

Songwriters'
Association
of Washington

SAW E-Notes



JUNE 2008



THE MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST IS NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES!!!

www.saw.org/html/masc.asp



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LETTER FROM MASC TEAM

COULD YOU USE A HUNDRED BUCKS? SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

The Mid Atlantic Song Contest is NOW OPEN. Not only that, but in honor of our 25th MASC, in addition to the fantastic Grand, Second and Third prizes you already know about, we will be giving **\$100 to each Gold Winner in each category**. \$100 will buy you at least ONE tank of gas these days, so we're happy to facilitate the Gold Winners' attendance at the big 25th anniversary of MASC/ 30th anniversary of SAW Gala in the winter. This is going to be a wing-ding of an event.

Gold Winners will receive \$100 or the Grand Prize (\$1000), Second Overall (\$500), or Third Overall (\$250). Two other Special Prizes will be awarded: The Young Artist Prize (\$100) for the best song by a songwriter (including all co-writers) age 21 or younger, and the International Prize (\$100) for the best song by a songwriter (including co-writers) residing outside of the US. Conditions for both of these prizes must be met as of the entry deadline of August 15, 2008. Entries are a deal for SAW members, so we're offering the chance to join SAW for \$25 in honor of MASC's 25th anniversary.

There are eleven music categories this year: Adult Contemporary, Rock, Acoustic and Folk, Country and Bluegrass, Pop, R&B/rap/urban, Children's, Vocal Jazz/Blues, Inspirational/Gospel/Christian, Instrumental, and the Open category for those songs which don't fit in any of the above categories.

Since we're a smaller contest (but one of the longest-running contests in the nation!) on the national and international scene, be aware that we do receive different quantities of submissions for each category. We're limiting entries to 300 per category... but we do have some "less attended" categories than others. (For example, if your entry is 1 of 75 your chances of winning the Gold \$100 are greater than if you are 1 of 300.) In the spirit of drawing your attention to that opportunity, we very specifically encourage submissions in R&B/rap/urban, children's, Vocal Jazz/Blues, and Inspirational/Gospel/Christian categories. The Open Category can feature any style of song as well... so if your song isn't a good "fit" in the 10 other categories listed above, then you really might want to submit to that Open Category. If your song can fit in more than one category you may submit that song to as many categories as you would like—note that each category is judged by its own judging panel.

You can enter three ways--via Sonicbids OR at www.saw.org/masc25 OR by mail. You can pick up a copy of the application at the SAW Community Day on Saturday, June 14 and they will also be mailed to members and former participants in mid-June.

Have fun and enjoy--we're looking forward to listening to YOUR entry!

The Song Contest Team
email: masc@saw.org



SAW NEWS & SPECIAL EVENTS

SAW COMMUNITY DAY JUNE 14: WORKSHOP—ANNUAL MEETING—DINNER/PARTY—PLAY!!!!

By now you have probably received, and hopefully responded to, your Evite from SAW to attend SAW Community Day on Saturday, June 14, 2008, in Alexandria, VA. This will be a great opportunity to meet and mingle with your fellow songwriters and find out what is happening in SAW. Non-members/guests are welcome to attend. Just be sure to let us know how many will be coming--you can email President@SAW.org by Thursday, June 12 if you did not receive or respond to an Evite and would like to join us. **And you could be the lucky winner of the \$400 Guitar Center Gift Card or other great door prizes.**

Go to www.saw.org and **CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!!!** There you will find all the details of SAW's Community Day. Hope to see you there!

WORKSHOP: Balancing the Art, Craft & Business of Songwriting

Saturday, June 14, 2008, from 1 – 4 p.m.

Have you ever wanted to get your songs into television, film or in the hands of successful recording artists? Are you looking for focus on where you'd like your songs to end up and what you can do to get them there? Are you concerned that your work isn't "refined" enough to be appealing, or if you should commercialize to appeal to the masses?

In SAW's upcoming workshop, *Balancing the Art, Craft & Business of Songwriting*, successful songwriting veterans Jen and Scott Smith of the band Naked Blue will share their experiences as writers in the "industry". The workshop will begin with a discussion of the joys & conflicts they have experienced while making (and trying to make) money from their songs. Jen and Scott will deconstruct a hit song and define the elements that make it broadly appealing. You will have an opportunity to have them help you apply some of those concepts of "craft" to your songs. So be sure to bring copies of your lyrics and a guitar or recording of the song you want to work on. They will conclude the workshop with a Q&A time on practical and legal issues affecting songwriters in today's market. If you have ever paid for a consultation with an entertainment lawyer to answer questions about today's legal issues, you will realize that this part of the workshop alone makes it well worth the price of admission!

