



AAA FESTIVAL JULY 12-16, 2017

Sponsored by the American Accordionists' Association

The Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village

201 Village Boulevard • Princeton, NJ 08540

For reservations: 1-609-452-7900

Reservation Code: American Accordionists' Association

\$129 per night – Must be reserved at this rate by June 15, 2017

Parking FREE



A. SELECT REGISTRATION PACKAGE - NOT AVAILABLE AFTER JUNE 15

ADULT REGISTRATION – \$200.00

Includes: No. _____ @ \$200 \$ _____

Name Badge with your Name, City and State as you wish it to appear.

AAA 2017 Journal (1)

Entrance to Competition Rooms

Workshops

Exhibits

Junior and/or Senior Festival Orchestra Music Meet &

Greet Reception (Wednesday 7-9 pm) Luncheon &

Concert (Thursday 11:30 am-1:00 pm)

Pasta Night & Concert (Thursday 6:30 pm)

Concert (Friday 7 pm)

Open House Reception (Friday following Concert)

Awards Concert (Saturday 2 pm)

Gala Banquet & Entertainment (Saturday 6 pm)

Saturday Dinner Choice:

Chicken _____ Fish _____ Beef _____

Breakfast & Open Meeting (Sunday 9 am)

AAA FULL MEMBERS DEDUCT \$20 \$180 \$ _____
Applies to packages only, not individual tickets

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

B. SELECT REGISTRATION AND INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Registrations include: One (1) Journal, entrance to Competition Rooms, Workshops, Exhibits, Festival Orchestra Music, Junior Festival Orchestra Music, Meet & Greet (Wednesday), Awards Concert (Saturday) and a Name Badge with your Name, City and State as you wish it to appear.

☐ **REGISTRATION – \$35**

Required for each attendee No. _____ @ \$35 \$ _____

No registration required for children under 12

Thursday: TICKETS FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

_____ Luncheon & Concert – \$35 No. _____ @ \$35 \$ _____

_____ Pasta Night – \$27 No. _____ @ \$27 \$ _____

Friday:

_____ Gala Concert – \$25 No. _____ @ \$25 \$ _____

_____ Artist Reception – \$20 No. _____ @ \$20 \$ _____

Saturday:

_____ Banquet & Entertainment – \$65 No. _____ @ \$65 \$ _____

Dinner Choices: No. of ☐ Beef ☐ Chicken ☐ Fish

_____ Child Dinner – \$25 No. _____ @ \$25 \$ _____

Chicken Fingers

Sunday:

_____ Breakfast & Meeting – \$35 No. _____ @ \$35 \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

OR

Please print name, city and state CLEARLY as you wish it to appear on your name badge:

OPTIONAL

☐ **MEET & GREET RECEPTION** (Wednesday - 7:00-9:00 p.m.)

I/we would like to perform at the Reception.

Please schedule me at _____ p.m.

(time: 10 minutes per performer/act).

☐ **JUNIOR FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA** (Under 18 yrs. of age. Performance Saturday at Awards Concert - Daily rehearsals required and will not conflict with competition)

☐ **FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA** (Performance Saturday at Banquet - Daily rehearsals required)

Please send me music at the following level: _____ Beginner (1-3 years);

_____ Advanced (4-8 years); _____ Professional. Or, identify grade level _____

Festival begins Wednesday, July 12th at 3:00 p.m. with Registration followed by Competitions, Workshops and Meet & Greet Reception.

We are planning to attend the AAA Festival in Princeton, NJ and will be arriving via _____ on _____

Tickets will be available for pickup at the hotel on Wednesday, July 12 in your registration packet.



Charge my ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ DiscoverCard No.

Expiration Date _____ Name on Card _____ Security Code _____

My check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to American Accordionists' Association is enclosed.

Name _____

Address / City / State / Zip / Country _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Make checks payable to AAA and mail to:

American Accordionists' Association • c/o Mary Tokarski, Chairman • 15 Maplewood Lane • Northford, CT 06472

Phone/Fax (203) 484-5095 • E-mail: ameraccord1938@gmail.com or mary.tokarski@comcast.net

American Accordionists' Association Festival 2017



Wed, July 12 – Sun, July 16

**The Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village
201 Village Boulevard
Princeton, New Jersey 08540**



***Featuring fabulous Guest Artists and Workshop Leaders
The Carmen Carrozza Competition with \$8,000 in prizes
The Elsie Bennett Composition Competition***

Special hotel room rate is \$129 per night + FREE parking!
(Please reserve early, as the number of rooms at this rate is limited)

