

Bicentennial Album | Panel picks 29 finalists

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By [Kevin Joy](#)

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With 123 submissions, the pool of songs written to help Columbus mark its bicentennial was narrowed yesterday to 29 finalists.

The first round of the "Celebrate Columbus in Song" contest, which asked people of all ages and genres to compose tunes capturing the spirit of central Ohio, was judged by a panel of arts and media professionals.

The public has its turn: The selections are found at song.200columbus.com/vote, with the voting open through March 23.

The highest-ranked 10 to 12 tunes will be featured on an album, also set to include a bicentennial anthem written by Milton Ruffin, principal at Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center.

Each winner will receive \$500.

The album is expected to be available in May.

The finalists: Elijah Aaron, Audie Estree, the Castros, Ceasar, Columbus Priority Mall, Don Drapery, Earwig, Joe Giddings, Andrew Graham & Swarming Branch, Tim Hartshorn, Joey Hebdoo, Hal/Keller, Arnett Howard, I Am Mute, Enrique Infante, Ravanne Kurland, EJay Marquis, Mike and the Black Ties, Miller-Kelton, Donna Magavern, Mojito, Angela Perley & the Howlin' Moons, Willie Phoenix, Teen Fiction, Truck-Stop Poets, Benjamin Trus, Watershed, Molly Winters and Jesse Henry, and Mike Weinsick.



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