

OXFORD,
MISSISSIPPI

MEMORIAL
DAY WEEKEND



47TH
YEAR



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

OLD-TIME
piano playing

CONTEST AND FESTIVAL

2023

MAY 26*28

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 47th season of the Old-Time Piano Playing Contest! It is good to back with our live event and a sincere thank-you to all who donated to the operation of the Contest over the past several years. If you would like to become a patron of this event, please speak with me during the weekend or contact me via the contest e-mail. I hope you have a thoroughly enjoyable time while you are here. What makes this event unique is the element of friendly competition for pianists of all ages. The inclusion of a variety of musical genres such as ragtime, traditional jazz, novelty song, honky-tonk, boogie and blues allows for a wide variety of musical selections.

We hope that the New Rag and Junior competitors will stick around to hear the Saturday and Sunday events and that the Juniors will take advantage of the opportunity to hear new repertoire, meet the various competitors and speak with our guest artists and judges. We have also added a Sunday morning master class for the Junior contestants so they can take away even more from their experience.

Take in the hospitality and southern charm that abounds in our community. If you need anything, just ask! Please fill out one of our survey forms in the Nutt Auditorium foyer so we know what you liked and what improvements we might consider for the future. We would also like to know how you found out about our event so we can better focus our advertising in the future. We want you to have a relaxing and fun experience and we want you to come back.

All of our after-hours events will be held outdoors each evening at the Oxford Armory Pavilion located at the intersection of University Ave. and Bramlett Blvd. A food truck and bar will be on site each evening as well as our guest artists and competitors. Grab some friends and come out for a relaxing and fun time.

Sit back and thoroughly enjoy some old-time piano playing from performers from across the country ... tell your friends about it ... and bring them back with you next year!

Ian Hominick,
Artistic Director





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HISTORY OF THE FESTIVAL

As a fundraiser on Memorial Day in 1975, the Monticello Railway Museum hosted the first of twelve World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest editions that took place in that small town, located about halfway between Champaign and Decatur, Illinois. For eleven 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 IL, and our stay there lasted until our move to Peoria in the late 1990s. We spent two years with the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel after a long stretch at the Hotel Pèrè 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 for a few years.

Our first contestant showed up on a day in 1975 that was hot and sweaty and that 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 had a much bigger audience and the third year, about 600 people 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.



Joybelle Squibb, age 71, 1977



Dorothy M. Herrold, Laporte, Indiana

Our champ for the first two years was Joybelle Squibb, a golf-playing granny from Vandalia IL, but in 1977, Dorothy M. Herrold of LaPorte IN, a retired school teacher who got into playing full-time after her husband died, beat her. Herrold won three times in a row through 1979, 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, the first one held at Shakey's Pizza Parlor in Champaign. Everybody spent the next five 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 afterparties with food service thrown in.

Since 2016, things changed with the contest and all of its events moved from Illinois to Mississippi. Instead of a hotel ballroom for our event, we use a concert hall that's part of the University of Mississippi Department of Music. We hope it was enough fun that you come back next year!

Ted Lemen, Founder



Ted Lemen entertains from the platform of a caboose.



Contest organizers Judy Leschewski and Ted Lemen in the early days

GUEST ARTISTS AND JUDGES

ADAM SWANSON



Adam Swanson is one of the world's foremost pianists and historians of vintage American popular music, including ragtime, early jazz, the Great American Songbook, and more. Adam has been a featured performer and lecturer at

ragtime and jazz festivals across the United States and abroad, and he is the only four-time winner of the World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest. He made his New York debut in Carnegie Hall at the age of nineteen, where he performed with Michael Feinstein. Adam appeared alongside pianist John Arpin at the Bohem Ragtime and Jazz Festival in the Republic of Hungary, and he has also toured Switzerland and Australia. Adam has accompanied silent films at the prestigious Cinecon Classic Film Festival at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood and performed privately for Oscar-winning Disney/Hollywood composer Richard M. Sherman (*Mary Poppins*, etc.). At the age of twenty-one, Adam performed a solo concert at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage in Washington, D.C.

Adam holds a bachelor's degree in classical piano and a master's in musicology from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University. He has been mentored by other ragtime artists including the famed Max Morath and legendary 1950s recording artist Johnny Maddox, who was one of Adam's greatest influences. Adam has recorded albums with noted musicians such as former rock star Ian Whitcomb, the Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra, and the Bar D Wranglers, a classic western band. Adam's recordings have been used on the CBC TV show *Murdoch Mysteries*. He lives in Durango, Colorado, where he frequently performs in the Diamond Belle Saloon at the Historic Strater Hotel. Listen to Adam's livestream virtual concerts on his Facebook page and YouTube channel.

