

MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND



MAY 26-30

IN OXFORD,
MISSISSIPPI

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

OLD - TIME
piano playing

CONTEST AND FESTIVAL

The text '42ND YEAR' is written in a bold, red, serif font. It is enclosed within a circular gold border. Below the circle is a sunburst pattern of gold lines radiating outwards. The entire graphic is flanked by decorative gold flourishes and is positioned between two horizontal gold lines with circular end caps.

42ND
YEAR

oldtimepiano.org

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Sponsored by The University of Mississippi
Department of Music • College of Liberal Arts • Office of the Provost
Division of Outreach • Center for the Study of Southern Culture



THE UNIVERSITY of
MISSISSIPPI



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*2015 Junior Champion,
Daniel Souvigny*



2015 Champion, Adam Swanson

WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR OF OXFORD

On behalf of the Board of Aldermen and people of the entire community I would like to welcome the Old-Time Piano Playing Contest and Festival to Oxford.

While I am certain that we will enjoy your music, we hope that the contestants and their families, along with the many fans who come to Oxford will enjoy what we believe is a magical place.

Small, historical, charged with the beauty and the excitement of the University of Mississippi and the young people associated with the campus, and home to some of the best restaurants in the nation; we believe what our tourism professionals most proudly proclaim: *Oxford* — visit once and you always return.

Again, welcome, we hope that you will enjoy your stay as I am sure we will enjoy your music.

Sincerely,

George G. Patterson, *Mayor*

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Dear competitors and guests,

Welcome to Oxford and the University of Mississippi. Our community is excited about hosting, for the first time, the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest and Festival, which we anticipate will become an annual event. The musical styles that you cultivate represent a stimulating addition to our already diverse musical traditions, and I am confident they will find a congenial home here.

We hope that you will enjoy our wonderful venues, diverse eateries, and artistic atmosphere. You will discover that Oxford's reputation as a vibrant cultural and educational center, as well as a great town for celebrations, is well-deserved. My best wishes for a successful and pleasurable stay.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Riggs, *Professor and Chair*
Department of Music

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Welcome to Oxford and the University of Mississippi!

This weekend begins what we hope to be a long relationship with lovers of old-time music. The longevity of this contest speaks volumes to the time and effort of founder Ted Lemen and his legion of helpers. My

previous experience with the contest was as a judge, back in Decatur, Ill., in the mid-90's, and most recently in Peoria.

When I found out about the likely demise of this event last Spring, I called Ted to propose that it be moved down south to Oxford. After careful consideration, we all agreed that it was not time for this traditional celebration of music to end. What separates it from all of the ragtime festivals out there is the unique aspect of competition, open to young and old, and the inclusion of various musical genres like ragtime, traditional jazz, novelty song and blues.

I hope you will enjoy this weekend's events and the southern charm that abounds in our community. If you need anything, just ask. If you have suggestions as to how these five days of music making can be structured more to your liking, let us know. We want you to have a relaxing and fun experience and we want you to come back. So sit back and enjoy the imagination and personalities of these talented performers both young and old ... tell your friends about it ... and y'all come back to Oxford next year!

Ian Hominick,
Artistic Director

HISTORY OF THE FESTIVAL

As a fundraiser on Memorial Day in 1975, the Monticello Railway Museum hosted the first of 12 World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest editions that took place in that small town, located about halfway between Champaign and Decatur, Illinois. For 11 of those years, the contest took place on the rear platform of an old railroad caboose to the delight of hundreds of folks in lawn chairs, more in bleachers and even some perched atop box cars to get a better view. The last year it took place in Monticello was the same day as “Hands Across America” and lots of folks suspected there’d be traffic problems and stayed away. Others were deterred by a chill breeze and cloudy skies with sprinkles of rain as the wind swept over the high school football field, pressed into service in anticipation of bigger crowds. Consequently, 1986 was the year we decided to take our event, which had expanded to two days with afterglow parties, inside.

By 1987, we were ensconced in the Holiday Inn on the west side of Decatur Ill., and our stay there lasted until our move to Peoria in the late 90s. We spent two years with the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel after a long stretch at the Hotel Père Marquette, which closed for renovation. When the Four Points suddenly closed, the Peoria Convention and Visitor’s Bureau came to our rescue and we moved to the Embassy Suites a few years.

Our first contestant in 1975 showed up on a day that was hot and sweaty and would eventually be plagued by tornadoes nearby, forcing the contest into a baggage car with a back-up piano. Four contestants showed up but so did about 40 spectators. By year two, we were down to three contestants, but a much bigger audience and the third year, about 600 came to watch, boosted by our champ’s appearance on the Mike Douglas show in Cleveland, Ohio. After reading about her in a newspaper story in Chicago which was picked up by the wire services, the show flew her there for an appearance that also had Bob Hope and Jethro Tull’s singer Ian Anderson. She was thrilled, we were thrilled and we wound up with a dozen contestants.

Our champ for the first two years was Joybelle Squibb, a golf-playing granny from Vandalia, Ill.. Dorothy M. Herrold, a retired school teacher who got into playing full-time after her husband died, beat Squibb in 1977.



Audience brought their lawn chairs, Monticello, Ill., Railway Museum



Boxcar seats



Joybelle Squibb, age 71, 1977

Herrold, of LaPorte, IN, won three times in a row through 1979. She was our first of several three-time winners.

Through the years, the contest expanded from a one-afternoon affair where everybody picked up their lawn chair when the last tune was played and went to take a train ride. The first addition was a party afterward, with the first one held at Shakey's Pizza Parlor in Champaign, Ill.. Everybody spent the next 5 hours eating, drinking and singing along with the piano players. Having the event at a hotel solved the problem of lodging for those coming in for both days and also gave us rooms for the afterglows — with food service thrown in.

