Tumbleweed Music Festival
September 3 - 5, 2027

Three Rivers Folklife Society
P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352
www.3rfs.org/tmf.htm www.tumbleweedfest.com
Email: tumbleweedmusicfestival@3rfs.net

November 2026

Dear Songwriters,

The Three Rivers Folklife Society is again hosting the Jane Titland Memorial Songwriting Contest in conjunction with the 31st annual Tumbleweed Music Festival. This year's festival will begin on Friday, September 3, 2027 in Richland, Washington's Howard Amon park, and will also have a virtual component for those performers who cannot travel to Richland.

Each year's contest features a new song topic based on the theme of the festival for that year. The festival theme for this year will be ***Seasons***. Applications MUST be received by email, US mail or land carrier by **April 20, 2027**.

To enter, you must submit (electronically or by a physical copy) a completed application, along with a recording of a performance (by you) of your entry song, and a lyric sheet. You may submit your application, recorded performance, and lyric sheet either electronically, to **tumbleweedsubmissions@gmail.com**, or by US mail or land carrier, addressed to **Songwriting Contest, C/O 3RFS, PO Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352**. If available, we ask that you please include a biography / press kit, photos of yourself or your group, and website/social media information (including tipjar links).

Preliminary entry screening will be conducted in May and June, and ten finalists and three alternates will be notified by early July. The finalists will perform their songs live at the Festival on Saturday afternoon. Note that if a finalist is not able to perform live at the Festival, an alternate will take their place. Please also note that finalists are requested to provide a video of them performing their song for a songwriting contest finalist compilation that will be posted to our virtual festival website. (See Attachment 1 below for video file requirements).

The top three winners will receive the following prizes:

- First place will receive $300 and the 2027 Tumbleweed Songwriting Contest trophy. The winner will perform their winning song during the Saturday night concert at the Festival.
- Second place will receive $150.
- Third place will receive $75.
- The "People's Choice" (voted on by the audience at the Saturday Songwriting Finalist's performance) will receive $50.

Rules and Procedures:

- Each competing artist or collaborating group may enter one original song in the contest.
- The song must comprise the original lyrics and melody of the writer(s).
- Songs may have been previously recorded.
- The writer(s) will retain all rights to the song.
- Writers must submit a recording and lyric sheet as instructed on the attached contest entry form.
- Songs must be performed by the writer(s), though others may perform with the writer(s).
- The submitted recording should be representative of a live performance.
- All decisions of the judging panel are final.
- Finalists must submit a video recording of their performance of their song to be considered for a prize.
- Judging criteria include, first and foremost, that the song must have **original melody and lyrics**, and **must be on topic**.

- Other judging criteria:
    - Flow and Rhythm
    - Lyric Craft
    - Melody
    - Imagery
    - Originality
    - Emotional Impact
    - Vocal Skills
    - Passion and Believability
    - Professionalism
    - Musicianship

Photo/Video Release: If accepted as a finalist, you agree to allow your photo and the video of your performance to be used by 3RFS for publicity or grant application purposes, including traditional radio, television, and print media as well as clips from your public social media postings.

There's no entry fee, so why not challenge yourself?

Sincerely,

Katrina Knight, Coordinator
Tumbleweed Music Festival 2027
tumbleweedmusicfestival@3rfs.net
Phone: 509.587.3060

David Carson, Applications Coordinator
Tumbleweed Music Festival 2027
tumbleweedsubmissions@gmail.com
509.539.8090

Jane Titland Memorial Songwriting Contest 2027 Entry Form

Please enter my/our original song in the 2027 Tumbleweed Music Festival Jane Titland Songwriting Contest, with the theme of ***Seasons***.

I am submitting lyrics and a recording of an original song. I am a featured artist on the recording. The recording is representative of a live performance of this song. I certify by submission that all writing and publication rights for this song remain solely with me, and have not been sold or contractually assigned to any other entity. I understand that all judging decisions are final.

Signature Date

Print Name

Song Title

Songwriter(s)

Contact Name

Phone (Primary) (Secondary) (Tertiary)

Address

City State Zip

Email Country if not US

Web site(s)(including tip jars):

(Continues)

Names of all performers in the submitted song recording:

Have you applied to perform at the 2027 Tumbleweed Music Festival? Yes

Name(s) of festival act(s) that you and/or others performing with you are in:

How do you pronounce your name?

Is the e-mail address above the appropriate one to send your Performer Agreement to for signature? If you would prefer to have a physical copy mailed to the address above check here. ☐

You may provide an alternate place to send your Performer Agreement (physical OR email) here:

Please send the following items to the festival at the address above by April 20, 2027:

- This form
- Lyric sheet
- If available, a current photo, performer bio, and website/social media information
- A recording that is representative of live performance. (*Electronic files OR CD or thumb drive - must be separate from the recording you submit with your Tumbleweed performer application*). Please title or label your recording with the songwriter's name and the name of the song.

Attachment 1: Contest Finalist's Video Requirements

We're asking for our Songwriting Finalists to record a video of a performance of your song, to be able to present a compilation of the finalists on our virtual festival website. We'd like to present your recorded performances in the highest quality possible. To avoid any problems when we present your performances to the world, please use our requirements below for your submissions.

- Record your video at the highest resolution possible, up to 4K; we desire at least 1080p if at all possible.
- Video formats: .mp4 or .mov. Please ask us before sending any other format. If all you can use is a phone or a webcam, please make sure that the phone is in the HORIZONTAL position when you record your performance. (Note that we will review all recorded performances; if we judge that the quality is too low, we reserve the right to not include the performance in the festival. [We'll be quite forgiving]).
- If at all possible, please record your audio to a separate, high-quality file (e.g., .WAV, .mp4/AAC, FLAC, etc.) at the highest sample rate possible; submit this file along with your video file (with its native audio track intact), and we'll take care of the final assembly.
- Please leave at least 5 seconds at the beginning and the ending of your recording that are just silent - this makes editing easier and allows for subsequent removal of ambient sounds, if needed.
- File transfers will be via a link that will be sent to you. Please send an email to tumbleweedsubmissions@gmail.com when you are ready to submit, and we'll send you a link for you to upload your video and audio files.
- When you send the files for your performances, please make sure to send us the address(es) of your own websites (for your merchandise) and tip jar(s), so that we may be sure to include them on your performance screen *and* on a separate Performer Bio page on the festival site that will remain live as long as the festival remains online.
- Also, please send us the wording you would like for a copyright statement to scroll across the bottom of the screen at the beginning of your segment.