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## **'CELEBRATE THE RIVER' SINGER/SONGWRITER CONTEST!**

*Verde River Valley, Arizona.* The Verde River Valley Nature Organization (VRVNO), and Old Town Center for the Arts (OTCA) have put their heads together for another grand event featuring our verdant Verde River Valley, partnering with the Verde River Day Committee and Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce to bring you a kick-off event. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **'CELEBRATE THE RIVER CONCERT'** will include a **SINGER / SONGWRITERS CONTEST**. Last year OTCA and VRVNO invited our local Mayors and Verde River Valley organizations to present and enjoy the first annual 'Celebrate the River Concert'. "It was very well attended, and many compliments received from the audience," stated Wendy Harford – Director of VRVNO, and William Eaton – Director of OTCA.

This year's concert will not only feature a return of William Eaton and the professional musicians making up the annual 'River Band', but also include 3 finalists of this year's 'Celebrate the River ' Singer / Songwriters competition. This competition is open to all ages and created to support outreach and stewardship of the Verde River.

The 'CELEBRATE THE RIVER' SINGER/SONGWRITER CONTEST is both a PERFORMANCE and SONGWRITING COMPETITION, all three finalists will be judged on performance and songwriting. Three selected finalists will perform on stage at the 'Celebrate the River' concert to be held Sept 25<sup>th</sup> at OTCA, as well as on stage at Verde River Day Sept 26<sup>th</sup>! The audience of the Friday eve OTCA concert will select the Grand Finalist!

For more information on how to submit your song(s) please write Wendy at [VRVNO.Info@gmail.com](mailto:VRVNO.Info@gmail.com) or visit the [VRVNO.org](http://VRVNO.org) website under Events – Verde River Day. You can also write to VRVNO at POBox 2224, Cottonwood AZ 86326 for an application.

**Deadline for submissions will be Sept 11<sup>th</sup>.** Selected performers will be notified no later than Sept 21<sup>st</sup>. and will be required to be available for sound check and performance the eve of Sept 25<sup>th</sup> and performance time TBA Sept 26<sup>th</sup> , both venues are in Cottonwood, AZ. Finalists are responsible for your own travel and lodging.

### **For more information:**

Verde River Valley Nature Organization: [VRVNO.org](http://VRVNO.org). Old Town Center for the Arts: [OldTownCenter.org](http://OldTownCenter.org). Verde River Day: [VerdeRiverDay.com](http://VerdeRiverDay.com)

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## 'CELEBRATE THE RIVER' SINGER/SONGWRITER CONTEST

**SINGER / SONGWRITERS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT UP TO THREE SONGS, USING THE VERDE RIVER AS PRIMARY THEME.** A panel of judges will review entries to select the top 3 songs, to be performed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Celebrate the River Concert on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> 2015 at Old Town Center for the Arts.

**1) ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open to songwriters of all ages.**

- \*Entry by a minor requires written permission from parent(s) or legal guardian.
- Song(s) must be original and unpublished. \***Songwriters retain copyright / publishing rights.**
- Co-writers are subject to the same eligibility criteria.
- Finalist(s) and winner(s) selected to perform are responsible for their own travel and lodging.

**2) SUBMITTING YOUR SONG Each entry must be an original, unpublished song on theme**

- \$10 per entry, or up to 3 song entries for \$30 must be paid at time of submission.
- VRVNO is not responsible and disclaims liability for late, lost, damaged, misdirected, postage due, stolen, or misappropriated entries, and online submission errors, including but not limited to unsuccessful file uploads.
- **Materials submitted will not be returned** and may be disposed of by any means chosen.
- Submitters, finalist(s) and winner(s) give permission for live recording, and use to the event managers in promotion of the Verde River Valley, Sept 1, 2015 thru Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**3) HOW TO SUBMIT: It is your responsibility to assure delivery and receipt of your song(s), submissions must be received in full, no later than Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to be eligible.**

- **MAIL-IN SUBMISSIONS:** Mail CD & typed lyrics to VRVNO P.O. Box 2224 Cottonwood AZ 86326
- **ONLINE SUBMISSIONS:** Email mp3 file and typed lyrics to: William Eaton [willeaton1@aol.com](mailto:willeaton1@aol.com)

**ALL APPLICATIONS – EACH SONG SUBMISSION must include. CD or other audio recording must be labeled with co**

- ✓ CD or other audio recording submitted must be labeled with composers name and song title(s)
- ✓ Composer(s) name(s), address(s), email(s), phone(s), age(s)
- ✓ Song title, date it was written, length of play
- ✓ Songwriters bio brief, photo(s) (hi-res) website or other Social Media links
- ✓ Brief statement about the composition and inspiration

**4) TOP 3 FINALISTS** will be notified by phone or email prior to September 21<sup>st</sup> 2015 and are invited to perform in the 2015 'Celebrate the River' Concert, Friday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at Old Town Center for the Arts (633 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Cottonwood, AZ 86326) and at Verde River Day, Sept 26<sup>th</sup> TBA \*Additional finalists may be selected to cover any of the Top 3 not able to perform

**5) PERFORMANCE: THE 'CELEBRATE THE RIVER' CONTEST is both a PERFORMANCE and SONGWRITING COMPETITION,** all three finalists will be judged on performance and songwriting. **The song MUST be performed by the song contest entrant(s).** Songs that have been recorded with more than one backing musician can be submitted, **you will only be allowed one backing musician on stage. This accompanist may play an instrument(s) and/or sing backup.**

**THREE SONGWRITING/PERFORMANCE PRIZES!** Three cash prizes will be awarded: Places will be awarded by a vote of the concert audience, the winner announced near the end of the concert.

For more info: Verde River Valley Nature Organization [VRVNO.org](http://VRVNO.org). Old Town Center for the Arts [OldTownCenter.org](http://OldTownCenter.org) Verde River Day [VerdeRiverDay.com](http://VerdeRiverDay.com)