

Loudoun's Battle of the Bands Performers Expectations

GENERAL INFORMATION

Eligibility

- All entrants must be enrolled in middle or high school (private, public, or home school) within Loudoun County, VA.

Registration process

- All registrations must be completed by December 1, 2017 in order to be eligible to participate. All entries to compete will be reviewed by the Youth Advisory Council's Battle of the Bands Committee. Historically most submissions are granted entry into the competition, but bands that submit samples that violate the rules stated below, or don't take the process seriously will be denied entry.
- Once selected to compete the Youth Advisory Council will conduct a random drawing among bands and solo acts to determine who plays at which battle date as well as the order/position in the lineup for each battle. The band lineup and performance dates will be announced at our December 4, 2017 Battle of the Bands Kickoff. If you cannot make the battle you are scheduled for, we will have an open call for band swaps at our December 4th kickoff meeting. Please be sure that you know your schedules to help out other bands who may need to swap!
- Please be on the lookout for more details via email. Pending registration numbers, each battle will have approximately nine to ten (9 to 10) total competing performances. For example: four (4) solo acts and five (5) bands. After each battle, fans and judges will vote and move a minimum of three (3) acts forward. If all slots are not filled prior to the selection date, we will keep those slots open for late sign-ups.

Battle Dates:

- **Battle KICKOFF Event: Monday, December 4, 2017 at The PRCS Admin Office**
 - ***Each band is required to send at least one rep to this meeting***, although sending as many band members as possible is appreciated. Parents are welcome to attend if they would like.
- **Battle # 1: Friday, January 5, 2018 at Atlantis**
 - *Lyrics due before: December 22nd, 2018*
- **Battle # 2: Friday, February 9, 2018 at Atlantis**
 - *Lyrics due before: January 26, 2018*
- **Battle # 3: Friday, March 9, 2018 at The Studio**
 - *Lyrics due before: February 23, 2018*
- **Final Battle: Friday, April 13, 2018 at Tally Ho**
 - ***Lyrics and STAGE PLOT*** due before: March 30, 2018

What's a stage plot? Find out HERE: <http://blog.sonicbids.com/how-to-create-a-stage-plot-and-input-list-that-sound-techs-will-love>

Locations for Battles/Meetings:

- PRCS Admin Office: 20145 Ashbrook Pl #170, Ashburn, VA 20147
- Atlantis Video Company: 45449 Severn Way, Suite 165, Dulles, VA 20166
- Tally Ho: 19 W Market St. Leesburg, VA 20175

Bands

- All songs and lyrics intended to be performed must be submitted via email to Alexander.Beard@loudoun.gov and approved two weeks before the event. Band rosters on the day of competition must be on the original registration. Each band member must complete the band expectations form online no later than December 11th, 2017. No last-minute roster changes will be

permitted. The members who performed in the battles and at the finals are final. In other words, no band hopping; whether your band gets eliminated or not.

- Band members may register to compete in the solo battles as either a vocalist, DJ/producer, or instrumentalist.
- Band members may not participate and compete in more than one band.

Soloists

- Solo acts may be instrumentals or vocals. All songs, lyrics from any samples, and lyrics intended to be performed at Loudoun's Battle of the Bands must be submitted to Alex Beard via email to Alexander.Beard@loudoun.gov and approved two weeks prior to the event.
- We encourage all vocalists to be accompanied by live music, as opposed to a track. Accompanists who are not competing will not be judged; therefore, they may be from outside Loudoun County and over 18. Participants must provide the name of any musician accompanying them and a signed form, if the musician is under 18.

Equipment

- We rent a drum kit, amp, and microphones for all local bands to share. Bands must bring their own guitar amps and keyboards. Due to quick change times, musicians are not permitted to switch out pieces on the drum kit.
- Here is a list of equipment we have rented in the past; this year's specs will be similar:
Pearl SS 22 SS drum set 22"BD, 1010"TT, 1012"TT, 1616"FT, 3 cymbal stands, SD w/stand, HH stand, throne, and BD pedal
1 Zildjian cymbal set 20"R, 18"C, 16"C, 14"HH
1 Drum rug
1 GK-800 Bass amplifier
1 GK-410SBX 410SBX speaker cabinet

POLICIES

Check-in/Set-up

- Arrive no later than 5:30P the day of your performance. If you can't make it by 5:30P make sure Alexander.Beard@Loudoun.gov or the Battle of the Band Committee Chairs (YAC Staff) know at least 2 days in advance.
- Check in directly with YAC Staff.
- Pizza will be provided to all acts.

Backstage

- ONLY participants are allowed back stage. Under no circumstances will anyone other than band members or soloists be permitted backstage or anywhere near the backstage area. Safety is our priority. It is important to keep that space clear.
- Listen to and follow the direction of the stage managers, Mark Campayno, Alex Beard and YAC staff.
- CLEAN UP after your performance. If you have water bottles, throw them away. Do not leave anything on stage. We are not responsible for any lost or missing items.