2016 is different, however, with the contest and all its events moved from Illinois to Mississippi. Instead of a hotel ballroom for our event, we're using a theater that's part of the University of Mississippi's Music Department, and without our annual boat ride on the Spirit of Peoria, we're taking a double-decker bus tour around the historic sites in Oxford. We've added a new competition, the Cutting Contest, brought back some of our favorites for judging and workshops, and scheduled a Sunday evening concert for the first time. We're hoping it was enough fun for you to come back next year!

Ted Lemen, Founder



Ted entertains



Dorothy M. Herrold, Laporte, IN First 3-time champ



Ted Lemen, Mimi Blais, and Judy Leschewski

JUDGES



Terry Parrish has been a player, collector and historian of ragtime music for over forty years. Beginning with years of piano lessons in grade school, he later developed a passion for rag, blues and early jazz after listening to his dad's LPs and being given an old player piano in high school. He

and his brother rebuilt the player and as luck would have it, found some original rag rolls that he became fascinated with. From these he learned his first rags, including Black and White, Cannon Ball, Maple Leaf and Wild Cherries Rag. He began to collect rag rolls and sheets and over time learned hundreds of rags and early jazz tunes.

Terry and his group, the *Elite Syncopators*, have played at many ragtime festivals over the years and have recorded CDs for Jazzology and Stomp Off. Terry has been a judge at the *Old-Time Piano Playing Contest* twice before and is very much looking forward to this year's competition at its new venue in Oxford!



Sue Keller began her ragtime obsession in 1974. Since then, she has treated audiences to her piano and vocal performances throughout the world. Her appearances have ranged from the grand opening of Faneuil Hall Marketplace in Boston Harbor, to the fabled Mikado nightclub in Tokyo, across

the continent of Australia, and even the Great Wall of China.

Back in the USA, Sue has been recognized as one of the world's top ragtime pianists. She was the music director of the prestigious Scott Joplin Festival in Sedalia, Missouri for 7 years and a director and officer of the World Old-Time Piano Championship in Peoria, Ill. for 14 years. Over the course of 14 CDs, Sue often mixes exciting vocals together with both traditional and unique repertoires. Sue is currently working with Jeff and Anne Barnhart on a Max Morath compilation.



Brian Holland is an internationally renowned pianist, composer, recording artist, and entertainer who has enjoyed a music career spanning more than 35 years. After spending his formative years playing in pizza parlors and clubs throughout Indiana, Brian's career flourished when he

discovered the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest. In 1999, he won his third title and was retired as "undefeated".

Brian has played with some of the hottest jazz bands in the US — Titan Hot Seven, Wally's Warehouse Waifs, the Holland Rhythm Company, and others — and has traveled all over the world performing his creative styles of jazz, ragtime, stride, boogie, and blues. Brian has fourteen recordings (solo and ensemble) to his credit, and garnered a Grammy nomination for his work with Bud Dresser on their album, "Ragtime-Goodtime-Jazz."

Barbara Flack, Judging Assistant

Barbara's association with the contest goes back to the old days at the Holiday Inn in Decatur, Ill., where she and her husband Denny were cheerleaders in the party rooms. Barb became an officer and director of the piano contest when it moved to Peoria and has served several terms as secretary of the organization. She now resides in Plainfield, Ill., and has handled the judging assistant's position the past couple of years.

ADAM SWANSON



Adam Swanson is rapidly becoming known as one of the world's foremost performers and historians of ragtime and early American popular music. He is now in his second year of graduate studies as a musicology student at the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Adam has been a featured performer and lecturer at ragtime and jazz festivals across the United States, and he is the youngest three-time winner of the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest.

In 2007, he appeared alongside the late John Arpin at the Bohem Ragtime and Jazz Festival in the Republic of Hungary and has also toured Switzerland. Adam made his New York debut in Carnegie Hall at the age of nineteen, where he performed with multi-platinum selling artist Michael Feinstein. In 2013, Adam made his first appearance at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage in Washington, D.C.

Adam enjoys working with other musicians and has recorded albums with pianist Frederick Hodges, former rock star Ian Whitcomb, and legendary 1950s recording artist Johnny Maddox, who is one of Adam's greatest influences. He is musical director for the Durango Ragtime and Early Jazz Festival in Durango, Colorado.

"BLIND BOY" PAXTON



Although only in his 20s, Jerron "Blind Boy" Paxton has earned a reputation for transporting audiences back to the 1920s and making them wish they could stay there for good. Paxton may be one of the greatest multi-instrumentalists that you have not heard of. Yet. This young musician sings and plays banjo, guitar, piano, fiddle, harmonica, Cajun accordion, and the bones (percussion). Paxton has an eerie ability to transform traditional jazz, blues, folk, and country into the here and now, and make it real. In addition, he mesmerizes audiences with his humor and storytelling. He's a world class talent and a uniquely colorful character who has been on the cover of *Living Blues Magazine* and the *Village Voice*, and has been interviewed on FOX News.

Paxton's sound is influenced by the likes of Fats Waller and "Blind" Lemon Jefferson. According to Will Friedwald in the *Wall Street Journal*, Paxton is "virtually the only music-maker of his generation—playing guitar, banjo, piano and violin, among other implements—to fully assimilate the blues idiom of the 1920s and '30s.

***Performing Sunday, May 29 at 7 p.m.
In Nutt Auditorium***

2016 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Shuttles will be available from Holiday Inn Express and Hampton Inn. Inquire at the front desk for departure times.

