

## **About the John Lennon Songwriting Contest ([www.jlsc.com](http://www.jlsc.com))**

The John Lennon Songwriting Contest is an internationally renowned songwriting contest that is currently celebrating its tenth anniversary of providing opportunities for amateur and professional songwriters alike. Participants may enter as many songs as they like in any of 12 musical categories: Rock, Country, Jazz, Pop, World, Rhythm & Blues, Hip Hop, Gospel/Inspirational, Latin, Electronic, Folk, and Children's. Entries are judged on originality, melody, composition, and lyrics; instrumental compositions are also encouraged. Neither performance nor production value will be considered during the adjudication process.

The Contest runs year-round with two sessions, the first January through June, and the second through December. Lennon Award winners in each category for each session are determined by a panel of judges including stellar songwriters and performers as well as industry professionals. Those winners then go head to head online, where the public votes on which songwriter in each category becomes eligible for the "Maxell Song of the Year." That decision is made by an Executive Committee representing all musical genres, and which includes such legendary talents as Carlos Santana, Tim McGraw, Black Eyed Peas, John Legend, Carole Bayer Sager, Enrique Iglesias, Wyclef Jean, Amy Grant, BeBe Winans, Pat Metheny, and many more. The "Maxell Song of the Year" winner is announced to the public in June.

This is the biggest JLSC prize package to date, totaling over \$330,000 in cash and prizes!! There are a total of 72 Finalists, 24 Grand Prize Winners, 12 Lennon Award Winners and the "Maxell Song of the Year." Winners, based on their level of achievement, will receive EMI Publishing contracts, Studio Equipment from Godin Guitars, Roland/Edirol and Audio-Technica, 1,000 CDs in full color with premium 4-panel Digipaks courtesy of Disc Makers, and gift certificates from MusiciansFriend.com. The writer(s) of the "Maxell Song of the Year," the highest honor bestowed in the contest, will receive a \$20,000 check courtesy of the Maxell Corporation, as well as an Apple Mac Pro, Cinema Display and Logic Pro Software. In addition to the songwriting prizes, one band is selected annually to perform on the Warped Tour for one week.

The John Lennon Songwriting Contest is made possible by and agreement with Yoko Ono Lennon and the generosity of Maxell Corporation, Apple, Roland, Godin Guitars, Ableton, SonicBids, Full Sail, Disc Makers, Musician's Friend, Edirol by Roland, Audio-Technica, and Propellerhead.