

**Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center presents the
UPTOWN! VOCAL CHALLENGE (UVC) SINGING COMPETITION
Saturday, October 21, 2017 - All Day Event**

RULES & REGULATIONS

Contest Rules

1. The Uptown! Vocal Challenge (UVC) is open to all U.S. legal residents within Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks and Philadelphia counties and New Castle County in Delaware.
2. Participants must be of an amateur singing status and must not belong to any professional group or organization within the music industry.
3. A twenty-five (25) dollar non-refundable registration fee is required to participate. A discounted (\$10) rate is available for past participants of the Singer Songwriter Competition (see additional contest info. section below).
4. Former participants of the Uptown! Singer Songwriter competition can register at a reduced rate and automatically be placed in the competition. Please email info@uptownwestwestchester.org to arrange.
5. All participants must prepare 4 songs for the event. Original songwriting is encouraged, however, singers can perform a cover of published songs a cappella, with guitar or piano accompaniment and/or they may sing along to an instrumental track (free of any lead vocals).
6. Solo singers only, even if accompanied by a live musician.
7. The deadline for registration is **Oct. 10th, 2017** by 11:59 pm.
8. Late submissions will be considered on a first come, first serve basis but will not be guarantee a spot in the competition due to limited space. Registration fee for late submissions is thirty-five dollars (\$35). If a spot is not available then the registration fee will be returned.
9. Uptown! Entertainment Alliance employees and committee members are not eligible to enter.

SONG SECTION

1. Performers must prepare 4 songs for 3 rounds of competition. The following song schedule applies:
 - 1st song - **Preliminary & First Round**
 - 2nd song - **Semi- Final Round**
 - 3rd song - **Final Round**
 - 4th song - **Tie Breaker Round***(See Rounds info below for complete details)*
2. Performers must bring with them one (1) electronic device (iphone, ipod, mp3 player) clearly marked with their name on it with aux or line in capability from which to connect to the theater music system. It is the performer's responsibility to ensure that their song(s) are edited (if necessary) or complete and playable.
3. All songs to be performed, must meet UVC's music guidelines for the Vocal Challenge. Music to be performed for the challenge will be screened by the Vocal Challenge committee who will approve or deny its use for the event (see Music Guidelines section).
4. Songs not approved by the committee will be flagged and entrant will be notified by email to select an alternate song to present for performance. Once all songs are cleared, entrant will receive an email notification that their registration is complete and all songs were approved.
5. By submitting a completed registration form, an applicant is agreeing to adhere to all the the rules and regulations of the event. No entrant is allowed to participate without this agreement.
6. The judging committee will consist of music industry professionals. Singers will be scored on their vocal technique, presentation, originality, style, and creativity.
7. We recognize that some artists may select the same or similar song to perform. The Vocal Challenge Committee will do its best to arrange those songs in a way that produces the greatest variety music during the event.

Uptown! Vocal Challenge MUSIC GUIDELINES

1. Performers can only perform songs free of explicit language or content. i.e. no vulgarity, obscenity, sexual innuendo, violent, offensive lyrics (causing someone to feel deeply hurt, angry or upset) or overall inappropriate lyrics or content.
2. Performers may not use any live props of any kind to enhance their presentation during the event. Costume with accessories are permitted provided they are in good taste and in concert with the music guideline i.e. costumes or props must not contain any written or implied, obscenities, vulgarities, sexual innuendo, nudity, explicit lyric, gesture, violence or offensive material (causing someone to feel deeply hurt, angry or upset).
3. Artist must remain on the stage when performing or risk being disqualified.
4. Performers could also be disqualified for conduct unbecoming. i.e. bad sportsmanship like booing or exhibiting offensive behavior (causing someone to feel deeply hurt, angry or upset) towards another performer, judge or audience member.

ROUNDS

Preliminary Round (1 min)

All entrants will have the opportunity to audition a 1 minute portion of the song they want to sing in the first round of the challenge. The artist will only advance past the preliminary round if they qualify via the judge's decision. Those who are not selected to advance to the first round of competition will have the opportunity to stay for the remainder of the event.

Competition Round (2 mins)

This first round of competition will feature the performer singing an edited 2 minute version of their song where they will be fully scored on their vocal technique, originality, creativity, style and performance. Those not selected to advance to the semi-final round will have the opportunity to stay for the remainder of the event.

