

# American Accordionists' Association

## SALON



Dee Langley

### Wednesday, July 12 - 5:00pm **Playing with Others**

Gain confidence to make music as a group. Play along with Dee as your skills come together for a rewarding ensemble experience. Part of this workshop will also serve as the first rehearsal of the 2023 AAA Beginner Adult Band, which may perform later in the festival. Bring your accordion!



Dr. Robert Young McMahan

#### Thursday, July 13 - 9:30am The Indefatigable Elsie Bennett & the AAA **Composers Commissioning Committee**

For most of the second half of the 20th century, Elsie Bennett successfully convinced a who's who of famous composers to produce much-needed concert works for accordion. We will open her vast photo albums, allowing the pictures on screen to guide us through her incalculable contributions to the classical accordion.



"Papa Joe" De Clemente

#### **Thursday**, **July 13 - 10:30am** Tips & Tricks: Accordion Gigging

Learn some of what it takes to find success as a working accordionist from a seasoned professional! Papa Joe will cover many of the basics, including being prepared with the right equipment, showmanship fundamentals, advertising, filling your gig calendar, assorted genres, and connecting with your audience. There will even be a little singing! Bring your accordion!



Dee Langley

#### Friday, July 14 - 9:00am **Arranging Your Favorite Songs to** Play with Accordion Friends

This hands-on workshop focuses on the basic concept of playing with others - melody, harmony, bass, and rhythm - to create your own ensemble arrangements of favorite songs. You will create an arrangement from a lead sheet and experience some of Dee's own arrangements. Sheet music will be available. Bring your accordion!

#### Friday, July 14 - 10:00am **Eugene Ettore's Contributions to** 85 Years of the AAA

Learn about the music of a world-famous composer, accordionist, and educator, as Rita walks us through the chronology of Eugene Ettore's most important works, his three terms as AAA President, and his collaborations with other accordion giants in his mission to promote our favorite instrument.



Rita Davidson Barnea

#### Friday, July 14 - 1:30pm AAA Past, Present, and Future

Hear the perspective of "growing up with the AAA" from the association's newest Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Frank will discuss how the AAA has evolved over the past several decades, and what might be in store as we look to the youth of America to help promote our beloved instrument.



Frank Busso, Sr.

#### Friday, July 14 - 2:30pm **Bellows and Articulation Control**

Have you ever wondered what sets professionals apart from amateurs, and how to elevate your playing, even if you "just" play in your living room? World champion Grayson Masefield will shed some light on bellows techniques and other fundamentals to recognize potential improvements in your playing and to help those intangibles become more...well...tangible! *Bring your accordion!* 



Grayson Masefield

#### **Saturday, July 15 - 10:00am** Phrasing, Dynamics, and Musical Styles

Playing selections in different styles will not only affect your individual selections, but also the feel of your entire performance. A legend who has played everything from polkas to jazz to showtunes and more, Grammy winner Joey Miskulin will call upon his decades of performing & production experience to help you explore phrasing and dynamics in your playing. Bring your accordion!



Joey Miskulin