Concept Proposal Form

SYNC song-writing competition in English

Deadline – June 15, 2020

EARLY-BIRD BONUSES

*We have two rewards for the first 30 songwriters to submit Concept Proposal Forms,* since they are helping us build momentum for the collaborative process in our Facebook group*.*

1. $15 cash. This will be sent by PayPal or similar service if we consider your concept to be a credible proposal.
2. Advice about which of 2 or 3 concepts has the best chance. Put both or all three of your song concepts into one Concept Proposal Form, numbered so we can follow your thought easily. We do not promise to provide this kind of feedback for later entrants since there may not be time for it, but for Early Birds we will.

Note: If you already got approval for a proposal under the previous version of this contest, you count as one of the 30 Early Birds.

SUBMIT BY POSTING IN FACEBOOK GROUP

Complete this form and post it as a file attachment in the Facebook group, “SYNC 2020 Contests.” This is a private group, visible to other contest entrants but not to the public.

How to get access to post your proposal:

* 1. In Facebook, go to your home page and click GROUPS under EXPLORE in the menu.
	2. Type “SYNC 2020 Contests” into the SEARCH box.
	3. Click the button “ + JOIN GROUP” at the left side under the group’s banner. Answer the short entry questions so we can approve you, and Kerry will add you to the group.
	4. NOTE: If you object in principle to participating in a Facebook group, write SYNCx2020@gmail.com to discuss options.

After joining, you will be able to post your form and see our comments on it. You will also see other people’s forms, and they can see yours. This contest is not a secret process but a collaborative learning process.

CONCEPT APPROVAL PROCESS

Your Concept Proposal Form is the basis for us to discuss your concept with you, usually starting within a day or two of submission. Each song-writer is limited to one Concept Proposal Form at any one time.

When your concept proposal is approved, your name gets added to our “approved” list, which is also our “Prayer List.” The world is full of unfinished songs, but a song that is 90% finished misses 100% of the people it could help. We want your song to get finished, videoed, and put up on YouTube.

LATER PART OF THE JUDGING PROCESS

If your Concept Proposal Form is approved, you have until July 31st to complete and submit your Song Entry Form.

When you submit your Song Entry Form, I (Stan Nussbaum) as gate-keeper will do a final check to verify that the song is in line with your proposal that was approved. Then your Song Entry Form will be passed on to our panel of three judges.

The judges are NOT members of the Facebook group and will not see the discussion of your Concept Proposal, so no question you ask at this stage can reduce your chances of winning.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Explanatory note** | **Your answers**  |
| 1. Spend a few minutes exploring [“Your Song as a COVID Vaccine,”](https://www.syncx.org/your-song-as-vaccine) about writing a song related to the pandemic. Then write one comment or question on anything that strikes you about this contest or about SYNC in general.
 | [“Your Song as a COVID Vaccine”](https://www.syncx.org/other-covid-vaccine) is supposed to be your one-stop shop to help you decide whether this contest is a fit for you. Of course, you may explore other parts of [www.SYNCx.org](http://www.SYNCx.org) if you wish, but this page keeps it short and sweet. |  |
| 1. Name of song-writer(s)
 | This name may be an alias or a stage name, but it has to be the same name you will use later when you submit your completed song. |  |
| 1. Provisional title of song
 | Don’t slave too long over this. No penalties for a provisional title that seems rather plain, as long as it helps us understand what your focus is. |  |
| 1. Genre: worship song, ballad, kids song, festival/seasonal song, hymn, choral work, lullaby, solo/group performance, other (please specify)
 | We are hoping for a great variety of entries. Choose the genre that will help you serve your constituency best. The Entry Form you send later with your song will give you a chance to explain.  |  |
| 1. In a sentence or two, what will your song be about? What is your core concept?
 | If you already have a key phrase you are going to repeat in the song, you may use that in your answer. Just spell it out a little bit. |  |
| 1. Who is your song for?
 | Be as specific as you can. For example, “My church,” “My youth group,” “My doctor friend so-and-so, who is exhausted,” “A family I know who have lost a loved one to the virus,” “People who are angry at God for letting the virus happen,” etc.  |  |
| 1. How would your song help those people during the fight against COVID-19 and/or the recovery afterward?
 | You may also ask yourself, “Why would my friends love to sing, listen to, or share this song? What motivation, energy, healing, or other blessing will they draw from it?” |  |
| 1. Of the seven ways we see ourselves in Christ (see [“Your Song as a COVID Vaccine,”](https://www.syncx.org/your-song-as-vaccine)), which one does your song relate to most closely? How does it connect?
 | You may not be able to pin your song to just one season because each season relates to only one main highlight in the flow of God’s story . Your song might relate equally to two or more seasons. Just comment briefly on the way your main reason for writing the song fits with anything in the “Vaccine” file. |  |
| 1. If your song relates to any particular biblical story or milestone, which one(s)?
 | Much worship music is about God’s timeless attributes and/or his strategy for forgiving our sin. SYNC is about God’s broader strategy, the panoramic story from creation to the return of Christ. SYNC emphasizes seven milestones or game-changing events that shape our identity in that story.  |  |
| 1. If you have already written the song, attach the full lyrics. If not, skip this line.
 | Because the crisis is new, we expect most of the proposed concepts for songs will be new, but we are not ruling out an older song that takes on a new meaning now. |  |
| 1. What, if anything, would you like to ask the contest organizers before you invest a lot of time developing your proposed concept into a complete song?
 | The danger is to assume your song concept is on right track because you can connect it to one of the SYNC theme labels, such as “freedom.” But if you didn’t read [“Your Song as a COVID Vaccine”](https://www.syncx.org/other-covid-vaccine), you might be off target. We also recommend a 1-2 minute read of whichever “W.A.W. story” relates to the theme you mentioned in question 8 above. <https://www.syncx.org/w-a-w-story-list>  |  |

1. When you have completed the form above, save it with a new file name. Put your surname in front of the name as it is now. For example, if your name is Martinez, the file name would be Martinez Concept Proposal Form – Global.docx.
2. Using this new file name, post your file in the Facebook group, “SYNC 2020 Contests.”

If you qualify for an Early Bird cash award, we will notify you by Facebook Messenger to get the information we need to send you the $15.