Semi-Final (4 mins)

This semi-final round of competition will feature full songs performed in their entirety (not to exceed 4 minutes) and be fully scored for their vocal technique, originality, creativity, style and performance. Those not selected to advance to the final round will have the opportunity to stay for the remainder of the event.

Final (4 mins)

The final round of competition will feature full songs performed in their entirety (not to exceed 4 minutes) be fully scored for their vocal technique, originality, creativity, style and performance. All finalists will be awarded gift bags and the top 3 cash and other prizes. (see prize schedule below)

Tie breaker

In the event of a tie, a fourth song will be performed. The audience's response will judge this round. If the audience response is a close call, the judges will make the decision. Should a finalist be unable to perform their 4th song, the alternate performer will be chosen, winner!

ADDITIONAL CONTEST INFO

1. All prizes will be awarded to the first name as it appears on the entry form. UVC does not give feedback or a critique to contestants.
2. Finalists will be posted on the Uptown! website the week of **Oct. 22nd, 2017** and the Grand Prize winner will be featured on the Uptown! website with full bio.
3. Each participant singing an **original** song will be notified by email or phone and will be required to sign an affidavit confirming that their submitted song is original and he/she holds rights to the song. Affidavits are subject to verification by UVC and its agents. Entry constitutes a non-exclusive license for permission to use finalist's name, likeness and voice for future advertising and publicity purposes without additional compensation.
4. Should a participant's **original** song(s) be selected as a finalist, he or she agrees that Uptown! Entertainment Alliance shall have the right to include the finalists and winning song(s) on an Uptown! Entertainment Alliance Compilation to be used for promotional purposes in the marketing efforts of Uptown! Entertainment Alliance and Vocal Challenge.
5. Participant agrees to release, indemnify, and hold UVC, its sponsors, and judges harmless for liability, damages, or claims for injury or loss to any person or property relating to, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, participation in UVC.
6. By entering the Uptown! Entertainment Alliance Vocal Challenge, participants agree to accept and be bound by the decisions of UVC and its judges which are final and binding in all matters. Participant agrees to be bound by all terms of these official Uptown! Vocal Challenge Rules and Regulations as established herein.
7. Participants can be **any** age to enter the Competition. Entrants 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult and entrants 17 and under must have their parent or legal guardian sign the online release waiver.

CONTEST PRIZES

All Contest finalists (Top 5) will receive:

- Uptown! Entertainment Alliance Vocal Challenge Certificate of Recognition.
- Uptown! Entertainment Alliance Vocal Challenge Gift Bag (\$50 AV).
- T-Shirt

The Grand Prize winner will receive:

- \$500 Cash Prize.
- 4 hours of studio time at Tribesound Productions, LLC in West Chester, PA.

1st Runner up will receive:

- \$200 Cash Prize.
- Discounted studio time at Tribesound Productions, LLC in West Chester, PA.

2nd Runner-up will receive:

- \$100 Cash Prize.
- Discounted studio time at Tribesound Productions, LLC in West Chester, PA.

No transfer or substitution of prizes will be accepted, except as necessary due to availability, in which case a prize of equal or greater value will be awarded. If it is necessary to substitute a prize, UVC reserves the right to give the winner a cash substitute determined by the wholesale value of the prize. All winners agree to release UVC and sponsors including: TribeSound Productions, LLC, and Uptown! Entertainment Alliance from all liability regarding prizes won. All federal, state, and local taxes, and customs fees, when applicable, are the sole responsibility of winner. UVC will not pay taxes on behalf of the winner.

How To Enter

1. Follow this link to pay the registration fee: <http://bit.ly/vocalchallenge>
2. Be sure to sign the release waiver.
3. Ensure all personal information, including phone number and email address, are entered accurately. Submissions found with false information will be immediately disqualified from consideration. Minors submitting songs for consideration MUST provide contact information of a parent and/or legal guardian.

The **Uptown! Vocal Challenge** will take place at the:

Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center
226 N. High Street
West Chester, PA 19380
Email further inquiries to info@uptownwestchester.org

Entries will be accepted between July 31st, 2017 – October 10th, 2017. All entries must be postmarked on or before midnight October 10th, 2017