



Sasinae

SONG CONTEST

Suoni dal Mediterraneo



ALTO RICONOSCIMENTO
Virtù e Conoscenza

Registration by may 9, 2026



MEI INDIPENDENTI DAL 1995 **DAMS** DISCIPLINE DELLE ARTI DELLA MUSICA E DELLO SPETTACOLO



CONSERVATORIO DI MUSICA
"TITO SCHIPA" LECCE



www.virtueconoscenza.com
www.instagram.com/sasinaefestival/



CON IL PATROCINIO





Culture is made of many different contributions that seek and meet each other; and music, a universal aggregating language, fosters cultural growth, stimulates reflection and emotions, friendship and solidarity, respect and mutual knowledge. The SASINAE SONG CONTEST is paired with the High Recognition VIRTÙ E CONOSCENZA (VIRTUE AND KNOWLEDGE), a cultural event aimed at promoting peace, environmental protection, equal opportunities, and respect for human rights, valuing diversity, encouraging intercultural integration, facilitating interreligious dialogue and the exchange of knowledge, and giving resonance to the reference territory with its human resources and its immeasurable landscape, historical, artistic, and cultural heritage.

(Cosimo Damiano ARNESANO – Presidente MediterraneaMente APS)

RULES OF PARTICIPATION



Art. 1 – ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE

MediterraneaMente APS in order to promote the exchange and sharing of different musical cultures within the national territory, particularly in Salento, organize the **3rd edition of the SASINAE SONG CONTEST – Sounds from the Mediterranean.**

Art. 2 – PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

The Contest is open to individual artists born before 2011 or formed in a group (at least half of the members must be born before the year 2011), both Italian and foreign, who propose the performance of a song written by others (PERFORMERS/INTERPRETERS) or the performance of their own song (SINGER-SONGWRITERS). In the case of co-authors, they must be exclusive composers of the musical part, or exclusive authors of the literary text, or co-authors of both cited parts.

Art. 3 – SONG CHARACTERISTICS AND EXCLUSIONS

Participants may enter with a published or unpublished song of any musical genre, sung in any language, provided that—under penalty of exclusion from the Contest—it does not contain forms of "hate speech," meaning expressions that promote, foment, or encourage discrimination, violence, or hatred towards persons based on race, skin color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, language, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or any other personal characteristic or status.

Art. 4 – REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Registration must take place via the specific Form, duly completed and signed at the bottom. For minors, the signature of at least one parent and a copy of their ID document is mandatory at the time of registration. For musical groups, the signature of all members is required. The application form and a copy of the Regulations can be downloaded from the website www.virtueconoscenza.com in the SASINAE SONG CONTEST section (<https://virtueconoscenza.com/sasinae-song-contest/>), or they can be requested from the organizing secretariat via e-mail: sasinae.festival@gmail.com. For information by phone or WhatsApp messages, contact: 349.1045425 – 328.7679725 (Italian Language) – +39 340.3758876 (English Language).

ART. 5 – SUBMISSION DEADLINES, MATERIALS, AND FEES

Registration for the Contest must be requested to the Organizer (MediterraneaMente APS – Via Marzano n. 118 – 73010 – Porto Cesareo) by **may 9, 2026** through the Form available on the website www.virtueconoscenza.com in the SASINAE SONG CONTEST section. The application must be sent via WETRANSFER (<https://wetransfer.com/>) to the email: sasinae.festival@gmail.com, attaching in a single folder, named with the artist's name, the following:

- Photo of the artist or band;
- Brief artistic CV (max 3,000 characters);
- Copy of the lyrics, written in Italian or in the original language with an Italian translation;
- Video file in MP4 format or audio file in MP3 format containing the song to be sung, which must not exceed four minutes in length, performed even with the accompaniment of a single instrument;
- Copy of the receipt for the bank transfer of € 50.00 for soloists, € 90.00 for duos and trios, € 120.00 for groups with more than three members, to be paid to the account in the name of MediterraneaMente

APS, held at Banca di Credito Cooperativo di Leverano, with the following IBAN code: IT42U0860380180000000317317 – BIC/SWIFT: ICRAITRRGR0. Reason for payment: Sasinae Song Contest expense contribution.

Registration forms not accompanied by the aforementioned documentation will not be considered. All documentation and technical material sent for admission to the audition will not be returned.

Art. 6 – SELECTION AND AUDITIONS

The songs received within the indicated terms will be listened to by a Selection Jury composed of experts, who, at their sole and unquestionable judgment, will choose a maximum of 30 (*thirty*) artists considered suitable for the IN-PERSON AUDITIONS. If they deem it appropriate, they may send the organizer a video clip in MP4 format, which will be published on the Virtù e Conoscenza Facebook page set up for online voting aimed at assigning the "Best Music Video Award". During the AUDITIONS, which will be held on **Saturday, May 30, and Sunday, May 31, 2026**, at the Teatro F.lli Lumière in Carmiano (LE), the artists will perform live using musical instruments and/or backing tracks. Lip-syncing (playback) is not allowed; specifically, backing tracks may contain backing vocals but not the lead vocal.

Art. 7 – JURY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Quality Jury, chaired by Rory DI BENEDETTO (Multi-platinum author, producer, manager, and Talent Scout for Majors such as Warner, Sony, Universal, Sugar, ...) and composed of Lele SPEDICATO (Guitarist and co-founder of NEGRAMARO), the Vocal Coach and Talent Scout Alessandra ALEMANNI, as well as students from DAMS Unisalento and professionals in the fields of music, entertainment, and radio, will proclaim the winner of the Performers category and the winner of the Singer-Songwriters category, taking into account the following evaluation parameters:

- stage presence;
- interpretation;
- instrumental technique;
- arrangement;
- originality of the song;
- lyrics;
- radio impact.