GREG JOHNSON



Greg Johnson is Head of Special Collections, Blues Curator, and Professor at the University of Mississippi. He is the co-author of *100 Books Every Blues Fan Should Own* (Roman & Littlefield, 2014), which won the Association for Recorded

Sound Collections' award for "Best Historical Research in Blues, Gospel, Rhythm & Blues," and was also the recipient of the Music Library Association's "Vincent H. Duckles Award." He was the consulting editor for the *Encyclopedia of the Blues* (Routledge, 2006). As a musician, he regularly performs traditional and contemporary Celtic and Americana folk, blues, jazz, and classical music on a variety of instruments.

SAUNDRA BISHOP



Sandra Bishop is a member of the Fine Arts faculty at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia. She teaches music theory and piano courses, directs the pop vocal ensemble, and is

collaborative pianist for the choral ensembles and music department recitals. She has also served as the music director and pianist/conductor for several NWCC musical theatre productions, including *Calvin Berger*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Elton John and Tim Rice's Aida*, and *The Spitfire Grill*. Sandra maintains an active collaborative piano schedule in the north Mississippi area and plays with the North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra.

After completing degrees in piano performance from the University of Alabama and Louisiana State University, Sandra received the DMA in piano pedagogy from the University of Mississippi. She is a long-time resident of Oxford.

RAYMOND SCHWARZKOPF



Raymond Schwarzkopf is privileged to serve, once again, as a judge of the World Champion Old-Time Piano-Playing Contest. With his roots in “the SouthSide of Chicago,” Raymond has demonstrated considerable skill and acumen

in music from an early age. He has sung and played marimba, vibes, saxophone, percussion instruments and more throughout grammar school, high school and beyond. An impressive career that has seen him perform alongside Lionel Hampton, Jose Bethancourt, Della Reese and in many ethnic bands demonstrates his love for music that makes him the perfect candidate for judging this prestigious competition.

During his college career, Mr. Schwarzkopf was introduced to The Barbershop Harmony Society and quickly developed a strong affinity for close harmony. This passion led him to form quartets, direct choruses, judge international competitions, teach classes across the globe, and share his love of making music. Even today, as a Life Member of the Society, he continues to spread joy through music. Although Music wasn’t his primary focus of study in college, Mr. Schwarzkopf graduated from Northwestern with honors by becoming the only non-Music-major involved in various performance ensembles and admitted as a student into both Phi Mu Alpha and the Musicians’ Union.

Raymond possesses a broad scope of experience as a performer, musician, songwriter, vocalist, quartet member, teacher and coach. He engages with the traditional American music genres of Gospel, Jazz, and Barbershop that characterized the late nineteenth century and the early twentieth decades. He strives to provide instrumentalists and vocalists alike with opportunities to build upon their artistry. His main efforts concentrate on helping musicians get the most out of their craft while having fun doing it. Raymond emphasizes how important it is for each of us to make music part of self-fulfillment while experiencing its communal joys. Indeed, just as we are celebrating at this festival - “Everything Old Is New Again!”

DEAN GRONEMEIER



Dr. Dean Gronemeier has been teaching at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas since the fall of 1989. Additionally, from fall 2003 to fall 2013, he served the College of Fine Arts as the Associate Dean and is the committee chair for designing and implementing a

new Master of Marimba degree at UNICACH in Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, in Mexico. He also served for two years as a member of the percussion faculty at UNAM (La universidad nacional autonoma de México) in Mexico City.

Along with being a percussion educator, Gronemeier is an active clinician for the Yamaha Corporation of America, SABIAN Cymbals, Grover Enterprises, and Mike Balter Mallets. He has soloed extensively throughout the United States and Mexico, as well as making appearances as a soloist in England, France, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Australia, and Chile.

Gronemeier received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree and his Masters of Music degree from The University of Arizona where he studied with Gary Cook. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from Northern Illinois University where he studied with Rich Holly, Robert Chappell, and Al O’Connor. In December 2001, Gronemeier received his Juris Doctorate degree from the William S. Boyd School of Law on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and holds a license to practice law in the state of Nevada and in all federal courts.

2023 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY MAY 26th

10:00 am	Blues Archive Tour
12:15 pm	Luncheon with Eve Elliot and Bobby van Deusen at McEwen's Restaurant
2:00 pm	Presentation by Greg Johnson: "Mississippi's Musical Diversity"
3:00pm	Presentation by William McNally: "How to Write a Rag"
6:00pm	New Rag Contest in Nutt Auditorium
8:00 pm	Tune-Ups at the Oxford Armory Pavilion

SATURDAY, MAY 27th

9:00 am	Junior Division Contest
11:45 am	Silent Movie Box Lunch with Adam Swanson in UM Band Hall
1:00 pm	Regular & Senior Divisions Preliminary Round
7:00 pm	After-hours & Sing-along with Ted Lemen at the Oxford Armory Pavilion

SUNDAY, MAY 28th

9:00 am	Junior Contestant Master Class with Adam Swanson
11:00 am	Gospel Service @ OU Methodist Church
1:00 pm	Regular Division Semi-Finals, Finals & Seniors' Final in Nutt Auditorium
7:00 pm	Red, White, & Blue Farewell at the Oxford Armory Pavilion

Concessions available in the Music Building but no food or drink permitted in Nutt Auditorium.

