

## W&M GUIDELINES, BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

Plumas Arts has hosted Words & Music at Patti's Morning Thunder since 1989 and is committed that Words & Music remain in this intimate café setting. Words & Music celebrates and promotes community and respect for each other. Plumas Arts' purpose from the onset has been to provide a venue for local musicians to perform with an attentive and respectful audience.

### A RESPECTFUL & ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE

This basic principle means that Words & Music is different from a bar setting. Audience members are requested to refrain from conversation among audience members during performances.

- Members of the audience who become too loud or unruly will be asked politely to quiet down. If disruptive behavior persists, persons will be asked to leave by the MC.

### SUBJECT MATTER

- Performers should be sensitive to a diverse audience with differing opinions. Performers presenting material that is abusively insulting or demeaning to any gender, race or group or presenting content construed as proselytizing will be interrupted by the MC and asked to step down. Abuse differs from minimal language or minor references.

### OPENING & ENTRY

- Doors will open to the public at 6:40pm.
- Featured artists, Plumas Arts Words & Music and Patti's Thunder staffs only, may enter at 6:30pm.
- Audience members must occupy seats upon entry— no seat saving for others.
- Due to capacity concerns, entry to the venue may close when limits are exceeded.

*Attendees are advised to arrive by 7pm.*

- If not at capacity, doors will be closed during performances and open briefly between songs.

### FEATURED ARTISTS

Featured artist sets are limited to 30 minutes; their performance begins at 7pm.

### OPEN MIC GUIDELINES

*Given an increasing demand for open mic and time constraints the following guidelines will be employed...*

- Performers will sign up in person with the MC. No signing up for others.
  - Open mic sign-up will end at 7pm when the featured performance begins.
- Performers are requested to be part of an attentive audience, not just arrive for open mic to perform.*
- The MC may adjust the order of sign-ups as is deemed appropriate for flow of the event.
  - Open mic sign-ups will be limited to a maximum of 12 slots.
  - Our previous 2-song limit is being replaced with a total 7-minute time limit for each performer. This limit includes any tuning up or introductions to your performance. Musicians are advised to step up to perform with their instruments in hand and in tune to conserve time and to minimize introductions to their work.
  - When sign-ups for open mic are fully allocated, time limits will include a total performance time for each musician either as an individual or with a group.

*With many opportunities through the season there are many options to showcase both your group and individual talents. If not all time slots are filled, MC may make adjustment to this rule.*

- Performers will be given a 1-minute warning by the MC and asked to step down if the time limitation is exceeded. *It is easy to get lost in the moment on stage. Performers are encouraged to rehearse and time themselves prior to signing up so that they are aware of how long their presentation will take.*
- Unless specifically invited, playing back-up during the open mic time of other performers is not permitted.