HOPE SESSIONS WEBSITE & ARTIST PARTICIPATION TERMS

Effective Date: October 9, 2026

1. Acceptance of Terms

Welcome to Hope Sessions!

Hope Sessions is a faith-centered creative arts and digital music platform presented by **City's Hope CDC and Cornerstone Community Church** in Vineland, New Jersey.

By accessing our website, submitting an artist application, registering for an event, or using our online services, you agree to these Terms of Use.

These Terms govern use of the Hope Sessions website. Additional written agreements may be required for artists selected to participate in a live recording.

2. Our Mission and Purpose

Hope Sessions exists to provide independent Gospel, Christian, and Inspirational artists with an affordable, professionally coordinated platform to share their music, personal testimonies, and messages of faith, encouragement, and hope.

Our program combines live musical performances, artist interviews, community engagement, and digital media production to help expand the reach of independent artists while supporting the outreach initiatives of City's Hope CDC and Cornerstone Community Church.

Our commitment is to create the room, capture the moment, and help amplify the message.

3. Artist Eligibility and Application

Hope Sessions welcomes applications from independent and emerging artists representing Gospel, Christian, and Inspirational music genres.

Applicants must provide accurate information concerning their identity, musical background, and creative works.

Submission of an application does not guarantee selection, recording opportunities, promotional placement, or publication.

Hope Sessions reserves the right to select participating artists based on program suitability, artistic readiness, available production resources, scheduling, and alignment with the program's mission.

4. Artist Copyright Ownership and Intellectual Property Rights

Hope Sessions recognizes and respects the intellectual property rights of participating artists, songwriters, composers, musicians, and other copyright holders.

Artists retain ownership of the original musical compositions, lyrics, arrangements, and preexisting sound recordings that they legally own.

Participation in Hope Sessions does not automatically transfer, assign, or sell an artist's underlying musical copyrights, publishing rights, or preexisting master recording rights to Hope Sessions, City's Hope CDC, or Cornerstone Community Church.

Artists also retain their rights to:

- Continue performing and recording their original music.
- Distribute their independently produced recordings.
- Register their original compositions with copyright offices and performing rights organizations.
- Receive royalties or other income arising from their independently controlled music, subject to applicable agreements.
- License their original music to other individuals or organizations.
- Continue promoting their music through their own websites and digital platforms.

Important: These provisions apply to rights that the artist actually owns or controls. They do not transfer rights belonging to co-writers, publishers, producers, record labels, or other third parties.

5. Permission to Record, Publish, and Promote Artist Performances

Hope Sessions is designed to provide artists with opportunities for exposure through professionally produced audiovisual recordings.

Artists selected for participation will be required to sign a separate **Hope Sessions Artist Performance, Recording & Media Release Agreement** before recording.

That agreement will specify the permissions granted to Hope Sessions.

Subject to that signed agreement and any necessary third-party clearances, artists authorize Hope Sessions to:

A. Record Performances

Capture the artist's approved live musical performances, interviews, testimonials, and related production activities through audio, video, photography, and other digital recording methods.

B. Edit and Produce Content

Edit, mix, master, synchronize, caption, format, and prepare recordings for professional presentation, while respecting the artist's musical integrity and the agreed scope of the recording.

C. Publish and Distribute Recordings

Reproduce, upload, transmit, distribute, publicly perform, and make authorized recordings available through:

- Hope Sessions' official website
- Hope Sessions' YouTube channel
- Hope Sessions' Facebook page
- City’s Hope CDC and Cornerstone Community Church's authorized digital platforms
- Other digital and social media channels expressly identified in the artist's recording agreement

D. Promote Participating Artists

Use approved artist names, professional images, biographies, interviews, song titles, and excerpts from authorized performances to advertise Hope Sessions and the participating artist.

E. Share Content Worldwide

Make authorized content accessible through the internet to viewers throughout the United States and internationally.

Artists acknowledge that authorized Hope Sessions recordings may be viewed, streamed, linked to, and shared by audiences worldwide.

The detailed license, including its duration, permitted uses, termination provisions, and any commercial uses, will be established in the signed artist recording agreement.

