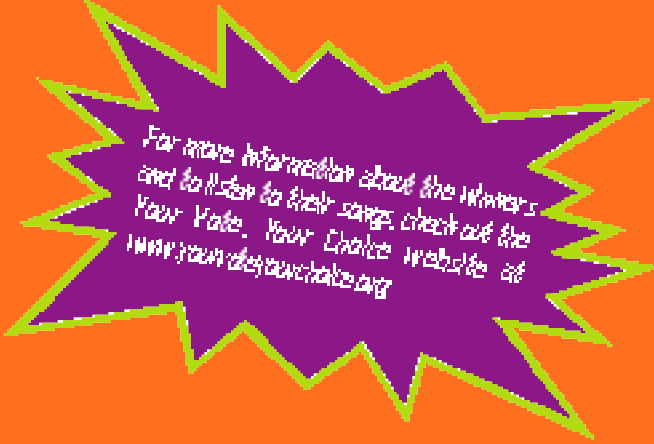




Your Vote, Your Choice
by Jennifer Adams, Campus Outreach Coordinator

And the Winners Are...



There's something to be said about the advantages of using art and music to tell people about social issues. After all, Woody Guthrie's spirit inspired the Your Vote, Your Choice song writing contest!

The politically-charged music of singers like Ani diFranco, India Arie, and Billy Bragg might have been closer to home than Woody Guthrie for some of our entrants, but these talented young people had no

problem coming up with songs that inspire their peers to get active and speak up about the issues that concern them.

We'll be playing these songs as we reach out this fall to young people on college campuses in North Carolina, Illinois, New Jersey, Minnesota, Oregon, and Colorado, and as we make sure that young people are heard in this year's elections.



First Place: "Sayers and Sinners" by Krisis Maximus

Dwandell Noye, better known as Krisis Maximus, is a native of Niagara Falls, New York, and started writing poetry at seven years old. His work has won several awards, including a 2001 John Lennon Song Writing Contest. He is currently promoting his recently released single, "Smash U." For more information on Krisis Maximus and his music, check out his website at www.krisismaximus.com.

Second Place: "Brave New World" by Lea Morris

According to Lea Morris's mother, Lea—who lives in Silver Spring, Maryland—could sing before she could speak, and she's now a fixture on the Washington, D.C. music scene. Lea has been nominated at the WAMMIES, (D.C.'s Grammy-esque awards) for Best New Artist, Best Female Contemporary Folk Vocalist, Best Debut Recording and Songwriter of the Year. Lea's website is at www.thisislea.com.

Third Place: "Build it Up" by Steph Furness

Steph Furness, a Somerset, New Jersey singer-songwriter, is described as "a campfire singer with an agenda." Steph's been busy lately; her song, "Not Completely Free," was recently accepted to Michelle Malone's SBS Records Indie Compilation CD #5 and she runs her own record label, Aviatrix Productions. Check out Steph's website, www.aviatrixproductions.com