All events in Nutt Auditorium, unless otherwise noted

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016	
8 p.m.	Tune-ups Party at Proud Larry's (ticket fee includes admission only)
FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2016	
10 a.m.	Double-decker Bus Tour of Oxford followed by a Musical Luncheon at Locals Restaurant on the Square
2 p.m.	Contest Reception Desk Open in foyer
3 p.m.	Workshop with Brian Holland "Yesterday's Music: My Personal Journey"
4:30 p.m.	New Rag & Duet Contests
8 p.m.	Ring of Ragtime on the Oxford Square at the following venues: Shelter, Frank & Marlee's, and Locals
SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2016	
7:30 a.m.	Contestants Draw
9 a.m.	Preliminary Eliminations and Junior Division Contest
11:45 a.m.	Silent Movie Box Lunch at the UM Band Hall
5:30 p.m.	Dinner with the 2015 Champion, Adam Swanson, at Soulshine Pizza Factory on the Square
7 p.m.	World's Greatest Sing-along featuring Brian Holland and Sue Keller
9 p.m.	Afterglow Parties on the Square
SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2016	
9 a.m.	Workshop with Sue Keller "The Music of Max Morath"
10:30 a.m.	Cutting Contest —YOU decide the winner!
1 p.m.	Semi-finals and Finals
7 p.m.	Guest Artist Concert: "Blind Boy" Paxton
9 p.m.	Reception at The White House on South Lamar Blvd.
MONDAY, MAY 30, 2016	
10:30 a.m.	Grand Old Flag Brunch at the UM Band Hall



CONTESTANT PROFILES



Nathan Beasley is a 16-year-old pianist from southern Illinois who has performed in many music halls and auditoriums in many different states. Like most young ragtime pianists, Nathan first found his passion for ragtime and other early American popular music

while searching the Internet. He was only 12-years-old when he first attempted to play this type of music. Nathan played piano for many years before, but ragtime brought new meaning to his attempt to play piano professionally. He has performed twice with the St. Louis Confluence Chamber Orchestra at the Lee Auditorium in St. Louis, Missouri. This is his second year competing in the junior division of the Old Time Piano Contest.



David Cavalari is a software engineer and musician from Eagan, Minnesota. He grew up in Fairfax, Virginia. David worked as the piano player at the Alaska Cabin Nite Dinner Theater in Denali National Park for five years, and has also performed at regional theaters across

the country. He is a two-time finalist of the Old Time Piano Contest, and was the winner of the New Rag Contest in 2015.



Mike Chapman is a Colorado native who loves to play mostly old time standard tunes, stride, and, in particular, boogie-woogie. At a very early age he recognized he had perfect pitch, and, as such, played by ear. He loves this piano event because it gives him the opportunity

to be surrounded by many incredible musicians, each having a different style and footprint. This old time piano music will never go out of style.



Derek Chou is currently pursuing a masters degree (and possibly Ph.D.) in electrical engineering at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. Piano is one of Derek's hobbies and ragtime happens to be his favorite genre. When he's not immersed in either music

or studies, Derek likes building electrical, mechanical, and/or musical things!



Michael Drexler is the Executive Director of digital licensing business development for BMI, Broadcast Music, Inc. In addition to his career in the music business and digital media, Michael is also an accomplished pianist, music producer and audio engineer with

two Grammy nominations for audio engineering and production. Michael graduated from Berklee College of Music in Boston with a Professional Diploma in Jazz Piano Performance. Born in Munich, Germany, he has performed on television, radio and appeared on various recordings throughout Europe as singer and pianist, including projects with Boney M., The Piano Blues Duo, The 1984 Olympic Games Rainbow Children, and others. Michael fell in love with Ragtime music early and later with Blues and Jazz. About two years ago Michael rediscovered his love for Ragtime and early Jazz music and is very excited to be part of the 2016 Old Time Piano Contest.



Bill Edwards, a native of Southern California, discovered ragtime when he was six years old, and hasn't been able to leave it alone since. He started his professional career in California in the late 1970s. Bill has lived and worked in Northern Virginia since 1986

and was a featured entertainer at the Fish Market in Alexandria for many years. Since 1996, Bill has been applying his particular penchant for the music on his website, which includes biographies of over 350 ragtime era figures. Bill was recently a featured performer in the award-winning documentary about the competition, *The Entertainers*, and the Artist in Residence for the Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival in 2014. He frequently accompanies silent films at events where he plays, and has presented seminars on over 20 ragtime-related topics. Mr. Edwards has 44 different CD titles; 20 published compositions; a detailed book on the life of composer and publisher E.T. Paull; and an upcoming encyclopedia on over 530 female composers of popular music from the ragtime era. Find out more about Bill and Ragtime at <http://ragpiano.com>



Four Arrows, of Irish and Cherokee ancestry, is a professor of education at Fielding Graduate University and author of 22 books and many chapters and articles under both his Indian name and his Irish name, Don Trent Jacobs. He lives with his artist wife on the coast in central Mexico where he is involved in creating the first national marine park. He placed 4th in the 38th Annual Old Time Piano contest and is featured in the documentary film, *“The Entertainers.”*



Nina Freeman is completing her junior year of high school at Keystone School in San Antonio, Texas. Nina began playing the piano at four years of age. She is an active member of the San Antonio Ragtime Society and a three time retired champion of the competition. She competed for the first time in the 2015 World Championship Old Time Piano Playing Contest in Peoria and placed second in the junior division. Nina looks forward to performing in Oxford.