6. Ownership of Hope Sessions Audiovisual Productions

Hope Sessions may create original audiovisual productions using its cameras, microphones, production equipment, staff, and editing resources.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, Hope Sessions intends to retain ownership or control of the audiovisual production elements it creates, subject to applicable copyright law and the rights of participating artists and other contributors.

These production elements may include:

- Original camera footage
- Video editing and graphics
- Program introductions and closing segments
- Hope Sessions branding
- Original production artwork
- Interviews and program segments, to the extent legally owned or licensed by Hope Sessions

Ownership of a Hope Sessions video production does not transfer ownership of the underlying musical compositions or preexisting sound recordings belonging to participating artists or other rights holders.

The ownership and permitted uses of newly created audio recordings, including any live performance masters, must be addressed in the separate recording agreement.

7. Artist Responsibility for Music Rights and Permissions

Participating artists are responsible for accurately identifying the songs and other creative materials they intend to perform.

Artists must disclose whether their performances include:

- Original compositions
- Cover songs
- Copyrighted arrangements
- Pre-recorded backing tracks
- Samples
- Third-party instrumental recordings

- Material controlled by publishers, record labels, or other copyright holders

Artists represent that they own or have obtained the rights they claim to control.

A performing artist's permission alone may not be sufficient to authorize online publication of every song performed.

Cover songs, third-party compositions, backing tracks, samples, and certain arrangements may require additional licenses or permissions.

Hope Sessions reserves the right to request documentation, modify song selections, delay publication, or decline to distribute material until the necessary permissions have been obtained.

Neither artist participation fees nor this website agreement automatically secure music synchronization, master-use, or other required licenses.

8. Artist Participation Fees

Hope Sessions strives to provide affordable recording opportunities for independent artists.

The currently proposed participation fees are:

Artist Category	Participation Fee
Solo Artist	$75
Group / Band	$150

These fees help support the production and administrative expenses associated with the Hope Sessions platform.

Participation fees do not purchase guaranteed views, followers, streaming revenue, radio airplay, record label representation, or future bookings.

Artists will receive complete participation details, payment instructions, and any applicable cancellation or refund policies before confirming their recording date.

No payment is required merely to submit the initial Artist Interest Questionnaire.

9. Digital Distribution and Promotional Exposure

Hope Sessions intends to make selected performances available through its authorized digital channels, including YouTube, Facebook, and the official Hope Sessions website.

Artists understand that:

- Online publication may expose their performances to audiences worldwide.
- Video views, audience engagement, and streaming performance cannot be guaranteed.
- Digital platforms maintain their own terms, content policies, and copyright procedures.
- Videos may be subject to copyright claims, restrictions, or removal.
- Third parties may share publicly available links or content using features provided by the hosting platform.

Hope Sessions will make reasonable efforts to properly identify and credit participating artists.

10. Artist Names, Images, and Testimonials

Participating artists may be asked to authorize the use of their professional names, approved photographs, biographies, interviews, and performance images for program-related promotion.

Such use may include:

- Social media advertising
- Event flyers
- Website promotions
- Video thumbnails
- Press releases
- Artist spotlights
- Promotional trailers
- Community outreach materials

The scope of this permission will be established in the artist's signed media release.

Hope Sessions will not knowingly imply that an artist endorses an unrelated commercial product or organization without appropriate authorization.

11. Recording and Audience Participation

Hope Sessions recordings may take place before an intimate live audience.

Audience members may appear incidentally in recorded footage.

Where appropriate, Hope Sessions will provide notice that audio and video recording is taking place and obtain any additional permissions required by law.

Featured audience interviews, testimonials, or promotional appearances may require separate consent.

Participants are expected to follow reasonable instructions from production personnel to maintain a safe, respectful, and professional environment.

12. Artist Conduct and Program Standards

Hope Sessions is committed to maintaining a welcoming, respectful, and faith-centered creative environment.

Artists, staff, volunteers, and audience members are expected to demonstrate professional conduct.

Hope Sessions may decline or discontinue participation when conduct creates safety concerns, violates applicable law, infringes intellectual property rights, or materially conflicts with established program standards.

