

## ***Song Writing***

### **Purpose**

The Old Testament book of Psalms represents the “songbook” of generations of God’s people. Over time, great men and women of God continued to put the thoughts of their heart into song. Many of those have become standards in worship services today. Song Writing provides an outlet for a young person’s musical interest and talent in the context of the Lord’s service. Our hope is that some of these participants will grow up to write compositions suitable for publication and use by future generations of worshipers.

### **Grade Levels**

There are four grade levels in this event: 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-12

### **Process**

- Participants will:
  - Write an original *a cappella* composition relating to the current year’s theme.
  - Mail 3 copies of the song and title page and email a copy to [seltc.office@gmail.com](mailto:seltc.office@gmail.com).
  - Complete a Pre-Convention form (in the Forms Section).
- If more than 1 student works on the presentation, print out Team Sheet from on-line registration portal. ([reg.seltc.org](http://reg.seltc.org))
- The composition, Pre-Convention form and Team Sheet, if applicable, should be sent to SELTC by the pre-convention deadline.
- Each song will be judged and returned, along with judges’ sheets, to the students at the convention.

### **Rules**

- Write an original melody and lyrics. Do not write words “to be sung to the tune of” an existing melody. No awards will be given for lyrics only.
- The lyrics must adhere to this year’s theme.
- You may, instead of writing original lyrics, set a scripture text to music, in which case you must note that fact on your title page.
- When you have finished your composition, sing it in someone else’s hearing to be sure the song can be sang as you think it should be. Then try teaching it to someone.
- Harmony is not required, and no points will be deducted for being melody only.
  - Two-part harmony at least is encouraged in the older grade levels.
  - Improper harmonic chords may result in lower scores
- More than 1 person may work on a composition.
- It is intended that all writers of both words and music be student participants.

### ***Song Writing (continued)***

- A typed cover sheet for each song should include the following:
  - Title of the song
  - Scripture text if used
  - Name and grade of participant(s).
  - Name, address, and phone number of the congregation of the participant(s).
  - Congregation LTC Number
- Submit your entry on standard paper (8 ½ inch x 11 inches or smaller).
  - It is acceptable to do the scoring by hand or by use of computer software.
  - If preprinted staff paper is not used, take extra care to make your work neat and readable.
  - Do not staple the pages together.

### **Awards**

There are 3 ratings available in each grade level – Gold, Silver, or Bronze.

If more than 1 person works on the composition, it will be judged in the level of the oldest participant.

Southeastern Leadership Training for Christ		SONG WRITING			
		Award:		Gold	Silver
	Exemplary	Competent		Developing	
Connection to LTC Theme	<input type="checkbox"/> Theme stands out and is strongly supported in song.	<input type="checkbox"/> Theme is evident and supported by song.		<input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed to strengthen the evidence of theme.	
Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Song is an original composition. <input type="checkbox"/> Song is exceptionally pleasing to listen to. <input type="checkbox"/> Song is very comfortable to sing. <input type="checkbox"/> If harmonic parts are present, each part is in an appropriate range.	<input type="checkbox"/> Song is mostly original <input type="checkbox"/> Song is pleasing to listen to. <input type="checkbox"/> Song is comfortable to sing. <input type="checkbox"/> If harmonic parts are present, most parts are in an appropriate range.		<input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed on originality. <input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed to enhance the ability to be pleasing to listen to. <input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed to help make the song easier to sing. <input type="checkbox"/> If harmonic parts are present, attention is needed as to the appropriate range for the parts.	
Lyrics	<input type="checkbox"/> Lyrics fit the melody very well. <input type="checkbox"/> Lyrics are original.	<input type="checkbox"/> Lyrics mostly fit the melody. <input type="checkbox"/> Lyrics are mostly original.		<input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed to help the lyrics fit the melody. <input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed on lyric originality.	
Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy is very neat and readable. <input type="checkbox"/> Information is very well organized and easy to follow. <input type="checkbox"/> Song is very easy to follow and play.	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy is mostly neat and readable. <input type="checkbox"/> Information is mostly organized and easy to follow. <input type="checkbox"/> Song is somewhat easy to follow and play.		<input type="checkbox"/> Attention to copy is needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Information needs attention. <input type="checkbox"/> Song needs attention so it is easier to follow and play.	
Format and Submission	<input type="checkbox"/> Submission requirements were fully met.	<input type="checkbox"/> Submission requirements were mostly met.		<input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed to submission requirements.	
Judge's comments:					