



THE AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS' ASSOCIATION AAA FESTIVAL JULY 15-19, 2009

Contest Chairman, Mary Tokarski

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The Elsie M. Bennett Composition Competition for aspiring young composers.

PURPOSE: The general purpose of this competition is to encourage young students of the accordion and those who would like to work with and explore the many voices of the accordion to create literature for accordion, either as a solo instrument, or with other instruments. There is no directive for the style of the composition, ONLY that it is written for the acoustic accordion, not electronic accordion.

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 \$100 will be presented to the first place winner in each category.

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. The Composer must be sponsored by an AAA member or pay the annual \$65 AAA membership fee to submit a composition. Entry fee of \$20 must accompany each submission.
2. **Requirements:**
 - Junior Composers** – up to the age of 15. The length of the submission must be a minimum of 32 measures and a maximum of 3 minutes in length of performance.
 - Senior Composers** – ages 16 and over. 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 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 & Senior Levels: 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, on CDs, or electronically via email.
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 and score to address below.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: June 15th, 2009 -- Winners will be notified by mail on or about July 1st, 2009. Winners are encouraged to perform their compositions at the AAA Festival in Memphis July 15-19, 2009. If the composer is NOT an accordionist, arrangements can be made to have the music performed at the festival.

----- ENTRY FORM -----

NAME: _____

AAA MEMBER SPONSOR: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ COUNTRY _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: Home: _____ Mobile: _____

TITLE OF COMPOSITION: _____

INSTRUMENTATION: Check One () Solo Accordion () Accordion Duet () Accordion Ensemble () Accordion with _____

SEND ENTRY FORM, FEE (\$20 for sponsored entry, additional \$65 for non-sponsored entry), 2 SCORES to address below.

DEADLINE: Entries must be received by June 15, 2009. Entries from outside the U.S. should allow two weeks for delivery.

SIGNATURE of Composer _____ SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR – AAA Member _____

DATE: _____