong@verizon.net)

### SUMMER 2004 SEMI-FINALISTS

*I Keep Holdin' On*, Shelley Hunter, Mansfield, TX  
*Our Father & Friend*, Gundula Muella, Austin, TX  
*Where Are My Car Keys?*, Mike Hyden, Tulsa, TX  
*Forty Miles From Dallas*, George Puccini, Las Vegas Nevada  
*Did He Know?*, Mickey Gale & Luna Raney, Gun Barrel City, TX  
*Gotta Get Away*, Michelle Carver, Farmer's Branch, TX  
*Everything Is Back Where It Belongs*, Patti & Beau Burt, Hutchins, TX

Visit online for judges critiques

See [http://www.dallassongwriters.org/dsa\\_lyric\\_contest.htm](http://www.dallassongwriters.org/dsa_lyric_contest.htm)

## WINNING LYRICS OF LYRIC CONTEST

### DSA 2004 WINTER LYRIC CONTEST WINNERS

#### DSA SUMMER 2004 LYRIC CONTEST WINNERS

1st Place *He Knows About Me*, Claude Diamond Braselton, GA

HE KNOWS ABOUT ME © CLAUDE DIAMOND  
He was bending dead strings on a banged up guitar  
Singing for drinks in an old skid row bar  
He was singing about a man who was lost in misery  
I thought, my God, he knows about me  
CHORUS

His words touched my soul his words gave me hope  
My spirits fly higher on words he spoke  
I thought I was too small for anyone to see  
But, my God, he knows about me

That night I tried but could not sleep  
I opened Mama's bible the one she left to me  
And gazed upon words Jesus had said  
They were on those old pages written in red  
CHORUS

His words touched my soul his words gave me hope  
My spirits fly higher on words he spoke  
I thought I was too small for anyone to see  
But, my God, he knows about me

Nowadays I drive my big shiny car  
Down the mean streets past skid row bars  
I search for the man with a banged up guitar  
And I praise the Lord for healing my scars  
CHORUS #2

His words touched my soul his words gave me hope  
My spirits fly higher on words he spoke  
I thought I was too small for anyone to see  
But, God knows about me  
TAG

Yes, God knows about me

2nd Place *One Night Song*, Sara Blumenstein Great Neck, NY

3rd Place *Low Rent Mama*, Kim McDaniel & Sean Michael O'Keefe  
Burbank, CA

### WINNERS OF THE 2004 FALL LYRIC CONTEST

1st: *Black and White* by (John) Mike Hyden, Tulsa, OK

See page 8 for lyrics and judges critique

2nd *The Unknown Caller* by Brian Kerr, BiggarSK, SOKO

3rd *Great Distraction* by Dori Ann Cobb, Fairfield, TX

### FALL 2004 LYRIC CONTEST SEMIFINALISTS

*Suave A Fare* by Jeffie Hawkins, Horn Lake, MS  
*Missing You* by Brian Kerr, BiggarSK, SOKO  
*Down My Face* by Brian Kerr, BiggarSK, SOKO  
*Faith* by Dori Ann Cobb, Fairfield, TX  
*Black and White* by (John) Mike Hyden, Tulsa, OK  
*Sand, Clay & Ash* by Stuart M. Vance, Irving, TX  
*I Had A Little Work Done* by Mike Parrish, LaGrange, GA  
*The Unknown Caller* by Brian Kerr, BiggarSK, SOKO  
*Great Distraction* by Dori Ann Cobb, Fairfield, TX  
*Far Away* by Dori Ann Cobb, Fairfield, TX

#### JUDGES CRITIQUE

By the fourth line which ends in the hook, I was totally hooked in, line and sinker. Claude expertly paints the setting with great imagery, using assonance and alliteration all throughout the lyric. Though I'm rather tough on critiquing songs that try to evoke sympathy for the drunken bum/homeless because there are so many with the same, tired theme, I was 'tricked' by Claude's twist by making you see yourself through the eyes of the singer in a completely new way. Instead of invoking pity for the bum, there was a revelation that God is there even in the lives of people in the lowest state and you are not alone. And Claude does this expertly without preachiness or condemnation. By the time the second chorus kicks in, there is new meaning to the words and the message becomes even more powerful. Great job, Claude! I can't wait to hear this in song.