



**41<sup>st</sup> Annual  
GOSPEL RADIO &  
GOSPEL ANNOUNCERS  
STELLAR AWARDS  
RULES & REGULATIONS**



**PLEASE REVIEW ALL RULES, REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES BEFORE ENTERING.**

[www.stellarawards.com](http://www.stellarawards.com)

## **GOSPEL RADIO STATIONS OF THE YEAR**

### **☐ Eligibility Period: MARCH 1, 2025 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

- Gospel Radio Stations/Shows must have been on the air (terrestrial) or streaming (online) daily during the **ENTIRE** eligibility period.

### **☐ Submission Period: March 2, 2026 – March 13, 2026**

- Eligible terrestrial and online Gospel radio stations/shows must be submitted by completing the online entry form at [www.stellarawards.com](http://www.stellarawards.com). These online entries must contain accurate information in each field and **MUST** have been on the air (terrestrial) or streaming (online) daily during the entire eligibility period of March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026
- Each online entrant **MUST** upload statements of proof acknowledging 1. Community Service, 2. Station/Show Achievements and 3. A **“direct”** Link to your Gospel Radio/Internet/Show Broadcast. Additionally, you must be a member (in good standing) or join the Stellar Awards Gospel Music Academy at the time of submission. (application available online at [www.stellarawards.com](http://www.stellarawards.com))

### **☐ Terrestrial Gospel Radio:**

- The Stellar Awards defines terrestrial Gospel Radio Stations as a station that programs Gospel music and associated content a minimum of 75% of its broadcast week.
- There are three (3) categories of terrestrial Gospel Radio Stations that a station can qualify for as defined below (see pages 4 & 5 for complete list):
  - Top Markets: The largest 70 markets in the US are considered “top” radio markets
  - Medium Markets: 71 - 109
  - Small Markets: 110+

### **☐ Internet Gospel Radio:**

- The Stellar Awards defines Internet Gospel Radio Stations as stations **NOT** associated with a corresponding terrestrial radio station or radio network. Internet stations are independent, individually-owned and operated entities. The sole means of delivery **MUST** be via the internet.

### **☐ Syndicated Gospel Radio Shows:**

- The Stellar Awards defines a Syndicated Gospel Radio Show as programming produced for play on a minimum of ten terrestrial (10) radio stations. The show is not exclusive to one radio station. The show should broadcast a minimum of five (5) days per week and programs Gospel music and associated content a minimum of 75% of its broadcast week. Syndicated gospel radio shows should demonstrate originality and provide a local sound.

### **☐ Stellar Gospel Radio Committee**

- Prior to placement on the second-round ballot, terrestrial and online Gospel Radio Stations and syndicated shows will be reviewed by an impartial committee to verify that they meet the rules and regulations of the Stellar Awards, active in community service events and relevant in the industry as demonstrated by station achievements. Radio stations must have a unique signature on-air presence and a style that is emulated but never totally duplicated.

### **☐ Entries vs. Nominations: Entries are NOT nominations.**

- The online eligibility entry process is not a voting process. Entries are submissions to be considered for placement on the second ballot by the Stellar Gospel Radio Committee.
- Entries are not votes. Only one entry of the same station in the same category is necessary (More than one entry of the same station in the same category is considered a duplicate and will be voided.)



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## **GOSPEL ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR**

### **☐ Eligibility Period: MARCH 1, 2025 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

- Gospel Radio Announcer's broadcast/show must have been on the air (terrestrial) or streaming (internet) daily during the **ENTIRE** eligibility period.

### **☐ Submission Period: March 2, 2026 – March 13, 2026**

- Eligible Gospel Announcers must be submitted by completing the online entry form at [www.stellarawards.com](http://www.stellarawards.com). These online entries must contain accurate information in each field and **MUST** have been on the air (terrestrial) or streaming (online) daily during the entire eligibility period of March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026.
- Each online entrant **MUST** upload statements of proof acknowledging 1. Community Service, 2. Industry Achievements and 3. A Link to your Broadcast/Show. Additionally, you must be a member (in good standing) or join the Stellar Awards Gospel Music Academy at the time of submission (application available online at [www.stellarawards.com](http://www.stellarawards.com))

### **☐ Guidelines to be considered a Gospel Radio Announcer:**

- The Stellar Awards defines a Gospel Radio Announcer as someone having their own show broadcast via a terrestrial Gospel Radio Station, of which that station programs Gospel music and associated content a minimum of 75% of its broadcast week or an online streaming show via an accredited internet radio station.
- Someone who has consistent on-air presence on gospel music radio or an internet streaming site.
- Well-known through his/her presence on-air.
- Announcer should possess audience appeal through personality and/or specific service of the respective show.