Food Truck & Bar with beer and signature drink available each evening at the Oxford Pavilion.

2023 Contest T-Shirts, caps, and performer CD's available for sale in the hallway.



CONTESTANT PROFILES



Raised in Minneapolis, MN, **Jacob Adams** started his musical training in percussion at the age of 5 after being inspired by listening to his parents' Beatles LPs. Piano lessons commenced at age 10 and

later he would go on to study at the Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. He worked extensively as a teacher, church musician, and recitalist in Minneapolis after finishing school, and in 2016 began a 6-month stint playing piano on Royal Caribbean's Harmony of the Seas. He moved to Chicago in 2017 where he currently resides with his wife Sarah. He has been a regular guest at ragtime festivals, including the Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival in Sedalia, MO, and is returning to Oxford for the first time since 2017.



Influenced by the simple, swinging jazz of Count Basie as a child, **Timothy Barton** was struck early on by the Chicago blues and jazz scene along with folk, roots rock and life in the late 60's and early 70's. This allowed

Tim a wondrous emersion in musical influence, allowing him to create a "language through the piano", speaking all sounds of music. Currently, Tim divides his time between collaboration with other musicians and working alone at the computer. Tim's current release is called "Tim Barton at the Piano."

"I hope to do better after finishing second in my first time at the Old Time Piano Contest." Classical, Jazz-Ragtime and Chicago Blues are Tim's musical life.



John Beggs is 16-years-old and he lives on a farm in Madison, Florida. John has had an ear for music since he was born. John studies bass, mandolin, voice and piano and plays with the Tallahassee Homeschool String Orchestra. He reads

music but prefers to play by ear. Listening to early jazz musicians that include George Gershwin and Irving Berlin and replicating their original sound are among his favorite pastimes. John performs at many venues including restaurants, retirement communities and local performances. John was the Junior Champion in 2022.



Mike Chapman was first introduced to the piano at the age of five and has enjoyed playing piano his entire life. His first piano teacher told his mother she was wasting music lessons on him because he couldn't read music. Hence, he learned to play the piano by just

listening to other piano players play. "I love the Oxford Music Festival because it gives me the opportunity to witness and learn different piano styles and techniques from different musicians. This experience is a gift."



Bill Edwards been a part of this competition as both contestant and sometimes organizer/board member since 1987. He has finished in the top five more than 20 times over the years, and was the 1991 champion. All efforts to force him into retirement have

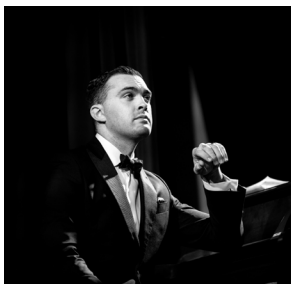
failed to date. Bill also spends copious time growing his website of 25 years that is focused on ragtime history and performance. He has amassed a library of over 40 albums of his performances, and in 2016 was awarded the lifetime achievement award by the Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival, which still does not get

him into country clubs, but remains a great honor. A proponent of all things old-time, his perspicacity and other general ailments help him to continue a proud tradition of both participating in these events and mentoring younger performers who want to take him down a notch, respectfully, of course. Find out more at <http://ragpiano.com>



Eve Elliot was born and raised in Silicon Valley CA where she took 9 years of classical piano lessons starting at age 7. At age 18 she was inspired to learn how to improvise after an impromptu jam session

broke out in a friend's garage and her classical rigidity rendered her unable to participate. She wrote songs and played guitar in rock bands while earning her BA in linguistics at UCLA. After working as a translator for several years, she had a change of heart and decided to pursue music full-time in 2018. Not long after, she was introduced to ragtime music at a Los Angeles bar where fellow contestant Andrew Barrett was playing piano. She is currently making a living as a musician in LA, playing piano at bars, churches, and amusement parks. Eve also plays accordion with her Greek folk band The Galamatas.



Warren Ertle is a composer, arranger, bandleader, and pianist currently residing in Tuscaloosa, Alabama where he is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition at the University of Alabama. While completing a

Master of Music at Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Ertle founded GreenLight Jazz Orchestra with three other masters students. The eight-piece Dixieland ensemble performed the "traditional" jazz repertoire alongside brand-new compositions, and appeared at FirstNight Boston

2020 and on NBC Boston before the pandemic abruptly halted all operations. While continuing to be an active solo performer of the early American popular and jazz vernaculars, Ertle has collaborated with artists such as John Clark, Bill Reynolds, Arnt Arntzen, Dan Gabel, and Vince Giordano. He currently serves as the pianist/staff arranger at the 41st Army Band and is a board member of the *American Big Band Preservation Society*.



