

BALALA SAMBARALU : SINGING COMPETITION RULES

Section 1. Singing Divisions

The contest will have four (4) divisions of competition.

DIVISIONS : (Grades 1-10)

- ◆ Classical Singing – Geethams
- ◆ Classical Singing – Varnams
- ◆ Classical Singing – Keerthanas or Kruthis
- ◆ Non Classical Singing/Light Music/Film/Folk/Patriotic

Section 2. Participants

This category is to be considered “Open” for individual participants, members, desiring to perform routines. Contestants will be judged based on Shruti, Talam, originality, presentation, execution, etc.

Section 3. Awards

- A. Computation of scores in each music category and for overall score will be determined by the total score of all judges.
- B. Three (3) Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places of the entire competition.
- C. Prelims will be conducted and the top 3 participants will perform again, either the same song or a different song for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes.
- D. The announcement of awards shall be as soon as possible after the last dance of the competition.

Section 4. Singing Contest Format

- A. All contestants will be given overview of the contest format and rules, and announcement of music selections prior to beginning of the competition. In the event a music selection is found to violate the rules, a suitable replacement will have to be provided by contestant. The Contest Coordinator shall have the final decision to approve the selected song/music.
- B. Contestants will be called upon the performance in alphabetical order. In case a contestant registered for two competitions, the coordinators will communicate the performance order for them.
- C. The event shall be conducted in a format appropriate to the total entries (A minimum of **five** contestants).
- D. In the event of a re-run, the re-run will occur at the end of that division heat.

Section 5. Classical Singing Rules

The contestants have choice of selecting their own songs, but it must be classical item.

- A. Song should be strictly classical with proper Sruthi, Pallavi and Charanam.
- B. Participant should know the name of the song, writer, raagam, thalam and Arohana/Avarohana.
- C. During prelims, each participant gives opportunity to sing 2-5 mins. Event co-ordinators & Judges will decide prior to competition and notify the contestants.
- D. At Finals, Music will play through the entire length of the song. Aalapana is allowed if kept within 1 minute. The total duration of song shouldn't exceed 5 mins. This includes Tillanas, Swarakalpana.
- E. Song should be sung in Telugu language (No other languages are allowed)
- F. There will be 2 rounds, i.e., Preliminary and Finals for each group in this category. The winners will be chosen by the Top 3. However all participants will receive participation certificate.
- G. You need to send preliminary round "Song Name" by **11/21/2014 9:00 PM CST**. Please send us the clear category and name of the song for the first round. We do not need the song details for the final round. However, please note the above points in deciding the song.
- H. Please **BRING** your own **SHRUTI** box. We will have one as backup if needed.
- I. The rules are subject to change by Contest coordinator and Judges prior to event. All the rules will be notified to all contestants prior to competition begins.

Section 6. Non-Classical Singing Rules

- A. In this category the song should be Light Music or Film or Folk or Patriotic song. To elaborate more on the light music, the song can be melody, fast beat, etc. Please note that Annamacharya, Ramadasu Keerthanas or Kritis, any kind of Bhajans, etc. doesn't fall into this category, for the purpose of this competition.
- B. Participant should sing FULL song i.e. Pallavi and Charanams.
- C. There will be 2 rounds, i.e., Preliminary and Finals in this category. The winners will be chosen by the Top 3. However, all the participants will receive participation certificate.
- D. During prelims, each participant gives opportunity to sing 2-5 mins. Event co-ordinators & Judges will decide prior to competition and notify the contestants.
- E. You need to send preliminary round 'Song Name' by 11/21/2014 9:00 PM CST. Lot of entries didn't specify if the song is light or movie. Please send us the clear category and the name of the song for the first round. We do not need the song details for the final round. However, please note the above points in deciding the song.
- F. Those who are singing with Karaoke tracks, please send us the track also by 11/21/2014 9:00 PM CST.
- G. The rules are subject to change by Contest coordinator and Judges prior to event. All the rules will be notified to all contestants prior to competition begins.

Section 7. Being Ready

Contestants must be ready to perform when scheduled and/or called or shall be scored no show with zero (0) placement for that category.

Section 8. Judging Criteria.

A panel of judges (2-3) consisting of either music instructors, professional singers, or singers with competition experience shall be used. All judges agree to judge in an impartial manner. Any conflict of interest shall be reported to and resolved by the contest coordinator.

Judging will be done on a “Relative Placement System”. Each judge will have criteria to judge the performances either in Classical or Non-Classical. Final placement will be determined by judges and *judge’s decision is Final.*

