



THE HAWAII ACADEMY OF RECORDING ARTS Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards Nomination Guidelines

Nomination Deadline: January 31, 2014

This is the official nomination form for the annual Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards. To insure consideration on the Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards ballot, please fill out this form, where applicable.

Definition of Eligibility:

- All recordings created, produced, engineered, and recorded by a Hawai'i resident artist(s), musician(s), or technician(s), released during the eligibility year, are eligible for inclusion on the preliminary voting ballot provided that they are available for purchase through established retailers and/or distributors. Physical products such as CDs and DVDs must be available for purchase at "brick-and-mortar" stores or established online retailers in order to be eligible. Digital download-only release must be available for purchase through established online services such as iTunes, Rhapsody, Amazon.com <<http://amazon.com/>> , and CD Baby in order to be eligible. Physical products (CDs/DVDs) sold on artist websites and/or at live performances are eligible for inclusion on the preliminary and final ballots provided they are also available for purchase in at least one established brick-and-mortar store or online service (as defined above) by December 31, 2013.
- For eligibility in the Male Vocalist, Female Vocalist, Group, Most Promising Artist, and Favorite Entertainer of the Year, artist(s) must be **alive within** the eligibility year.
- Residency requirements apply in certain General, Genre, Technical, and Adjudicated categories. A resident is defined as one who lives in Hawai'i more than six (6) months a year.
- In the Genre Categories, resident and non-resident nominees are eligible if the work is recorded in Hawai'i. Non-resident entries are also allowed in specific, Hawai'i-originating genres (Hawaiian Album of the Year, Island Music Album of the Year, Slack Key Album of the Year, and 'Ukulele Album of the Year). Digital download-only releases by non-residents which are available through established online retailers are eligible for inclusion on the preliminary ballot in only Hawaiian Album, Island Music Album, Slack Key Album and 'Ukulele Album. Artists and producers who reside outside of the United States are only eligible for the International Award.
- Recordings released between January 1 and December 31 will be eligible each competition year.
- Five (5) recordings must be released within the competition year in order to establish a new category (subject to approval by the Board of Governors).
- A minimum of three (3) recordings must be released within the competition year in order to maintain an award category.
- Releases must contain a minimum of nine (9) tracks or a minimum overall play length of 30 minutes to qualify as an album, or for artists, producers and other contributors to qualify for any of the general, genre, technical or adjudicated categories. See General Categories below for definitions of EP (extended play) and single releases.

Selection Procedure:

- All eligible releases in the General and Genre Categories are included on the preliminary ballot and are voted on by current regular and associate members.
- For Technical Categories a panel of producers, engineers, industry specialists and technicians selects five nominees in each category; the nominees are voted on by the regular membership on the final ballot.
- Selection Committee will vet the releases to determine their placement within the Genre Categories. The artist may make the final choice should the album qualify in more than one category.

- For the Adjudicated Awards, a panel of Hawaiian language, haku mele, and music specialists appointed by the Board of Governors selects the nominees and the finalists.
- Only voting members of HARA that have applied for membership at least one (1) month prior to the awards ceremonies are eligible to vote in the Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards balloting. Members whose membership has expired must renew at least one (1) month prior to the award ceremonies to be eligible to vote.
- An accounting firm will tabulate the votes on the preliminary ballot, and forward the top five (5) vote getters for inclusion on the final ballot.
- In the event of a tie in the fifth position, six (6) nominees will advance to the final ballot. In the event of six (6) nominees on the preliminary ballot, all six (6) names will advance to the final ballot.
- An accounting firm will tabulate the votes on the final ballot, and the winners announced at the Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards ceremony.
- The public votes for the Favorite Entertainer of the Year. The Board determines the voting process. Nominees must have released an album in the eligibility year, be residents, and living within the eligibility year. Artists on compilations and anthologies are not eligible.
- The deadline for the receipt of the nomination form at the HARA office is the last business day of January following the eligibility year. There will be no exceptions to the deadline. Nominations can be submitted via hard copy, faxed, emailed or submitted online. **Nominations are not considered complete without the required deposit material as specified on the nomination form.**
- The Selection Committee reserves the right to review and adjudicate any release that falls outside these rules/guidelines.

General Categories:

Nominee (artist, composer, or producer) must be a resident of the State of Hawai'i. See below for exceptions.

Album of the Year

(Producer's and Artist's Award) Best produced album release of the year. Non-resident producer(s) is eligible provided the artist(s) is a Hawai'i resident and 75% of the album is recorded in Hawai'i.

