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AMATEUR, PROFESSIONAL SONGWRITERS MAY ENTER WORKS IN COMPETITION

MISSOULA --

Amateur and professional songwriters may submit their music for judging by professionals in the music industry in a contest sponsored by the American Song Festival (ASF), the largest international song-writing competition in the world, according to Michael G. Hoonan, Aberdeen, Wash., a University of Montana student who is ASF promoter on the Missoula campus.

The National Entertainment Conference (NEC), a national service organization of student and professional-activities programmers, is working with the ASF to promote the festival in college and university communities, Hoonan said.

Songs may be entered in six musical categories--rock; country; folk; easy listening-middle of the road; soul or rhythm and blues, and gospel or religious. Cash totaling \$129,776 plus merchandise will be awarded.

Those entering the competition will do so by submitting music on cassette tapes to the ASF. Any number of songs may be entered in the competition. Judging will be done separately on both the amateur and professional levels.

Hoonan said applications may be obtained at several UM locations--the Department of Music; Department of Drama; University Center Information Desk, and the Program Council office, room 104 of the UC. All entries must be postmarked by June 3.

The office of Gary Bogue, director of UC Programming Services at UM, is handling publicity for the ASF competition.