### **☐ Entries vs. Nominations: Entries are NOT nominations.**

- The online eligibility entry process is not a voting process. Entries are submissions to be reviewed by the Gospel Radio Committee for placement on the second ballot.
- Entries are not votes. Only one entry of the same Gospel Announcer in the same category is necessary (More than one entry of the same Gospel Announcer is considered a duplicate and will be voided.)

### **☐ Stellar Gospel Radio Committee**

- Gospel Announcers are vetted by an impartial committee to verify that they meet the rules and regulations of the Stellar Awards, participate in community service events and their relevance in the industry as demonstrated by awards/recognition and achievements.



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### ❑ **The Submission Process:**

- The Stellar Awards process includes these three rounds:
  - Submission – Gospel Radio Stations/Shows and Gospel Announcers submit for consideration during the submission period each year
  - Screening – an independent Gospel Radio committee reviews the submissions to verify that they meet the rules and regulations of the Stellar Awards, participate in community service events and their relevance in the industry as demonstrated by awards/recognition and achievements.
  - Second Ballot Placement – Once reviewed by the Gospel Radio Committee, eligible entries are placed on the second ballot for voting.

### ❑ **The Voting Process:**

- Voting for the Gospel Radio categories will be two-fold:
  - Voting will be open to the general public for fan votes on the **SECOND BALLOT ONLY**.
  - Voting will also be open to SAGMA members during the second ballot period.
  - To determine the final nominees and winner of each Gospel Radio category, SAGMA member votes will be weighted at **five (5) points each** and combined with the public fan votes.

### ❑ **Voting and Solicitation Guidelines:**

- It is our goal to ensure the Stellar Awards process is led in a fair and ethical manner. In an effort to maintain a high degree of integrity and transparency, it is crucial that the following guidelines be understood and followed by all voting members.
- Voting Code of Conduct:
  - Voters shall not allow their choices to be suggested, directed or influenced by anything other than their own analysis of merit, including, but not limited to: friendships, company loyalties, regional preferences, or popularity.
  - Voters shall not accept money or anything of value in exchange for votes, access to other members, submission of materials for Stellar Awards consideration, or any other privilege of SAGMA membership.
  - Voters shall not enter into any agreements or understandings on how to vote. This includes without limitation:
    - Voting Blocs or groups of voters who agree to vote together. Such groups may include but are not limited to: voters affiliated with a particular radio station or company, or voters linked through social media.
    - Vote Trading or offering to vote in any manner in exchange for another's vote
    - Social media campaigns where goods or services are offered in exchange for votes



## GOSPEL RADIO

### CATEGORY #1: TOP MARKET OF THE YEAR

• Terrestrial Radio Stations broadcast within the following markets:

- Atlanta
- Albany/Schenectady/Troy
- Albuquerque/Santa Fe
- Austin
- Baltimore
- Birmingham
- Boston
- Buffalo/Niagara Falls
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
- Cleveland/Akron/Canton
- Columbus, OH
- Dallas/Ft. Worth
- Dayton
- Denver/Boulder
- Detroit
- Fresno/Visalia
- Ft. Myers/Naples
- Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo
- Greensboro/Winston Salem
- Greenville/Sparta/Asheville
- Hartford/New Haven
- Honolulu
- Houston
- Indianapolis
- Jacksonville
- Kansas City
- Las Vegas
- Los Angeles
- Louisville
- Memphis
- Miami/Ft. Lauderdale
- Milwaukee
- Minneapolis
- Nashville
- New Orleans
- New York
- Norfolk/Portsmouth/Newport News
- Oklahoma City
- Orlando
- Philadelphia
- Phoenix
- Pittsburgh
- Portland
- Providence/New Bedford
- Puerto Rico
- Raleigh-Durham
- Richmond/Petersburg
- Rochester/Mason City/Austin
- Sacramento/Stockton/Modesto
- Salt Lake City
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Jose
- Seattle/Tacoma
- St. Louis
- Tampa/St. Pete
- Tucson/Sierra Vista
- Tulsa
- Washington, DC
- West Palm Beach/Ft. Pierce

