



ALMA MATER COMPETITION

Please read and understand these Competition rules before entering.

OFFICIAL RULES

This Alma Mater Competition (the “Competition”) is sponsored by Thomas Edison State University (the “University”) with a principal place of business at 111 W. State St., Trenton, New Jersey. The Competition is governed by these Official Rules, as well as by the laws of the State of New Jersey and applicable federal law, without regard to any conflicts of laws principles. The Competition is void where prohibited, licensed, taxed or restricted by law. By entering the Competition, each entrant agrees to abide by of these Official Rules and by the decisions of the University with respect to the interpretation and application thereof, all of which are final and binding on all matters pertaining to the Competition.

HOW TO ENTER:

All submissions must be received no later than the end of business on **August 19, 2016**. There is no payment required or accepted to enter.

THEMES:

Building on the University’s mission of “providing flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults” and continuing its legacy of guiding and supporting students on their educational journey, two foundational metaphors frame the spirit and intent of its new alma mater:

- Guiding metaphor of the alma mater: Journey
- Sub-metaphors framing text and stanza construction: Trails, Triumphs and Life-Long Learning.

The text and music should express the importance and momentum of “journeying” and include experience-based examples available of “trails and triumphs.” The alma mater should offer vivid themes and text that effectively convey the aesthetic, essence and benefits of the university’s adult-centered educational experience.

SUBMISSION FORMAT:

- Traditional “alma mater” style song based on the guided themes provided.
- Submissions format: (1) four part choral setting or (2) piano-vocal arrangement.
- Presented using standard music notation and directions for performance.
- A recording of the submission is encouraged, by not necessary.
- Collaborative entries are welcome.

ENTRANTS APPLICATION PROCESS:

To enter the competition, eligible entrants must:

- Complete the “TESU Alma Mater Competition Application” found at www.tesu.edu/alma-mater
- Submit the required materials (electronically or hardcopy) in the prescribed format and within stated time frame.
- Hardcopy submission address:

Dr. Michael Williams
Alma Mater Committee
Thomas Edison State University
111 W. State St.
Trenton, NJ 08608

All entrants acknowledge and agree that their Submissions, upon submission, become the property of the University and will not be returned to the entrant. Entrants are encouraged to retain copies of their submissions. Each entrant grants to the University the right to display, reproduce, perform, promote and otherwise use his or her submission in connection with the Competition in any way that it sees fit, without notification to or further consent of the entrant.



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NOTIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE:

If a winning entry is selected, the winning entrant will be notified by email within 6 business days of the conclusion of the Competition. The winner will be required to respond to the award notification within the time specified in the notification and may be required to: (1) provide his or her full mailing address for the purpose of receiving the award, which address must be within the United States; (2) sign and return a release of liability, declaration of eligibility, and a publicity release permitting the University to use his/her name, voice and likeness for promotion (without further compensation), in the University's sole discretion; (3) sign an assignment that transfers all rights in and to the winning entry to the University; (4) verify his or her Social Security Number or other taxpayer identification number; and (5) take possession of the award at the time and by the method specified by the University. If the originally selected winner of the prize does not respond within the required time period or is not willing to comply with the foregoing terms, another entrant may be selected by the University to receive the award.

AWARD:

The selected winner will receive a check for the amount of **Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500)**. Reporting and payment of any federal, state, local, or other taxes, fees, customs, duties, or other amounts owed in connection with the prize are the sole responsibility of the winning entrant.

ELIGIBILITY:

The Competition is open to composers, musicians and similarly qualified persons who are legal residents of the United States and who are at least 18 years old at the time of entry. Officers and employees of the University and members of their immediate families (including spouse, parents, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, step-children, step-parents, and in-laws of the same degree of relation), or anyone else living in the same household as the officer or employee, are not eligible. It is the sole responsibility of each entrant to notify the University in the event of a change in address, email or other contact information. By entering the Competition, each entrant is certifying that he/she meets the eligibility requirements as set forth in these Official Rules.

DISQUALIFICATION/TERMINATION:

The University maintains the sole discretion to disqualify any entrant who, the University determines, has failed to comply with the rules of the Competition. Any Submission or portion thereof, that is, in the University's sole discretion, inappropriate, defamatory, or otherwise violates or infringes (or may infringe) any copyright, trademark, or other proprietary right of any person, living or deceased (including, but not limited to, rights of privacy or publicity or portrayal in a false light) or entity, or is otherwise objectionable, in the University's sole discretion, will not be considered and may be disqualified. The University reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to cancel, modify, suspend or terminate this Competition at any time for any reason, including but not limited to any cause that affects the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the Competition.

REPRESENTATIONS:

By entering the Competition, each entrant represents and warrants that he or she has the right to grant any and all rights provided herein, free and clear of all claims and encumbrances, without violating the rights of any other person or entity. If declared the winner, each entrant also agrees to sign all his/her rights to the winning entry over to the University, upon notice of the award.

Each entrant further represents to the University that: (1) the submission is original with the entrant and was not copied from any other source; (2) neither the submission nor any right, title or interest therein is subject to any lien, claim, license, royalty arrangement or dispute of any kind or nature; (3) the submission does not and will not contain any matter that infringes upon or violates any copyright, trademark, trade secret, or other proprietary right of a third party, or that is libelous, injurious, violates any right of privacy, or that otherwise violates any law; and (4) to the best of the entrant's knowledge, no claim of any such infringement or violation has been threatened or asserted against the entrant.



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LIABILITY/TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Each entrant (each, a “Releasor”) releases and holds harmless the University, any other persons or entities involved in the Competition, and their respective officers, employees and agents (collectively, the “Released Parties”) from any liability for any losses, damages or costs of any kind whatsoever (“Losses”) arising out of or resulting from (1) his or her registration or inability to register for the Competition, (2) lost or delayed data transmission, and/or (3) any other error in the administration of the Competition, due to any cause, including, but not limited to, any technical malfunction, failure, interruption or defect of the Website or any network, equipment, software, or due to human error, or any combination of the any of the foregoing.

Each Releasor further releases and holds harmless all Released Parties any from liability for any Losses arising out of (1) any determination by the University to disqualify the Releasor for any reason, including but not limited to a violation of these Official Rules or applicable laws; (2) the acceptance, delivery, receipt, possession or use of a Prize; (3) any injury or damage to any computer or other device related to or resulting from Releasor’s participation in or downloading of any materials in connection with the Competition; and/or (4) any conditions arising from events beyond the University’s control.

PUBLICITY:

By entering the Competition, each entrant grants to the University the right to publish such entrant’s name, image, and city and state of residence, both online and in print, in connection with the administration and promotion of the Competition. The selected winner is expected to attend the University’s commencement ceremony in Trenton, New Jersey on September 24, 2016.

The name of the selected winner will be posted on the University’s website within 20 days of the completion of the Competition.