Zachary Jones is 15-years-old and began to take an interest in music when he was about four years old, drawing musical notes and humming songs. He began playing piano at the age of five. At one point, he became bored with the type of music he was learning and his piano teacher searched for music that he might enjoy more. One day, she played a song from the musical “Ragtime” and he was immediately hooked on ragtime music. Zachary has almost exclusively played Scott Joplin’s music but has recently begun learning rags by various ragtime composers. He bought a 120-year-old piano off the internet and has enjoyed playing old-time piano music on an old-time piano! Zachary has also been learning a Chopin Nocturne and Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue.

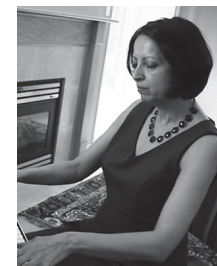


Geoffrey Ladue, an eighth grader from St. Louis, Missouri, is thrilled to participate in The Old Time Piano Contest. Geoffrey began piano lessons in the third grade with Linda Witchie of South Bend, Ind., winning the Regional Hartman-Stickley Piano Competition three years in a row and first place in the Gene-Marcus Memorial Competition in Fort Wayne, Ind., Geoffrey

participated in The National Guild of Piano Teachers Audition for five years earning the highest rating each of those years. Geoffrey is currently a student of Alla Voskoboinikova and was a winner in the SLAMTA Young Artist Competition for the past two years and placed second in the MMTA State Piano Competition. Geoffrey also studies trombone, participates in the concert and jazz bands at his middle school and is an avid golfer. Geoffrey would like to thank his family, teachers, and the Old Time Piano Music Preservation Society for their encouragement and support.



Angelina and Ashley Leyva are 10-year-old identical twins from Paramus, N.J. They started piano lessons at the age of 5 and immediately they fell in love with music. They quickly realized that playing together sounded twice as nice! Since they were about 6-years-old, they always found a way to entertain the crowd. People could not believe that these little girls, whose feet didn’t reach the floor, were able to play like adults. Today, the girls play piano, guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, and trombone, and they sing. They are currently in 5th grade, playing trombone in a jazz band with the 7th and 8th graders at their middle school. They also play in a rock band called the Chips. They have a love for ragtime, blues, and rock-and-roll! We are so very excited to be a part of the Old Time Piano Contest! Thank you to our teachers Pamela Vera and Chip Dee!



Anita Malhotra is an Ottawa-based freelance writer who loves the arts and enjoys sharing her discoveries with a broader audience. Anita writes and interviews for the Artsmania blog online. Due to an injury, Anita has had to withdraw from the Regular Competition but will still have an original work premiered in the New Rag Contest to be performed by Faye Ballard.



Bill McHarris, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry and Physics/Astronomy at Michigan State University, has always combined interests in science and music. Originally from Knoxville, Tenn., he has been organist and/or choir director at churches in Tennessee, California, and Michigan. Having retired in 2008, Bill was one of the original nuclear science faculty at the Cyclotron Laboratory and has had upward of 200 publications in

nuclear science. About fifteen years ago, Bill became interested in ragtime, and since then he has composed a dozen rags, mostly for piano but also for piano-organ duo, voice, chorus, and even carillon. This will be his fifth appearance in the New Rag Contest of the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest.

Charles Mink was born in Elgin, Ill., and later studied as a classical percussionist at the University of Illinois. He taught school in Miami, Florida for thirty-three years where he taught himself arranger's piano. He is now retired and resides in Louisville, KY.



William McNally is the first three-time winner of the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest's New Rag Contest. *The New York Times* has called him "a hot item" and "powerful." His recent CD release with works by Brahms, Reger and Busoni

was lauded by *The New York Times* as "effortless ... fascinating ... mercurial ... and intelligently curious." An earlier CD release, "Chickens 'n' Kittens," demonstrates his interest in modern and classically trained ragtime composers, including Bolcom and Godowsky. William's 2016 season has already seen him perform twice in Washington, D.C., New York, Pittsburgh, and Dallas. He is now curating a new concert experience, "Food for Music," in which he pairs dishes authentic to the era and region of a work's composition with programs ranging from Rachmaninoff to ragtime. A graduate of Mannes and Temple University, William recently completed his doctorate at CUNY's Graduate Center and will join the faculty of Texas State University this fall. He continues to serve on the board of the Musicians Club of New York and is married to pianist Daria Rabotkina. For more, visit williammcnally.com.



Will Perkins, 23-year-old native of Riverbank, Calif., has been performing at Ragtime/Jazz Festivals since the age of 14. His love for traditional American piano styles of Scott Joplin, Fats Waller, and Dick Wellstood have lead him to opportunities to perform at music

festivals around the United States and beyond. In 2012, Will was a featured performer at the Bohem Ragtime and Early Jazz Festival in Budapest, Hungary, and later that year, he placed 3rd in the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest in Peoria, Ill. After a two-year hiatus as a religious missionary in Uruguay, he has returned to the ragtime/jazz scene, performing at the West Coast Ragtime Festival and the Durango

Ragtime and Early Jazz Festival this year. Will currently resides in Rexburg, Idaho, where he is studying Education at Brigham Young University-Idaho.



Sarah Schroeder has been playing piano for 5 years. Sarah is a 12-year-old Midwesterner that loves drawing, show choir, and Minecraft. She is a 2-time Young Authors award winner. Sarah plays piano in the award winning Red-peppers Jazz Band, and also plays

the trumpet and euphonium. Sarah credits her teacher, Ms. Bev Wolfe and her Mom for getting her interested in ragtime music. Sarah is thrilled to be playing in her first Old-Time Piano Contest.