[Click here](#) for reservations or enter the following link into your browser

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1605171143&key=2561CC1D>

or

call 1-609-452-7900 and mention the American Accordionists' Association



AAA Festival 2017



Guest Artists & Workshop Leaders



Jamie Maschler
Gala Concert & Workshop



Will Holshouser
Gala Concert & Workshop



Eddie Monteiro
Gala Concert



Bruce Gassman
Gala Concert & Workshop



Dr. Robert McMahan
Gala Concert & Workshop



Cecylia Barczyk
Cello, Gala Concert



Emanuel Borowsky
Violin, Gala Concert



Dallas Vietty
Gala Concert & Workshop
Youth Outreach



Ron Oswanski
Accordion, Gala Concert



Dr. Robert Morse
Conductor, AAA Festival Orchestra
Workshop Presenter





AAA Festival 2017



Guest Artists & Workshop Leaders



Rachel Quirbach
Luncheon Concert &
Workshop



Mitch Guido
Luncheon Concert &
Conductor, Youth Jazz Ensemble



Will Comer
Luncheon Concert



Cody McSherry
Luncheon Concert



Anton Klettner
Luncheon Concert



Joseph Klettner
Luncheon Concert



Joan Grauman
Workshop
AAA Archivist



The Accordion Pops Orchestra
Al Terzo, Conductor
Pasta Night (Thursday)

Princeton AAA SqueezeFest – July 12 – 16, 2017

Tentative Schedule of Events

Wednesday, July 12

- 3:00 – 5:00 pm: Registration
- 5:00 – 9:00 pm: Exhibits Open
- 5:30 pm: Youth Track Workshop: ***Chords and grooves for the accordion: How to play with bass and drums*** – Presenter, Dallas Vietty
- 7:00 pm: Meet & Greet: Informal performances by competitors and guests alike – special guests from the local media, including newspapers, radio and TV
- 8:00 pm: Reception for Registered Guests (**Ticket required**)
- 9:00 pm: After Hours Club – Guest Host, Will Holshouser. Bring your instrument and be a part of the entertainment! Everyone is welcome.

Thursday, July 13

- 9:00 – 10:00 am: Junior Orchestra Rehearsal
- 9:00 – 11:00 am & 1:00 – 3:30 pm: Registration
- 9:00 – 11:00 am & 1:00 – 3:30 pm: Exhibits
- 9:00 am: Workshop: ***The Accordion in Opera, 1898 to the Present*** – Presenter, Dr. Robert Young McMahan
- 9:30 am – 3:00 pm: Competitions: Standard and Open Solos
- 10:15 am: Workshop: ***Telling Stories without Words: Improving Your Musical Expression and Phrasing*** – Presenter, Rachel Quirbach
- 11:30 am: Luncheon (**Ticket required**) – Entertainment featuring AAA's young rising stars!
- 1:15 pm: Workshop: ***The Accordion as Citizen of the World: writing music for our eclectic instrument*** – Presenter, Will Holshouser
- 2:00 pm: Carrozza Memorial Competition performances
- 3:30 – 5:30 pm: Festival Orchestra Rehearsal
- 6:30 pm: Pasta Night (**Ticket required**) – Accordion Pops Orchestra, strolling accordionists
- 9:00 pm: After Hours Club – Guest Host, Jamie Maschler. Bring your instrument and be a part of the entertainment! Everyone is welcome.

Friday, July 14

- 9:00 am – 1:00 pm: Registration
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm: Exhibits
- 9:00 am: Workshop: ***Getting Around Stradella*** – Presenter, Dr. William Morse
- 9:30 am – 3:00 pm: Competitions – Standard and Open Solos
- 10:00 am – 2:00 pm: Youth Involvement Program Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal & Lunch
- 10:15 am: Workshop: ***What Events Led to the Formation of the American Accordionists' Association?*** – Presenter, Joan Grauman, AAA Historian
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm: Junior Orchestra Rehearsal
- 2:00 pm: Workshop: – ***From EISENHOWER to FLOWER POWER – How to Perform "The Music You Grew Up With"!!!*** – Presenter, Bruce Gassman
- 3:30 – 5:30 pm: Festival Orchestra Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm: Gala Concert (**Ticket required**) – Guest Artists: Jamie Maschler, Will Holshouser, Eddie Monteiro, Bruce Gassman, Dallas Vietty & Ron Oswanski, Dr. Robert Young McMahan with Cecylia Barczyk and Emmanuel Borowsky
- 9:00 pm: Artist Reception (**Ticket required**)

Saturday, July 15

9:00 – 10:00 am: Junior Orchestra Rehearsal
9:00 am – 3:30 pm: Exhibits
9:00 am: Workshop: **Tango Nuevo** – Presenter, Jamie Maschler
9:30 am – 12:00 noon: Competitions – Duets, Ensembles, Orchestras, Entertainment AAA, Adults
10:00 am – 1:30pm: Youth Involvement Program Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal & Lunch
2:00 pm: Awards Concert – Junior Orchestra, Youth Involvement Jazz Ensemble, Bennett Competition Winners, Carrozza Memorial Competition Winners, AAA's Coupe Mondiale Representative, Prizes
3:30 – 5:30 pm: Festival Orchestra Rehearsal
6:00 pm: Cocktail Hour
7:00 pm: Gala Banquet (**Ticket required**) – Performance by Festival Orchestra
9:00 pm: After Hours Club – Guest Host, Bruce Gassman. Bring your instrument and be a part of the entertainment! Everyone's welcome.

