

## Vocalist & Mariachi Group Audition Instructions

**Audition Deadline October 21, 2011**

***Groups and individual vocalists must be registered participants of the 2011 Las Cruces International Mariachi Conference prior to submitting an audition DVD or VHS.***

Mariachi groups and individual vocalists wishing to audition to perform at the Student Showcase Concert or Parque Festival must submit a DVD or VHS video tape by no later than October 21, 2011. Selection for performance at the Student Showcase Concert on November 11, 2011 is by audition only. An independent panel of judges will review the video tapes and make the selections.

### Categories for Selection

A total of five Mariachi groups and five vocalists will be selected to perform at the Student Showcase Concert. The mariachi groups will be selected from the following categories:

- Elementary/Mid-School or Youth Community Group (Elementary/Mid-School ages)
- High School or Youth Community Group (High School age)
- University Group or Adult Community Group
- Semi-Professional Group

### Recording Guidelines

All solo vocalists and performance groups must submit an audition VHS videotape or DVD.

- Choose a room with the best possible acoustics for your recording.
- Use high-grade equipment.
- If recording on videotape, use a new tape and start the recording at the beginning of the tape.
- Check your recording level to be sure playback is loud enough but not distorted.
- Record two or three selections that are representative of your intended performance.
- Selections should be contrasting in styles of music (i.e. Son Jaliciense, Ranchera 2/4 and Bolero)
- Play back your entire videotape or DVD to check your recording before mailing it.
- Cue the videotape to the beginning.
- Prepare a list of your recorded selections in order and attach it to your videotape or DVD.
- Label your videotape or DVD and case with the name of your Mariachi group or solo vocalist, address, and contact phone number.
- Send a brief typed biography of the group or vocalist along with a current photo
- Specify the appropriate category for the group or vocal audition. For example, Elementary/Mid-School or Youth Community Group (Elementary/Mid-School ages), High School or Youth Community Group (High School age), University Group or Adult Community Group, or Semi-Professional Group.

- Acceptable video formats: VHS, DVD
- ***The deadline for sending your DVD or VHS Audition is October 21, 2011.***

### **Costume Guidelines**

Costuming is just as important as how your group plays and sings. As you plan for your audition, please note the following guidelines:

- ✓ Traditional mariachi traje is preferred for audition and required if chosen for the Showcase
- ✓ Matching or complimentary attire for director or accompanist

### **Overall Audition Criteria**

Prepare a videotape or DVD that reflects your best performance skills. Your audition is evaluated using the following criteria:

- Appearance – costume uniformity and creativity
- Interpretation of Music and/or Choreography – contribution to overall show value through interpretation of music and/or choreography, facial expression, fluidity of movement, dynamics and phrasing
- Showmanship – ability to display a sense of flair, style and energy
- Stage Presence – posture and focus on performance
- Technical Execution – level of technical achievement in music and overall stage movement including accuracy of notes and rhythms, precision of movement, intonation, dynamics and phrasing
- Show Content – effectiveness of program choice, including creativity and variety
- Soloists – technical and interpretive ability of featured soloists
- Accompaniment – overall quality of live accompaniment
- Show Value – overall effectiveness of the performance as a show element

### ***Instrumental:***

Play musically with special attention to balance, tone quality, intonation, articulation and phrasing.

Maintain good posture, energy and stage presence.

### ***Vocal:***

Sing musically with special attention to enunciation, intonation, balance and phrasing.

Maintain good posture, energy and stage presence.

### **Instructions for Submitting your DVD or VHS Audition**

*The deadline for sending your DVD or VHS Audition is October 21, 2011.*

**Mail** your audition DVD or VHS tape via USPS to the following address: LCIMC, PO Box 938, Las Cruces, NM 88004 phone 575.525.1735 jE fax 575.525.1738

**FED-EX** your audition DVD or video tape to the LCIMC physical address: LCIMC, 1280 Med Park Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88005 phone 575.525.1735 jE fax 575.525.1738

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