Daniel Souvigny is a 15-year-old award-winning pianist who enjoys sharing his passion of ragtime piano and its history with an audience. He began piano lessons at the age of 5, and currently studies classical, jazz, and ragtime music. Daniel is a three-time Junior Champ of the

World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest in Peoria, Ill. In 2014, he was awarded first place in the Illinois State Talent Competition, Junior Division in Springfield, Ill. He's had the honor of performing at the West Coast Ragtime Festival in Sacramento, Calif., the Eau Claire, Wis. Ragtime Festival, the Eagles and Ivories Ragtime Weekend in Muscatine, Iowa, the Blind Boone Festival in Columbia, Mo., and the Scott Joplin Festival in Sedalia, Mo. Reviews from these festivals have described Daniel as "the new sensation who plays with power and surprising musicality," and "a whiz kid whose fingers fly across the keyboard". His first CD, "Tearin' Up the Keys," was released in 2013, and his new album, "Possibilities," was released in 2015, featuring well-known jazz drummer Danny Coots.



Diana Stein grew up reading and practicing classical music, giving her first recital at thirteen. She has gotten into every other type of music by playing in restaurants, piano bars, clubs, and hotels to support herself. She especially loves entertaining seniors and Alzheimer's

patients at various centers. She has entertained at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis for 30+ years. She and her husband play blues and ragtime in different venues and festivals around the South.

Continued on page 15

PRELIMINARY ELIMINATIONS SCORECARD

The order of play will be determined by drawing at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, and will be posted for spectators. Fill in the order of play in the circle to the left of the contestant's name, sit back, and enjoy the competition. Rules and scoring categories used by the judges are described on pages 11, 12, & 13



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

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Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

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Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

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Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

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Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



Selection 1 _____

Selection 2 _____

Points _____



SEMI-FINALS SCORECARD

1. Name _____	6. Name _____
#1 _____	#1 _____
#2 _____	#2 _____
Points _____	Points _____

2. Name _____	7. Name _____
#1 _____	#1 _____
#2 _____	#2 _____
Points _____	Points _____

3. Name _____	8. Name _____
#1 _____	#1 _____
#2 _____	#2 _____
Points _____	Points _____

4. Name _____	9. Name _____
#1 _____	#1 _____
#2 _____	#2 _____
Points _____	Points _____

5. Name _____	10. Name _____
#1 _____	#1 _____
#2 _____	#2 _____
Points _____	Points _____

FINALS SCORECARD

1. Name _____	4. Name _____
#1 _____	#1 _____
#2 _____	#2 _____
Points _____	Points _____

2. Name _____	5. Name _____
#1 _____	#1 _____
#2 _____	#2 _____
Points _____	Points _____

3. Name _____
#1 _____
#2 _____
Points _____

JUDGING GUIDELINES

RATING SCALE:
 5 = Superior; 4 = Excellent;
 3 = Good; 2 = Fair;
 1 = Needs Assessment

CATEGORY 1: TECHNIQUE	
Finger Dexterity	Keyboard Coverage
Note Accuracy	Difficulty
Pedal Use	Musical Variety
Possible Points this Category 30	

CATEGORY 2: STYLE & INTERPRETATION	
Tempo	Interpretation
Rhythm	Originality
Articulation & Phrasing	Preparation
Contrast & Dynamics	Musicality
Possible Points this Category 40	

CATEGORY 3: SHOWMANSHIP	
Stage Presence	Salesmanship/Musical Product
Poise & Command	Applause
Audience Rapport/Handling	
Possible Points this Category 20	

CATEGORY 4: COSTUME	
Circle one:	Authentic
Costume	Replica
Make-up or Grooming	
Possible Points this Category 10	



RULES

1. The contest will take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and 29, 2016 in Oxford, Mississippi.
2. Contestants (18 years of age and older) must compete in the Preliminary Eliminations (PEs) on Saturday in order to advance to the Semi-Final and Final rounds, which take place on Sunday afternoon. The PEs will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 28, 2016 and continue until each contestant has been heard (with a lunch break scheduled about 11:30 a.m.). The Semi-Finals will begin at 1:00 pm on Sunday, May 29, 2016 with up to ten (10) Regular Division contestants who have advanced from Saturday's first round.
3. The Semi-Finals will narrow the field of contestants to the final five (5), who will then compete immediately in the Finals to determine the winner and other finishing places. The winner will receive \$1,500, a golden medallion and possession of the contest's "Traveling Trophy" for one year. Second place will receive \$1,000 and a silver medallion. Third place will receive \$750 and a bronze medallion. Fourth and fifth places will be awarded cash prizes of \$500 and \$300 respectively, and will also receive bronze medallions.
4. Contestants need to prepare six different selections written no later than 1939 (no medleys allowed), one of which must be a ballad or standard popular song, and not considered "Ragtime." The music must be memorized. Two selections are played in the PEs. Each player who advances into the Semi-Finals will play two more selections that meet contest requirements. Contestants must provide the title, composer, and year written for all selections to be played on their official entry blank, and must be prepared to document the composition's age if challenged. Contestants may change their selections up until the entry deadline which is May 14, 2016, when selections must be finalized and after which date no revisions to the play list may be made. With a late entry fee, a contestant failing to provide their playlist by the deadline may reenter if space in the field permits.
5. Point totals are cumulative. Point totals from the PEs determine contestants for the Semi-Finals. Point totals from the Semi-Finals will be added to the point totals from the PEs to determine the top five (5) players who then advance to the Finals.
6. Judges will award points in each round based on technique, style and interpretation, showmanship and costume. In the event of a tie in points for any place, that contestant with the higher point total in technique will prevail, with the order of other tie-breaking categories to be: style and interpretation, showmanship, and costume.
7. Contestants who advance to the Finals will play two (2) additional selections, one of which, a blues tune, shall honor Mississippi and the ring of other states that surround it. Those qualifying states are Louisiana, Alabama, Tennessee, and Arkansas, and the musical reference extends to cities in those states, as well, so tunes about Memphis, New Orleans, Jackson, Nashville, Shreveport and others would qualify. The judges will then combine the points from the PEs, Semi-Finals and Finals to determine the winner and other places.
8. For the PEs, Semi-Finals and Finals, a total of eight (8) minutes playing time is allowed for each contestant's performance of both tunes (not including time for audience applause, interview time with the emcee, etc.). Contestants exceeding the time limits will be penalized five (5) points for each fifteen (15) seconds or fraction thereof, of overtime.
9. No religious or patriotic selections are allowed and vocal or instrumental accompaniment is prohibited. For the purpose of the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest, the following definition of "old-time" music will apply: The style of piano playing found primarily in public venues of performance between 1890 and 1939, particularly in bars and piano competitions, consisting of popular songs and instrumentals of that era, including ragtime, traditional jazz, novelty, stride, and boogie, but excluding advanced chord progressions more commonly found in the 1940s or later in symphonic, modern jazz and be-bop music forms. Selections may also include music idiomatic to solo piano performance and popular dance styles.
10. Contestants in both the Junior and Regular Divisions will report to our green room Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. prior to the PEs so lots can be drawn for order of play, and for any last-minute instructions. Any contestant not reporting at this time cannot participate in the contest. If the contestant is not on hand when the playing position is called during competitions, the contestant will be considered to have withdrawn from competition. Order of play for the Semi-Finals and Finals will be drawn on stage as soon as practical