Language

- Professional conduct is expected. No foul language in your songs or backstage is permitted. Respect other performers; if you are heard using foul language you may be dismissed and escorted from the event.

Performance

- The battle lineups are very tight. We plan to include more bands than prior years, and are committed to a fast-moving show to give more youth a chance to perform.
 - At all events, you will be timed for your set-up and performance.
 - Set-up time is seven (7) minutes. If you are next in the lineup, it is your responsibility to tune your instruments and be prepared for the quick, seven-minute change-over. If a glitch occurs that is beyond your control, you will not be penalized. If you are not prepared and/or not following directions, any extra set-up time will come out of your performance time - NO EXCEPTIONS!
 - Included with your lyrics and set list, you must include the timing of each song.
 - Your performance may not exceed 10 minutes (unless otherwise notified.) If you go above the limit, sound may be cut.
 - **Parents: please keep in mind that this is a youth-run event. Mistakes happen every year, if an issue arises on the event management side (technical difficulties, etc.) please be patient.**

Social media

- Please monitor your personal social media use, failure to comply with the rules detailed in this waiver while online could result in disciplinary action (e.g., a parent conference or you and/or your band being removed from the event). It is important to remember that infractions outlined in the language policy prohibiting certain types of communication also apply to electronic communications. Be in control of what you do online and your online/social media presence. For example, if a friend is tagging you in inappropriate or inflammatory tweets, do not reciprocate in a similar way. Stay positive, do what you know is right, and consider blocking or reporting this person, if warranted.
- Cyberbullying takes many forms. Cyberbullying is the use of electronic technologies to hurt or harm other people. Examples include sending offensive text messages/emails, posting false statements, creating fake accounts, circulating embarrassing photos. If you are being cyberbullied or hear about/observe someone else being cyberbullied, report the behavior and get help. It is important to not respond, retaliate, or forward any harassing/intimidating/bullying content. Un-friend, block, or remove people who send inappropriate content. Save harassing messages, as this evidence could be important to show an adult.
- It is totally unacceptable to participate in cyberbullying. If we come across any inappropriate behavior on social media, you and/or your band may be removed from the event.

Merchandise/Marketing Materials

- Band Merch can be sold by bands with (PRE-APPROVAL ONLY) at the final battle at the Tally Ho.
- All marketing materials and merchandise must be pre-approved by the Loudoun's Battle of the Bands Committee prior to the final battle at the Tally Ho. This includes t-shirts, CDs, bracelets, promo items, etc. All submissions must be sent by March 30th, 2018.
- Please submit artwork/item descriptions/photos to Alexander.Bead@loudoun.gov

On-Stage Behavior

- This event is coordinated by the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, Loudoun Youth Inc. and the Youth Advisory Council. **It is important for you as artists to understand your audience, this is a community program run for youth by youth.** If we feel that your performance is inappropriate or offensive – for example, includes the insinuation of sexual acts, drug use, violence, or discrimination - sound will be cut and you will be escorted from the event.
- Stage diving is prohibited! If you or someone from your band/solo act dives off the stage, sound will be cut and you may be subject to removal from the event.

Attire

- The dress code for Loudoun's Battle of the Bands participants is consistent with the Loudoun County Public Schools policy. This policy reads in part: "The primary responsibility for the proper dress and grooming of students rests with the parent or guardian of each student."

- Loudoun's Battle of the Bands is a music competition, whereby as artists, you have the opportunity to express yourself. Costume checks will be done before you go on stage. If you intend on revealing a costume once on stage, it must be approved by the stage manager and production staff.
- You will be required to change prior to your performance or have sound cut and be escorted from the event for the following violations:
 - Clothing with writing or graphics that state or imply drugs, alcohol, violence, discrimination, etc.
 - If you remove your clothing, flash under-garments or expose genitalia while on stage.

Drugs & Alcohol

- It is prohibited by law for participants to possess, distribute, use, or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Participants who violate this law will be subject to criminal prosecution and being banned from Loudoun's Battle of the Bands and affiliated events.

Guardians & Adults

- We hold you to the same guidelines as the participants. Additionally, if you harass a staff member, a participant or a judge, you will be asked to leave immediately. Remember, this is a youth run event.

Where to Find Information

Any last minute information will be posted on www.loudoun.gov/teens If you do not have access to the internet, notify Mark Campayno or Alex Beard.

Promotion

Photos and videos may be taken by the events' sponsors and used to promote upcoming Battle of the Bands, affiliated events, and for promotional purposes in print and online.

****Upon reviewing the band applications, bands accepted to compete will be sent a digital waiver that **everyone** in the band must sign. If a band member is under 18 on December 1st, 2017 their parent or guardian must sign the waiver as well. **This waiver must be turned in NO LATER THAN December 11th, 2017******

Questions? Contact Alex Beard: Alexander.Beard@loudoun.gov (571)246-8813