

Lee Ritenour's Six String Theory Competition Legal Rules Page

Effective January 15, 2018 to May 31, 2018

NO PURCHASE OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE OF SPONSOR PRODUCTS WILL NOT IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING

SPONSORS: The Lee Ritenour Six String Theory Music Competition (the "Competition") is sponsored by: Yamaha Corporation; Berklee College of Music; Blue Note Tokyo; Line 6; Crown Guitar Festival & Workshop; Concord Records; Premier Guitar Magazine; Monster; D'Addario String Company, Music Connection, Xotic Effects and Woodshed Recording Studio (collectively, the "Sponsors"), subject to the following terms and conditions.

The Six String Theory Competition is a nonprofit benefit corporation with the objective of promoting, supporting, and encouraging musical mastery, artistry, and education for individuals seeking careers in live and recorded musical performance.

ELIGIBILITY: An Entrant (Individual) must be sixteen (16) years of age or older at the time of entry, and possess a valid form of identification (no top age limit). An Entrant under the age of eighteen (18) shall require parental consent to participate due to international travel involved in prize winnings. Invalid or ineligible entries shall be excluded from consideration. Employees of Sponsors, their respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliated companies, and agents, and foregoing employees' household or immediate family members (defined as parent, spouse, child, sibling, or grandparent) are NOT eligible to enter Contest. By their submission of entry, Entrants warrant they are legally entitled and authorized to make such submission on their own behalf. In the event of a dispute as to the winner's identity, entries will be deemed made by the holder of the email account associated with the entry. Void where prohibited by law or restricted. Subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

The Contest is open to Non-Professional & Semi-Professional Musicians of all nationalities. An Entrant may not be a Professional Musician and may not be signed to any major label with world-wide distribution. Professional Musicians are defined as a musician who is making 100% of his/her living from professional music endeavors such as teaching music lessons (i.e. 30-60 full time students); touring full-time with a band; doing session work full-time (records, t.v., film, commercials, pit orchestras, etc). For example, if an applicant teaches a few students or does some gigs, shows and sessions, they would not be considered a Professional Musician. We realize it is subjective defining what a Non-Professional or Semi-Professional. is but we are providing some general definitions for guidance. The qualifications of a Non-Professional Musician will ultimately be at the discretion of the Six String Theory Management Team. Previous Six String Theory Grand Prize Winners cannot re-apply, however previous Semi-finalists, as well as previous Six String Theory applicants may re-apply.

TIMING: Contest begins on January 15, 2018 and continues until May 31, 2018. Entries must be received by 11:59am (EST) on May 31, 2018 to be eligible. Winners will be announced by the 2nd week of June 2018 after judges have given their final scores. Early Bird Registration is \$25 from Jan. 15-March 31, 2018. Registration is \$35 from April 1-May 31, 2018.

How To Enter:

One Entrant (Individual) must submit two (2) unedited YouTube Videos, no longer than 5 minutes each and with no camera stops, of themselves playing their instrument by registering at: <http://www.sixstringtheory.com>.

Entries may be comprised of original songs or covers, and may be solo performances or accompanied by others. It is recommended, however not required, that one of the two videos submitted be performing live with other musicians (it doesn't have to be a public event). This gives the judges an idea on how you play with other musicians. If accompanied by others, only the entrant is eligible to win and receive prizes. It is acceptable to submit a non-original composition; provided that it is not "copying" the performance of another musician. In all entries, the interpretation of the melody and solo of that song must be original in flavor and content. Only one submission allowed per applicant. If multiple entries are submitted in any one category of music, only the first submission will be considered, and all entries subsequent to the original submission will be void. If you are registering in more than one guitar category of music, then you submit 2 videos for each separate registration. If you choose to register in 2 instruments, then you must submit 2 videos and a separate registration for each instrument.

The following must accompany each video submission in order for your entry to be complete on registration form: 1) Applicant's address, email, telephone number, and age; and 2) a non-refundable application fee, submitted via Paypal or credit card through "SixStringTheory.com." Incomplete entries will not be considered. For any questions regarding the Application Process, please contact us at: 6stringtheory@gmail.com.