Billy Fang grew up in West Virginia where he learned classical piano and violin. He became interested in stride piano and the Great American Songbook after hearing recordings by Art Tatum and Fats Waller, as well as soundtracks

from films like *Manhattan*, *Café Society*, and *Midnight in Paris*. Despite being a newcomer to the genre, he was inspired to enter this year's contest after watching previous years' recordings on YouTube. Billy is currently a data scientist in Silicon Valley.



John Patrick Hutchinson, Jr. is fourteen-years-old and is from North Carolina. He is homeschooled at Sealign Education Academy and has completed his first year of high school. His favorite activities are playing the piano and playing

soccer. He began taking piano lessons in 2014 and one of his favorite types of music to play, from the very beginning, was ragtime-era music. His very first recital piece that he chose to play, to the horror of his piano teacher, was a rag. Even now, he almost always chooses music from that time period to play at piano festivals for his "contrasting style" piece. In addition to solo performances, John Patrick enjoys collaborating with other artists. He has accompanied competition choirs in his area and performed on piano with the Moore County Philharmonic in a neighboring county. Both an organ player and a pianist, he plays services at various churches in his area. Always in search of new ways to deliver his

favorite genre of music to an audience, he has been known to work the style and flourish of the ragtime era music into various hymns in those services.



Alexander Hutchinson is thirteen-years-old and is from North Carolina. He is homeschooled at Sealight Education Academy and has completed the eighth grade. His favorite activities are playing music, singing, and completing

any kind of building projects. Alex competes on a Trampoline and Tumbling Gymnastics team and holds both State and Regional titles in power tumbling. He began studying piano in 2015. In 2019, he competed and performed as a finalist in the Weymouth Woods Young Musicians' Festival. That same year he performed a concerto as a finalist with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra in St. Petersburg, Russia. This year, Alex received a Superior rating at both the Division and State North Carolina Music Teachers' Association Festival, and will play in the winner's concert this summer. Alex loves ragtime music and chose his pieces this year based on historical significance to both his hometown and state.



David Leinweber is a history professor at Oxford College of Emory University with thirty years of classroom experience and a lifetime of playing music. A Michigan native, Leinweber studied for years under Mrs. Mildred Benson, a wonderful teacher

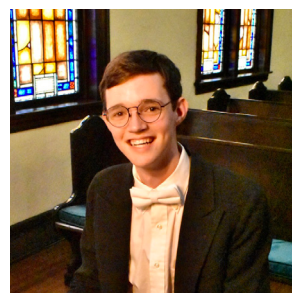
who frequently admonished that "A day without scales is like a day without the Lord." As a boy, he learned theory and technique, as well as rags, boogies, classical music, and guitar. Despite his life as an historian, Leinweber has maintained an

active musical profile. His guitar playing has earned him the nickname "The Flatpicking Professor" and you can see him playing guitar on his YouTube channel *Guitars and Music*. In 2003, he released a popular CD of solo piano hymns, *Sunday Morning Favorites*. He has also written on music's role in history, especially with his book published by Rowman/Littlefield in 2020, *The Art of Ancient Music*. His favorite quotation is "Simple things aren't so simple," which applies to music, as well as life in general. Check out his music on iTunes or Spotify.



It was **Ted Lemen's** love of trains that brought us all here today. The railway museum that was started in his college room in 1966 needed a fundraiser following its official opening to the public in 1972. With music from the movie *The Sting* still rattling around in peoples'

heads, Ted organized the first contest in 1975 on the back of an old railroad caboose. Both the Monticello Railway Museum and the World Championship Old-time Piano Playing Contest have enjoyed longevity, although the contest left Monticello for the safety of an indoor venue in Decatur in 1987. Emceeding again this year with the help of Adam Swanson, Ted will continue to offer a combination of bad jokes and minimalist abilities on the piano as the contest rolls into its 45th edition.



Richard Lessmann lives in the small town of Demopolis, Alabama. He is the middle child of a family of ten kids. He has been homeschooled his whole life with his mom giving him piano lessons. Richard has been playing piano for five years and

he also enjoys cross country running.



A ragtime aficionado since *The Sting* ragtime revival of the 1970s, **Paul Orsi** is a seasoned performer and composer. From a young age, he was a member of the old *Maple Leaf Club* and began professionally

performing ragtime piano at age 13 in pizza parlors in and around Los Angeles. Paul has played his high-energy ragtime style in a variety of restaurants and venues throughout Southern California. In 1983, he joined the elite group of Coke Corner Pianists at Disneyland, where he performed for 10 years. In addition to his active performance schedule throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Paul has composed his own piano rags, recorded piano rolls and produced two solo CDs. After two decades of putting his performing career on hold, Paul is making his comeback on the ragtime scene. He performs at venues all over Orange County, California and is active in the Orange County Ragtime Society and the Rose Leaf Club. Paul was the 2019 Regular Division Champion.



