

Iris Festival 2016 "be on stage, be.brussels" Contest

Contest Rules

1. Organisation

This contest (hereinafter referred to as "the Contest") is organised by the non-profit association visit.brussels (hereinafter referred to as "visit.brussels" or "the Organiser"), which has its main office at 1000 Brussels, 2-4 Rue Royale.

2. Conditions for Participation

The "be on stage, be.brussels" contest is a springboard for Brussels area artists and music groups.

With regard to bands, band members will designate a representative from among themselves who will be termed "the participant" in the contest. This representative must act in the name and on behalf of the band. He or she guarantees all information and any item submitted in the context of the contest and ensures that the group as a whole as well as each group member complies with the rules and is aware of all information communicated to the representative.

At least one member of the group must be a Brussels resident. A residency certification may be requested at any time.

The contest is open to all musical genres.

Contest registration is free of charge.

3. Participation Protocol

3.1. In order to participate in the contest, the participant must complete the registration form at the site: www.beonstage.be. Contest registration closes on Thursday, 10 March 2016 at 11:59 PM.

3.2. Registration for the contest implies the knowledge, acceptance, and observance of the rules and the proceedings of the contest in their entirety. It will be assumed all participants are aware of the rules.

4. Contest Proceedings

The entire process will be supervised by Luc Pauwels, Esq. (info@moreelspauwels.be), auditor.

- **1st step – Application** (through 10 March 2016):

The artist or band posts its application on the platform as well as a personal or group introduction with at least one of its songs.

- **2nd step – Preselection and panel vote** (11 March 2016):

The organisation committee, with the assistance of one representative from the panel, selects 20 applicants from all applications submitted (group or artist).

Each member of the panel ranks the selected applicants in order of preference. The applicants thus earn a grade of one to twenty according to their position in the rankings:

- 1st place = 20 points
- 2nd place = 19 points
- 3rd place = 18 points
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- 19th place = 2 points
- 20th place = 1 point

The sum of panel grades provides an initial ranking of the 20 candidates. This ranking will be kept secret until public voting is complete.

Grading Example :

Group A gets

- 7th place in Panel 1's ranking = 14 points
- 9th place in Panel 2's ranking = 12 points
- 6th place in Panel 3's ranking = 15 points
- 7th place in Panel 4's ranking = 14 points
- 5th place in Panel 5's ranking = 16 points

→ Group A gets a total score of 71 points in the panel's general ranking.

• **3rd Step - Public vote** (from 14 March through 17 April 2016):

The public votes for its favourite bands or artists (1 vote/day/person/artist or group). After public voting is complete, bands and artists will be ranked by the number of votes received. The band or artist with the most public votes will be ranked first while the one with the least votes will be ranked last.

The applicants thus earn a public score ranging from one to twenty depending on their position in the rankings:

- 1st place = 20 points
- 2nd place = 19 points
- 3rd place = 18 points
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- 19th place = 2 points
- 20th place = 1 point

A provisional ranking will be sent to the applicants each week during the public voting period. However, the number of votes received by the applicants will remain secret throughout the contest.

• **4th step - weighting of scores and announcement of the winners** (21 April 2016):

The three artists or bands with the most points following the public and panel votes will appear on the Place des Palais mainstage during the Iris Festival.

The weighting of scores is as follows:

5 for the panel in total (1/panel member)

5 for the public

The score earned by the band during public voting will be added five times to the panel score to calculate the final score which will determine the three winning bands.

Grading Example :

Group A gets 4th place in the public ranking = 17 points
→ 17 points x 5 (public score) + 71 points (panel score) = 156 points

After weighting, if there is a tie for one of the three winning contest levels (1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the rankings), the panel alone will cast the deciding vote. The panel will then select the winner from among those who have the same number of points.

The applicants selected will be updated about the results by e-mail throughout the contest.

5. Prizes:

Aside from the privilege of playing on the main stage, the three winning artists or groups will receive a cash prize according to their final score:

- 1st place in the rankings = **1500 euro** cash prize + **3rd place** in the line-up
- 2nd place in the rankings = **1000 euro** cash prize + **2nd place** in the line-up
- 3rd place in the rankings = **500 euro** cash prize + **1st place** in the line-up

6. Panel

The panel will be comprised of five music industry professionals (media, concert organisers, agents, label executives, record companies, etc.). The decisions of this panel are final.

7. Concerts

7.1. The concert will be held on 8 May 2016 on Place des Palais as part of the Iris Festival.

7.2. The winning bands or artists will be informed by email of their performance time no later than five days prior to the concert date.

7.3. The three artists or bands will have a maximum of 30 minutes to set up (including set-up, tear-down, and line-check) and 45 minutes of performance time.

8. Technical (technical specifications upon request)

8.1. A sound system and lighting will be made available to the artists and groups by the organiser.

8.2. A sound engineer, designated by the organiser, will be on hand.

8.3. Groups and artists may be accompanied in their performance by a technical assistant of their choice. In any event, the stage manager designated by the organiser retains solely in charge. His technical decisions are final.

8.4. Any additional equipment is the artists' responsibility.

8.5. The organiser disclaims any liability for equipment belonging to the participants.

8.6. The organiser, solely responsible for general organisation and stage management, will designate a technical manager who will supervise proper set-up/tear-down and ensure adherence to the schedule. His or her decisions apply to everyone and must be respected.

9. Financial Conditions and Reception

9.1. Except for the cash prize awarded, the artists, technicians, and possible accompaniests will not be compensated by the organiser.

9.2. The artists or groups may, however, hire personnel (sound engineer, etc.) at their own expense.

9.3. Any expense related to contest participation (transportation, etc.) must be covered by the artists.

9.4. The artists will have the use of a green room provided by the organiser.

9.5. The organiser provides one meal per person on the day of the performance. Catering for the artists is handled on site behind the Main Stage.

10. Organiser's Responsibilities

10.1. The Organiser reserves the right to change the organisation of, suspend, or end the Contest at any time and without notice due to a force majeure or any other extraordinary event outside of its control, especially in the case of an Internet disruption or any other problem related to telecommunication networks, computers, ISPs, and servers without the participants or any other individuals being able to claim damages.

10.2 Except in the case of gross or intentional misconduct, the Organiser, its personnel, and third parties on which it relies in the context of the contest cannot be held liable for possible damages of any kind that may occur when participating in the Contest or that may result from the organisation of this Contest and the determination of winners. Nor may they be held liable for the changes, suspensions, and cancellations mentioned under the preceding point.

10.3 In no case may the Organiser be held liable for faulty data supplied by participants which results in an incorrect or missing email address, street address, or telephone number for the participants.

11. Compliance with the Rules

The act of participating in the Contest implies full and complete compliance with these rules.

12. Applicable law and relevant jurisdiction

These rules and their interpretation are governed by Belgian law. In case of litigation, only the courts of Brussels will have jurisdiction.

13. Miscellaneous

13.1 If one of the provisions of these Rules is deemed null and void, the other terms and conditions of the Contest Rules remain valid.

13.2. visit.brussels reserves the right to deny participation to a participant who does not respect these rules or disrupts the proceedings of the contest.

13.3. visit.brussels reserves the right to exclude any participant who appears to be cheating or committing fraud. Fraud includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- the use of online community contest sites (such as "foudeconcours.com" or associated sites)
- the use of the same IP address for a suspicious number of votes for the same group or artist.

13.4. Any disputes arising from this contest will be resolved under the sole authority of the auditor in charge.