

The Clancy Brothers Songwriting Competition



Recording artists Gale Force 3 brought music from West Clare to the Clancy Festival last year. | Photo: Joe Cashin

With a prize fund of more than €1200, the Clancy Brothers Songwriting Competition is now open for entries. The competition is open to all musical genres and styles and to all ages and nationalities.

As long as it is a song, it is eligible for entry! With free entry, and big prizes, this is a competition not to miss. Following a successful first year, competition organisers are looking forward to hearing a wide range of music from across Ireland.

“Last year’s competition attracted a huge number of entries from all over Ireland and from abroad,” said Pete MacGowan, “and the songs covered every genre from acoustic folk to heavy metal and everything in between”.

This is a songwriting competition with the songwriter in mind. Songs will be judged based on melody, composition, originality and lyrics. The quality of performance and production will not be considered.

The three finalists will perform their song at a concert in the Nano Nagle Chapel in Carrick-on-Suir during the Clancy Brothers Festival of Music and Art 2015. The winner will be announced at the end of the concert.

With cash prizes of €500 for the winner and €200 for each of the runners up, no one will leave empty handed. The winner also receives a voucher for CD duplication and packaging sponsored by Duplication Ireland and all three will gain premium services from InMusik.co.

The Clancy Brothers Festival of Music and Art has always fostered new and emerging talent, with local and national songwriters benefitting from a platform for their original music, and songwriting workshops by renowned masters of the craft, including John Spillane and Charlie McGettigan.

One measure of the competition’s success is that two of last year’s finalists are about to launch CDs. Lisa Loughrey’s winning song, ‘Lost with all Hands’ is the title track on The Mariannes’ new EP.

The Mariannes are launching their CD in Whelan’s, Dublin, in April. And runner up Robb Murphy’s song, ‘Mysteries of the Heart’ features on his new album ‘Sleep Tonight’ due out in March.

For further information, go to www.clancybrothersfestival.org or email cbsonwritingcompetition@gmail.com The closing date for entries is April 29th at 4pm.