Sunday, July 16

9:00 am: Farewell Breakfast and Open Meeting (**Ticket required**)

OVERVIEW of Schedule:

REGISTRATION:

Wednesday, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Thursday, 9:00 – 11:00 am & 1:00 – 3:30 pm
Friday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA REHEARSALS: Conductor, Dr. William Morse

Thursday, 3:30 – 5:30 pm
Friday, 3:30 – 5:30 pm
Saturday, 3:30 – 5:30 pm
Saturday, 7:00 pm: Performance at Gala Banquet

JUNIOR FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA REHEARSALS: Conductor, Mary Tokarski

Thursday, 9:00 – 10:00 am
Friday, 2:00 – 3:00 pm
Saturday, 9:00 – 10:00 am
Saturday, 2:00 pm: Performance at Awards Concert

COMPETITIONS:

Thursday, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm: Standard and Open Solos
Friday, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm: Standard and Open Solos
Saturday, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon: Duets, Ensembles, Orchestras, Entertainment AAA, Adults

EXHIBITS:

Wednesday, 5:00 – 9:00 pm
Thursday, 9:00 – 11:00 am & 1:00 – 3:30 pm
Friday, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Saturday, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

YOUTH TRACK and YOUTH INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM JAZZ ENSEMBLE: Conductor, Mitch Guido

Wednesday, 5:30 – 6:30 pm: Workshop – Presenter Dallas Vietty

Wednesday, 7:00 – 9:00 pm: Meet and Greet

Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm: Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal & Lunch

Saturday, 10:00 am – 1:30 pm: Jazz Ensemble Rehearsal & Lunch

Saturday, 2:00 pm: Performance at Awards Concert

WORKSHOPS:

Wednesday, 5:30 pm: ***Chords and grooves for the accordion: How to play with bass and drums*** –

Presenter, Dallas Vietty – **Youth Track Program**

Thursday, 9:00 am: ***The Accordion in Opera, 1898 to the Present*** – Presenter, Dr. Robert Young McMahan

Thursday, 10:15 am: ***Telling Stories without Words: Improving Your Musical Expression and Phrasing*** –

Presenter, Rachel Quirbach

Thursday, 1:15 pm: ***The Accordion as Citizen of the World: writing music for our eclectic instrument*** –

Presenter, Will Holshouser

Friday, 9:00 am: ***Getting Around Stradella*** – Presenter, Dr. William Morse

Friday, 10:15 am: ***What Events Led to the Formation of the American Accordionists' Association?*** –

Presenter, Joan Grauman, AAA Historian

Friday, 2:00 pm: ***From EISENHOWER to FLOWER POWER – How to Perform "The Music You Grew Up With"!!!*** – Presenter, Bruce Gassman

Saturday, 9:00 am: ***Tango Nuevo*** – Presenter, Jamie Maschler

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Wednesday, 7:00 pm: Meet & Greet – Open to everyone! Informal performances by competitors and guests alike. Special guests from the local media, including newspapers, radio and TV

Wednesday, 8:00 pm: Reception for Registered Guests **(Ticket required)**

Thursday, 11:30 am: Luncheon **(Ticket required)** – Entertainment featuring AAA's young rising stars

Thursday, 6:30 pm: Pasta Night **(Ticket required)** – with entertainment by the Accordion Pops Orchestra and strolling accordionists

Friday, 7:00 pm: Gala Concert **(Ticket required)** – Guest Artists: Jamie Maschler, Will Holshouser, Eddie Monteiro, Bruce Gassman, Dallas Vietty & Ron Oswanski, and Dr. Robert Young McMahan with Cecylia Barczyk and Emmanuel Borowsky

Friday immediately following the GALA Concert – Artist Reception **(Ticket required)**

Saturday, 2:00 pm: Awards Concert: Junior Orchestra – Mary Tokarski Conducting, Youth Involvement Jazz Ensemble – Mitch Guido conducting, Bennett Competition Winners, Carrozza Memorial Competition Winners, AAA's Coupe Mondiale Representative, Prizes

Saturday, 6:00 pm: Cocktail Hour – Cash Bar

Saturday, 7:00 pm: Gala Banquet **(Ticket required)** – Performance by Festival Orchestra, Dr. William Morse conducting

Sunday, 9:00 am: Farewell Breakfast and Open Meeting **(Ticket required)**

AFTER HOURS CLUB: Bring your instrument and be a part of the entertainment! Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday with Guest Host Will Holshouser, **Thursday** with Guest Host Jamie Maschler, and **Saturday** with Guest Host, Bruce Gassman. After Hours Club will start at 9:00 pm **OR** immediately following all other activities.



CARMEN CARROZZA MEMORIAL AWARD COMPETITION

Prizes funded by the Carmen Carrozza Scholarship Fund

To further popularize the AAA-Commissioned repertoire, the Carmen Carrozza Scholarship Committee is offering \$8,000 in cash prizes to the winners of this competition for all acoustic accordionists (piano and button keyboards). Over the years, Maestro Carrozza himself premiered most of the AAA-commissioned works and he was most familiar with this important legacy to the accordion world.



