The Asbury Park Songbook Project

1. Statement of Purpose

The Asbury Park Songbook Project ("the Project") was conceived to collect and circulate songs written by local-to-Asbury Park songwriters (meaning those who live and/or play local to AP). The songbook is intended as both a celebration of your artistry and that of your peers, and as a resource to allow Project participants and others to learn and perform each others' songs. Any proceeds (as discussed below) will be donated to the music charity The Project Matters - you can read about it here: https://theprojectmatters.org/

2. Grant of Limited License

By submitting this application and the required fee, you agree to grant the Project and any not-for-profit company that may own or control the Project a limited non-exclusive license under copyright to do the following:

(i) Have a copyist create a lead sheet for your submitted song ("the Song") based on the sound file and lyric sheet you have provided.

(ii) Allow the Project to include the Song in an online database repository of songs that all other contributors and, eventually, members of the general public can access.

(iii) Include the Song in a Project e-book or similar if you and the Project agree

(iv) Include the Song in a printed book if you and the Project agree.

(v) Allow the Project to include the Song in separate e-book or physical book editions (an "Edition") that may be themed by date(s) of submission or genre (such as "Funk" or "Punk" or "Solo Singer/Songwriter" or "Country/Americana") if you and the Project agree.

(vi) This license shall remain in effect for so long as the Project remains active.
Nothing in this license requires you to agree to items (iii) or (iv) or (v) above. Moreover, and to avoid doubt, nothing in this license transfers to the Project any copyright or other ownership interest in the Song other than the specific limited license to use the Song in the Project as discussed and described above.

3. Revenue Sharing

The Project will be operated by Protect Her Glory Inc., a New Jersey nonprofit corporation operating as WeStar Productions. WeStar Production ("WeStar") preserves, supports, and shares the music, arts, stories, and cultural heritage of our communities. Through media production, live events, educational programs, archival initiatives, and collaborative arts

projects, we create accessible cultural resources, strengthen connections between artists and audiences, and help ensure that local creative work is documented, celebrated, and carried forward for future generations.

The operator's initial responsibility will be to collect and sequester the application fees and use those funds to have the lead sheets prepared and the database repository created for the Project. It is anticipated that lead sheet and
database creation will require all of the application fee money, but in the event any such funds remain, that money and all subsequent proceeds from the sale or distribution of any Edition of e-books or physical books will be distributed as follows:

(i) All actual out of pocket costs and expenses will be recouped from any income
(ii) An administrative fee of Twenty (20%) percent will be deducted and retained by the operating not-for-profit entity.

(iii) All remaining proceeds shall be distributed to The Project Matters for use as it deems appropriate. The Project Matters is a Federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to supporting emerging artists ages 25 and under. It provides the practical and personal support young artists need to move ahead…. from financial assistance and business guidance to technical, legal, and educational resources, as well as emotional support. The Project Matters exists to help artists navigate the challenges of building a career.

4. Miscellaneous

This License represents the complete agreement of the songwriter(s) and the Project and can only be amended in writing. This License will be governed by the laws of the State of New Jersey applicable to contracts made and performed in New Jersey except for any matters relating to copyright ownership which shall be governed by applicable US copyright law. By submitting this application and the required fee you agree to be bound by the terms of this agreement. By accepting this application and your fee, the Project agrees to be bound by the terms of this agreement and to cause any representative or agent of the Project to be bound by these terms.

The Asbury Park Songbook Project

Q: What is the AP Songbook Project

A: The Project is an effort to collect, organize, and transcribe songs from local songwriters and present them in a way that makes them accessible to local musicians and songwriters, and eventually, to the public. In the process, the founders hope to foster a greater sense of community among local musicians and songwriters, create a collective community resource, and encourage collaboration between local artists

Q: Whose idea was this and who is in charge?

A: The Project was conceived of by Dr, Victoria Romano, Fern of Foes of Fern and Matt Daniels. The Project has support from the Asbury Park Arts Council, several nonprofits and other individual community members who have embraced the idea.

Q: Will this be a real, printed book, or something else?

A: Yes and yes. The Project will be realized in phases. Phase One will collect songs, create a professionally-formatted lead sheet of each one, and gather them in a database to which all contributors will have access. Phase Two will incorporate the lead sheets (along with artist bios and photos) into an e-book offered for sale to the public. Phase Three will turn the e-book into a physical book. Phase One will be funded by your application fee and initial grant support. Subsequent phases will need to be funded by institutional grants, gifts from individuals and other sources.

Q: What is the difference between a lead sheet and a full song transcription?

Transcription would be the faithful notation of every single instrument, whereas a lead sheet–what we're making–is just the main melody written out with the chords on top of the staff. We draw inspiration from the Real Book, a jazz compendium that similarly boils down a song to its basic melodic and harmonic components. The point is to give people just enough information to join in on the fun!

Q: OK, I'm interested. What's next?

A: (We thought you'd never ask!) To participate in Phase One, you need to fill out the application form and submit it along with a music file recording of your song, a copy of the lyrics and any other resources you may have. Optional resources include but are not limited to: a chord sheet, a video of you performing the song solo acoustic, an .xml file from a notation software, and any specific moments you would like highlighted from your arrangement. You should also include a payment of $45.00 (if before 12/31/26) or $65.00 (if after 1/1/27).

Once a lead sheet is created,you will get a chance to review it, after which your song will be added to our online repository. You and all the other contributors will have access to this initial database, and will have the right to use the lead sheets therein.

Q: Who are the nonprofits involved?

A: The Project's operational partner is Protect Her Glory Inc., a New Jersey nonprofit corporation operating as WeStar Productions and run by David Ziegler. WeStar Production ("WeStar") preserves, supports, and shares the music, arts, stories, and cultural heritage of our communities. Through media production, live events, educational programs, archival initiatives, and collaborative arts projects, we create accessible cultural resources, strengthen connections between artists and audiences, and help ensure that local creative work is documented, celebrated, and carried forward for future generations.

For more information:
https://www.westarproductions.co/

The Project's charity partner is The Project Matters whose mission is to provide aspiring young artists with a variety of assistance including financial, business, technical, legal, educational and emotional support.

For more information:
https://theprojectmatters.org

Additional administrative support for the Project is provided by the Asbury Park Arts Council (APAC), which works to support, advocate and promote arts-centric initiatives for individuals, businesses and community development in Asbury Park, NJ.

For more information:
https://asburyparkartscouncil.org