Disclaimer: We download all YouTube video submissions (at keepvid.com) and then upload the videos to flash drives for our judge's ease. Your YouTube video view count does not necessarily reflect the total views from Six String Theory judges.

CATEGORIES AND JUDGING: Lee Ritenour and a panel of professional musicians will evaluate the videos on the basis of technique, interpretation, and artistry and select the winners.

The six categories of music are: 1. Rock 2. Blues 3. Jazz/Fusion 4. Acoustic/Country 5. Classical/Flamenco 6. Rhythm/Accompaniment Guitar.

DESCRIPTION OF MUSIC CATEGORIES:

- Rock/Metal- Includes Electric & Acoustic guitar for rock, metal and progressive styles.
- Blues-Includes Electric, Acoustic, Dobro, Slack Guitar, etc. and covers traditional, rock & progressive blues
- Jazz- Includes Electric & Acoustic guitar for jazz & fusion.
- Acoustic/Country- Includes Acoustic & Electric guitar from any acoustic or country style music
- Classical/Flamenco – Acoustic category for classical & flamenco guitar styles
- Rhythm/Accompaniment- Electric & Acoustic Rhythm guitar playing that includes pop, funk, R&B, and World (Brazilian, Latin, African, Island, etc.) Accompaniment Guitar would include backing up singer/songwriters in any style of music.

There will six (6) guitar winners and 1 piano, 1 bass, 1 drum winner. The 9 Winners will be contacted by email and/or phone no later than the 2nd week of June, 2018.

Sponsors reserve the right to reject any entry that they deem in their sole discretion to be vulgar, profane, offensive, or inappropriate. All decisions of the judges are final.

Prizes and Odds:

The 9 Winners (6 guitar winners, 1 piano, 1 bass and 1 drums) will be flown to Tokyo and perform for one night with Lee Ritenour at the legendary [Blue Note Tokyo](#)! This prize package includes international travel, domestic transportation, work visa, hotel accommodations for three nights and per diem for food. This will be sometime in summer or fall 2018. Further details TBA.

The 9 Winners will be flown to St. Moritz, Switzerland to perform at the [Festival da Jazz](#). This prize package includes international travel, domestic transportation, work visa, hotel accommodations for four nights and per diem for food. This will be sometime from mid-July to early August 2018. Further details TBA.

The 9 Winners will be flown to Los Angeles for the [2019 NAMM Show](#) and to act as Yamaha Clinicians for 4 days at NAMM 2019. Prize Package includes travel, lodging, food per diem, ground transport and NAMM passes. During the day, winners would be at the Yamaha booth and perform and demo, as needed by Yamaha. One of the nights, the winners will perform with Lee at a live Yamaha event. Other possible performances around NAMM and Los Angeles TBA.

While in Los Angeles, the 9 Winners will have the opportunity to record a track with Lee Ritenour at the incredible [Woodshed Recording Studio](#) in Malibu, California. One of the most beautiful and unique studios in Southern California, complete with state of the art equipment and the most scenically stunning of environment where the likes of Sting, U2, Lenny Kravitz, Barbra Streisand, Neil Young, Kanye West, Lorde and Coldplay have recorded. Prize package includes travel, lodging, ground transport and food per diem. Professional Mentoring Sessions with Lee Ritenour

The 9 Winners will receive a list of your favorite gear from [D'Addario Strings & Planet Waves](#) Accessories. One Guitar Winner gets 50 sets of strings, 3 accessories of their choice, 1 string wonder and a cinch bag. The other 5 Guitar Winners and Bass Winner get 30 sets of strings, 1 accessory of choice, 1 string wonder and a cinch bag. The Drum Winner will get 6 drum heads of their choice, 6 pairs of sticks of their choice, 1 drum key and 1 stick bag. The Piano Winner will get 3 accessories of choice (cables, manuscript paper, metronomes, etc.), 1 tote bag and 1 mug.

