

6. A **stage plot** will be required for any performances utilizing more than one musician and should be received by WWALS before the Contest.
7. Finalists agree to perform their song in **the Songwriting Contest, which begins at 5 PM on Saturday, September 12, 2026**, at the Lowndes County 4-H Camp, 5000 4-H Club Road, Lake Park, GA 31636, as part of the WWALS River Revue.
  - a. The Committee reserves the right to change the precise start and end time of the Contest.
  - b. Finalists must arrive at the venue two hours before the contest starts for sound check.**
  - c. Upon request, WWALS will pay mileage at the usual WWALS rate for finalists from 50 up to 125 miles from the venue.
8. **Criteria the judges will use for selecting winners** from the finalists include:
  - a. 5 pts. Integrity, historical value, and/or present value of the waters
  - b. 5 pts. Originality of lyrics
  - c. 5 pts. Originality of music
  - d. 5 pts. Performance
  - e. + Extra credit for:
    - i. 3 pts. Naming the most rivers (springs, etc.) in a way that shows their value (even just listing them counts).
    - ii. 3 pts. Storytelling: creating a narrative regarding the history and/or attributes of the Suwannee River Basin.
9. **Prizes:**
  - a. All qualified finalists will receive an annual WWALS membership and a video of their performance at the Contest on YouTube.
  - b. A cash prize of \$300 will be awarded to one First Prize Winner.
  - c. Two prizes by geography will be awarded to different finalists other than who wins First Prize:
    - i. \$50 for Local (submitter lives within the Suwannee River Basin)
    - ii. \$50 for Non-local (from without)
  - d. Separate prizes will be awarded, one per music genre.
  - e. One or more prizes will be awarded to contestants younger than 18 years.
  - f. Prizes will be awarded jointly to all authors of any song; division of the prize is the responsibility of the winners.
  - g. The winners release sponsors from all liability regarding prizes won. Taxes are winners' responsibility.
10. **WWALS will video-record** each accepted entrant for YouTube. Signing the consent (application) is an acknowledgment of this opportunity. WWALS wishes to publish ALL performances on YouTube. WWALS reserves the right to not upload any or all of the