### CATEGORY #2: MEDIUM MARKET OF THE YEAR

• Terrestrial Radio Stations broadcast within the following markets:

- Bakersfield
- Baton Rouge
- Boise
- Champaign/Springfield/Decatur
- Charleston, SC
- Chattanooga
- Colorado Springs/Pueblo
- Columbia, SC
- Daytona Beach
- Des Moines/Ames
- El Paso
- Gainesville
- Greenville/New Bern/Washington
- Harlingen
- Harrisburg/Lancaster
- Huntsville/Decatur
- Knoxville
- Lexington
- Little Rock/Pine Bluff
- Madison
- Mobile/Pensacola
- Monterey/Salinas
- Omaha
- Paducah/Cape Girard
- Portland/Auburn
- Reno
- Spokane
- Springfield, MA
- Syracuse
- Toledo
- Wichita/Hutchinson Plus
- Wilkes Barre/Scranton
- Wilmington



## GOSPEL RADIO

### CATEGORY #3: SMALL MARKET OF THE YEAR

- Terrestrial Radio Stations broadcast within the following markets:

- |                              |                          |                           |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Albany, GA                 | - Fairbanks              | - Palm Springs            |
| - Amarillo                   | - Fargo                  | - Panama City             |
| - Anchorage                  | - Fayetteville           | - Parkersburg             |
| - Atlantic City              | - Flint/Saginaw/Bay City | - Peoria/Bloomington      |
| - Augusta/Aiken              | - Ft. Smith              | - Rockford                |
| - Bangor                     | - Ft. Wayne              | - Roanoke/Lynchburg       |
| - Beaumont/Port Arthur       | - Green Bay/Appleton     | - Salisbury               |
| - Bend, OR                   | - Hattiesburg/Laurel     | - San Angelo              |
| - Biloxi/Gulfport            | - Jackson, MS            | - Santa Barbara           |
| - Binghamton                 | - Jackson, TN            | - Savannah                |
| - Bowling Green              | - Joplin/Pittsburg       | - Shreveport              |
| - Burlington/Plattsburgh     | - La Crosse/Eau Claire   | - Sioux City              |
| - Cedar Rapids/Waterloo      | - Lafayette, LA          | - Sioux Falls/Mitchell    |
| - Cheyenne/Scottsbluff       | - Lansing, MI            | - South Bend/Elkhart      |
| - Chico/Redding              | - Laredo                 | - Springfield/Holyoke     |
| - Clarksburg/Weston          | - Lima                   | - Tallahassee/Thomasville |
| - Columbus, GA/Opelika, AL   | - Lincoln/Hastings       | - Terre Haute             |
| - Columbus/Tupelo/West Point | - Lubbock                | - Topeka                  |
| - Corpus Christi             | - Macon, GA              | - Traverse City/Cadillac  |
| - Dothan                     | - Minot/Bismarck         | - Trenton, NJ             |
| - Duluth/Superior            | - Monroe/El Dorado       | - Tri-Cities              |
| - Erie                       | - Montgomery/Selma       | - Tyler/Longview          |
| - Eugene                     | - Myrtle Beach/Florence  | - Utica                   |
| - Eureka                     | - North Platte           | - Waco/Temple/Bryan       |
| - Evansville                 | - Odessa/Midland         | - Wausau/Rhineland        |
|                              |                          | - Watertown               |
|                              |                          | - Wheeling/Steubenville   |
|                              |                          | - Youngstown              |

### CATEGORY #4: INTERNET STATION OF THE YEAR

- *See Internet Radio, Page 2*

### CATEGORY #5: SYNDICATED GOSPEL RADIO SHOW OF THE YEAR

- *See Syndicated Gospel Radio Show, Page 2*

### CATEGORY #6: GOSPEL ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR

- *See Gospel Announcer of the Year, Page 3*