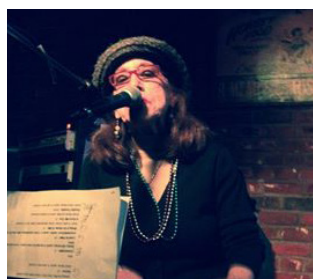
Ron Pufall lives in central Wisconsin, in a village called Weston. He's a retired elementary teacher, sings in a church choir and also plays keyboard with the contemporary worship music ensemble for the church. He

enjoys camping and travel with his wife, Kay, having recently completed a seven-day stay in Tuscany, a province in northern Italy. The original piece he will perform here in 2023 is entitled "Kathryn's Rag." He has a daughter, a son, and two college-aged grandsons.



Leo Roth is a sixteen-year-old pianist, organist, and vocalist originally from Springfield, Missouri. In 2021, Leo was awarded the honor of becoming The Scott Joplin International

Ragtime Foundation's first ever, "Ragtime Kid." He performed and was a featured symposium presenter at the 2022 Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival in Sedalia, MO. As a symposium presenter, Leo connected Ragtime composer and publisher, Theron C. Bennett's earliest influences growing up in Southwest Missouri during the late 1800's to the influences Bennett had on the American music industry and the story of Ragtime. Leo's summer plans include attending The Scott Joplin International Ragtime Festival and spending time restoring his 1904 player piano. He is also planning to perform, for his third year, in the West Coast Ragtime Society's "Spotlighting Ragtime Youth" virtual concert this fall.



Diana Stein-Kabakoff has been playing piano all her life and has been earning a living with it for about 35 years. She is especially trained in the "classics", but acquired a taste for rag-time and stride while in her 40's. She also had an opportunity to play

for Stevie Wonder at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis a few years ago. She has loved blues since her early 20's and she & her hubby (on harmonica) come together as the "D&G Boogie Blues Duo." Diana plays piano for St. Jude Children's Hospital and plays at B.B. King's on Beale Street.



Paul Stewart has performed Classic Piano Ragtime in Manchester, England and in Bologna, Italy for International music conferences. He presented his Seminar, "Bands, Bars, and Banjos: influences on Ragtime," for the *Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival*, Sedalia, Missouri. He has also

appeared at the *Rocky Mountain Ragtime Festival*, Boulder, Colorado and the *Sutter Creek Ragtime Festival* in California (2011, 2012, 2017). His longtime interest and research into Ragtime piano music culminated in his CD titled "Rhythm and Rags". He has also presented workshops, lecture recitals and performances at state music teachers conferences and local music teacher associations in North Carolina, California, Minnesota, Kansas,

Wisconsin, Georgia, Florida, Texas, Hawaii, West Virginia, Indiana and Tennessee. In 2022, he was a finalist in the Regular Division of the World Championship Old-Time piano-playing contest and is performing at the 2023 *Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival*, Sedalia, Missouri.



Originally from Melbourne Australia, **Monty Suffern**, his wife Suzi, their cat and dog moved to Texas in late 1999, expecting to stay only a year or two, but more than 20 years later it's clear that their plans took a different path. Monty worked in

academia for 40 years as a Chemical Engineer, teaching a diverse range of courses. Playing piano is definitely an avocation, but one he has worked at since the age of 7. He is mainly self-taught. Remaining in the USA provided the opportunity to attend and perform in Ragtime festivals in numerous states – a great way to see the country. Since retiring from the teaching game, and with a dedication to life-long learning, he has completed two associate degrees, one in song writing and the other in audio technology. This also enabled him to take piano lessons to improve his craft. Monty's second avocation is aviation. He has flown as a private pilot for almost 35 years, developed one of the first university level schools of aviation in Australia, and then came to Baylor University in Texas to continue collaborative research and to work as Acting Director of Aviation Sciences. He retired in 2006. He then turned his engineering bent to build his own Velocity (see velocityaircraft.com) in which he and Suzi love exploring more of this great land.



Andrew Tessman grew up in Minnesota. After years of lessons from teachers Steve Gentile (organ) and Roderick Teh (piano), he worked as an accompanist and organist around the Twin Cities. His love of

languages led him to Bayreuth, Germany, where he obtained his Bachelor of Music in organ, and later to the Royal Conservatory of Liège, Belgium, for further studies. He recently started a new post as organist in Düsseldorf while he continues to work on the side as an accompanist and concert organist. After his Old-Time-Piano debut in 2022 in the composition contest, he enjoyed the challenge of composing yet another new piece outside of his usual style. He wishes to extend his gratitude to Dr. Bill McNally for premiering his entry from last year, and sends a big thank-you to his friend and fellow MN-native, Dr. Jacob Adams, who is performing his 2023 composition.



