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American Idol Auditions For Season 6!

By Edward Charkow

It's that time of year again --- the time when thousands line up in arenas all over the United States

hoping to get a chance to audition their talents (or lack thereof) in front of judges Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul and Randy Jackson. These audition hopefuls often endure a couple of days of intense summer sun, pouring rain, no showers and no comfortable beds just to get a chance to throw out what might be just ONE note of music to associate judges who sit in tents screening thousands.

At American Idol auditions, very few people actually see the inside of a building. Instead they wait in long lines to approach an associate judge at a table in a tent. Once you get to the front of the line, you are moved in a cattle call fashion to where judges sit at tables ready to hear you sing a note or two. It takes hours and hours to get this point, but there is merely a second in your favor for one of these judges to see if you're otherwise amazingly good or excruciatingly bad. From what we hear, there is not much in the way of middle ground. You have a chance of moving forward to auditions stage 2 if you have a great voice or if you are horrific looking or sounding. Sad, but true. Many very good singers do not get through this stage at all. At this point, American Idol is seeking the best freaks and geeks who fill up the extremely popular audition specials that will start in January of 2007. Those who know their voice will most likely not carry them through to see Nigel Lithgoe or Simon Cowell will dress in chicken suits, clown shoes, cyborg costumes or exceedingly low cut shirts. Anything to get in to the building where Nigel Lithgoe and Simon Fuller make up the next stage of the judging process. If you are either fantastic or horrific, you might just get that shot in the dark to see Randy, Paula and Simon.

Cameras wait in the parking lots of each audition location to catch the cast-offs cry, collapse on the pavement, or else storm the cameras to get their own justice on American Idol. At the auditions, everyone does what it takes to get their few moments on television. And if not, they'll certainly be back next year.

This year's 7 audition cities include: Birmingham, AL, Los Angeles, CA, San Antonio, TX, East Rutherford, NJ, Memphis, TN, Minneapolis, MN and Seattle, WA.

Find more out about American Idol Auditions at

<http://www.idol-mania.com>

Review Of American Idol

By Edward Charkow

American Idol first debuted on American television under the name of American Idol: The Search for a Superstar. It is part of an Idol series which started in the United Kingdom as Pop Idol, and now has versions all over the globe including Australian Idol and Singapore Idol. All shows run under a similar basic format and operate as talent shows meant to find the best undiscovered talent in each country. Although founded as a singing competition, American Idol has grown into a massive marketing machine that is driven by sponsors who pay a million dollars for a 30 second commercial during run time. Product placement is another key moneymaker for American Idol; you'll often see contestants drinking of Coca-Cola plastic cups or lounging backstage in the Coca-Cola Red Room, complete with a red leather Coca-Cola couch.

American Idol is shown on the Fox network in the United States and managed by 19 Entertainment. Initially shopped around and rejected by many other networks, American Idol has found its permanent home and has become a huge hit for Fox, partly due to the presence of judge Simon Cowell. The acid-tongued Brit, Simon Cowell, was initially a judge on Britain's Pop Idol, and has since become an American household name due to his blunt and searing critiques of many of the American Idol contestants. Simon Cowell has since produced American Inventor and the latest television talent competition, America's Got Talent.

The success of American Idol is irrefutable, having won the top spot on Neilson Ratings for the last 4 years and earning a larger viewership than the Olympics, The Grammy Awards and the NBA Playoffs.

American Idol is hosted by the affable Ryan Seacrest who we first meet during the audition process. The talent competition holds auditions in several US cities including LA, Memphis, Salt Lake City and Boston, where associate judges weed through thousand of Idol hopefuls in booths and tents in arena parking lots.

If a contestant has what it takes to entertain American television audiences, then he or she is passed through to Directors Nigel Lythgoe and Simon Fuller. If the contestants impress either or both of these two men, the contestant is then able to reach the highest stage of judging — meeting Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul and Randy Jackson. Once the contestant performs a song or two for Simon, Paula and Randy, the final judgment on whether they will advance to Hollywood is given. Each contestant needs two out of three votes, and if the vote is in the contestant's favor, he or she gets the famous yellow ticket and is sent to Hollywood for a week of exhausting performances and tough judging. At the end of Hollywood week, the top 24 have evolved and usually represent a diverse group of males and females of all races and musical genres.

There are several criteria one must meet in order to try out for Idol. All audition hopefuls must be between the ages of 16–29 years of age and not have a recording contract or talent representation. Release forms must be signed by all in order to enable American Idol to use your voice or image

during any part of its broadcasts.

Find more out about American Idol, season 6! and the entire reality t.v. world at

<http://www.reality-tv-updates.com>



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