

# C MONTREAL 20 COMMUNITY CONTACT



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WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2012

## A CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

ON 21 MAY 2012. POSTED IN [LIFE & STYLE](#)

### Prizes galore in ANM Teen Songwriting Competition

*We all know of a teenage superstar-in-waiting who aspires to become the next Rihanna, Alicia Keyes or Chris Brown.*

*The ones who like to serenade friends and family, using broomsticks or kitchen utensils as imaginary microphones. Usually, they go on to wow audiences at school variety shows, community events or wherever they can find a stage until the dream fizzles.*

#### Egbert Gaye

Meet Melina Soochan and Sabrina Correa, two young, accomplished songwriters and stage performers who want to help keep the dream alive.

Soochan says too many young talents are going to waste in Montreal because of a lack of opportunities, so she came up with a competition aimed at opening doors for some of the gifted ones.



Her brainchild, the ANM Teen Songwriting competition is now in its second year and already is a place for aspiring songwriters between the ages of 13 and 17 to showcase what they got.

"It's a bit like Canadian Idol or Star Academie," says the McGill School of Music graduate. "But this competition is aimed at offering teenage songwriters a chance to "showcase" their talent to a bigger audience and win some amazing prizes." Soochan organizes the competition under the banner Acoustic Nights Montreal, a promotion company she founded two years ago to assist local independent artists and songwriters.

Since then she has been attracting assistance from businesses and industry professionals for the competition.

Correa, a graduate of the McGill School of Music, has been forging a very successful songwriting career. She was highly impressed by the writing and performance skills of last year's participants, and decided to join Soochan's team to keep the competition going.

To make it happen, Soochan and Correa are visiting schools, youth groups or anywhere they can meet with young, aspiring musicians to encourage them to participate in the competition.

And they are calling on community members to also encourage musically inclined teenagers to give it a go.

Among the variety of prizes available are: an opportunity to perform at the Acoustic Night Montreal Gala 2012 in September and a recording session for one song at a leading Montreal studio. Deadline is June 1. Check out [www.acousticnightsmontreal.com/competition](http://www.acousticnightsmontreal.com/competition) for details.

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