- after completion of judging for that round, respectively.
11. Each entry form must be accompanied by a \$50 entry fee which is not refundable unless the contest is canceled.
 12. The use of alcohol or other controlled substances prior to or during competitions may result in disqualification.
 13. Costumes are required, and the judges will award points based on their old-time appearance or authenticity in the PEs, Semi-Finals and Finals. Contestants will declare on the entry form whether their costumes are to be judged as authentic period dress (actual or replica) or theatrical performance-type, and they will be judged accordingly.
 14. On stage, contestants need provide only the title and composer of their selections prior to their playing although additional information may be requested by the contest M.C. during their on-stage interview. Composer names must appear on each entry.
 15. Challenges to a contestant's selection must be made within five (5) minutes after the playing of the selection has been completed. Other contestants, contest officials and judges may challenge selections for age or other reasons. In the event that a selection does not qualify after it is challenged, the person playing it will be disqualified.
 16. The World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest is not responsible for the cost of travel, meals, lodging or other expenses incurred while competing. The contest will provide each contestant with one (1) complimentary all-events tickets for their use. Contestants should advise when entering if a ticket is needed.
 17. The total number of contestants is limited to the first 26 paid entries, and each entry form shall list its music selections to be updated no later than May 14, 2016, the contest deadline. Entries will be accepted for up to sixteen (16) Regular Division contestants and ten (10) Junior Division contestants. After the deadline, any remaining slots will be filled from the waiting list on a first-come basis without regard to Division.
 18. Entries may be sent via U.S. Mail to the Contest Coordinator, Faye Ballard, 108 E Garwood, Champaign, IL 61820. She will also answer rule and contestant questions at this address: eballard@illinois.edu. On-line entries will be instantly processed through Paypal and assure registration. Mailed entries are subject to delays, and no entry will be considered official until the appropriate fee is received, with checks made out to "University of Mississippi May Piano Contest." Walk-on entries will be accepted on Saturday, May 28, 2016 until the limit of 26 contestants has been reached or the drawing for order of play has begun, whichever comes first. A late fee of an additional \$50 shall apply to entries received after the deadline of May 14, 2016.
 19. By competing in the contest, participants agree to allow the use of their photographs and recorded performances on tape to promote the event.
 20. Disputes arising from the competitions or judging will be resolved by the contest judges, who will make the final decision.
 21. By entering the competition, the contestant agrees to supply his/her social security number if necessary to comply with United States tax laws.
 22. Additional Provisions Applicable Only to the Junior Division
 23. Junior contestants (17 years of age and younger on day of competition) do not advance beyond the first round (Preliminary Elimination). Following the Preliminary Elimination, the Junior Champion is named, is awarded a prize of \$500 and a permanent trophy. A second place prize of \$400, third place prize of \$300, fourth place prize of \$200 and a fifth place prize of \$100 will be awarded. The Junior Division champion is traditionally invited to make a special appearance Sunday afternoon to play a tune on stage prior to the beginning of the competitions.
 24. The entry fee of the Junior Division is \$25. The penalty fee for late entry is also \$25.
 25. The penalty for playing in excess of the time limits prescribed is five (5) points for each 30 seconds, or fraction thereof, of overtime.
 26. Contestants in the Junior Division must have their entry blank signed by a parent or guardian.
 27. Any Junior contestant winning the division a total of three (3) times (not necessarily in consecutive years) may no longer compete in the Junior Division. However, the age requirement will be waived and they may compete in the Regular Division.