The Open Division of this competition requires accordionists to choose one of the listed commissioned pieces, one of the Standard Repertoire pieces and one or more pieces of entertainment value – all to be performed in a single program to demonstrate well-rounded musicianship. Participants may NOT repeat a selection from a previous winning program.

The Junior Division of this competition requires accordionists to choose one of the listed original pieces, one of the Standard Repertoire pieces and one or more pieces of entertainment value – all to be performed in a single program to demonstrate well-rounded musicianship. Participants may NOT repeat a selection from a previous winning program.

WINNERS will be obligated to perform at the Awards Concert on July 15th at the Princeton SqueezeFest and/or a future Carrozza Scholarship Fundraiser if requested.

PRIZES:

Open Division (up to 32 years of age):

1st prize - \$3,000 2nd prize - \$1,500 3rd prize - \$750

Junior Division (up to 15 years of age):

1st prize - \$1,500 2nd prize - \$750 3rd prize - \$500

OPEN DIVISION:

I – SELECT ONE

AAA Commissioned Works

Iridescent Rondo (Henry Cowell)
Four Nocturnes (Robert Russell Bennett)
Prelude & Dance (Paul Creston)
Pavanna & Rondo (Carlos Surinach)

II – SELECT ONE

Standard Repertoire

Vivo (John Gart)
Prelude and Scherzo (Eugene Ettore)
Omaggio A Pietro (Pietro Frosini)

III – ENTERTAINMENT OWN CHOICE

Jazz, Latin, Musette, Polka, etc. –
NO CLASSICAL

JUNIOR DIVISION:

I – SELECT ONE – Original Works

Cascade (Carmen Carrozza)
Parisian Musette (Carmen Carrozza)
Spring Caprice (Pietro Deiro)

II – SELECT ONE

Standard Repertoire

Pioneer Concerto (Eugene Ettore)
Quick Silver (Pietro Deiro)
Mimicri (Pietro Deiro)

III – ENTERTAINMENT OWN CHOICE

Jazz, Latin, Musette, Polka, etc. –
NO CLASSICAL

AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS' ASSOCIATION

Contest Chairman, Mary Tokarski

15 Maplewood Lane • Northford, CT 06472 • Phone/Fax (203) 484-5095

Visit our website at www.ameraccord.com

E-mail: ameraccord1938@gmail.com or mary.tokarski@comcast.net

COMPETITION RULES:

Entry Fee: The Contestant must be sponsored by an AAA member or pay the annual \$65 AAA membership fee in order to compete. Entry fee of \$60 must accompany the fully completed Entry Form (below) plus the additional \$65 for a non-sponsored entry. Entries not fully completed will be not be accepted.

Instrument Requirements: Competitor must perform the program with an acoustic accordion as a solo instrument (piano or button keyboard), in conformity with the competition rules.

Age Limit: *Open Division* – Maximum 32 years of age as of June 1, 2017 (closing date for entries)

Junior Division – Up to 15 years of age as of June 1, 2017 (closing date for entries)

Closing Date: Entries must be postmarked no later than June 1, 2017. Online entries will be accepted until that date.

Time and Place: The competition will be held on July 13-14, 2017 at the Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village, New Jersey. Draw for Position will take place on Wednesday, July 12, 2017.

Music: Printed copies of published material is required. Two copies must be submitted to the Contest Chairperson at the Draw for Position. Performance must be from memory with the exception of the AAA Commissioned Works segment, where music CAN be used.

Time Limit: *Open Division:* Playing time, excluding brief breaks between pieces, may not exceed 15 minutes, nor be less than 12 minutes. ***Junior Division:*** Playing time, excluding brief breaks between pieces, may not exceed 12 minutes, nor be less than 9 minutes.

Music Requirements: Competitor's program must consist of at least three sections outlined on front of this form. To order required music selections for the Carrozza Competition, please visit www.ernestdeffner.com and select the AAA link near the top. Participants may NOT repeat a selection from a previous winning program.

ENTRY FORM

Contestant's Name (First) _____ (Last) _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

Penalties: There will be point penalties for any infraction of the rules including time limits.

Judging Criteria: Entrants will be judged on musicianship, appropriate attire, professional presentation and rapport with the audience. Judges' decision will be final and cannot be challenged.

AAA Member Sponsor: _____

Send Entry Form and Fees (\$60 for sponsored entry, and additional \$65 for non-sponsored entry) by

☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover or ☐ American Express

Card # _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____ Cardholder _____

Please list titles of the Pieces you will play and duration of each: Security code (required) _____

I – AAA Commissioned work (*Open Division*) _____ Time: _____

OR Original Work (*Junior Division*) _____ Time: _____

II – Standard Repertoire Piece _____ Time: _____

III – Own Choice Entertainment _____ Time: _____

Please Check:

☐ Entry Fee (\$60)

☐ Non-sponsored Entry (\$65)

AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS' ASSOCIATION

Contest Chairman, Mary Tokarski

15 Maplewood Lane • Northford, CT 06472 • Phone/Fax (203) 484-5095

Visit our website at www.ameraccord.com

E-mail: ameraccord1938@gmail.com or mary.tokarski@comcast.net



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AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS' ASSOCIATION

AAA FESTIVAL July 12-16, 2017

Contest Rules and Required Composition List



Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village
201 Village Boulevard • Princeton, NJ 08540

For reservations: call 1-609-452-7900

Reservation Code: American Accordionists' Association

\$129 per night – Must be reserved at this rate by June 15, 2017 – Free Parking

Categories include Standard and Open Solos and Duets, as well as Open Ensembles and Bands. Contestants in standard categories must choose a selection from the Standard Music List. All the other categories are Open – which means you can play ANYTHING you wish except in the Ethnic, Pop and Jazz categories, where the style of music is designated.

MUSIC LIST FOR STANDARD CATEGORIES

STANDARD SOLOS

Standard Solo Prep

Frogs and Frills.....ED86
Captain Kangaroo.....MO12B

Standard Solo Elementary

Elbow Polka.....OP4272
Cadets March.....MO5A

Standard Solo Intermediate

Twin City Polka.....MO45A
Ferryboat Polka.....MO44

Standard Solo Advanced

Trickling Keys.....ED471
Study in Hi Fi.....MO85A

STANDARD DUETS

Standard Duet Elementary

Western Round-Up.....MO1C-B/P
Junior Polka.....ED803D

Standard Duet Intermediate

Two Busy Beavers.....AR5014
Campus March.....AR6001/11

Standard Duet Advanced

Skaters Waltz.....AR5003
Gypsy Love Song.....AR6002/2

All music may be ordered from:
Ernest Deffner Publications
P.O. Box 11663
Alexandria, VA 22312 USA
Phone: 703-941-9300
Fax: 703-941-9301
Visit their website:
www.ernestdeffner.com
and select:

Click here to find sheet music and books for the American Accordionists' Association competition and festival.

COMPETITION CATEGORIES AND TIME LIMITS

OPEN CATEGORIES

Elsie M. Bennett Original Composition
Competition..... see rules page 4

Open Juniorette Solo – up to 9..... 3 min.
Open Junior Solo – up to 12..... 5 min.
Open Intermediate Solo – up to 15..... 6 min.
Open Senior Solo – 16 & over..... 8 min.

Open Founder's Jrette. Solo - up to 9... 3 min.
Open Founder's Jr. Solo - up to 12... 5 min.
Open Founder's Int. Solo - up to 15... 6 min.
Open Founder's Sr. Solo - 16 & over... 8 min.

Open Ethnic Jrette. Solo – up to 9.... 3 min.
Open Ethnic Jr. Solo – up to 12..... 4 min.
Open Ethnic Int. Solo – up to 15..... 5 min.
Open Ethnic Sr. Solo – 16 & over..... 6 min.

Open Pop Jrette. Solo – up to 9..... 3 min.
Open Pop Jr. Solo – up to 12..... 4 min.

Open Pop Int. Solo – up to 15..... 5 min.
Open Pop Sr. Solo – 16 & over..... 6 min.

Open Jr. Jazz Solo – up to 15..... 3 min.
Open Sr. Jazz Solo – 16 & Over..... 5 min.

Open Juniorette Duet – up to 9..... 3 min.
Open Junior Duet – up to 12..... 5 min.
Open Intermediate Duet – up to 15... 6 min.
Open Senior Duet – 16 & Over..... 8 min.
Open Adult Duet..... 8 min.

Open Mixed Duet..... 6 min.

Open Junior Ensemble – up to 12.... 6 min.
Open Senior Ensemble – Pro/Am.... 10 min.

Open Junior Band – up to 12..... 8 min.
Open Senior Band – Pro/Am..... 12 min.

Festival Band – Pro/Am..... 15 min.

Evaluation Solo..... 3 min.

Adult Open Solo..... 6 min.
Adult Ethnic Solo..... 5 min.
Adult Pop Solo..... 5 min.
Adult Founder's Solo..... 6 min.
Adult Jazz Solo..... 5 min.

Entertainment AAA..... see page 4

STANDARD CATEGORIES

See Standard Music List above

Standard Solo Prep
Standard Solo Elementary
Standard Solo Intermediate
Standard Solo Advanced

Standard Duet Elementary
Standard Duet Intermediate
Standard Duet Advanced

AGAIN THIS YEAR! All our categories will remain the same, and the Presentation of Awards will be on a merit basis. See details on page 3.

GENERAL RULES

REGISTRATION - \$35 Registration Fee is required for each contestant in the Festival which includes up to five (5) family members who live in the same household. This entitles the family to one journal, and badges for each family member which will allow entrance to competition rooms, exhibits, workshops and Awards Concert.

