GMA
DOVE AWARDS

2014-2015
Policy & Procedures Manual

for GMA Professional and iMembers

PLEASE KEEP THIS DURING THE ENTIRE BALLOTING PERIOD

46th ANNUAL GMA DOVE AWARDS

ELIGIBILITY, SUBMISSION & BALLOTING - POLICIES & PROCEDURES

The mission of the Gospel Music Association is to expose, promote, and celebrate the Gospel through music.

I. PURPOSE

The Dove Awards help the Gospel Music Association (GMA) accomplish its mission by publicly honoring those persons who have demonstrated excellence or significant accomplishment in the field of Christian/Gospel music.

II. SUBMITTED ENTRY ELIGIBILITY

All persons who are professional members of the Gospel Music Association, or who have submitted a completed professional membership application accompanied by the prescribed membership fee by **MAY 12, 2015**, approved record companies, approved print publishers and approved distribution companies are entitled to submit entries for consideration for the GMA Dove Awards ballot.

III. VOTING ELIGIBILITY

All Professional Members of the GMA *(active as of July 14, 2015)* are entitled to vote on the GMA Dove Awards First Ballot.

All Professional Members and iMembers of the GMA *(active as of August 14, 2014)* are entitled to vote on the GMA Dove Awards Second Ballot.

Professional members are entitled to vote in all GMA Dove Award categories, according to the guidelines specified on the ballot. iMembers are entitled to vote in five categories of their choosing.

IV. AWARD ELIGIBILITY

The eligibility period for all award categories, will be 12 months beginning on the 1st day of May, 2014 and ending on the 30th day of April, 2015 prior to the presentation of the awards.

In all categories except 1-8, the GMA must receive each entry from three or more its Professional Members or one previously approved Record Company/Print Publisher/Distribution Company, for that entry to be move forward in the submission/balloting process.

Product must have general distribution AND be tracked by SoundScan in the United States (*except for categories 2 thru 8 which do not need to be tracked by SoundScan*). Eligibility will be verified with SoundScan. The first recorded scans must fall within the eligibility period, regardless of the release date stated on the entry form or on SoundScan. General distribution is defined as mail order and/or retail sales for a recorded music product that is marketed nationally.

From time to time, screening judges may encounter product submissions that raise questions about whether or not the product's content is appropriate for the GMA Dove Awards. To assist the judges in their determination, the GMA Board has authorized the following content criteria for use in these instances:

"For purposes of GMA Dove Award eligibility, the content of all entries will be: based upon the historically orthodox Christian faith contained in or derived from the Holy Bible; or apparently prompted and informed by a Christian world-view."

V. SUBMISSION/BALLOTING PROCESS

The process for the GMA Dove Awards consists of an online Submission form, a review process of submitted product, and two separate online ballots. The content of each will be as follows:

A. Online Submission Form – Will contain appropriate instructions and provisions for submitting entries in specified GMA Dove Award Categories. The GMA reserves the right:

a. To disallow entry forms that have insufficient information to verify the entry eligibility and forms for which no contact is readily available. Persons submitting entries will not be notified if their entry or entries are ruled ineligible.
b. To place any entry into the category it deems appropriate and to rule on the eligibility of any product.
c. To withdraw any category in any year if the GMA determines there is an insufficient number of eligible entries in that category (less than ten) and at the GMA's discretion, to place the affected entries in another category.

B. First Ballot – Will list, in alphabetical order, the Candidates for nomination:

a. Eligible entries in categories 10-37 and 41, receiving three or more professional GMA member entries or one Record Company/Print Publisher/Distribution Company entry all of which have made it through the Dove Awards screening process.
b. Category 1 candidates will be derived mathematically from PRO and CCLI reporting.
c. Category 2 & 3 candidates will be derived mathematically from PRO and CCLI reporting.
d. The top 25 eligible entries in categories 4-6 & 8 receiving three or more professional GMA member entries all of which have made it through the Dove Awards screening process.
e. Category 7 candidates will be derived mathematically from SoundScan
f. Nominees for category 9 are derived by a Craft committee and entries for this categories will not appear on the First Ballot.
g. Nominees for categories 38-40 are derived by a Craft committee and entries for these categories will not appear on the First Ballot.

