



# THE HAWAII ACADEMY OF RECORDING ARTS

## Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards Nomination Guidelines

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 and primarily for distribution in Hawai'i are eligible for inclusion on the preliminary voting ballot. Digital download-only releases available exclusively through established online retailers such as iTunes, Rhapsody, [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), and CD Baby are also eligible for inclusion on the preliminary and final ballot provided that they are available for sale on at least one of these retailers by December 31, 2011.

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, or is distributed by a Hawai'i based distributor for general distribution within the State of Hawai'i. Non-resident entries are also allowed in specific, Hawai'i-originating genres. Artists and producers who reside outside of the United States are only eligible for the International Award. Digital download-only releases by non-residents (in the Hawaiian Album of the Year, Island Music Album of the Year, and Slack Key Album of the Year) which are available exclusively through established online retailers are eligible for inclusion on the preliminary ballot provided that a Hawai'i-based company arranged for digital distribution of the release, or it is available on an established Hawai'i-based retail service.

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.

### **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 two (2) months prior awards ceremonies are eligible to vote in the Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards balloting.

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.

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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.

Favorite Entertainer of the Year is voted on by the public. The voting process is determined by the Board. Nominees must have released an album in the eligibility year, be residents, and living as of the nomination deadline. Artists on compilations and anthologies are not eligible.

The deadline for the receipt of the nomination form by the HARA office is January 31, 2010. 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.

### **General Categories:**

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

#### **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.

#### **Song of the Year**

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

#### **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.

#### **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 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.

#### **Group of the Year**

Best performance by a vocal duo or group of newly recorded material containing vocals. Groups which credit a single, featured vocalist (i.e., "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 named members.

#### **Male Vocalist of the Year**

Best performance by a male artist of newly recorded material containing vocals. Groups which 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 named members.

#### **Female Vocalist of the Year**

Best performance by a female artist of newly recorded material containing vocals. Groups which 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 named members.

#### **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.

#### **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 Best Male Vocalist, Female Vocalist, Group of the Year, Favorite Entertainer of the Year, or Most Promising Artist. New compositions on the release are eligible for the Song of the Year and/or Haku Mele Categories.

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### **EP (Extended Play 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. Anthologies are not eligible in this category. 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. Artists submitting entries are eligible for the Best Male Vocalist, Female Vocalist, Group of the Year, and Favorite Entertainer of the Year. 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.

### **Genre Categories:**

Albums by non-resident artist(s) are eligible in the Hawaiian, Island Music Album and Slack Key categories only.

### **Christmas Album of the Year**

Best performance in a Christmas theme. At least 75% of the album must contain Christmas material.

### **Comedy Album or DVD of the Year**

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

### **Contemporary Album of the Year**

Best performance in a contemporary style.

### **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.

### **Hawaiian Music Album of the Year**

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

### **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.

Musical performance may include educational or scenic features provided the emphasis is on performance and not solely on instruction or scenery.

(Nominees in this category are eligible in the Male Vocalist, Female Vocalist, Group, Most Promising, Anthology, Compilation of the Year categories; Engineer, Graphics, and Liner Notes Awards provided the artist, producer, engineer, graphic artist, or liner annotator is a Hawai'i resident.)

### **R&B Album of the Year**

Best performance of music in a 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 as well as determine the appropriateness of entries into this category.)

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**Note:**

- Compilations of any genre (Comedy, Jazz, etc.) are not eligible in that particular genre category. Compilations of any genre of music will be considered in the General Category – Compilation 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. 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 may qualify in this category provided that five (5) CD copies of the release are submitted to the category committee for consideration.

**International Album of the Year**

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, non-resident producers may be considered for the award if 75% of the album is recorded in Hawai'i, if 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 Tuesday January 31, 2012**

All Nomination forms and deposit material (three (3)) copies must be received by the HARA office by the deadline.