Bobby van Deusen (AKA Mr. Piano) has been entertaining audiences for 43 years. A Philadelphia native, he started his musical journey at age six by mimicking the family player piano. He tours frequently with The Prime Time Trio, and plays

4 nights a week at the Hilton Sandestin. Bobby is an instrument-rated pilot and a dismal but improving golfer. He's a life-long Phillies Phanatic and enjoys making macrame dog leashes for the local Humane Society. Bobby lives in Pensacola, FL and is a two-time Senior Division Champion in the Contest.



Larry Wade served as a music teacher for forty-five years for grades K-14. He was on the Contest board for fifteen years and has formerly been a judge for the contest. Larry was a church musician for sixty-two years playing the piano and organ and directing the choir.

He has a Masters degree in piano and vocal performance and has been married for forty years with two sons and two grandchildren. Larry's youngest son is in the Air Force currently serving in Japan and the oldest son is a professional musician who is a former Junior Champion of the contest.

Concessions are available
in the hallway
outside
Nutt Auditorium.



Pick up an official
Contest T-shirt (above) or an
official contest cap (below)
at the merchandise table
located in the hallway
outside Nutt Auditorium.





CHAMPS THROUGH THE YEARS



(* denotes retired 3-time champions)

REGULAR DIVISION

Joybelle Squibb, 1975-76
Dorothy M. Herrold, 1977-79*
Bruce Petsche, 1980
Mark Haldorson, 1981-83*
Janet Kaizer, 1984-85
Ron Trotta, 1986-88*
Julie McClarey, 1989, 1995-96
Marty Mincer, 1990, 1993
“Perfessor” Bill Edwards, 1991
Paul Gronemeier, 1992
Mimi Blais, 1994, 2000
Brian Holland, 1997-99*
Dan Mouyard, 2001, 2003
Adam Downey, 2002
Adam Yarian, 2004-6*
Ethan Uslan, 2007, 2012, 2014*
Adam Swanson, 2008-10, 2015*
Martin Spitznagel, 2011
Russell Wilson, 2013
William McNally, 2016-17
Jean-Baptiste Franc, 2018
Paul Orsi, 2019
Eve Elliot, 2022

SENIOR DIVISION

John Remmers, 2018
Bobby van Deusen, 2019 & 2022

DUET CONTEST

Bill Edwards & Adam Swanson
2015
Adam Swanson & 4 Arrows
2016
Daniel Souvigny & Nathan Beasley
2017
Adam Swanson & Daniel Souvigny
2018

JUNIOR DIVISION

Neil Moe, 1985-87*
Dax Baumgartner, 1988-90*
Adam Downey, 1991-93*
Marty Sammon, 1994-95
Dan Mouyard, 1996
Noah Harmon, 1997
Adam Yarian, 1998-2000*
Harrison Wade, 2001, 2005
Will Best, 2002
Adam Swanson, 2003-4, 2006*
Wesley Reznicek, 2007, 2009
Cassidy Gephart, 2008
Morgan Siever, 2010-11
Isaac Smith, 2013
Daniel Souvigny, 2012, 2014-15*
Nina Freeman, 2016
Nathan Beasley, 2017
Kelton Boblits, 2018-19
John Beggs, 2022

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 - 2001-2, 2016
The Necromancer
The Wiener Schnitzel
Le Syncope du Papillon
David Feurzeig - 2003
Stride-Rite Rag

Ted Lemen - 2004-5
The Last Rag Standing
The Number 2 Rag
John Harmon - 2006
The Raspberry Rag
Martin Spitznagel - 2007, 2011, 2017
Red Elephant Rag
The Smoky Rose
Dreams of Irene
Bill McNally - 2008-9, 2012
Blue Donkey Rag
Mocha Monkey Rag
Fancy Flight
Jacob Adams - 2010, 2017-18
Procrastinaporag
Quintessential Rag
Split Personality Rag
Adam Swanson - 2013
Strater Shuffle
Vincent Matthew Johnson - 2014
“...And So Fourth”
David Cavalari - 2015, 2019
That 45 RPM Rag
The Nickelodeon Rag
Sam Post - 2021
Lighthouse Rag
Warren Ertle - 2022
Yellow Hammer Rag

PRELIMINARY ELIMINATIONS SCORECARD

The order of play will be determined by drawing at 7:30 Saturday morning & 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

1. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

7. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

2. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

8. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

3. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

9. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

4. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

10. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

5. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

11. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

6. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

12. Name: _____

#1: _____

#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: _____

JUDGING GUIDELINES

RATING SCALE:

