



Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey

2011 NEW JERSEY SHOUT DOWN DRUGS!



FAQs (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

Question 1: What format should I submit my song in?

Answer: Songs should be submitted electronically in an **MP3 format** along with your **typewritten lyrics**. (see www.shoutdowndrugs.com for up-loading instructions.) *Please contact the program coordinator for assistance if you cannot meet this requirement.* You must also submit your Contest paperwork via regular mail, with original signatures, by the January 14, 2011, deadline.

Question 2: Can my song go over 3 minutes, even a few seconds?

Answer: No, songs must comply with the 3 minute limitation, no exceptions. Any song over 3 minutes will be disqualified.

Question 3: Do all members of a group have to attend the same high school?

Answer: No, as long as all members are New Jersey residents, they may attend different high schools.

Question 4: I attend a New Jersey high school, but I am not a New Jersey resident. Can I still participate?

Answer: No, contest participants must be New Jersey residents.

Question 5: Do all members of a group have to be high school students?

Answer: Yes. Only high school students, who are New Jersey residents, are eligible to enter the contest.

Question 6: Can I have someone accompany me with music or vocals on my instrumental/soundtrack?

Answer: Yes, however, any background musician/vocalist who is not a high school student and a resident of New Jersey will not be considered an official participant in the NJSD Music Competition and therefore they may NOT perform at the May 5, 2011, concert. In this instance, the finalist must perform at the concert to their recorded instrumental/soundtrack. Please remember to adhere to all copyright rules in this instance.

Question 7: I participated last year. Can I participate again - even if I was a finalist?

Answer: Yes, you can participate again. Only 1st, 2nd or 3rd place winners from previous contests are ineligible. However, past participants must submit new, original music and lyrics. Songs cannot be entered more than once.

Question 8: If one member of the band cannot attend the concert, can we substitute that member with another person?

Answer: No substitutions are allowed. If any member of a group is not available to perform at the May 5, 2011, concert, the entire group will be disqualified.

Question 9: Is a student disqualified if they have already signed a professional contract?

Answer: No. However, if the student's contract does not allow her/him to adhere to the "Contest Rules" or to sign and give PDFNJ exclusive rights to their song in accordance with the "Copyright License, Copyright Assignment and Talent Release" agreement (NJSD 11 - 2), that entry will be disqualified.

Question 10: Can I enter more than one song in the contest in the same year?

Answer: Only one song entry is permitted per person per contest year.

Question 11: Can I participate in more than one group entry?

Answer: You are only permitted to participate in one entry - group or individual performance.

Question 12: Should I "announce" myself on my recording?

Answer: No. You should not speak or otherwise identify yourself on your recording.

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