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Be a Star Spangled Star! Semifinalists Selected
General Public Can Vote for Their Favorites Starting Tomorrow

Be a Star Spangled Star at the New Mexico State Fair! The State Fair has selected 15 local musical superstars as semifinalists who will now move to Round 2 for a chance to perform at the rodeo/concerts at Tingley Coliseum during various evenings throughout the fair, which runs September 10 - 20, 2015. This one of a kind opportunity gives talented New Mexicans the chance to sing the beloved anthem to an audience of thousands at premier Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association events followed by concerts featuring some of the country's best bands, with one semifinalist being selected by the general public on social media as the "People's Choice" winner.

Dozens of men, women and children from throughout New Mexico tried out during auditions which were held at EXPO New Mexico/State Fairgrounds on July 30. A panel of judges selected the 15 best based on vocal performance and lyrical accuracy. Each audition was recorded and the 15 semi finalists' auditions will be posted on Facebook beginning on August 8, 2015, as part of a "People's Choice" component of the contest. The public can view each contestants' video in order to vote for their favorite, with online voting closing on August 22, 2015, at which time the individual or group with the most votes will be selected as an automatic winner, having secured a spot to perform at the New Mexico State Fair Rodeo. The remainder of the seven winners will be selected by the same panel of judges that conducted the auditions, and announced on August 24, 2015. An additional two alternates will also be notified at that time.

To vote for their favorite singers or groups as the "People's Choice" selection, beginning on Saturday, August 8, fans can log onto <http://woobox.com/je2yuw> and review each audition. There will be only one vote per person (as measured by IP address) for the entirety of the contest, although voters can select up to three favorites.

The semifinalists who were chosen based on their recent auditions are as follows, in no particular order:

Key of A Quartet: Melissa Heller, Todd Herbush, Michael Furnish, Tammy Brown – Albuquerque

Aaron Howe Trio: Aaron Howe, Trula Howe, Kara Robertson – Albuquerque

Elicia Rowe – Albuquerque

Cole Quartet: Mackenzie Cole, Sydney Cole, Abriele Cole, Cameron Cole – Tijeras

Nicole Miner – Mayhill

Crystal Prins – Albuquerque

Theresa Schmitz – Albuquerque

Anntionette Booker – Albuquerque

Valeria Garcia – Albuquerque

Reyes & Angelica Montoya (Duet) – Ribera

Christina Fierro – Las Cruces

Jaelea Valencia – Milan

Audrey Solorzano – Las Cruces

Kyle Martin – Albuquerque

Margie Whyman – Los Lunas

All final winners and alternates will receive two admission and rodeo/concert tickets to the 2015 New Mexico State Fair. As a bonus, the "People's Choice" winner will receive a one-night stay at one of the New Mexico State Fair's wonderful sponsor hotels.

For more information about the 2015 New Mexico State Fair, log onto www.ExpoNM.com.