

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 & Lyricist Software Compliments of Mary Dawson. 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: June 13th

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.
3. 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.
4. All entries must be received by no later than June 13th, 2006. DSA is not responsible for lost, damaged or misdirected entries.
5. Entry material WILL NOT BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. DO NOT SEND YOUR ONLY COPY OR S.A.S.E.
6. The decision of the judges is final!
7. 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.
8. Entrants retain all publishing and copyrights to their lyric(s).
9. 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.
10. 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 <http://www.dallasongwriters.org/lyriccontest/>
Send inquiries by email to Sherrie Davis: sherriesong@verizon.net

2006 Deadlines: June 13th, Sept 12th, Nov. 14th 07 March 14

WINNING LYRICS OF LYRIC CONTEST

DSA 2005 FALL LYRIC CONTEST WINNERS

1st Place WHEN YOU WERE AROUND © BB Seiler

The memories pour in I feel my heart race.
The music of your laughter Was the sweetest sound.
It filled the room When you were around.

Looking out my window I can see your ghost
In swirls of snowy moonlight
Leaning on the old lamp post
Staring up at me From on the ground
I used to run to kiss you When you were around

When you were around I was happy...
Without feeling happiness would ever end,
Without caring what was just around the bend.
I was crazy...
To believe I couldn't lose what I had found.
Things were better When you were around.

Touching your picture I remember when..
You said you loved me I said it back and then....
With a quick force Our lives were bound.
I felt safer When you were around.

2nd Place NASHVILLE DREAMS © Alan Leonard

He joined the Navy and he saw the world.
On the bus ride home he met a big boned girl.
Soon he's married with a family.
Workin' in Texas, thinkin' Tennessee.
Pullin' doubles, he needs the overtime.
A few drinks after work to help him unwind.
Then he tries to write while the children scream.
Composin' country songs was always his dream.
Bobby Lee and old Jim Beam.
The world's greatest song writin' team.

Lunch meat, canned chili, microwaveable meals
From the gut truck, roach coach, cholesterol on wheels.
Workin' graveyard, shift premium pay.
With the wife gettin' bigger its better this way.
Drinkin' his lunch from a paper sack
'Til the whistle blows and its time to go back.
Sleepin' during the day while the children scream.
Never no time for pursuin' his dream.
Bobby Lee and old Jim Beam.
The world's greatest song writin' team.

Life has taken its toll, his arteries are clogged..
You know he's getting' old, his memory fogged.
Talkin' up a storm at family events
Though his words don't always make sense.
Borin' everyone with his endless banter
Pour another shot from that collectible decanter.
Grinnin' broadly as the grandkids scream.
Thinkin' about some long ago dream.
Bobby Lee and old Jim Beam.
The world's greatest song writin' team.

No longer able to be left alone
He'll spend the rest of his days in a nursin' home.
Once so full of life now his eyes are dead.
All those hit country songs somewhere in his head.
Things didn't go accordin' to plan
But he supported his family, that's a measure of a man.
Off down the hall he hears some old man scream.
He sits there starin' lost in a dream.
Bobby Lee and old Jim Beam.
The world's greatest song writin' team.

Judges Critique

When You Were Around is well written and very visual, invoking the sight, sound and feeling of the song. The metaphores (first verse, music, 2nd verse, the coldness of the winter night) were strong and carried through each verse. The juxtaposition of happy, crazy, warm and cold kept the interest. I only wish verse three had given us the reason for the separation (death, divorce, disinterest). Good job.

Judge's Critique

Nashville Dreams chronicles the struggles of a man trying to get above the banality of life to the creative vision, but in the end he doesn't succeed. Although I prefer a happy ending, this one is probably more honest. Good rhym scheme, vivid imagery and a way of presenting cliches to make them fresh. The story song sings off the paper.

FALL 2005 Semi Finalists

Perhaps by Kennan Zishka

Jewel In Your Crown by Shirlin Goodson

Jenny Lynn by BB Seller

Visit online for judges critiques

<http://dallasongwriters.org/lyriccontest/currentcontest.htm>