



# News Release

## For Immediate Release

Jennifer Morgan  
Media Contact  
813-752-9194

[berrypr@flstrawberryfestival.com](mailto:berrypr@flstrawberryfestival.com)

### **Florida Strawberry Festival to host local Battle of the Bands**

PLANT CITY, Fla. (Oct. 10, 2018) – The Florida Strawberry Festival is calling on all bands in the Central Florida area to compete at the 2019 Florida Strawberry Festival Battle of the Bands!

“Our theme says it all!” said President Paul Davis. “We hope this battle competition is a huge hit amongst our guests and a grand slam to those who wish to score big by participating!”

Registration for the inaugural battle is already underway. All entrants must be at least 18 years of age or above to participate in the battle competition. If an entrant is not 18 years of age, a minor may participate with a parent or legal guardian’s permission and supervision. More information, rules, regulations and application can be found at [www.flstrawberryfestival.com](http://www.flstrawberryfestival.com). Submission period ends Wednesday, October 31 at 5p.m.

In early November, after all submissions have been accepted, the Florida Strawberry Festival will announce no more than 20 of the bands to participate in an online fan voting preliminary. Through this process, the festival will solicit fans via social media to vote for the Top 9 bands of their choice to participate in additional preliminary rounds of battles which will take place in the Publix Showcase Tent during the February 28–March 10 festival. The Top 9 bands, who will advance to the on-site battle rounds, will be announced via social media in late January. Bands will be evaluated by a select panel of qualified judges and fan ballots.

By midnight on Thursday, March 8, the Florida Strawberry Festival will announce the three top vote getters. One honorable mention will be recognized as well as the two top front runners who will move on to the final battle competition which will take place on March 9, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. on the Wish Farms Sound Stage.

“What a wonderful opportunity for local talent to step up to the plate and show us what they’ve got!” said Davis. “You could say this is our version of American Idol, only better, with a big-league berry feel.”

The first-place winner will receive \$10,000 in prize money and a trophy. Additionally, the grand prize recipient will also receive 25 hours of recording time with Cue Recording South. The second runner up will also receive compensation of \$5,000 and 10 hours of recording time as well. The honorable mention will receive a \$1,000 check.

## **About the Florida Strawberry Festival**

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 500,000 visitors enjoy the festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its strawberry shortcake. The 2019 Florida Strawberry Festival where "It's A Hit!" will take place February 28-March 10 in Plant City, Fla. For more information, visit [www.flstrawberryfestival.com](http://www.flstrawberryfestival.com), Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (#berryfest19).

###