

Greetings,

Only six days left to enter this wonderful contest.

Please share this information with your **music teachers/advisors of eighth grade and above.**

This is the fifth annual Teen Battle of the Bands and this year it is open to teens in **Charlotte, Collier, Lee and Hendry counties.**

The battle is part of the Southwest Florida Reading Festival and is sponsored by the Lee County Library System.

The deadline to enter is Feb. 15. The First Place prize is note worthy!

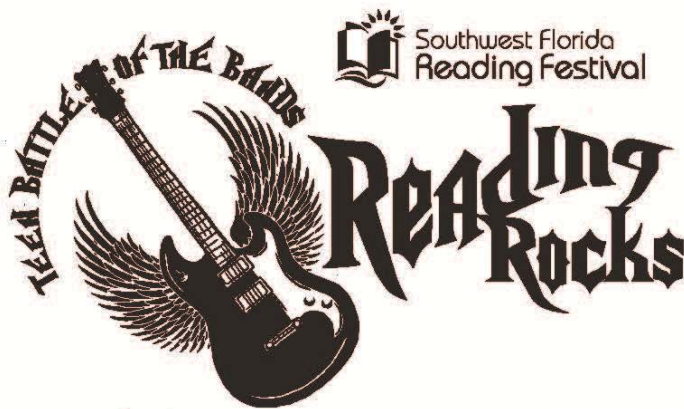
If there are questions please call me. Thanks for your support.

Kindest regards,

Ms. Margie Byers, APR

Library Development Specialist | Southwest Florida Reading Festival Coordinator

Lee County Library System | 2345 Union Street | Fort Myers, FL 33901 | Voice 239-533-4826 | Fax 239-485-1100



Whether performing hip-hop, indie rock or R&B, local teens are invited to enter the Reading Rocks! Teen Battle of the Bands! This free, one-of-a-kind local competition gives teens the opportunity to perform their original work, live, onstage in front of hundreds of spectators, family and friends. The Battle of the Bands Final Competition for the top three bands will be held at the Southwest Florida Reading Festival Saturday, March 18, 2017 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.!!!

Official Rules

For more information go to www.readfest.org/bandbattle.aspx

ELIGIBILITY: Contest is open to bands of two or more individuals who are residents of Lee, Charlotte, Collier or Hendry counties and are between the ages of 13 to 19 years old on the date of entry. Proof of age is required. Past first place winning bands are not eligible. Any band member who is a minor must have parental/legal guardian consent to enter the competition. Participation constitutes entrant's full and unconditional agreement to these Official Rules and to the live performance at the Southwest Florida Reading Festival, March 18, 2017 in Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers.

TIMING

Band Online Entry Dates - Jan. 1 – midnight Feb. 15, 2017

Public Online Voting - Feb. 17 – midnight March 1, 2017

Finals (Live Performance) – March 18, 2017, at Reading Rocks! Teen Battle of the Bands as part of the Southwest Florida Reading Festival.

ENTRY: Complete an online entry form at www.facebook.com/swfreadingfestival and upload 1 (one) audio or video submission to YouTube.com of the band performing (YouTube link must be provided on entry form). Submissions must not exceed five minutes in length. Don't delete the original video after entering the contest. Any inappropriate lyrics will disqualify the submission. If selected as a finalist, the band will be notified by email or phone and all band members on the entry will be required to complete, sign and return a Liability & Publicity Release form by midnight March 8, 2017, and to perform live at the reading festival in order to claim its prize.

WINNER DETERMINATION: Bands are prohibited from obtaining votes by any fraudulent or inappropriate means, including, without limitation, offering prizes or other inducements to prospective voters.

Elimination Round (Feb. 17 – midnight March 1) Each entry will be scored based on the number of Public Online Votes received (40% of the total score) and the points given by the Judges Panel (60% of the total score). The three (3) bands that receive the highest total scores advance to the final round. Online votes are tabulated based on likes to videos posted on the Southwest Florida Reading Festival Facebook page at www.facebook.com/swfreadingfestival.

Final Round (Saturday, March 18 at the reading festival) After all bands have performed the Popular Choice Award will be determined by the most crowdsource votes during a set time period following the last performance. The other winners will be determined by the Judges Panel.

The panel will judge each band on musical skill, originality, musicianship and stage presence. The band ranking will be final and binding. In the event the live performance cannot occur due to technical, or weather related issues the winners will be determined by the Elimination Round score.

The crowdsource voting requires being present at the festival. Finalists can and should invite fans and family to be present at the festival. The live crowdsource voting is limited to one vote per person. Duplicate votes will be disqualified. The voting window will be 15 minutes from the completion of the last performance.

PRIZES

(1) GRAND PRIZE: One Eight (8) hour in-studio professional recording session at Sonic Recording Studio (\$500 value); Feature article in Gulf Coast Times Magazine and professional photo from Laura Michele Photography.

(1) SECOND PRIZE: \$150 Brent's Music Headquarters gift certificate.

(1) AUDIENCE AWARD: SkyZone prize package and Music Walk performance date TBD.

READING ROCKS! FINALS-LIVE PERFORMANCE

Bands must arrive at a scheduled time to check in with festival staff. Bands must provide their own equipment; mics and PA system will be provided. Bands will be responsible for set up and break down of their equipment within 20 minutes. Each Band must perform live for 15 minutes. If a band performer uses obscene language, lyrics, gestures, wears obscene clothing, or exhibits anything that is unsuitable for a family audience the band will forfeit their entry. Drugs and alcohol including tobacco are not permitted. Judges reserve the right to end a performance if the band does not comply with all rules. In order to compete the band members who performed on the entry must perform live. Limited substitutions may be considered. Finalist bands must submit written lyrics for all songs to be performed at the Finals. Finalist bands who do not perform at the Reading Rocks! Teen Battle of the Bands will be disqualified. In the event that a potential Finalist band is disqualified for any reason, an alternate will be selected by the Judges Panel.

The school is neither endorsing nor sponsoring this event, product or service, nor endorsing the views of the sponsoring organization.