



# Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey

## 2009 NEW JERSEY SHOUTS DOWN DRUGS!



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

**Question 1:** Can I submit my song electronically?

**Answer:** Yes, you may submit your song electronically (see our website for instructions). However, you must still submit your Contest paperwork via regular mail, with original signatures, by the January 8, 2009, deadline.

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

**Answer:** *No, songs must comply with the 3 minute limitation, with 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 go to high school in New Jersey, but I am not a New Jersey resident. Can I still participate?

**Answer:** *No, participants must be a New Jersey resident.*

**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, will be eligible to enter as a participant in the contest and perform at the May 6th concert.*

**Question 6:** Can I have someone accompany me with music on my submitted song?

**Answer:** *Yes, however, any background musician who is not a high school student and a resident of New Jersey will not be considered an official participant in the 2009 NJSDD Music Competition and therefore they may **not** perform at the May 6<sup>th</sup> concert. In this instance, the finalist must perform at the concert to recorded music (soundtrack) and their music must be submitted on a CD.*

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

**Answer:** *Yes, you can participate again. Only 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 6, 2009, concert, the entire group will be disqualified.*

**Question 9:** Is a student disqualified if they already have 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 (NJSDD 09 - 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 group or one individual performance.*