- 5 = SUPERIOR
- 4 = EXCELLENT
- 3 = GOOD
- 2 = FAIR
- 1 = NEEDS ASSESSMENT

I. TECHNIQUE

- FINGER DEXTERITY
- NOTE ACCURACY
- PEDAL USE
- KEYBOARD COVERAGE
- DIFFICULTY
- MUSICAL VARIETY
- possible pts this category: 30

II. STYLE /INTERPRETATION

- TEMPO RHYTHM
- ORIGINALITY MUSICALITY
- ARTICULATION & PHRASING
- CONTRAST & DYNAMICS
- INTERPRETATION
- PREPARATION
- possible pts this category: 40

III. SHOWMANSHIP

- STAGE PRESENCE
- POISE & COMMAND
- AUDIENCE RAPPORT
- SALESMANSHIP
- MUSICAL PRODUCT
- APPLAUSE
- possible pts this category: 20

IV. COSTUME

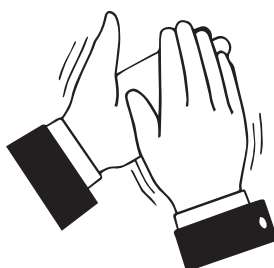
- AUTHENTIC or REPLICA
(circle one)
- COSTUME
- MAKEUP/GROOMING
- possible pts this category: 10

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: _____



SENIOR DIVISION SCORECARD

1. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

5. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

2. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

6. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

3. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

7. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

4. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____

8. Name: _____

#1: _____

#2: _____

Points: _____



JUNIOR DIVISION SCORECARD

1. Name: _____	4. Name: _____	7. Name: _____
#1: _____	#1: _____	#1: _____
#2: _____	#2: _____	#2: _____
points: _____	points: _____	points: _____
2. Name: _____	5. Name: _____	8. Name: _____
#1: _____	#1: _____	#1: _____
#2: _____	#2: _____	#2: _____
points: _____	points: _____	points: _____
3. Name: _____	6. Name: _____	9. Name: _____
#1: _____	#1: _____	#1: _____
#2: _____	#2: _____	#2: _____
points: _____	points: _____	points: _____

NEW RAG SCORECARD

1. Name: _____	6. Name: _____
Tune: _____	Tune: _____
Points: _____	Points: _____
2. Name: _____	7. Name: _____
Tune: _____	Tune: _____
Points: _____	Points: _____
3. Name: _____	8. Name: _____
Tune: _____	Tune: _____
Points: _____	Points: _____
4. Name: _____	9. Name: _____
Tune: _____	Tune: _____
Points: _____	Points: _____
5. Name: _____	10. Name: _____
Tune: _____	Tune: _____
Points: _____	Points: _____

2023 OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES

These are the Official Rules for the 2023 edition of the World Championship Old-time Piano Playing Contest and Festival. **The “Piano Contest” rules below have been revised, so please read them carefully.**

Note: On Saturday, May 27, 2023, Senior and Regular Division contestants must draw for playing order at 8:00 a.m. in Rm. #153 of the Music Building.

PIANO CONTEST REGULAR DIVISION

DATES: The two-day competition to determine the World Champion Old-time Piano Player takes place over Saturday and Sunday of Memorial Day weekend each year. Although festival events begin on May 25, the actual contest dates are May 27-28, 2023.

ELIGIBILITY: Pianists ages 18 and older are eligible to compete. Pianists of any age will be eligible to compete in the New Rag and Duet Contests.

PRELIMINARY ROUND: Contestants must compete in the Preliminary Eliminations (PE's) on Saturday in order to advance to the Semi-Finals and Finals that take place on Sunday afternoon. The PE's will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and continue until each contestant has been heard, with a lunch break scheduled about 11:30 a.m.

SEMI-FINALS & FINALS: Those advancing to the semi-finals will be announced on-stage at the conclusion of Saturday's Preliminary Round. An immediate drawing will take place to determine playing position for Sunday's Semi-final Round. The Semi-Finals will begin at 1:30 pm on Sunday with up to ten (10) Regular Division contestants who have advanced from Saturday's Preliminary Eliminations. 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.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Contestants need to prepare five (5) 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”. At no point may selections be repeated in subsequent rounds.

2. The music must be memorized. Two selections are played in the PE's, and each player who advances into the Semi-Finals on Sunday afternoon will play two more selections that meet contest requirements. The theme piece must be performed before the Finals round.

3. 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 a composition's age if challenged.

4. Contestants may change their selections up until the entry deadline of May 15 when selections must be finalized and after which date no revisions to the play list may be made.

5. Contestants must submit a repertoire list that includes all of the selections they will play in the Preliminary, Semi-final and Final rounds not later than the registration deadline of May 15. No changes are permitted after that date. Contestants are not required to reveal repertoire for specific rounds, rather, each contestant may choose their repertoire from their “pool” list provided. Contestants advancing to the semi-finals must adhere to the theme requirement.