RULES

NEW RAG CONTEST

1. The prize for the New Rag Contest shall be \$200 and a trophy. The New Rag Contest is limited to a total of ten (10) competitors. Walk-on entries will be allowed provided there are fewer than 10 advance entries. A walk-on entry fee of \$25 shall be assessed.
2. A competitor may play a composition themselves or designate another piano player to do so for them beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 27, 2016, following a drawing for order of play. The competition will continue until all have been heard, with the single winner being announced by the judges following the close of the competition.
3. To qualify, the composition entered must be an original Rag, with three or more themes, that has not been previously published, recorded for sale, or previously played in this contest. Composers are limited to one entry per year.
4. The contest provides qualified judges familiar with the music and capable of judging the composer's success in writing Ragtime music.
5. Each composition will be judged on originality, musicality and audience appeal. A written score of the music is not required by the judges.
6. Entries for the New Rag Contest may be sent via U.S. Mail to the Contest Coordinator, Faye Ballard, 108 E. Garwood, Champaign, IL 61820. She will also answer rule and contestant questions at this address: eballard@illinois.edu. On-line entries will be instantly processed through Paypal and assure registration. Mailed entries are subject to delays, and no entry will be considered official until the appropriate fee is received, with checks made out to "University of Mississippi May Piano Contest."

DUET CONTEST

1. The entry fee is \$25 for two players competing on two pianos or both on a single piano.
2. Any individual contestant may play in only one pairing.
3. A five-minute time limit applies from a tune's start to finish.
4. Any tune played must be written prior to 1940.
5. Spectators may purchase an official ballot for \$5 to vote for a single duo. There are no judges for this event; the audience picks the winner.
6. Limit is 10 pairings for this contest.

7. The winning pairing will receive 50% of the money paid for ballots and will have their entry fee refunded (\$25). The piano contest will retain 50% for its operating account.
8. Entries will be accepted up until the start of this event if not all ten (10) spots are filled, and the contest may adjust the schedule to allow more entries if warranted.
9. Entries for the Duet Contest may be sent via U.S. Mail to the Contest Coordinator, Faye Ballard, 108 E. Garwood, Champaign, IL 61820. She will also answer rule and contestant questions at this address: eballard@illinois.edu. On-line entries will be instantly processed through Paypal and assure registration. Mailed entries are subject to delays, and no entry will be considered official until the appropriate fee is received, with checks made payable to "University of Mississippi May Piano Contest."
10. Entries made on-line or by mail need only name the two piano players on the entry form and not reveal their musical selection, which will be played on one or two pianos--without other instrumental or vocal accompaniment.

CUTTING CONTEST

1. Up to twenty (20) entrants will compete in this event judged entirely by the audience. This event will begin on Sunday, May 29, 2016, at 10:15 a.m. Ragtime and popular music written before 1940 may be played with a time limit of five (5) minutes per selection.
2. Each entrant will pay \$25 to have their name in a drawing that will pair players randomly for the first round in this event.
3. Each pair will be called to announce their tunes and play, and the audience will determine which contestant best demonstrated originality, virtuosity, contrast and improvisation in their selection and should continue to the second round.
4. The first round will continue until not more than ten (10) players remain.
5. Names of the advancing contestants will be drawn for up to five (5) pairings who will compete in the second round, with the audience selecting the winner in each pairing. Following additional playoff rounds, the last unbeaten contestant is declared the winner.

6. In any round with an odd number of players, the first name drawn will receive a pass to play in that round and the remaining contestants will compete in pairs, with the audience selecting the winner as before.
7. Entries for the Cutting Contest may be sent via U.S. Mail to the Contest Coordinator, Faye Ballard, 108 E. Garwood, Champaign, IL 61820. She will also answer contestant questions at this e-mail address: eballard@illinois.edu. On-line entries will be instantly processed through Paypal and assure registration. Mailed entries are subject to delays, and no entry will be considered official until the appropriate fee is received, with checks made out to the University of Mississippi-May Piano Contest.
8. Entries made on-line or by mail must only name the piano player on the entry form and need not reveal any musical selections they might play.
9. The winner will receive \$100 and a trophy--plus 50% of the total entry fees collected for this event from other contestants. The piano contest will retain the remainder for its operating account.

CONTESTANT PROFILES, CONTINUED

Monty Suffern, Waco, TX



Bobby van Deusen, a Philadelphia, Pa., native, began his musical career by mimicking the family player piano. Classically trained, he studied at Capital University and Ohio State University in Columbus, and made ends meet by playing for dance classes and recitals. In 1985, Bobby found himself in New Orleans, where he performed with all the Dixieland greats, including the Dukes of Dixieland, Al Hirt, and Pete Fountain. He spent 5 years with the Delta Queen Steamboat Company, traveling the inland waterways of the USA as a riverboat piano player. He enjoys performing with community bands and orchestras, working with young musicians, and has been the pianist with the Barbary Coast Dixieland Show Band for four years. Bobby plays four nights a week at the Pearl, in Rosemary Beach, Fla., a Forbes Four Star property. He lives in Pensacola with wife Colleen (a special ed. teacher) and son Jack. Bobby is a licensed pilot, a 20+gallon platelet donor, and enjoys making macrame leashes for the local Humane Society.



Sara VanLaningham is a pianist and private piano instructor from northwest Indiana. She has studied the piano for 23-years and has played ragtime and old-time piano music since 2011. During her college years, Sara studied composing and orchestration under the direction of Grammy-nominated composer Ilya Levinson, and she earned a BA in music composition from Columbia College in Chicago in 2006. After college she went on to study film scoring via Columbia's "Semester in L.A." program, during which she composed, prepared, and recorded a film cue with a live symphony at Capitol Records in Los Angeles. Since that time, Sara has been teaching private piano/theory/composition lessons, creating original piano arrangements/transcriptions for her students and tailoring them to their specific levels of playing, and making solo piano arrangements of songs from many popular genres, including metal, rock, punk, and video game music. Basically, Sara enjoys playing "ANYTHING she can get her hands/ears on!"

