

Guidelines for Bedford County Song Contest Submissions

The following items are proposed as guidelines to all musicians interested in writing a song for Bedford County on the occasion of its 250th Anniversary.

1. The song's lyrics must honor, praise or otherwise celebrate Bedford County or certain particular aspects of her history.

Bedford County came into existence with the Forbes Expedition to take Fort Duquesne from the French. Fort Bedford was constructed as a fortified supply depot on the 'communication' between Carlisle and the Forks of the Ohio. Fort Bedford functioned as a supplies and troop staging site for the Forbes Expedition and later during Pontiac's Rebellion. Bedford was visited in 1794 by President George Washington, the only sitting President to command the Federal Army in the field, during the Whiskey Rebellion. Three of the county's mineral springs were opened to the public as spa resorts with two of them (Chalybeate and Bedford Springs) hosting sitting U. S. Presidents. The first transatlantic telegraph message was received from Britain's Queen Victoria by President James Buchanan in 1858. In 1940 the Pennsylvania Turnpike opened, traversing Bedford County. Bedford County industries throughout her history have included both dairy and agricultural farming, coal mining, railroads, ironmaking and transportation.

2. The Bedford County Sestercentennial celebration is being managed by the Bedford County Historical Society, whose goal, rather than to perpetuate myths, is to educate the residents of Bedford County on the authentic history of the county (some of which has been reevaluated per recent discoveries). A song's lyrics should reflect documented historical facts. If, for the sake of creativity, you wish to recount one of the legendary tales, it should somehow be clearly noted as a legend (and possibly not factual) in the lyrics. [Note: Information reflecting recent findings can be found on the 'Gallery' and 'Facts' pages of the Sestercentennial website at the url: bedford250.com .]
3. The song must consist of original lyrics.
4. The song must consist primarily of original music. [Note: It is acknowledged that a certain amount of music might, purely by chance, be derivative of other works.]
5. The song should be easy to sing and easy to play. Since it is essentially 'for' the people of Bedford County in celebration of their history and heritage, the song should not be difficult for anyone, the young and the elderly included, to sing. It should be composed in an easy to play key without too many sharp or flat notes.
6. The song should be presented in two formats: (1.) written on paper (*i.e.* as sheet music), and (2.) performed (*i.e.* as an audio recording or video). [Note: The song writer is not required to be the performer.]

[Please be aware that if you deviate from any particular element in these guidelines, rather than being entirely eliminated, you might be asked to reconsider that single element.]

For additional information or questions, please send an email to contact@bedford250.com .

Bedford County Song Contest Entry Form

[Please print]

Name

Email

Phone

Mailing Address

Title of Song

Length of Song

I understand that by signing this Entry Form, I ~

1. give permission to the Bedford County Sestercentennial Celebration Committee to have my submitted recording of my song played at any and all Sestercentennial events;
2. give permission to the Bedford County Sestercentennial Celebration Committee to have my song performed by a single performer or a choral group at any and all Sestercentennial events;
3. to publish my song on the official Sestercentennial website: <https://bedford250.com> .

Signature

Date