

Fall 2026 RJ Original Song Production Sponsorships – Official Rules

Key Dates

- Submissions Open: September 23, 2026 (Announced at The Listening Room: Songs & Stories concert at Triumph Brewery)
- Submission Deadline: October 31, 2026 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time
- Recipients Announced: December (exact date TBD)

Sponsorships Offered

- Total Number of Sponsorships Available: 1

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must satisfy all of the following conditions:

- a. Be sixteen (16) years old or older as of November 12, 2026.
- b. Be a legal resident of Monmouth County, New Jersey.
- c. Not be employed by RiverJAM Music, nor have any immediate family member employed by RiverJAM Music.
- d. Not be under contract with any recording or publishing label.
- e. Consent to the use of their name, likeness, photographs, and any materials developed through the sponsorship program for promotional and marketing purposes by RiverJAM Music.
- f. Commit to participating in all required writing and recording sessions necessary to complete the sponsored song within three (3) months of award, typically involving two to three (2–3) hours per week for four to six (4–6) weeks.

Application Requirements

All applications must be received no later than October 31, 2026 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time. Each application must include the following materials:

- a. A completed application form, submitted either online or via email.
- b. A minimum of three (3) examples of original work, which may include written lyrics, poems, personal recordings, or audio/video performances. These materials must be submitted via email or as accessible links. Ownership of all submitted materials remains with the applicant. RiverJAM Music will use these materials solely for evaluation purposes.
- c. A written essay of no more than five hundred (500) words explaining the applicant's motivation for applying, musical influences, preferred genres, and future aspirations in music.
Optional materials may include:
- d. Links to social media accounts featuring relevant musical content.
- e. A letter of recommendation from a parent, teacher, mentor, or other individual familiar with the applicant's musical background, community involvement, and character.

Submission Methods

Applicants may submit their application using one of the following methods:

- a. Online: Complete the application form and upload all required documents through the designated online portal.
- b. Email: Send the completed application form and all supporting materials to Sponsorships@riverjammusic.com with the subject line: "RiverJAM Music Original Song Production Sponsorship".

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated by RiverJAM Music mentors and leadership based on the following criteria:

- a. Artistic quality and originality of submitted work.
- b. Demonstrated ability to collaborate effectively.
- c. Passion for music and songwriting.
- d. Work ethic and overall commitment to the creative process.

Evaluation Process

- a. Submission Period: September 23 – October 31, 2026.
- b. Initial Review: RiverJAM Music judges will review all submissions and select finalists by November 15, 2026.
- c. Finalist Interviews: Conducted via telephone or in-person between November 15 and December 1, 2026.
- d. Announcement of Recipients: November 12, 2026 at The Listening Room concert.

Legal Disclaimers

- a. Void Where Prohibited: This sponsorship opportunity is void where prohibited by law.
- b. No Purchase Necessary: No purchase or payment is required to enter or be selected.
- c. Right to Modify or Cancel: RiverJAM Music reserves the right to modify, suspend, or cancel the sponsorship program at any time for any reason, including but not limited to fraud, technical issues, or other unforeseen circumstances.

- d. Finality of Decisions: All decisions made by RiverJAM Music regarding eligibility, evaluation, and selection are final and binding.
- e. Use of Submissions: Submitted materials will be used exclusively for judging purposes. RiverJAM Music will not reproduce or distribute submissions without the express consent of the applicant.
- f. Privacy: Personal information collected during the application process will be used solely for the administration of this sponsorship program and will not be shared with third parties.

Liability Waivers

By submitting an application, participants agree to release and hold harmless RiverJAM Music, its affiliates, officers, employees, and agents from any and all liability, claims, or damages arising out of participation in the sponsorship program or acceptance and use of any sponsorship award.

Force Majeure Clause

RiverJAM Music shall not be held liable for any delay or failure in performance of the sponsorship program due to events beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, natural disasters, pandemics, labor disputes, or governmental actions. In such cases, RiverJAM Music reserves the right to modify or cancel the program without prior notice.

Rights and Responsibilities

Applicants retain full ownership of submitted materials. RiverJAM Music will use submissions solely for judging purposes. Selected recipients agree to participate in promotional activities and grant RiverJAM Music the right to use their name, likeness, and project materials for marketing and visibility efforts related to the sponsorship program.

Disqualification Terms

RiverJAM Music reserves the right to disqualify any applicant who provides false information, fails to meet eligibility criteria, or engages in conduct that undermines the integrity of the sponsorship program. Disqualification decisions are final and not subject to appeal.