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It's a chick thing: Bluebird showcase puts female singers in the spotlight

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Chick Singer Night kicks off next Wednesday at Bluebird Café as an avenue for women who want to be discovered and appreciated as artists. They can participate even if they've never stepped on a stage, but this being Music City, a town filled with plenty of famous chick singers, the audience can expect a regular star or two, director Ronda Wynn says.

"The criteria is the 'kick butt' factor," said Wynn, a Nashville singer-songwriter.

Chick Singer Night is planned as a monthly showcase for female singers of all musical genres. That means Latin and hip-hop and not just country and folk.

Nashville becomes the third city to have a Chick Singer Night. The original showcase has been in Chicago for 13 years. There's another in Los Angeles, and Miami and New York are being added this year.

Wynn got the idea to put together a chick night here after attending Chick Singer Night in Chicago. Last summer, she got in touch with founder Lori Maier and the planning began. Maier, a singer-songwriter and faculty member at Pepperdine University, will be here for the Nashville kick-off.

Bluebird owner Amy Kurland says the showcase is a great opportunity for singers in a town where so many more outlets are available to songwriters.

"I think this is a tremendous opportunity for women – too bad for the men – to get out and show what they can do. And it certainly adds to the Bluebird's diversity," Kurland said.

Wynn said each singer will perform four songs. She's looking for original works. Wynn said she plans on pulling the industry suits in to hear the performers so that careers and dreams can be made. (Plenty of other chick Singer Night alums from other cities have gone on to promising careers.)

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