CLOSING DATE – The official contest closing date for entry forms and full payment is June 1, 2017.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Contestants who are studying accordion must be entered by their music teacher or the music school where they study. If the teacher is not a full AAA member, a fee equal to membership dues (\$65) must accompany the applications and entry fees. Contestants who are not currently studying with an AAA member/teacher, may enter themselves provided they (the contestant) are AAA members or have paid a fee equal to membership annual dues (\$65) in addition to entry fees.
2. Entries MUST be accompanied by the appropriate entry fees which are non-refundable. Payment for entry fees must be submitted by the sponsoring teacher on ONE check for the entire amount made payable to "AAA". Individual student checks will only be accepted if the student is a member of AAA as stated in #1 above.
3. If possible, the Contest Committee will accept late entries, provided they are accompanied by a \$10.00 late fee per entry.

ANY ENTRY NOT FULLY COMPLETED WILL BE REFUSED.

RESTRICTIONS – Contestant may not repeat any selection(s) with which they won first place in a national AAA Competition during the past two (2) years. A photocopy of printed music is illegal. Those who submit photocopies of music which is available in published form will be disqualified.

CATEGORIES – The Contest Committee reserves the right to combine or divide similar categories, as may be warranted by number of entries.

PLAYING POSITION – A contest schedule will be e-mailed indicating time, date and place of all performances. Playing positions will be determined by the Contest Committee. No changes or substitutions are permitted.

JUDGING – The following criteria is considered in judging a performance: correct tempi, coordination of both hands, time values, accuracy of notes, phrasing, right and left hand technique, articulation, interpretation of music, dynamics, musicianship and overall performance, memorization (where required). The decision of the Judge(s) is final.

PENALTIES – Failure to comply with the rules for any category may result in: A. Disqualification, B. Loss of points, C. Forfeiture of award, D. Other as the occasion demands.

COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS – A signed letter by the complainant must be submitted to the Contest Chairman within ten (10) days after the contest. A protest fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) must accompany the letter.

SUPERVISION – Festival and competition are under the auspices of the American Accordionists' Association. The competition is governed by the Contest Committee of the American Accordionists' Association, which shall have final jurisdiction over any question.

RESPONSIBILITY – The American Accordionists' Association is not responsible for any delay, bodily injury, loss or damage to the property of participating contestants or spectators. A signed entry form shall indicate the competitor's agreement to the foregoing.

DEFINITIONS

ACCORDION BAND – At least eight (8) accordionists are required. In addition, percussion, amplification and electronic accordions are permitted.

ACCORDION ENSEMBLE – At least three (3) and not more than seven (7) accordionists are required. In addition, amplification and one (1) percussionist is permitted.

AGE LIMITS

1. Adults may enter all categories except those indicating age restrictions.
2. Solo and Duet contestants may not be older than the age limit stipulated for the category as of the closing date of entries (see above). For Band and Ensemble categories, the contestant's age is determined as of January 1st of the contest year.
3. Contestants are permitted to enter any category over their age, providing the entry is in conformity with the contest rules, but not two (2) categories of the same type.

AMATEUR – One who does not earn his/her living through playing or teaching the accordion and/or who is not a member of the Musician's Union.

AWARDS – Awards for all Solo and Duet categories will reflect a merit award system. Contestants will be scored on the Individual's performance only. Judges will take into consideration the age of the contestant, years of study and overall Musical excellence. Music chosen must be in compliance with the rules for the category entered. Competitors achieving a score of 95-100 will receive a trophy, those achieving 90-94 will receive a silver medal, 85-89 will receive a bronze medal. Each performer will receive a participation award in

the form of a trophy or medal as described above.

With this system of adjudication, it is possible that EVERY competitor in a category could receive a trophy, or EVERY competitor could receive a medal. Results will be on the merit of the performance only!

Each member of duets and ensembles will receive a trophy or medal as described above.

All awards will be presented at the AWARDS CONCERT during the Festival. Those not picked up at the Awards Concert will be forfeited. We will NOT mail awards.

OPEN CATEGORIES – Contestant may choose the music.

OPEN SOLO – Contestant may play anything they wish except Ethnic, Pop or Jazz selections.

FOUNDER'S SOLO – Any composition written by Magnante, Biviano, Deiro, Von Hallberg, Gart, Frosini, Galla-Rini or Nunzio.

OPEN ETHNIC SOLO – Any polka or ethnic selection.

OPEN POP SOLO – Any current or "traditional" pop selection. This category is not for jazz.

OPEN JAZZ SOLO – Any current or traditional "jazz" selection.

OPEN DUET, ENSEMBLE, BAND – Contestant may play anything they wish.

MIXED DUET – Must consist of accordion and any other instrument or voice.

STANDARD CATEGORIES – Contestant must play music from the Music List for Standard Categories.

CATEGORIES - Awards, Fees, Music and Performance Requirements

Awards for all Solo and Duet categories will reflect the "festival" atmosphere (a merit award system). Contestants will be scored on the individual's performance only. Judges will take into consideration the age of the contestant, years of study and overall Musical excellence. Music chosen must be in compliance with the rules for the category entered. Competitors achieving a score of 95-100 will receive a trophy, those achieving 90-94 will receive a silver medal, 85-89 will receive a bronze medal. Each performer will receive a participation award in the form of a trophy or medal as described above.

