Lions of Virginia Bland Music Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

REGISTRATION AND RULES OF THE CONTEST
FOR VOCALIST OR INSTRUMENTALIST

The Annual Bland Music Scholarship Program was established in 1948 to assist and promote cultural and educational opportunities for the musically talented youth of Virginia. The program consists of elimination contests starting at club level and continuing through "State Final Contest" and is administered by the following rules.

1. Any vocalist or instrumentalist, properly sponsored by a Virginia Lions Club, a resident of Virginia (or within the club's jurisdiction) and a student at elementary, junior or senior high school level is eligible to participate. (See Item 5d.)

2a. Contestant is allowed to enter only one club contest annually and may participate in either the vocal or instrumental division but not both.

2b. **Contestant shall render only one composition and is allowed only eight (8) minutes to present it.** In order to keep within the 8-minute time limit, contestant may eliminate part of his or her composition. The part cut out shall be marked on the score for the information of the judges. A one-point penalty (per judge) for every five seconds exceeding the eight-minute limit, with a grace period for the first five seconds, will be assessed at the state level. The point penalty will not be enforced at the Thalia Lions Club of Virginia Beach, but performance will be stopped after ten (10) minutes.

2c. Contestant must memorize his composition.

2d. Contestant shall furnish two copies of their composition for judges' use at the time of the competition. Copies will be returned.

2e. Lions of Virginia shall provide no instrument for contestant other than a piano. Instruments other than piano may have an accompanist, if dictated by the composition. **Accompaniment must be provided with musical instruments played by live performers. No pre-recorded accompaniment is allowed.**

3. All contestants must compete on the date and at the place and time of the scheduled club, zone/region, district or state contest.

4a. Judges for the contest shall be competent judges of music not connected with the contestant or the sponsoring club.

4b. When appropriate, there should be two judges for each division of music (vocal and instrumental). **Two judges for each division are required at the District and State levels.**

4c. Judges shall score the contestant on his or her musical ability. In case of a tie, the judges shall determine a winner.

4d. Score sheets shall be given to the contestant after the contest.

5. Awards shall be furnished by the State Bland Foundation Committee as follows:

a. Official certificates (1st and 2nd places, and participation) at the club, zone/region, district and state levels.

b. State Scholarships for BOTH Vocal and Instrumental WINNERS are:

- First Place SCHOLARSHIPS ..... $2,500 each
- Second Place SCHOLARSHIPS ..... $2,000 each
- Third Place SCHOLARSHIPS ..... $1,500 each
- Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Place CASH AWARDS ..... $1,000 each

c. Scholarships are not transferable, and those not claimed within five (5) years after date of State Contest will be forfeited.

d. State first place winners are NOT eligible to compete again.

e. Scholarships are payable only to an accredited college or school of music or to an accredited private or public music teacher. Requests for payment to a college or school must be accompanied by the winner's course curriculum, which must include a music course, and a statement from the school indicating an outstanding balance at least in the payment of the amount being requested. Requests for payment to private and public teachers must include a signed statement for lessons previously given the winner, showing the dates, the number of lesson hours, and fee per hour. In order for payments from scholarships to be disbursed, the aforementioned information must be submitted to the Bland Foundation, 402 Scott Street, Baltimore, MD 21230.

f. District winners are required to sign a copy of "Contest Rules," certifying their familiarity therewith and their complete acceptance thereof.

6. This initial club level contest will be held on **Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009, at 7pm at the Thalia United Methodist Church**, 4321 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA. Contestants should arrive about 6:30pm.

7. Complete Registration Form and mail to:

Lion John Watters, Thalia Lions Club
2357 Haversham Close
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

8. Registration must be received by **Monday, Feb. 9, 2009**. If the number of contestants must be limited, later applicants may be excluded. Questions may be directed by email or telephone to: **johnwatters@cox.net** or **496-3684 home, 348-8352 cell.**

Revised 1/5/2009 (Thalia)

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE OR COMPUTER PRINT

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REGISTRATION FORM FOR VOCALIST OR INSTRUMENTALIST

Please enter me in the contest to be held on **Thursday, February 12, 2009, at 7pm at Thalia United Methodist Church, 4321 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA.**

Contestant's Name
_____
(First, Middle, Last)

Parent or Guardian
_____

Address _____

_____
(City) (State) (Zip)

Phone(s)_____ Age_____Grade_____

School_____ Email _____

Type of Instrument _____ Type of Voice _____

Composition
_____

Composer
_____

Accompanist _____ Phone _____

Music Teacher _____ Phone _____

_____ _____
(Signature of Contestant) (Date signed)

Revised 1/5/2009