Extended Play (EP) Release of the Year

Best release of the year that contains more than three (3) but no more than eight (8) separate tracks, and is of less than thirty (30) minutes in total playing time. Compilations meeting the song quantity and total playing requirements are eligible. If a compilation, non-resident producers may be considered for the award if 75% of the album is recorded in Hawai'i or if at least 75% of the tracks feature vocals in the Hawaiian language or are performed in slack key or Island music styles. Anthologies are not eligible in this category.

Artists submitting entries are eligible for the Male Vocalist, Female Vocalist, Group of the Year, and Favorite Entertainer of the Year categories. Graphic artists and liner annotators are eligible for consideration under the rules of the Technical Categories (see below). If an entry is an artist's first recorded effort, they are eligible for the Most Promising Artist category. New Compositions on the release are eligible for the Song of the Year and/or Haku Mele categories.

EPs featuring the same tracks as a nominated full album by the same artist are eligible in either category (EP or an album category) but not both.

Single of the Year

Best-recorded performance of a song released as a single in either physical (CD) or digital format. The release may only one or two distinct tracks. If two tracks are included, an "A" side must be

specified for consideration. The "B" side may be a different song or a different version (remix, karaoke, acoustic, etc.) of the "A" side. There is no limit to the total playing time. The track(s) may not be included on a physical CD or packaged and promoted as part of a digital "album" on any online service unless the release of the single precedes the CD/album release by at least 30 days. Artists submitting entries in this category are not eligible for the Male Vocalist, Female Vocalist, Group, Favorite Entertainer, or Most Promising Artist of the Year categories. New compositions on the release are eligible for the Song of the Year and/or Haku Mele Categories.

Song of the Year

(Composer's Award) Best achievement in creating a first-time recorded song containing both words and melody.

Instrumental Composition of the Year

(Composer's Award) Best achievement in creating a first-time recorded instrumental composition.

Female Vocalist of the Year

Best performance by a female artist of newly recorded material, 75% of which must be of vocal content. Groups that credit a single, featured female vocalist (see examples provided in the "Group of the Year" category) may be entered in this category. However, once entered in this category they may not be entered in the "Group of the Year" category at a later date while using the same group name. Duos may not be entered in this category, regardless of the vocal or instrumental contribution of the named members.

Group of the Year

Best performance by a vocal duo or group of newly recorded material, 75% of which must be of vocal content. Groups that credit a single, featured vocalist (e.g. "John Almeida & His Hawaiians" or "Genoa Keawe and Her Hula Maids") may be entered in this category. However, once entered in this category they may not be entered in the "Male Vocalist of the Year" or "Female Vocalist of the Year" categories at a later date while using the same group name. Duos must be entered in this category, regardless of the vocal or instrumental contribution of the named members.

Male Vocalist of the Year

Best performance by a male artist of newly recorded material, 75% of which must be of vocal content. Groups that credit a single, featured male vocalist (see examples provided in the "Group of the Year" category) may be entered in this category. However, once entered in this category they may not be entered in the "Group of the Year" category at a later date while using the same group name. Duos may not be entered in this category, regardless of the vocal or instrumental contribution of the named members.

Most Promising Artist(s) of the Year

Best first-recorded effort as a featured artist or group. First recorded effort shall be defined as first commercially available CD or DVD by an artist or group and shall include retail sales worldwide. First time participation on a compilation with other artists and/or participation as a guest artist shall not constitute a first recorded effort.

Favorite Entertainer of the Year

Best performance by an artist or group. Artists on compilations and anthologies are not eligible.

Genre Categories:

Albums by non-resident artist(s) are eligible in the Hawaiian, Island Music, Slack Key and 'Ukulele categories only. Extended Play releases (EPs) are ineligible in any genre category.

Alternative Album of the Year

"Alternative" is defined as music of a non-traditional form that retains an outsider and underground perspective, and is mostly outside the mainstream music consciousness. Currently viewed as avant-garde in nature, the music and recordings may utilize new and vintage technology, innovative production techniques and could contain trace elements of mainstream punk, rock, pop, R&B, reggae, dance, folk classical, Hawaiian, and other musical forms.

Anthology of the Year

(Producer's Award) Best album of previously released material. At least 75% of the album must have previously released material from at least two (2) different releases. The album must also have a revised song order, be repackaged, or be substantively different from the original releases. Non-resident producers are eligible if at least 75% of the tracks feature vocals in the Hawaiian language or are performed in slack key or Island music styles.

Christmas Album of the Year

Best performance in a Christmas theme. At least 75% of the album must contain Christmas material. **All albums containing Christmas-themed music will automatically be placed in this category.**

Comedy Album or Comedy DVD of the Year

Best comedy performance released on album or DVD. At least 75% of the album or DVD must contain comedy material.

