

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING and RETAIN THESE PAGES FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- All entrants **MUST** attend rehearsals with ALL INSTRUMENTS, LEADS, AMPLIFIERS, BACKING MUSIC, PROPS etc.
- **Backing Music – please read, this is very important**

We will not accept cassette tape for backing music.

Our preferred format for backing music is computer audio file in MP3 or WMA format, as we playback all music from computer. If you already have your music in this format, then you can either bring the audio file to the rehearsal on portable media such as a USB stick or as a file on a CD, or you can email your audio file to terry@gladstonefestival.com prior to rehearsal. Please make sure you identify your act name in your email and name the audio file appropriately. Please ensure the quality of the audio file is at least 192k/bits per second.

If you have your backing track on a standard audio CD and you have access to a PC with ripping software, such as Windows Media Player or Nero, you can rip your CD track into MP3 or WMA format (check the quality setting in your ripping software to use a minimum of 192kbps), and email it as described above.

If you do not have access to a PC to do this, or you are otherwise unable to email your music file to us, then please bring your audio CD or media to the rehearsal at 12md (1 hour earlier) on Saturday 27th March, and we will rip your CD for you and transfer it to computer. Any media you bring to the rehearsal should be clearly marked with your name (and act name if different) and the filename or track number that is to be used on the media.

By emailing your audio file ahead of rehearsal, you can avoid needing to come to rehearsals early, we can check that it is acceptable for playback over the audio system, and have it all ready to go when you arrive for rehearsal.

Please keep a backup copy of your music with you at both rehearsals and on performance night.

If you are singing to the backing music, for the quality of your performance, we strongly recommend you obtain a proper backing track with no lead vocals on it. We are unable to “take the vocals out” of an existing CD or audio file. You can purchase karaoke MP3 files for most popular tracks online at amazon.com and iTunes for under \$2 a track, and it is well worth using a karaoke track instead of a normal track with vocals, as the judges are looking to hear your performance, not the vocals on the recording.

If you have any questions about backing music and what is required, please email terry@gladstonefestival.com

- Rehearsals will be held on SATURDAY 27th March 2010, prior to festival, at the Marina Stage. **Juniors 1pm, Seniors 2pm.** Don't forget, if you have backing music that you have not emailed to us ahead of time, you need to arrive at **12md** (junior or senior) to have your music transferred to computer.
- The Talent Quest starts on Tuesday 30th March at 6:30pm sharp. Juniors will go first, followed by seniors. All entrants **must be at the Marina Stage no later than 6pm**, and report to the Stage Managers to confirm they are present. The schedule of acts will be available at the Marina Stage at this time. The order in which you were rehearsed will not necessarily be the order in which you go on the night.
- All acts are limited to no more than 5 minutes duration.
- Nomination forms must be returned with fee of \$11 (inc gst) to the Gladstone Festivals & Events Office, Gladstone Marina, or posted to PO Box 169, Gladstone, Qld 4680.
- Nominations close Friday 5th March 2010 or **until booked out.**
- Number and types of acts will be determined by festival organisers (limited to 10 acts per section).
- The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
Judging criteria includes: Audience appeal
Originality / Interpretation
Presentation
Performance ability

PRIZE MONEY ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

JUNIOR CATEGORY

1st PRIZE \$250
2nd PRIZE \$100
3rd PRIZE \$50

SENIOR CATEGORY

1st PRIZE \$500
2nd PRIZE \$200
3rd PRIZE \$100

OVERALL AUDIENCE APPEAL \$150
ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD \$150

