

Frequently Asked Questions

for Youth Services' Battle of the Bands Nov. 3 at River Garden, Brattleboro, VT

How many bands will compete? What happens if there are too many bands interested in participating? Typically we have up to 6 bands competing. If we have too many bands interested, we will use YouTube audition materials to select the best bands to compete. Each band should be prepared to play for approx. ½ hr. showcasing the range of their musical abilities. **Registration deadline Oct 13. Will be notified Oct 20.**

Is it a problem if some of the band members are older than 20? As long as at least one band member is within the 20-years-and-under age limit you are eligible to compete. The judges will take into consideration the ages of all the band members.

What is the time commitment?

All bands must arrive to check their equipment at 6 p.m. at the latest with the doors opening at 7 p.m. with the first competitor playing following the opening by Nomad vs Settlers, our past winner of the Battle. A line-up will be established beforehand so bands will have a rough idea when they need to be present, if they will not be there the entire time. The published end time is 10 p.m. but bands should plan on staying around until 11, particularly if they're likely to win first or second place.

What are the judging criteria?

Groups are being judged on crowd appeal (so encourage the audience to clap loudly when they hear music they like), musical technicality, and stage performance/originality.

What are the prizes for the top bands?

First prize is up to 10 hours of professional recording time donated by Guilford Sound, valued at \$1500. Guilford Sound is a one-studio, luxury recording facility in Guilford, VT run by sound engineer Dave Snyder. We are working on second and third prizes. Last time second prize was two sessions (1 ½ hr. each) of performance coaching by Headroom Stages, a local musical venue at 17 Elliot Street in Brattleboro, VT.

What do I need to bring? Bring your instruments. We are hoping to supply the following amplification equipment: guitar amp and cab, bass amp and cab, PA system with speakers and microphones, backline, drum kit (bring cymbals).

What is the loading/unloading and parking situation? This event coincides with Gallery Walk Night in Brattleboro, so Main St. is very congested and on-street parking is limited after 5 p.m.. There is a loading area in front of the Candle in the Night shop and we will plan to hood a parking meter just before the River Garden as well for loading. But then there is where to stash your vehicle! (Many meters run until 9 p.m. on Friday nights.)

The nearest lot is called the High Grove lot (directly up High St. from the River Garden) and if you're lucky enough to find parking it is as cheap as 50 min. for \$.25. Behind the Gibson Aikens Center (Recreation Dept./Senior Center) building at 207 Main St. there is public parking in a Harris lot and Youth Services parking lot at 32 Walnut St. is a fallback option.

Once you get a couple of streets away from Main St. you may find non-metered street parking in residential neighborhoods. Plan on dropping equipment and band members and someone hunt down parking. By the end of the evening, there should be much less of a problem loading up equipment and finding street parking near the River Garden venue.

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

Overall Coordinator is Nanci Leitch at Youth Services can be reached daytime at (802) 257-0361 x147 or at nanci.leitch@youthservicesinc.org Gemma Seymour is the Band Coordinator (jgcvs@gmail.com). She's will need a plot of how you intent to set up stage, what PA support is required, where vocal mics need to be placed.