By the end of the session you will have gained some focus on where you'd like your songs to end up and what you can do to help get them there.

Scott & Jen Smith have written hundreds of songs, released 5 CDs and co-written and/or worked with a few high profile artists including Anton Fig, Ivan Neville, Gary Nicholson, Kenny Rogers, Pete Brown & John & Sally Tiven. They've had songs recorded by MCA recording artists Evangeline, Telarc Records recording artist Troy Turner and have appeared on compilations including *The British at Midem*, *A Taste of AAA*, *Paste Magazine Sampler 2 and 3*, *Recording Magazine Playback 18 and 3 Best of Taxi* compilations, to name a few. Their most recent CD peaked at #105 on FMQB. Scott & Jen have also had song placements in 14 films & TV shows to date.

Balancing the Art, Craft & Business of Songwriting

Date: Saturday, June 14, 2008

Time: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Place: The Lab at Convergence (1819 N Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA).

Cost: \$20 SAW members / \$30 non-members if registered by June 12 (note the special reduced price and extended pre-registration deadline!!)

\$30/\$40 after June 12. Please go to the SAW website (www.saw.org) to register or email Patty Reese with questions at education@saw.org.



SAW EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Here is a quick list of upcoming SAW events. Please check the web site, www.saw.org, for detailed and up-to-date information.

JUNE 2008

6/12 (Thurs)—SAW Concert at the Athenaeum

6/13 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike

6/14 (Sat) —Workshop: Balancing the Art, Craft & Business of Songwriting (1 – 4 p.m.)

6/14 (Sat)—SAW Annual Meeting (4:30 pm)

6/14 (Sat) —SAW Membership Dinner—Come be our guests (5:30 pm)

6/14 (Sat)—Open Mike at the Lab (7:30 pm)

6/16 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
6/18 (Wed)—SAW Studio Sessions
6/19(Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
6/23 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
6/24 (Tues)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
6/27 (Fri)—SAW Fourth Friday Montgomery County Music Showcase
6/28 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters Exchange—*Guest Artist: Bill Williams*
6/28 (Sat)—SAW/Red Rocks Showcase
6/28 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike
6/30 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase

JULY 2008

7/4 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
7/6 (Sun)—SAW-West Market Concert Series
7/7 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
7/10 (Thurs)—SAW Concert at the Athenaeum
7/11 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
7/12 (Sat)—Open Mike at the Lab
7/14 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
7/17 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
7/21 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
7/22 (Tues)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
7/25 (Fri)—SAW Fourth Friday Montgomery County Music Showcase
7/26 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters Exchange
7/26 (Sat)—SAW/Red Rocks Showcase
7/26 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike
7/28 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase



OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

SAW Members: send your news for inclusion in this section to Aisha at sawnotes@saw.org.
Must be submitted on a MONTHLY BASIS.

No Other News & Events submitted for June 2008.



MEMBER NOTES

This section is open to any type of music announcement SAW members would like to make. Just send your message to sawnotes@saw.org ANY TIME before the end of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Bob Sima Makes First Place in 2008 Wildflower Songwriting Contest

Bob Sima is the winner of the 2008 Wildflower Songwriter Contest. The contest, which is held each year at the Wildflower Festival in Richardson, TX attracts 60,000 music fans from all over the southwest. Bob flew down to Texas and took first Prize which is a Collings Guitar valued at nearly \$4000 as well as a cash award. He is headed to Kerrville, TX for the next event, the

Grassy Hill Kerrville Newfolk Competition. He was selected as a finalist out of 800 entries to compete for a few coveted winner slots. Past winners include Lyle Lovett and John Gorka.

Ros Wilting Releases Long Overdue Self-Titled CD

Singer/Songwriter Kathi Kowski announces the long-overdue release of her band's self-titled CD, Ros Wilting. The CD was recorded and mixed at Sound Shed Studios by Kathi and husband/bandmate Mike Skinsacos (Ringo Mortis). Francene Machetto played bass on all songs, making it the first time the three worked together since their days in the critically acclaimed band, Mommi I'm Scared. The finished product took a few years to complete due to family crises and life issues, but hopefully, people will think it was worth the wait! The 12-song CD is available through CD Baby and multiple digital download sites. Kathi is currently booking shows for Ros Wilting and doing pre-production work for their next release. Visit Kathi and Mike at www.myspace.com/roswilting, www.kathikowski.com, or www.sonicbids.com/roswilting. You can reach Kathi at kathimis@yahoo.com.

