

2026 Music Society of Strathcona Guitar Give Away

Letter Writing Contest Rules

1. Eligibility:

- The contest is open to individuals aged 18 and under.
- Participants must provide proof of age upon request.
- MSSC Board Members and immediate family members are not eligible

2. Submission Guidelines:

- Each participant may submit only one letter.
- Letters must be original and written in English.
- The letter should be no longer than 500 words.
- Submissions must be sent via email to ravenwoodexperience@gmail.com with the subject line: "MSSC Guitar Give Away - Letter Writing Contest."

3. Theme:

- Participants are encouraged to share personal stories, experiences, or reflections on how music has influenced or inspired them, and why they need a new guitar.

4. Formatting:

- Letters should be typed in a legible font (e.g., Times New Roman, Arial) with 12-point font size.
- Include the participant's full name, age, and contact information (email address and phone number) in the body of the email.

5. Judging Criteria:

- Creativity and Originality: How unique and imaginative is the participant's interpretation of the theme
- Emotional Impact: Does the letter evoke strong emotions or resonance with the reader?
- Clarity and Coherence: Is the message effectively communicated with clear and organized writing?
- Relevance to Theme: How well does the letter address the theme of the contest?

6. Prize:

- The winner will receive a brand-new custom built for the RavenWood Music Festival electric guitar.
- The prize is non-transferable and cannot be exchanged for cash or other items.

7. Deadline:

- All submissions must be received by June 19th, 2026, at 11:59 PM [MST].
- Late submissions will not be considered.

8. Notification:

- Finalists will be notified via email and/or phone within two weeks after the contest deadline.
- If the winner cannot be contacted or does not respond within 14 days of notification, the prize may be forfeited, and an alternate winner may be selected.

- Finalists and their families will be invited to the Saturday, July 11th, 2026, of the RavenWood Music Festival. The winner will be brought up on stage just prior to the Headline Act performing. At that time the winner will be announced and presented the guitar.

9. Publication and Usage Rights:

- By submitting a letter, participants grant permission for their work to be published on the contest organizer's website and social media platforms.
- The contest organizers reserve the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar, and length before publication.

10. Legalities:

- Participation in the contest constitutes acceptance of these rules and any decisions made by the contest organizers, which are final and binding.
- The contest organizers reserve the right to disqualify any participant who violates the rules or engages in misconduct.

11. Privacy Policy:

- Personal information collected from participants will only be used for the purpose of administering the contest and will not be shared with third parties without consent.
- By submitting a letter to the contest, participants acknowledge that they have read and agree to abide by these rules.