



Hazel Dickens Songwriting Contest Mail-in Entry Form for 2026

Registration

- The Hazel Dickens Songwriting Contest for 2026 will accept entries beginning October 26, 2025.
 - The entry deadline is midnight on January 11, 2026. All online entries and entry fee payments must be received by this time, and all entry fees submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than January 12th.
 - The top 3 winners will be announced on February 22nd, 2026.
 - Entry Fee: \$30 per song. There is no limit on the number of entries.
- If you have questions or need assistance send an email to HazelDickensContest@gmail.com

Prizes, Judging, Performance, and Rights

- Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Prizes are awarded jointly to all co-authors and the award will be sent to the author whose name and address is on the entry form. Division of prize money among co-authors is the responsibility of winners.
- 1st place: \$500 and the opportunity to perform the song at our next DC Bluegrass Festival (2 tickets incl.);
2nd place: \$250; 3rd place: \$100.
- Entries will be judged on originality, lyrics, and melody. Music production and performance quality are not considered in the judging process. Officers and Directors of DCBU and their family members are ineligible.
- Judging is by a 3-judge panel of music industry leaders, whose identities are made public when winners are announced. Please know that all entries are duly considered and judged uniformly. Our volunteer judges do not have access to the names of entrants. All decisions by judges are final.
- Contestant songwriters retain all rights to their work.

Entry Form

Mail to: Hazel Dickens Songwriting Contest, 12601 Davan Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20904-3504

Make checks payable to: DC Bluegrass Union

Envelope must be postmarked by January 11, 2026 - Entry fee is non-refundable

Songwriter Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Website _____

Registration fee is enclosed Registration fee is being mailed separately.

Note: Please **do not** enclose your audio or lyrics files with your payment. Instructions for submitting your song(s) are posted at:

<http://dcbu.org/Hazel-Dickens-Contest-Tune-Submit>

Tune Title: Copyright Date

Co-Writer(s) if applicable

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Add information for additional tunes on the back of this form