The 9 Winners will receive a [Monster](#) goodie bag at NAMM 2019.

One (1) guitar winner (selected by Lee & COC) wins a full fellowship to the [Crown Guitar Workshop & Festival](#). The prize package includes travel, lodging, food, ground transportation and all classes, performances, etc. The guitar winner will have the opportunity to participate in workshops, teaching & performances. This will be during the last week of August 2018.

[Xotic Effects](#) Pedals: 1 for each of the 6 Guitar Winners & 1 Bass Winner given at NAMM

- Acoustic /Country Guitar Winner: RC Booster

- Jazz/Fusion Guitar Winner: SP Compressor
- Rhythm/Accompaniment Guitar Winner: SL Drive
- Rock/Metal Guitar Winner: BB Pre
- Blues Guitar Winner: AC Booster
- Classical Guitar Winner: EP Booster

Berklee College of Music Scholarships- Any One or more of the 9 Winners may be selected by [Berklee College of Music](#) to apply for the scholarships. All must meet Berklee criteria and perform an audition (see Berklee eligibility requirements below).

*Current Berklee College of Music students are not eligible for the scholarships but may still register for the competition

In support of the competition, Berklee College of Music will offer 4 Scholarships including 1 full scholarship to [Berklee College of Music](#), 1 Advanced Professional Certificate from [Berklee Online](#) and 2 Online Courses from Berklee Online. *Berklee may also offer additional scholarships to any of the top applicants in each instrument, beyond the competition scholarships. Berklee will be given the winners lists and based on that, will invite winners to apply for scholarship. Application process is specific to Berklee's eligibility, criteria, qualifications, etc.

Six String Scholarship Eligibility

*All submissions for the Six String contest must be received by May 31, 2018 at sixstringtheory.com. The finalists will be notified by Six String Theory by the second week of June 2018.

By the third week of June, 2018, Berklee College of Music will invite top winning applicants in each instrument group to apply to Berklee College of Music's undergraduate program.

To be eligible, Six String Theory Scholarship candidates must apply to Berklee College of Music's undergraduate program for Spring 2019 (deadline August 1, 2018). Applicants must complete the Berklee College of Music's admissions process and be formally accepted to the College before being considered for the Six String Theory Scholarship. During the admissions process, Berklee may choose to award a Berklee College of Music undergraduate scholarship separate from the Six String Theory Competition Scholarship decision.

Berklee was founded on the revolutionary principle that the best way to prepare students for careers in music is through the study and practice of contemporary music. For more than half a century, the college has evolved to reflect the state of the art of music and the music business, leading the way with the world's first baccalaureate studies in jazz, rock, electric guitar, film scoring, songwriting, turntables, electronic production, and more than a dozen other genres and fields of study. With a diverse and talented student body representing 96 countries, and alumni who have collectively won more than 250 Grammys and Latin Grammys, Berklee is the world's premier learning lab for the music of today—and tomorrow.

[Berklee Online](#) is the online school of Berklee College of Music, delivering access to Berklee's acclaimed curriculum from anywhere in the world. Berklee Online's award-winning online courses, multi-course certificate programs, and undergraduate and graduate degree programs are accredited and taught by the college's world-renowned faculty, providing lifelong learning opportunities to people interested in music and working in the music industry.

Students currently attending other universities are eligible to win the scholarships. There is a maximum credit transfer limit of 24 credits. Other than some music history and music business courses, Berklee does not award transfer credits for music courses.

If you feel you have expertise in a music course, you may speak with the relevant department chair at Berklee about the possibility of credit by exam. Core music material (harmony, arranging) can test out levels, so you don't have to start to at first level if advanced.

Here is the section on Berklee website listing criteria of what is transferable:

<http://www.berklee.edu/admissions/transfer-credit>

Disclaimer: SST contest applicants do not have to participate in the Berklee scholarship program in order to apply and/or win the Six String Theory Music Competition. Likewise, the winners of the Berklee scholarship program may or may not be the grand prize winners of each instrument as they will be chosen from the pool of six (6) in each instrument according to Berklee eligibility requirements and criteria. A Berklee representative will participate as a member of the Six String Theory Music Competition Judges and the Berklee Scholarship Committee will select the four (4) scholarship recipients from the list of finalist candidates identified by the SST Judges.

