



Songwriting Contest



Mechanics, Terms and Conditions

1. Qualifications of Composers/ Songwriters

1.1. The contest is open to all Filipino composers and songwriters (amateur or professional), and music enthusiasts, including those based overseas. Naturalized Filipinos and Filipino descendants are also qualified to join. A contestant may be an individual or a group of musicians in collaboration.

2. Song Entry Requirements

- **2.1.** Each entry must be an original work of the contestant and all rights, including copyright, to the entry must be owned exclusively by the contestant.
- **2.2.** The song's lyrics must embody the inspiring and challenging life of an overseas Filipino and their migration journey. The song could express the inspiration, joy or hardship faced by a migrant in a foreign country. It could convey longing for their loved ones and the Motherland, overcoming challenges, or finding better opportunities and experiencing new culture or way of life in their host countries.
- **2.3.** The lyrics should be in Filipino or English (or combination of both).
- **2.4.** The song entry may be written in any song genre.
- **2.5.** The song's running time shall be 3 to 5 minutes, inclusive of intro and extro.



- **2.6.** The participant may use any musical instrument as accompaniment to the song. It could also be acapella.
- **2.7.** There is no limitation on the number of entries a contestant may submit.
- **2.8.** CFO, at its sole discretion, may disqualify an entry which fails to comply with any of the above requirements.

3. Submission of Song Entry

- **3.1.** The participant must submit the following per entry:
 - a. Accomplished Nomination form
 - b. Lyrics of the musical composition
 - c. Mp3 file of the musical composition
- **3.2.** The deadline for the submission of entries is on October 31, 2021, 5:00 PM Philippine Standard Time.
- **3.3.** Failure to comply with any of the above requirements shall be a ground for disqualification.

4. Intellectual Property Rights

- **4.1.** The following works shall not be eligible as entries:
 - **a.** Those which have been previously published, recorded or released in any form of media:
 - **b.** Those which have been performed live in any venue.
 - c. Those which have been commissioned by a third party;



- **4.2.** All entries are deemed to be the property of the respective participants, subject to the rights of CFO hereunder.
- **4.3.** If an entry is selected as a winner, CFO shall have all rights, title, interest and copyright to said composition. CFO shall have the right to use winning entries for its advocacy and other official activities, without need for any remuneration to the contestant.

5. Screening and Criteria for Judging

5.1. CFO will choose the winners based on the following criteria:

Item	Percentage
a. Lyrics. The lyrics shall be relevant to Filipino migration, have an identifiable rhyme scheme or pattern, easy to recall, and contains substantial and meaningful message for overseas Filipinos.	35%
b. Song structure and composition. The entry must have a clear theme or message, and clearly identifiable sections like verse, chorus, etc.	15%
c. Melody. The entry, including its musical technicalities, must be engaging, creative or has popular appeal. The music and melody must complement the lyrics.	30%
d. Originality. The entry should be novel and must have recall value.	20%
Total	100%

5.2. A board of judges headed by the CFO with representatives from the music industry and migration sector, will screen the entries based on the song criteria. They will choose the finalists, and the final three winners.



5.3. CFO shall have the discretion and right to choose/assign the interpreter, and arranger in case there will be a need to repeat the recording for the purpose of public release.

6. Winners and Prizes

6.1. Three (3) winners will be chosen, with the following prizes:



6.2. Prizes are subject to the mandatory government withholding taxes.

7. Announcement of Winners

7.1. Winners will be announced in November 2021. CFO will organize an event where winners shall be recognized, in December 2021 during the Month of Overseas Filipinos Celebration.