MASC Young Artist Winner, Adam Swink, Releases New LP *Seasonal Delivery*

Adam Swink, winner of SAW's MASC Young Artist Award last year, just released his second EP, *Seasonal Delivery*. Adam has been writing pop songs since he was 14 and now at the ripe old age of 17 has a real knack for creating original melodies. Three years ago, Adam met Jammin Java owner, Daniel Brindley, who coached Adam with his songwriting and produced both of Adam's EPs. Mary Ann Redmond worked with Adam to polish his vocal style. Both EPs are available on iTunes and the CD Release Show will be at Jammin' Java on Sunday, June 22, at 7:30 p.m. You can listen to tracks from both EPs at www.myspace.com/adamswink.

Lynne Revo-Cohen's "Oye Hillary/ Hey Hey Hill" Makes Waves on the Campaign Trail

"OYE Hillary/ Hey Hey Hill" campaign song written and produced by Lynne Revo-Cohen and Annette Rodrigues and sung by the very talented Meritxell Negre, Nina Harley, George Diaz, and SAW Board member Danielle Westphal, will be the feature performance at the rally in DC to support the seating of the Michigan and Florida delegates at the Democratic National convention this summer. This song caught on fire in California and continued to be used in the big states where Hillary Clinton scored her biggest wins - CA, TX, OH, PA and Puerto Rico.



CLASSIFIEDS

*Classified Ads are charged PER WORD. They are **FREE TO SAW MEMBERS** and \$0.25/word for non-members. Please send your classified ad to sawnotes@saw.org for inclusion in the next e-newsletter. **Classifieds MUST be submitted on a monthly basis for inclusion AND WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO RUN TWO MONTHS IN A ROW. If you have a print-ready ad, send it right away to make sure you are in the very next newsletter. It is your responsibility to resend the ad each month, for as long as you need it.***

No classifieds submitted for June 2008.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Children's Hospital (DC)

Benefit concert/performance opportunities in the atrium or at many of the different outpatient centers. To play at the Atrium at the main Children's Hospital (in DC), contact: Dana Morgan, 202-484-1976, or by email at damorgan@cnmc.org. For outpatient centers (multiple centers in DC, VA, and MD), contact: Heather Stemas, 202-884-3255
Outpatient Centers are generally open M-F, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SAW Serves at National Rehabilitation Hospital



On June 1, 2008, Jeff Silberberg of Olney, MD began hosting Live Music Sunday at NRH in the ground floor cafeteria of the National Rehabilitation Hospital, 102 Irving Street, NW, Washington, DC. Showcases are being scheduled for Sunday afternoons, 1:30 – 3:30 PM. Musicians interested in performing are being asked to contact Jeff Silberberg at jeffrey.silberberg@verizon.net or 301-775-6468. This activity is in conjunction with the Songwriter's Association of Washington (SAW) and SAW Serves.

Jeff Silberberg performs for Live Music Sunday at NRH

Guitars Not Guns

Guitars Not Guns has an ongoing need for volunteers. Classes normally run on weekdays for an hour some time between 4 & 6 pm. Not all volunteer positions require teaching guitar. If you or someone you know is able to volunteer for this very worthy cause, please contact Skip Chaples, President of the Virginia Chapter of Guitars Not Guns, at fchaples@cox.net for more details.

SAW Serves

SAW Serves, SAW's volunteer bureau, would like to invite you to sign up for volunteer performance opportunities, or let us know of any charities/events seeking performers. Send an email to president@saw.org.



SAW'S MASC SPONSORS

BMI: Music Licensing
www.bmi.com

CF MARTIN & COMPANY (The Martin
Guitar Company)
<http://www.martinguitar.com>

MARY CLIFF & Traditions radio show on
WAMU
<http://marycliff.net>

FOLK ALLIANCE
www.folk.org

Jammin' Java: Concert Venue

www.jamminjava.com

Oasis CD Manufacturing
www.oasiscd.com

Omega Recording Studios
www.omegastudios.com

SONGWRITER'S MARKET 2007
www.songwritersmarket.com

Taxi: The World's Leading Independent A&R
Company
www.taxi.com



NEXT NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Friday, June 27, 2008 @ 5 p.m.

To make sure your item, event, member note, or classified is included in the next issue of *SAW Notes* send your information to me RIGHT AWAY. I will make sure that it gets in. But the absolute final deadline is the one listed above. Please e-mail your submissions for the next e-newsletter to Aisha Mahy at sawnotes@saw.org