Eligible Students:

To qualify, applicants must demonstrate outstanding performance abilities on guitar, piano, bass, or drumset through an initial submission of video/audio material to the Six String Theory Website. The Six String Theory Music Competition Judges will identify finalists and winners from all the submissions, and the those invited will be required to apply to Berklee's undergraduate program in order to be considered for the Berklee scholarships. Applicants are required to complete an audition and interview with Berklee and submit their academic transcripts in order to be reviewed for admission to Berklee College of Music.

RELEASE: By participating in the Contest and/or accepting a prize, the Entrants (or Entrant's parent/legal guardian if any Entrant is deemed a minor in the state or country of his/her residence) agree to defend, release and hold harmless the Sponsors and their respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, advertising and promotion agencies, and the foregoing companies' officers, directors, shareholders, employees, representatives and agents (collectively "Releasees") from and against any actions, claims and/or liability for injury, loss or damage of any kind, (including the violation or infringement of any proprietary or personal right of any individual or entity) resulting in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, from participation in the Contest, and/or the use, acceptance, or possession of a Contest prize, and/or participation in a Contest prize-related activity, including any action, claim or liability arising from the unauthorized submission of any information.

By participating in the Contest and/or accepting a prize, Entrants (or Entrant's parent/legal guardian if any entrant is deemed a minor in the state or country of his/her residence) consent to and give the Sponsors the right to use, publish, and display a winner's (and where applicable an entrant's) name, likeness, video submission, city and state, and prize awarded, for the purpose of advertising, trade, publicity and promotional purposes in any media now known or hereafter discovered, worldwide, and on the Web, without review, notification or approval, all without additional consideration, unless prohibited by law.

CONDITIONS: Neither the Sponsors nor their respective agencies or affiliates are responsible for lost, late, damaged, destroyed, delayed, stolen, misdirected, incomplete entries, or for lost, interrupted or unavailable network, server or other connections, miscommunications, failed telephone or computer hardware or software or other technical failures, unauthorized human intervention, garbled or jumbled transmissions or other errors of any kind, whether human, mechanical or electronic, including without limitation, the incorrect or inaccurate capture of entry information online regardless of cause. Sponsors reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to cancel, suspend, or modify the Contest if it becomes corrupted in any manner such that it cannot be conducted as originally planned and, in such event, to select winners from all eligible entries received prior to and/or after (if appropriate) the action taken by Sponsors. In such event, Sponsors shall have no liability to any Entrant who is disqualified due to such an action. ANY ATTEMPT BY ANY PERSON TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE THE WEBSITE OR ONLINE ENTRY SYSTEM, OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE CONTEST IS IN VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS AND IF SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, SPONSORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK REMEDIES AND DAMAGES FROM ANY SUCH PERSON TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, INCLUDING CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

Sponsors reserve the right to modify these Official Rules for clarification purposes without materially affecting the term and conditions of the Contest. Failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision.

LAW: The Contest is subject to all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Void where prohibited or restricted. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of Entrants or Sponsor in connection with any award, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with the laws of, the State of California, without regard to conflict of law principles. Any cause of action by you with respect to the offer (and/or any information, products or services related thereto) must be instituted within one (1) year after the cause of action arose or be forever waived and barred. All actions shall be subject to the limitations set forth above. The language in these Official Rules shall be interpreted as in accordance with its fair meaning and not strictly for or against either party. All legal proceedings arising out of or in connection with the Contest or these Official Rules shall be brought solely in Los Angeles County, California. You expressly submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of said courts and consent to extraterritorial service of process.

LANGUAGE: English is the primary language of the Contest.

Lee Ritenour's Six String Theory Competition Office is located in: LA, CA
501(C)(3) Tax Identification Number: 47-1921669
QUESTIONS: Please email: 6stringtheory@gmail.com