Compilation Album of the Year

(Producer's Award) Best album of newly released material. The album must contain a minimum of three (3) distinct artists on distinct tracks. Non-resident producer(s) is eligible if at least 75% of the tracks feature vocals in the Hawaiian language or are performed in the slack key or Island music styles, or if 75% of the album is recorded in Hawai'i. Christmas compilations are eligible in the Christmas Album of the Year category only.

Contemporary Album of the Year

Best performance in a contemporary style.

Hawaiian Music Album of the Year

Best performance of Hawaiian music. At least 75% of the album must contain material in the Hawaiian Language.

Hip Hop Album of the Year

Best performance of music in a Hip Hop Style. At least 75% of the album must contain Hip Hop material.

Instrumental Album of the Year

Best instrumental performance. At least 75% of the album must contain non-vocal material.

Island Music Album of the Year

Best contemporary performance of music of or about Hawai'i. At least 50% of the album must contain material of or about Hawai'i.

Jazz Album of the Year

Best jazz performance. At least 75% of the album must contain jazz material.

Music DVD of the Year

Best performance of music and video on a DVD. At least 75% of the DVD must contain musical performance: (a) Musical performance may include educational or scenic features provided the emphasis is on performance and not solely on instruction or scenery; (b) Compilation DVDs (in which more than three (3) artists are featured) the award goes to the producer.

R&B Album of the Year

Best performance of music in an R&B style. At least 75% of the album must contain R&B material.

Reggae Album of the Year

Best reggae performance. At least 75% of the album must contain reggae material.

Religious Album of the Year

Best performance of religious material. At least 75% of the album must contain religious or inspirational material.

Rock Album of the Year

Best rock performance. At least 75% of the album must contain rock material.

Slack Key Album of the Year

Best performance of slack key or vocals with slack key accompaniment. Release can be 100% vocal with slack key accompaniment, 100% instrumental or any combination of the two, provided that 75% of the instrumental tracks and instrumental accompaniment to vocals must be in a slack key tuning and played in a slack key style; 75% of the vocal tracks must be in Hawaiian Language.

(The Selection Committee will be provided with a list containing some of the more significant elements of slack key guitar style and may consult with acknowledged practitioners, and determine the appropriateness of entries into this category.)

'Ukulele Album of the Year

Best 'ukulele performance. 75% of the tracks must feature the 'ukulele predominately without vocals; may contain up to 25% vocal tracks with 'ukulele accompaniment, provided the 'ukulele accompaniment is not subordinate to any other accompanying instrument.

Note:

- Compilations of any genre (Comedy, Jazz, Slack Key etc.) are not eligible in that particular genre category, only in Compilation Album of the Year. Christmas compilations are the **exception**, to be considered with other Christmas albums. Producers of Christmas compilations must be Hawai'i State residents. Non-resident producer(s) is eligible provided the artists are Hawai'i residents and 75% of the album is recorded in Hawai'i.

The 75% quantum required on an album of 9 songs is 7 songs; on an album of 10 songs it is 8 songs; on an album of 11 songs it is 9 songs; on an album of 12 it is 9 songs; on an album of 13 songs it is 10 songs; on an album of 14 songs it is 11 songs, etc.

Technical Categories:

Nominee must be a resident of the State of Hawai'i.

Graphics Award

Best designed and created album package. Digital download-only releases are not eligible for a Graphics award.

Liner Notes Award

Best liner notes. Digital download-only releases are not eligible for a Liner Notes award.

Adjudicated Categories:

Haku Mele

(Composer's Award) Best first-released song or chant primarily in the Hawaiian language. Entrants must submit lyrics, translations and kaona (if any) for each entry. A panel of judges selects the Award based on:

1. Poetic style of the Hawaiian language where appropriate.
2. Proper wording (choice of words and/or phrases) of the Hawaiian Language.
3. Musical composition.

Hawaiian Language Performance

(Artist Award) Best performance in the Hawaiian language. Reviewing the release in its entirety, a panel of judges selects the Award based on:

1. Proper pronunciation of the Hawaiian language.
2. Overall interpretation of the Hawaiian language in the musical performance

Engineering Award (*Must be a resident of the State of Hawai'i*)

Best technical achievement in a sound recording and mix-down. Digital download-only releases are eligible in this category.

International Recognition Album of the Year (Special Award)

Best Performance by non-US performer(s) on Album or DVD whose tracks are at least 75% in the Hawaiian language or are performed in the slack key or Island music styles. If a compilation, the music tracks are at least 75% in the Hawaiian language or are performed in the slack key or Island music styles. If a DVD, at least 75% of the DVD must contain musical performance. Anthologies are not eligible in this category.

Deadline is Thursday January 31, 2014

All Nomination forms and deposit material (CDs, DVDs, lyric sheets, etc.) must be received at the HARA office by the deadline.