

Elsie M. Bennett Composition Competition
Sponsored by the American Accordionists' Association

Entry Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ COUNTRY: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: Home: _____ Mobile: _____

TITLE OF COMPOSITION: _____

DURATION OF COMPOSITION in minutes and seconds: _____

CATEGORY of ENTRY (pick only one): () Junior (up to age 18) or () Open Division

Send the following 6 items to the address below:

- 1) Entry Form
- 2) \$25 Fee (payable, if preferred, via the AAA webpage Store, <http://www.ameraccord.com/cart.aspx>;
see under "Competition Entry" heading)
- 3) 2 copies of your Score (if hard copy by post; if PDF via email, only 1 copy necessary)
- 4) 2 RECORDINGS of your piece in one of the following media forms: CD or USB drive, if by mail; or only 1 copy, if electronically sent as an mp3 (but NOT mp4 or video form), or aaif or mp3 sound file from electronic notation program such as Finale or Sibelius if a live performance is not possible

Elsie M. Bennett Composition Competition
Joanna Darrow
c/o Acme Accordion School
322 Haddon Ave.
Haddon Township, NJ 08108, USA
E-Mail: acmeaccordion@gmail.com

DEADLINE: Entries must be received by June 1, 2023. Entries from outside the U.S. should allow two weeks for delivery.

SIGNATURE of Composer: _____

DATE: _____

Elsie M. Bennett Composition Competition

Sponsored by the American Accordionists' Association

Purpose: The general purpose of this competition is to add to the contemporary concert repertoire of the acoustic accordion. The composition may be a solo or a chamber work with other instruments of the composer's choosing. The contestant will find it helpful to study *The Composer's Guide to the Piano Accordion* on our website at <http://www.ameraccord.com/commissions/ComposersGuide.pdf>; hear some performances of AAA commissioned works at www.ameraccord.com/aaacommissions.php; and read special articles about these works at <http://www.ameraccord.com/aaacommissions2.php>.

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 submitted entries and the number of competitors. 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.

Competition Rules:

1. Entry fee of \$25 must accompany the 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 10 minutes.
3. All levels must be notated either in hard copy (music manuscript paper) or computer-generated form by the entrant. Entrant **MUST** send 2 copies of the score, and 2 copies of a recording of the music, specified as follows:

(CD, USB drive, or mp3). If the submitted score is a notation program file (such as Finale or Sibelius), an aiff or mp3 conversion of the file may be submitted online or on CD or USB drive, in lieu of a recording of a live performance if the latter is not possible.

DO NOT SUBMIT A VIDEO OF A LIVE PERFORMACE. For the sake of objectivity, neither names nor visual images of contestants are revealed to judges prior to their submission of final contest scorings and placements.

4. 1st place winners from the previous competition are not eligible to submit entries.
5. If there is only one (1) entry in any division that entry will automatically be placed in the following year's competition, without additional fees.

Winning Compositions will receive:

1. The opportunity to have the music performed at the AAA Festival. If the pandemic pre-emps yet another live gathering for the annual AAA Festival, a virtual event may be set instead to serve the purpose of publicizing the winners and hearing their compositions. The composer, if an accordionist, may elect to personally perform the work, select someone else who can do so, or request the AAA to select a performer.
2. The possibility of publication, provided the composition meets the approval of the judges as appropriately publishable material.
3. The winning compositions will be announced in various AAA publications and on the worldwide accordion websites, and the mp3 or mp4 of the music will be posted on the AAA website (ameraccord.com) as well as a sample page of the score for viewing. The composer's contact information will be included, if s/he permits, so that those who are interested in playing the music may purchase a copy from her/him.

Submission requirements:

1. A check or money order for \$25.00 US must be submitted with the composition. Payment may also be made electronically (see above).
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 & converted to a PDF file.
5. Two (2) hard copies of the score and recording (CDs) must be submitted by mail, **or** they can be sent electronically via email.
6. Composer's name **must not appear on the score** or any form of recording that is submitted, only the name of the composition, the age of the composer, and the category entered.
7. Mail entry form, entry fee, scores, and recordings to: Elsie M. Bennett Composition Competition / Joanna Darrow / c/o Acme Accordion School / 322 Haddon Ave. / Haddon Township, NJ 08108, USA; or electronically via email to acmeaccordion@gmail.com.

DEADLINE for entries: June 1, 2023 -- Winners will be notified by email on or about July 1, 2023.