

Star Spangled Banner
Vs
Texas, Our Texas

By:
Thrishaan Varun
School: International Leadership of Texas

Star Spangled Banner, our US National Anthem and Texas, Our Texas, our proud Texas Regional Anthem are both very patriotic songs which celebrate victory, resilience, perseverance and most importantly our identity of who we are and how strong and tall we stand together. They do differ at features described below while having some similarities alongside as well.

How they are alike?

- Both are patriotic songs invoking an intense sense of loyalty and pride of who we are.
- Francis Scott Key who was imprisoned by Britishers, witnessed the bombardment of Fort McHenry during Battle of Baltimore at 1812, watched the Star-Spangled Banner (15 star and 15 stripe flag), flying victoriously above the fort after the battle. This was his inspiration for the poem. Whereas the lyrics for Texas, Our Texas was written by Marsh and Gladys Yoakum Wright in 1924, depicting the lone star state's history, natural flora and fauna
 - Figure 1 Depicts the Battle at Fort McHenry.
 - Figure 2 Texas, Our Texas adoption
- Both the National Anthem and Regional Anthem which were written as poems, were used unofficially for a few years before being officially adopted.
 - "The Star-Spangled Banner" was first recognized for official use by the United States Navy in 1889 and on March 3, 1931 congress passed a bill making it Official National Anthem.
 - Texas, Our Texas was adopted as State song in 1993.
- Both songs are sung during important events, Independence Day celebrations, school events and sports/games, by following defined protocols like standing at attention and facing the flag.

How they differ?

- Even though both are patriotic songs, the core themes behind the songs differ.
 - US National Anthem is a war story, it is all about the excitement during a war, talking about the flag still flying high during bombings.
 - Texas Regional Anthem is totally about the peaceful, natural beauty, rivers, fields. A happy and proud description of the State of Texas.
- No major changes were made to US National Anthem whereas, the word largest was changed to Boldest in Texas Anthem after Alaska became a state.
- US National Anthem is representation of the whole country and our unity; however, Texas Anthem is all about our Lone Star State only.

In summary, "The Star-Spangled Banner" is our Nation's song about being brave and emerging victorious in a war, keeping our Flag flying high, and "Texas, Our Texas" is a proud state song about how wide and great our Lone Star State and its spirit is. In short, both help us remember how lucky we are to be a part of these places and teach us to love and be proud of our home.

Bibliography

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Star-Spangled_Banner

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas,_Our_Texas

<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/texas-our-texas>

Youtube Tutorials.