

FanimeCon 2011 Karaoke Contest Rules

The FanimeCon 2011 Karaoke Contest will take place on Friday, May 27. Up to 40 will vie for the right to be crowned the best singing act of FanimeCon! This year's winner will receive a beautiful microphone trophy and is invited to perform two songs at the start of the FanimeCon Masquerade on Sunday evening.

Overview

Check-in and warmups for the contest will be Friday afternoon from 2PM to 5:30PM.

The Preliminary round will start at 6PM, and the top 10 will perform in the finals which are at 9:30PM. Contestants do not need to be present for the entire Preliminary round.

At con signups, check in, and the contest itself will be in the Karaoke room (Hall C in the San Jose Convention Center).

Eligibility

You must have a valid FanimeCon badge for Friday.

FanimeCon Karaoke staff, Guests of Honor, and Industry members with professional singing or voice acting experience are ineligible to compete in the contest.

You may compete as an individual or group. If you compete as a group, all singing members of the group must sing during both songs, either as lead or as backup vocals. You may not add or change singing group members between rounds.

Signing Up/Checking In

Online contest signups will start on Sunday, 5/1. Stay tuned to the [FanimeCon Live Programming forum](#) for exact time/details.

Online sign-ups close on 5/15 or when we receive 40 valid entries. Any remaining spots will be reserved for at-con sign-ups. Any at-con sign-ups in excess of 40 will be placed on a waiting list. Waiting list entrants must be present in the Karaoke room at 5:30 to find out if they are in the contest.

Contestants who pre-register for the convention must check in no later than 5:30PM. To check-in for the contest, you will need your FanimeCon badge and your contest music (either on a CD,

or the song numbers from our song library). Check-in starts when the Karaoke room opens on Friday.

If you don't check in, then at 5:30 your spot will be cancelled and given to the entries on the waiting list.

Selecting Songs

Songs must be from the following categories: anime, vocaloid, video game, or J-rock/J-pop.

Songs limits: 2:30 (preliminary), 5:00 (finals). Songs longer than these limits will be faded out when the limit is reached.

You may not use the same song in both rounds of the contest.

English songs which were not originally created for an anime series or video game, or straight covers of such songs (for example, *Fly Me To The Moon*) are not allowed. Japanese adaptations of such a song are okay.

Original songs created for a localized version of an anime series or game are okay (For example, songs from Robotech or the North American Sailor Moon).

No *a cappella* singing. *a cappella* singers are invited to join our Acoustikaraoke! Contest on Sunday afternoon.

Acoustic-only instruments (those not using an amp) are allowed if played by the actual singer(s). Performers part of a larger group or who desire a more complex musical setup are invited to join our Acoustikaraoke! Contest on Sunday afternoon.

You should generally follow the song's original lyrics-this is not a "filk" contest.

If contestants bring their own music, they must provide their own music, preferably karaoke version, on an audio CD. No phones or mp3 players please. Unclaimed CDs will be disposed of at our discretion after the convention.

Contestants may also choose songs from [our open mic library](#). Just tell us the song ID number at signup/check-in. We are not responsible if the song sounds different from your expectations, or does not have lyrics. If you are unsure, you should try it out during the warmup period before the contest.

All contestants who do not use karaoke versions of their songs will perform with vocal dampening turned on. We want to hear you, not the original singer.

Note: Vocal dampening has been known to have unexpected effects with some songs, so if you plan to use vocal dampening, we strongly suggest that you test out your song at home before you sign up.

No song changes are allowed once the contest starts.

Scoring and Judging

Each contestant will be scored by each judge in the following categories:

- Vocal: musical quality of performance, breath control, pitch and tone (60%)
- Visual Performance: stage presence; overall entertainment value; style and poise (30%)
- Song selection/difficulty (10%)

The top 10 scores advance to the Finals.

In the Finals, the winners will be determined by the sum of their preliminary round score and their final round score.

In case of a tie in the preliminary round, the tied acts will advance to the final round. In the event of a tie in the finals, the final round score is the tiebreaker. If the final round scores are the same between the tied contestants, then a vote of the judges will determine final placement.

All decisions made by the judges are final.

Conduct

As a convention for anime fans of all ages, FanimeCon has certain standards of behavior which all convention attendees should abide by at all times. Karaoke is no exception.

All aspects of the act, including, but not limited to: costume, conduct on stage, and song lyrics, are to abide by no worse than a PG-13 standard. If you are in doubt as to whether something is suitable, just ask yourself: *Would you do this in front of your mother?* If you're still in doubt, please email or post and tell us what you have in mind, and we'll make a decision.

If any violations of this policy occur, FanimeCon Karaoke staff reserves the right to disqualify offenders from the contest and/or terminate the act in mid-song. In extreme cases, offenders may also be subject to convention penalties including loss of badge and removal from the convention.

During the contest, no physical interaction with the judges or the MC is allowed. Contestants may not leave the stage.

Contestants may not use an audience member in their act. Actions that encourage general audience participation as a whole (such as asking the crowd to sing along) are okay.

The only persons allowed in the performing stage are FanimeCon staff and contestants.