With this system of adjudication, it is possible that EVERY competitor in a category could receive a trophy, or EVERY competitor could receive a medal. Results will be on the merit of the performance only!

Each member of duets and ensembles will receive a trophy or medal as described above.

All awards will be presented at the AWARDS CONCERT during the Festival. Those not picked up at the Awards Concert will be forfeited. We will NOT mail awards.

STANDARD SOLOS

Entry Fee – \$25.00

Music and Performance Requirements

1. Contestant must perform a selection from the Music List for Standard Categories for each category entered.
2. Contestant must provide a clean copy of published music for the judge.
3. Music must be performed from memory.
4. Repeats are optional, unless specified in the Music List.
5. Standard Solo contestants MAY enter the Open Ethnic, Open Pop, Open Jazz & Evaluation categories as there are no standard categories for these selections. They may NOT, however, enter the Open Solo or Founder's Solo categories.

STANDARD DUET

Entry Fees - \$15.00 per member (\$30.00 per entry)

Music and Performance Requirements

1. Contestants must perform a selection from the Music List for Standard Duets.
2. Contestants must provide a clean copy of music for the judge(s).
3. Music memorization is optional.
4. Repeats are optional.
5. Contestants entering Standard Duet may NOT enter the Open Duet Category.

OPEN SOLOS – Open Solo, Founder's Solo, Open Ethnic and Open Pop. Each Open Solo Category is based upon the contestant's age. *See Age and Time Limits.* (Juniorette - up to 9 years of age; Junior - up to 12; Intermediate - up to 15; Senior - age 16 and over). Contestant may enter any or all Open Solo categories provided the age is appropriate. They may NOT enter Standard Solo or Standard Duet categories.

Entry Fee: - \$25.00 per category

Eligibility: Competitor may not be older than the age limit of his/her Category on the closing date of entries. It is permitted for a Contestant to enter a Category of a higher age than he/she is, but not both.

Music and Performance Requirements

1. Contestant may choose the music he/she will perform.
OPEN SOLO – Contestant may play anything they wish, except Ethnic, Pop or Jazz selections.
FOUNDER'S SOLO - Contestant may play anything they wish that was written by one of the AAA Founders - Magnante, Biviano, Deiro, Von Hallberg, Gart, Frosini, Galla-Rini or Nunzio.
OPEN ETHNIC – Any polka or ethnic selection.
OPEN POP – Any current or "traditional" pop selection. This category is not for jazz.
2. Music should be played from memory in all Solo categories.
3. Contestant must provide a clean copy of published music for the judge; unpublished compositions or arrangements may be submitted in manuscript form. Music or lead sheet optional for Pop Solo.
4. Open Solo Contestants may not enter any Standard Solo Category. They may enter any or all Open Solo Categories. Anyone may enter Evaluation.

5. Contestants playing more than 30 seconds past the time limit will be subject to a point penalty to be determined by the Contest Committee.

See Age and Time Limits (maximums).

OPEN JAZZ SOLO - Two divisions: Junior (up to and including age 15) and Senior (16 and over)

Entry Fee - \$25.00

Eligibility: Competitor may not be older than the age limit of his/her Category on the closing date of entries. It is permitted for a Contestant to enter a Category of a higher age than he/she is, but not both.

Music and Performance Requirements

1. Contestant may choose the music he/she will perform, (see guidelines under "Definitions").
2. Music should be played from memory in all Solo categories.
3. Music or lead sheet optional for Jazz Solo.

See Age and Time Limits (maximums)

ADULT CATEGORIES (Open, Ethnic, Pop, Founder's and Jazz)

Entry Fee – \$25.00

Music and Performance Requirements

1. There are five Open Adult Categories: 1) ADULT OPEN – music is own choice; 2) ADULT ETHNIC – play any polka or ethnic selection; 3) ADULT POP – play any traditional or current "pop" selection; 4) ADULT FOUNDER'S - any composition written by AAA Founders - Magnante, Biviano, Deiro, Von Hallberg, Gart, Frosini, Galla-Rini or Nunzio; 5) ADULT JAZZ – (see OPEN JAZZ SOLO above)
2. Music may be performed from memory.
3. Contestant must provide a clean copy of published music for the judge; unpublished compositions or arrangements may be submitted in manuscript form. Music or lead sheet optional for Pop Solo or Jazz Solo.

OPEN DUETS

OPEN DUET - Juniorette, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Adult
OPEN MIXED DUET

See Age and Time Limits (maximums)

Entry Fees - \$15.00 per member (\$30.00 per entry)

Eligibility: Competitors must not be over the age limit of their Category, determined as of the closing date of entries (June 1, 2017).

Music and Performance Requirements

1. There is no restriction to the music performed.
2. Contestant must provide a clean copy of music for the judge; manuscripts will be accepted only for unpublished music.
3. Music memorization is optional.
4. Contestants entering Open Duet may NOT enter Standard Duet.