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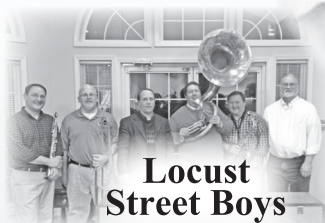
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CHAMPS THROUGH THE YEARS

(* denotes retired 3-time champions)

REGULAR DIVISION

Joybelle Squibb 1975 and 1976
 Dorothy M. Herrold* 1977 to 1979
 Bruce Petsche 1980
 Mark Haldorson* 1981 to 1983
 Janet Kaizer 1984 and 1985
 Ron Trotta* 1986 to 1988
 Julie McClarey 1989, 1995 and 1996
 Marty Mincer 1990 and 1993
 "Perfessor" Bill Edwards 1991
 Paul Gronemeier 1992
 Mimi Blais 1994 and 2000
 Brian Holland* 1997 to 1999
 Dan Mouyard 2001 and 2003
 Adam Downey 2002
 Adam Yarian* 2004 to 2006
 Ethan Uslan* 2007, 2012, 2014
 Adam Swanson* 2008 to 2010, 2015
 Martin Spitznagel 2011
 Russell Wilson 2013

JUNIOR DIVISION

Neil Moe* 1985 to 1987
 Dax Baumgartner* 1988 to 1990
 Adam Downey* 1991 to 1993
 Marty Sammon 1994 and 1995
 Dan Mouyard 1996
 Noah Harmon 1997
 Adam Yarian* 1998 to 2000
 Harrison Wade 2001 and 2005
 Will Best 2002
 Adam Swanson* 2003, 2004, 2006
 Wesley Reznicek 2007 and 2009
 Cassidy Gephart 2008
 Morgan Siever 2010 and 2011
 Isaac Smith 2013
 Daniel Souvigny* 2012, 2014, 2015

NEW RAG CONTEST

Gale Foehner 1997
 "Carondelet"
 Mimi Blais 1998
 "The Turkey"
 Michael Stalcup 1999
 "Short Mountain"
 "Falldown"
 Dan Mouyard 2000
 "Mojo's Marbles"
 Bill Edwards 2001 and 2002
 "The Necromancer"
 "The Wiener Schnitzel"
 David Feurzeig 2003
 "Stride-Rite Rag"
 Ted Lemen 2004 and 2005
 "The Last Rag, Standing"
 "The Number 2 Rag"
 John Harmon 2006
 "The Raspberry Rag"
 Martin Spitznagel 2007 and 2011
 "Red Elephant Rag"
 "The Smoky Rose"
 Bill McNally 2008, 2009, 2012
 "Blue Donkey Rag"
 "Mocha Monkey Rag"
 "Fancy Flight"
 Jacob Adams 2010
 "Procrastinaporag"
 Adam Swanson 2013
 "Strater Shuffle"
 Vincent Matthew Johnson 2014
 "...And So Fourth"
 David Cavalari 2015
 "That 45 RPM Rag"



Ron Trotta, three-time Champ



David Cavalari

PIANO PALS

We honor our Life Members and Piano Pals for their support through the years. If you would like to contribute \$500, you'll get a Piano Pals pin allowing you front row seating at the contest for all future competitions. If you spot someone wearing this pin, be aware they helped keep the piano contest going with their contributions, and you can too!

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If you would like to donate toward the future of this fun weekend in Oxford, we would love to have your support. The World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest & Festival operates as a 501c3 non-profit organization and all of your contributions are tax deductible. Donations will go toward sustaining and increasing the prize money for attracting the highest quality contestants; fees for guest artists and judges; and keeping ticket prices at a reasonable rate.

Please contact Ian Hominick at (662) 915-1282 or by email at oldtimepianocontest@olemiss.edu if YOU would like to become a patron of the Old-Time Piano Contest.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

The Old-Time Piano Contest is looking for volunteers from the Oxford-Lafayette community to become involved. If you would like to participate in the planning and design of the 2017 event, please contact Ian Hominick at (662) 915-1282 or by email at oldtimepianocontest@olemiss.edu.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest & Festival would like to thank the following individuals and groups for their contribution to this year's event.

The University of Mississippi

Dr. Robert Riggs, Chair, Department of Music

Dr. Lee Cohen, Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Noel Wilkin, Provost/VC Academic Affairs, Office of the Provost

Dr. Tony Ammeter, Assoc. Provost, Division of Outreach

Dr. Ted Ownby, Director, Center for the Study of Southern Culture

Visit Oxford

Yoknapatawpha Arts Council, Wayne Andrews, Director

Mayor Pat Patterson, City of Oxford

Robert Klingbiel, AMRO, for delivering pianos to off-campus venues

Melanie Addington, Oxford Film Festival

Diana Stein for her participation at "The Entertainers" screening

Phi Mu Alpha

students, staff and community volunteers

The following participating Square venues:

Proud Larry's

Soulshine Pizza Factory

Frank & Marlee's

Shelter on Van Buren

Locals Restaurant

Deborah Wenger, School of Journalism

Whitman Smith, Narrator for Double Decker Bus tour

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Thomas and Lucy Robertson

Congratulations to Ole Miss student Rachel Gholson whose logo design was chosen from among 80 submissions!

THANK YOU TO ALL THE STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS FROM THE COMMUNITY!



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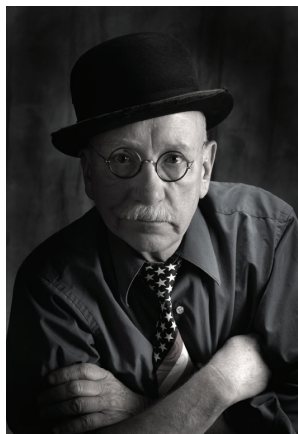
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