C. Second Ballot – Will list, in alphabetical order, the Nominees:

a. The top five (5) entries in each category which received the most votes in that category on the First Ballot (with the exception of Song of the Year which will list ten (10).

VI. TABULATION OF BALLOTS

The GMA will employ an independent accounting firm to supervise the Dove Awards balloting procedures ensuring all nominations and votes comply with its guidelines set forth by the Awards and Criteria committee.

In the event of a tie vote on the First Ballot for fifth place (tenth place in Song of the Year), the number of finalists for that category will be increased in order to include all entries which are tied. In the event of a tie vote on the Second Ballot, both/all recipients receiving the highest number of votes will be awarded a Dove Award.

The number of votes received by any particular nominee will not be disclosed to anyone by said accounting firm unless so directed by resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors of GMA.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECIPIENTS

Prior to the announcement of the recipient(s) at the annual GMA Dove Awards presentation, or such other events as may be selected by the Gospel Music Association, the name of the recipient(s) of the Dove Award in any category will be disclosed to persons who, in the president's judgment, require such information in connection with the production and/or broadcast of the GMA Dove Awards presentation.

WHO GETS THE DOVE AWARD?

Song of the Year
songwriter, publisher

Songwriter of the Year
songwriter

Genre Artist of the Year
artist, label

Artist of the Year
artist, label

New Artist of the Year
artist, label

Recorded Song of the Year
artist, songwriter (if other than the artist)

Worship Song of the Year
songwriter, publisher

Album of the Year
artist, producer (if other than the artist)

Musical or Choral
creator

Recorded Music Packaging
art director, graphic artist, photographer, illustrator

Short Form / Long Form Video
artist, director (if other than the artist), producer (if other than the artist)

Inspirational Film of the Year
director, producer

46th Annual GMA Dove Awards Categories

Category # / Category

Division I	1. Song of the Year
	2. Songwriter of the Year (Artist)
	3. Songwriter of the Year (Non-Artist)
	4. Contemporary Christian Artist of the Year
	5. Southern Gospel Artist of the Year
	6. Gospel Artist of the Year
	7. Artist of the Year
	8. New Artist of the Year
	9. Producer of the Year
Division II	10. Rap/Hip Hop Recorded Song of the Year
	11. Rock Recorded Song of the Year
	12. Rock/Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year
	13. Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year
	14. Inspirational Recorded Song of the Year
	15. Southern Gospel Recorded Song of the Year
	16. Bluegrass Recorded Song of the Year
	17. Country Recorded Song of the Year
	18. Contemporary Gospel/Urban Recorded Song of the Year
	19. Traditional Gospel Recorded Song of the Year
	20. Worship Song of the Year
Division III	21. Rap/Hip Hop Album of the Year
	22. Rock Album of the Year
	23. Rock/Contemporary Album of the Year
	24. Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year
	25. Inspirational Album of the Year
	26. Southern Gospel Album of the Year
	27. Bluegrass/Country Album of the Year
	28. Contemporary Gospel/Urban Album of the Year
	29. Traditional Gospel Album of the Year
Division IV	30. Children's Music Album of the Year
	31. Spanish Language Album of the Year
	32. Special Event Album of the Year
	33. Christmas Album of the Year
	34. Praise & Worship Album of the Year
Division V	35. Musical of the Year
	36. Youth/Children's Musical of the Year
	37. Choral Collection of the Year
	38. Recorded Music Packaging of the Year
	39. Short Form Video of the Year
	40. Long Form Video of the Year
	41. Inspirational Film of the Year

If you have questions regarding the GMA Dove Awards process, please contact the GMA office at (615) 277-1376.