See Age and Time Limits (maximums)

BANDS & ENSEMBLES

OPEN ENSEMBLE – Junior, Senior

OPEN BAND – Junior, Senior

Entry Fees - \$60.00

Eligibility: The Contestant's age for Band and Ensemble Categories is determined as of January 1st of the contest year.

Awards: First-, second- and third-place winners will receive trophies; fourth- and fifth-place winners will receive ribbons.

Music and Performance Requirements

1. There is no restriction to the music performed.
2. Contestant must provide two (2) published scores for the judges. Manuscripts will be accepted only if the work is unpublished.
3. Contestants may enter as many Band and Ensemble Categories as they wish, within their age limit.

Set-up Time for Ensembles and Bands: Ensembles: 8 minutes; Bands: 12 minutes

A two-minute check for amplification and tonal balance is allowed additionally. A one (1) point penalty, per judge, will be assessed against any group exceeding specified set-up time.

See Age and Time Limits (maximums)

ENTERTAINMENT AAA (Professional or Amateur)

Entry Fee - \$60.00

Evaluation Criteria

1. Delivery: Elements such as poise, style, showmanship are considered.
2. Effectiveness: The ability to hold the attention of an audience.
3. Material: The material selected should display the accordion to its best advantage.
4. Musicality and technique: An evaluation of musicality and technical proficiency as a unit in the art form presented.
5. Entertainment quality.
6. Special effects.
7. Vocals and dancing (if used).

Music and Performance Requirements

1. There is no restriction to the music performed.
2. Emphasis must be on the entertainment value of the accordion.
3. Costumes, vocals, dancers, decorated stands, special lighting and props are permitted. (Due to limited space and set-up times, props should be kept to a minimum.)
4. Tapes may be used for special effects, not musical portions.
5. Stationary props are not permitted.
6. Other instruments may be used, however, the accordion performance must dominate.
7. Lead sheet or score not required.

Set-up Time – 6 minutes

Time Limit – 15 minutes (maximum)

EVALUATION SOLO

Entry Fee - \$25.00

Music and Performance Requirements

1. Non competitive.
2. No age restriction.
3. Contestant may choose any style of music.
4. Performance in this category is private permitting discussion between adjudicator and contestant. Guests of the performer's choice may be allowed in the room at the time of the contestant's evaluation.

Time Limit – 3 minutes

THE ELSIE M. BENNETT COMPOSITION COMPETITION FOR ASPIRING COMPOSERS

Purpose: The general purpose of this competition is to add to the solo concert repertoire of the acoustic accordion. There is no directive for the style of the composition. Refer to the guide for composing for the standard piano accordion and links to other helpful websites posted on the AAA website ameraccord.com.

Awards: There will be first, second and third place awards presented when entries merit them. The AAA reserves the right to grant less or no awards based on the quality of the submissions. A cash award in the amount of \$250 will be presented to the first place winner in the junior division and a cash award in the amount of \$500 will be presented to the first place winner in the open division.

Judging: A panel of prominent accordionists and composers will be assembled by the AAA to judge all submissions. The decision of the judges will be final.

COMPETITION RULES:

1. Entry fee of \$35 must accompany each submission.

2. Requirements:

Junior Category – up to the age of 18. The length of the submission must be a minimum of 32 measures and a maximum of 3 minutes in length of performance.

Open Category – University to Adult. The length of the submission must be a minimum of 1 1/2 minutes and a maximum of 4 minutes.

3. All levels must be notated on manuscript paper by the entrant or computer generated by the entrant. Entrant MUST submit 2 copies of the manuscript, and 2 copies of a recording of the music (CD or MP3 preferred).

Winning Compositions will receive:

1. An opportunity to have the music performed at an AAA event. The composer may play it personally, select someone to perform it, or ask the AAA to select a performer.
2. Junior & Open Divisions: The possibility of publication, provided the composition meets the approval of the judges as appropriate publishable material.
3. The winning compositions will be announced in various AAA publications and on the worldwide accordion websites.

Submission Requirements:

1. Each composer may enter only ONE category. No more than one composition may be submitted by one composer.
2. Score MUST be legible...preferably done on a music publishing program such as Finale or Sibelius.
3. Two (2) copies of the score must be sent in hard copy. In addition, two recordings of the submission either on CDs, or electronically via email, must accompany the score.
4. Composer's name must NOT appear on the score or any CD that is submitted, only the name of the composition, the age of the composer, and the category entered.
5. Send entry form, entry fee, CD or MP3 and score to: Mary Tokarski, 15 Maplewood Lane • Northford, CT 06472

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: June 1, 2017 – Winners will be notified by e-mail on or about June 21st, 2017. Winners are encouraged to perform their compositions at the AAA Festival in Princeton, NJ, July 12-16, 2017. If the composer is NOT an accordionist, arrangements can be made to have the music performed at the festival.

Awards for all Solo and Duet categories will be on a merit award system. Competitors achieving a score of 95-100 will receive a trophy, those achieving 90-94 will receive a silver medal, 85-89 will receive a bronze medal. All awards will be presented at the AWARDS CONCERT during the Festival. Those not picked up at the Awards Concert will be forfeited. We will NOT mail awards.