

CincySings 2020: Official Rules

Mission Statement: Bring the community together to celebrate the arts in our region and spread awareness for ArtsWave.

****All rules subject to change****



The Events:

- **CincySings Semi-Finals:** Sunday, March 15, 2020, 3pm-5pm, Jarson-Kaplan Theatre, Aronoff Center
- **CincySings Rehearsal (Mandatory):** Wednesday, April 8, 2020, 4pm-8pm, Music Hall
- **CincySings Finals:** Thursday, April 9, 2020, 7pm-9pm, Music Hall

Prizes Awarded:

- **Grand Champion:** Sing the national anthem at a Cincinnati Reds Game*; guaranteed entry CincySings 2020
- **First Runner Up:** Guaranteed entry into CincySings 2021; Other Prizes TBD
- **Second Runner Up:** Guaranteed entry into CincySings 2021; Other Prizes TBD
- **Fan Favorite Award:** Guaranteed entry into CincySings 2021; Other Prizes TBD

*National anthem must be traditional version, 90 seconds or less. Team must submit 'audition tape' singing the anthem.

Teams:

- There will be 10 – 12 teams in the CincySings Finals
 - All Companies holding an internal Sing-Off will send their winner *directly to the Finals*.
 - All other teams (companies that can only field one team) must compete in the CincySings Semi-Finals for a spot in the competition.
 - All Semi-Final bound teams must schedule a public performance to be seen by an ArtsWave representative.
 - After qualifying for the Finals, teams will be paired with a coach from Cincinnati's music and arts community.
- Wild Card Competition: Non-winning teams from companies with Sing-Offs can enter the online Wild Card vote. The winning team will be given a spot in the Semi-Finals.
- Companies will hold their own Sing-Offs to:
 - Identify the winning team to compete in the Finals against other companies
 - Spread awareness and encourage support within the company for the ArtsWave campaign.
- Choirs must be comprised of 4 – 20 singers.
- If applicable, teams must provide their own accompanist(s). The number of accompanists + singing members of the group should not exceed 20. *There is a limit of two (2) accompanying musicians/instruments.*
- Choir members and accompanist(s) must be employees or retirees from the company, however, rehearsal accompanists who will not perform at the competition do not.
- Paid, professional performers or choreographers are not permitted.

Performance/Event:

- **The total performance time must not exceed 5 total minutes**—this includes the performance, getting on & off stage, instrument set-up, etc. Points will be deducted if teams exceed this limit. Keep this in mind when choosing your songs.
- **Teams will perform songs appropriate for public performance.** Obscene, provocative or otherwise questionable content will result in disqualification.
- **Songs can be performed a cappella, with instruments or a backing track.** "Bands," however, are discouraged.

- **Teams may provide a background image, PowerPoint or video** to be projected behind their performance *for the Finals only*. Media will be sent to ArtsWave no later than two weeks before the competition.
- **Songs must be legally obtained.** Teams *ARE* allowed to modify lyrics.
- **All musical styles/genres are welcome!** Choirs are encouraged to perform to their strengths, whether that's great harmony, cool dance moves, high-energy audience interaction, or musical skill.

Judging Rubric:

- Judges will score teams from 0 – 10 in the following categories:
 - **Stage Presence:** the ability to “own” the stage and connect with the audience.
 - Do the performers look comfortable and at ease?
 - Is the group making eye contact with the audience and/or each other?
 - Is the group radiating energy and power?
 - **Creativity**
 - Was this a standout performance because of interesting staging or dancing?
 - Was the presentation witty or funny?
 - **Vocal Quality**
 - Did the group sound on key?
 - Was the song recognizable if not better than the original?
 - Did the group harmonize nicely?
 - **Overall Performance**
 - Did all aspects of the performance come together in a pleasing way?
 - Was the “idea” executed successfully?
 - Did costumes, choreography, and the singing work together?
- Judges may also recognize excellence via Special Recognition awards as they see fit at the Finals, including, but not limited to:
 - Best Choreography
 - Best Harmonies
 - Cincinnati Spirit Award
 - Most Inspirational

Please Note:

- **To help ArtsWave achieve our fundraising goal, we ask that companies participating in CincySings contribute to the event by purchasing a block of tickets to the Finals.**
- **All rules are subject to change.**