Participation decisions will be made in accordance with applicable laws and the organization's adopted policies.

13. Merchandise and Commercial Products

Hope Sessions may offer branded merchandise, including T-shirts, hats, mugs, accessories, and other promotional items.

Hope Sessions retains its rights in its original logos, trademarks, and branded materials, subject to applicable law.

Artist names, photographs, likenesses, or other protected materials will not be used on merchandise for sale without the appropriate authorization.

Merchandise purchases are subject to the applicable prices, shipping terms, and return policies displayed at checkout.

14. Financial Support and Program Revenue

Hope Sessions may generate revenue through artist participation fees, audience admission, sponsorships, merchandise sales, and other approved fundraising or commercial activities.

Revenue generated by the program is intended to help support production expenses, ongoing program operations, community outreach, and future opportunities for independent artists.

Participation does not automatically entitle an artist to a share of Hope Sessions' ticket sales, sponsorship income, merchandise sales, advertising revenue, or platform monetization.

Any compensation, revenue sharing, royalties, or other financial arrangements must be separately agreed upon in writing.

This provision does not eliminate royalties or payments owed to copyright holders under applicable law or separate agreements.

15. Copyright Complaints and Content Removal

Hope Sessions respects intellectual property rights and takes copyright concerns seriously.

Individuals who believe that material published through Hope Sessions infringes their rights may submit a written complaint containing:

- Identification of the copyrighted work.
- Identification of the allegedly infringing material.
- Contact information for the complaining party.
- A description of the claimed ownership or rights.
- Any additional information required by applicable law.

Hope Sessions will review complaints and take appropriate action.

Copyright complaints concerning material hosted directly on third-party platforms may also be subject to those platforms' copyright procedures.

16. Website Content and Acceptable Use

Visitors may use the Hope Sessions website for lawful purposes related to artist applications, program information, event registration, and community engagement.

Users may not:

- Submit false or misleading application information.
- Upload content they do not have permission to share.

- Attempt unauthorized access to website systems.
- Distribute malicious software or harmful material.
- Impersonate another individual or organization.
- Copy or commercially exploit protected Hope Sessions content without authorization.
- Use the website in violation of applicable law.

Hope Sessions may restrict access or remove content when reasonably necessary to protect the website and its users.

17. No Guarantee of Results

Hope Sessions is designed to provide meaningful opportunities for artistic exposure, professional development, and ministry outreach.

However, Hope Sessions does not guarantee:

- A specific number of viewers or subscribers.
- Increased music sales or streaming revenue.
- Professional management or recording contracts.
- Future performance opportunities.
- Radio airplay or media coverage.
- Selection for additional Hope Sessions recordings.

Artists participate with the understanding that audience development and career growth depend on many factors beyond the control of Hope Sessions.

18. Limitation of Liability

To the extent permitted by applicable law, Hope Sessions, City's Hope CDC, and Cornerstone Community Church will not be responsible for indirect or consequential losses arising from ordinary website use, including lost business opportunities, anticipated revenue, or digital platform interruptions.

Nothing in these Terms excludes liability that cannot legally be excluded.

Specific liability, indemnification, insurance, and risk-allocation provisions relating to live performances and recording activities should be addressed in the separate artist agreement.

19. Changes to These Terms

Hope Sessions may revise these Terms of Use periodically.

Updated terms will be published on the official website with a revised effective date.

Material changes affecting existing artist recording agreements will be governed by the applicable signed agreements rather than automatically modifying previously granted contractual rights.

20. Governing Law

These Terms of Use will be governed by the applicable laws of the State of New Jersey and the United States.

Any disputes will be addressed in accordance with applicable law and any enforceable dispute-resolution provisions agreed upon by the parties.

21. Contact Information

For questions regarding these Terms of Use, artist participation, or intellectual property permissions, contact:

Hope Sessions Administration
City's Hope CDC & Cornerstone Community Church
27 SE Boulevard
Vineland, NJ

Website: https://hopesessionsc3e.com
Email: kcornett@hpvisualconnections.net