

Elsie M. Bennett Composition Competition for Aspiring Composers

Sponsored by the American Accordionists' Association



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 www.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 \$500 will be presented to the first place winner in the Open Division, and a cash award in the amount of \$250 will be presented to the first place winner in the Junior 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.

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) the publication of the work, provided the composition meets the approval of the judges as appropriate publishable material; and 3) the winning compositions will be announced in various AAA publications and on the worldwide accordion websites.



Competition Rules:

1. Entry fee of \$35 must accompany each submission.
2. Open to composers as follows:
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 – all ages. The length of the submission must be a minimum of 1 ½ minutes and a maximum of 5 minutes.
3. All levels must be notated on manuscript paper by the entrant or computer generated by the entrant. Entrant **MUST** send 2 copies of the manuscript, and 2 copies of a recording of the music (CD or mp3).

Submission requirements:

1. A check or money order for \$35.00 US must be submitted with the composition.
2. Each composer may enter only ONE category.
3. No more than one composition may be submitted by one composer.
4. Score **MUST** be **legible** - preferably done on a music publishing program such as Finale or Sibelius.
5. Two (2) copies of the score must be sent in hard copy, on CDs, or electronically via email.
6. 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.
7. Send entry form, entry fee, scores and recordings to: Mary Tokarski.
AAA President, 15 Maplewood Lane, Northford, CT 06472 USA



DEADLINE for entries: June 1st, 2017 -- Winners will be notified by mail on or about June 20th, 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.