The absence of a contestant on the established day and time will result in their exclusion from the Competition. MediterraneaMente APS will provide a suitable venue and the necessary standard technical equipment for the auditions, which will be communicated in advance to the selected contestants.

Art. 8 – PRIZES AND AWARDS

The winners will be awarded the following prizes:

First place in the Singer-Songwriter category:

- "Sasinae Song Contest" Trophy;
- Live interview on a Gold TV Italia program (Rome) and across the event's partner radio stations."
- Invitation to participate in the MEI Festival in Faenza – RA (www.meiweb.it) and other important Italian and/or foreign Musical Events.

First place in the Performers/Interpreters category:

- "Sasinae Song Contest" Trophy;
- Live interview on a Gold TV Italia program (Rome) and across the event's partner radio stations."
- Invitation to participate in important Italian and/or foreign Musical Events.

In addition, the following **Special Awards** will be assigned:

- Plaque "Poetry Prize - Best Lyrics";
- Plaque "Best Arrangement Prize";
- Plaque "Best Interpretation Prize".

All Prizes will be awarded in December during the 10th edition of the "VIRTÙ E CONOSCENZA" High Recognition Award Ceremony. On this occasion, the winning artists of the Performers and Singer-Songwriters categories, including the winners of the Special Prizes, will perform live accompanied by the Euphonic Orchestra directed by Maestro Joele MICELLI. Upon request, a certificate of participation will be given to all contestants.

Art. 9 – VALIDITY OF JUDGMENT

The judgment of the Jury is final and unquestionable in all phases of the contest. Jurors who have family relationships or affinity with one or more contestants must declare it and abstain from participation.

Art. 10 – LIABILITY, PRIVACY, AND RELEASES

All participants, upon signing the application form:

- guarantee the Organizer that their performance does not violate third-party rights and release the Organizer from any moral, civil, and financial liability for any damage to persons or property that may derive from their participation in the event;
- authorize the Organizer, pursuant to Legislative Decree 196 of 30/06/2003 and GDPR No. 2016/679, to include their data in its lists for sending its information material and possibly to disseminate their data for initiatives of the same kind undertaken by third parties;
- declare that they claim nothing for travel, board, and lodging expenses, without prejudice to the possibility for the Organizer to make an agreement with local hotels for those interested;
- cede to the Organizer all rights relating to artistic performances and the use of their image;
- authorize the Organizer to carry out all operations necessary for the dissemination of the event and declare that they claim nothing from the Organizer itself and from broadcasters for television and radio filming and for all necessary advertising operations;
- declare that they have read and fully accept all articles included in these regulations.

Art. 11 – ORGANIZATION'S RIGHTS

The Organizer reserves:

- the right to cancel the Competition, should causes beyond its control prevent it from taking place;
- the right to make any changes to these regulations, where technical and organizational needs require it.

Lele SPEDICATO

(Guitarist and co-founder of NEGRAMARO)

Direttore ARTISTICO *(Artistic Director)*



Rory DI BENEDETTO

(Autore multiplatino, produttore, manager e Talent Scout di Case Discografiche Major: Warner, Sony, Universal, Sugar, ...)

Presidente di Giuria *(Jury President)*



Joele MICELLI

(Violinista e Compositore: vanta collaborazioni con Marco Mengoni, Marco Ferradini, ...)

Direttore Musicale *(Musical Director)*



Alessandra ALEMANNO

(Vocal Coach – Talent Scout)

Vice Presidente

(Vice President of the Jury)





SELECTION APPLICATION FORM

Il/La sottoscritt.. (The undersigned)

nat... a (born in) il (on)

Residente a (Residing in) Prov.:

Via (Street) n.

Tel. e-mail:

Rappresentante del gruppo musicale (Representative of the musical group)

a) **CHIEDE (ASKS):** di partecipare alle selezioni del "SASINAE SONG CONTEST" col seguente brano (to participate in the selection for the "SASINAE SONG CONTEST" with the following song):

.....

In qualità di: Interprete (Performer) Cantautore (Singer-songwriter)

b) **DICHIARA sotto la propria responsabilità (DECLARES under their own responsibility):**

Che autore/autrice del testo letterario della canzone è il/la sig... (That the author of the lyrics is Mr./Ms...):

.....

Che compositore/compositrice della musica della canzone è il/la sig... (That the composer of the music is

Mr./Ms...):

Che il brano è cantato da (That the song is sung by):

.....

Di allegare alla presente domanda il file del brano in concorso in formato MP3/MP4 e tutti i documenti richiesti dall'art. 5 del Regolamento (To attach to this application the file of the competing song in MP3/MP4 format and all documents required by Art. 5 of the Regulations);

Di aver preso visione del Regolamento e di accettarlo in ogni sua parte (To have read the Regulations and accept them in their entirety).

Data (Date)

Firma (Signature)

.....

Per i gruppi, firma di tutti i componenti
(For groups, signature of all members)

.....

Per i minori, firma di un genitore
(For minor, signature of a parent)

.....





INFOLINE



The application form and a copy of these regulations can be downloaded from the website www.virtueconoscenza.com. Alternatively, they may be requested from the organizing secretariat via email at: sasinae.festival@gmail.com.

For information via phone or WhatsApp, please contact:
+39 349 1045425 or +39 328 7679725 (Italian speaking)
+39 340 3758876 (English speaking)

