

## Greetings!

Here is your official entry information for the Chicago Regional Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival. The deadline for entry is **January 8, 2016**. This is the date that all entry materials must arrive at the stated address, *not* the postmark date. Please read the entry form for additional information.



**All groups will submit an audition recording with at least two songs.** We will accept CDs, but we would *greatly* prefer MP3s. We will need this recording from every group, even if you performed or sent a recording last year. Groups can improve, change members, or change styles, so we want to make sure everyone auditions with current material. Please be sure that the group members singing on the audition recording are the same members listed on the entry form. If you submit more than two songs, please indicate which two songs you want to be considered for your audition. Because we always receive more entries for the regional show than can reasonably fit into one evening, the entries will go through a blind “pre-judging” process, where a panel of judges will select the top groups (usually around eight total). “Blind” means the pre-judges will hear your recordings, but they won’t know who you are.

Here’s a list of items you must include with your entry:

- 1) **The official entry form (available at [www.blenderful.com/sweeps/chicagoform.pdf](http://www.blenderful.com/sweeps/chicagoform.pdf))**
- 2) **Two recordings (MP3s preferred, CDs acceptable)**
- 3) **Group biography (one paragraph)**
- 4) **Group photo (JPEG preferred)**

**You can enter via E-MAIL ([sweeps@blenderful.com](mailto:sweeps@blenderful.com)), or via SNAIL MAIL (address below).** If you’re entering by snail mail, you can send the form and a CD as an official entry, but we will still need the biography and photo via e-mail later. Please allow enough time for your materials to arrive - no later than Friday, **January 8, 2016**. Acceptance of any entries received after the deadline will be at the discretion of the Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival. Please send all entries to [sweeps@blenderful.com](mailto:sweeps@blenderful.com), or to:

**Harmony Sweepstakes**  
c/o Andrew Blendermann  
606 N. Wilshire Dr.  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

**Groups must have at least three and no more than EIGHT members.** If your group has more than eight members, we will consider an entry, but your recording must reflect a small-group sound, and you will only be allowed to perform with up to eight singers (we don’t want entries from 40-voice choirs that are sending eight people). If your group is accepted into the competition, there is an entry fee of \$10 per group member. Your entry must include complete contact information, so we can let you know if you’re in!

For the groups coming in from out-of-town, we’ll send directions and names of various hotels/motels at a later date. There will also be an “Afterglow”, most likely at a nearby restaurant. We would like to see this as more than just a competition - it’s a chance for all the groups to meet and have some fun, too.

**The show is SUNDAY, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016** at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, IL, a suburb just north of Chicago. The show will start at 3:00 PM with a sound check around 11:00 AM.

If you have any questions at all, please contact us at 847-809-0808 or [sweeps@blenderful.com](mailto:sweeps@blenderful.com). Thanks for your interest in the Harmony Sweepstakes, and we look forward to your entry!

### **Andrew Blendermann**

Chicago Regional Producer, Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival

National website: [www.harmony-sweepstakes.com](http://www.harmony-sweepstakes.com)

Chicago info site: [www.blenderful.com/sweeps](http://www.blenderful.com/sweeps)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/HarmonySweepstakes](http://www.facebook.com/HarmonySweepstakes)