

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E



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Contact: Craig Carrick  
5418 Boyne Highland Trail  
Clarkston, MI 48348  
248.294.0113  
Carrickhome1@netscape.net

## **2007 Voices of the Future Songwriting Competition Winners Announced**

Waterford, MI-The winners of the 2007 “Voices of the Future Songwriting Competition” were announced today upon final decisions made by a panel of professional songwriters from Songwriters Anonymous, a group of songwriters of Southeast Michigan. The competition is the creation of Dan Hazlett who, along with other volunteers from Songwriters Anonymous, outlined the format of the competition and solicited sponsors and prizes for the winners. Sponsors include Springfed Arts & John Lamb’s Retreat For Songwriters, Nor-East’r Music & Arts Festival, A3 Radio, Elderly Instruments in Lansing and of course Songwriters Anonymous. The competition was created to encourage and facilitate growth among young and aspiring songwriters.

The winners of this youth oriented songwriting competition are rewarded for creativity, originality and artistry rather than novelty or commercial viability of their song and are permitted to submit as many entries as they wish, free of charge. The competition was announced at the 2006 Nor-East’r Music and Arts Festival in Mio ([www.noreastr.net](http://www.noreastr.net)) and entries were accepted up to April 2007. The competition is limited to Michigan youth between the ages of 13 to 17 (see [www.noreastr.net](http://www.noreastr.net) for official rules) however, will likely be made available to residents outside of Michigan for the 2007-2008 competition.

A panel from Songwriters Anonymous used a method of judging the songs by their lyrical content, design of the song and basic format of the song without knowing who the applicant was, providing an objective approach to the selection process.

The 2007 Voices of the Future Songwriting Competition Winners are:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: “Soon’s Song” by Natalie Stow from Beulah, MI

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: “Spread My Wings” by Hillary Huebler from Saginaw, MI

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: “Circus Contraption” by Phil Stancil from Grand Rapids, MI

Prizes were generously donated by the sponsors of this competition and center on the theme of songwriting and music.

**First place** is awarded a full scholarship with registration for two (the winner and a chaperone) to Lamb's Retreat for Songwriters held in Harbor Springs, MI and two passes to the Nor-East'r Music & Arts Festival.

**Second Place** is awarded a \$75.00 gift certificate from Elderly Music in Lansing, MI and two passes to the Nor-East'r Music Festival.

**Third Place** is awarded two passes to the Nor-East'r Music Festival

All three winners will perform their winning song at Nor-East'r Music and Arts Festival in Mio, June 2007.

Prizes have been generously provided by:

**Springfed Arts and Lamb's Retreat for Songwriters -**

The annual retreat provides a learning and loving environment to discuss the craft and creative process of songwriting with nationally recognized professional writing staff and perhaps the most rewarding weekend of the year for most songwriters.

([www.springfed.org](http://www.springfed.org)).

**AnnArborAlive Internet Radio**-an online radio station offering multi-channel programming right to your computer ([www.a3radio.com](http://www.a3radio.com))

**Nor-East'R Music & Arts Festival** – June 8-10, 2007 in Mio, MI. Three days of camping music, dancing, music workshops, guitar giveaways and great songs – some of the finest entertainment you'll find anywhere. ([www.noreastr.net](http://www.noreastr.net))

**Elderly Instruments** in Lansing-Known world wide for their selection and quality of acoustic instruments ([www.elderly.com](http://www.elderly.com))

**Songwriters Anonymous** is a community of Michigan songwriters who support each other in creating, performing, enjoying and excelling in their music. The group meets once monthly at the Trinity House Theater in Livonia, Michigan to share songs, critique works, discuss songwriting business, host workshops and network among friends. The group range from professional songwriters and performers to those just beginning to get involved in creating their own music, however, the group encourages its members to learn more about writing, gain performance confidence, and find more places to play - this, and the companionship support of other songwriters

If you would like to attend, check out Songwriters Anonymous on the web:  
[www.myspace.com/SongAnon](http://www.myspace.com/SongAnon) or [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SongAnon](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SongAnon)

The 2007-2008 **Voices of the Future Songwriting Competition** is one of only a few competitions of this type in the nation that concentrates on young people and their songwriting. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for the 2007-2008 or would like more information on how to help or how to participate in this program, please visit [www.noreastr.net](http://www.noreastr.net) for information or write Home Street Music, PO Box 300332, Waterford, MI 48330.