6. A contestant failing to provide their playlist by the deadline may re-enter with a late fee if space in the field permits.

7. No religious or patriotic selections are allowed, and vocal or instrumental accompaniment is prohibited.

8. 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 MC during their on-stage interview. Composer names must appear on each entry.

9. 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 by 1940 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.

2023 THEME: Contestants who advance to the Semi-finals on Sunday afternoon will play two (2) selections of their choice, one of which must be the theme piece (if not performed already). The 2023 theme is “MONEY.” The title of your theme selection must include the word “money” or refer to the name of a particular currency. There will be no inferences when it comes to this. _

Note that the “theme” does not apply to Junior or Senior competitors.

SCORING: SCORING: Point totals are cumulative. Point totals from the PE’s determine contestants for the Semi-Finals. Point totals from the Semi-Finals will be added to the point totals from the PE’s to determine the top five (5) players who then advance to the Finals, where point totals will again be combined.

JUDGING CRITERIA: 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.

TIME LIMIT: For the PE’s and Semi-Finals, a total of eight (8) minutes playing time is allowed for each contestant’s performance for 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. Six (6) minutes is allotted for those who make the Finals.

COSTUME: Costumes are required, and the judges will award points based on their old-time appearance or authenticity in the PE’s, 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.

CHALLENGES: 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.

CONTESTANT DRAW: Contestants in all Divisions will report to our “Green Room” on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. prior to the PE’s so lots can be drawn for the order of play, and contestants can receive any last-minute instructions. Contestants not in attendance at this time cannot participate in the contest. (Please note that contestants should bring their costume with them to this drawing for the order of play on Saturday morning as there will not be time to return to the hotel to get them before the first few contestants are scheduled to compete by 9 a.m. For this reason, a complimentary light breakfast we be available in the Green Room on Saturday morning for contestants for their convenience.)

During the actual competitions, if a contestant is not on hand when their playing position is called, 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.

ENTRY FEE: Each entry form must be accompanied by a \$60 entry fee. This is not refundable unless the contest is canceled.

EXPENSES: The World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest and Festival is not responsible for the cost of travel, meals, lodging or other expenses incurred while competing.

CONTESTANT TICKETS: The contest will provide each contestant with one (1) complimentary all-event ticket for their use plus one additional ticket for a family member or guest. No complimentary tickets are provided for catered events or excursions. Contestants should advise when entering the contest if another ticket is needed.

DEADLINE: The total number of contestants is limited to the first 30 paid entries, and each entry form shall list that contestant’s music selections, to be updated no later than May 15, the contest deadline. Entries will be accepted for up to fourteen (14) Regular Division contestants; six (6) Senior 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.

ENTRY SUBMISSION: The Contest Coordinator, William

McNally, will answer rule and contestant questions at this address: pianobill@gmail.com . On line entries will be instantly processed and will assure your 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. The address for mail-in entries is Old-Time Piano Contest, c/o Ian Hominick, University of Mississippi Dept. of Music, PO Box 1848, University, MS 38677-1848. Walk-on entries will be accepted on the Saturday of competition until the limit of 30 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 15, 2020.

PRIZES: The winner will receive \$1,500, a golden medallion, a permanent trophy and free lodging for the following year's contest. 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. Checks will be mailed to the winners within two weeks of the conclusion of the contest (winners must be sure to complete a W-9 form on site).

ADDITIONAL RULES:

- By competing in the contest, participants agree to allow the use of their photographs and recorded performances to promote the event.
- Disputes arising from the competitions or judging will be resolved by the contest judges, who will make the final decision.
- By entering the competition, the contestant agrees to supply his/her social security number if necessary to comply with United States tax laws.
- Contestants must provide complete information on the contest application including home town media contacts. Each contestant should send 1-2 color photographs (minimum 300 ppi) and a short one-paragraph biography for inclusion in the contest program to Ian Hominick at oldtimepianocontest@olemiss.edu
- The use of alcohol or other controlled substances prior to or during competitions may result in disqualification.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR THE JUNIOR DIVISION

* Note: Junior contestants should also read all of the rules above, as many apply to both divisions!

ELIGIBILITY: Junior contestants are defined as those 17 years of age or under on the day of competition. Any contestant winning

the Junior 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 for them, and they may then compete in the Regular Division.

FORMAT: Up to ten (10) Junior Division contestants play on Saturday and the Junior Division champ will be announced at the close of the Junior Contest. Each Junior Division contestant must prepare two (2) selections, but are not required to play mandatory standard tunes or comply with the "theme selection" as required in the Regular Division.

PRIZES: The Junior Champion is awarded a prize of \$500 and a permanent trophy. A second-place prize of \$300 and third-place prize of \$150 will also 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.

TIME LIMIT: A total of eight (8) minutes playing time is allowed for each contestant's performance of both their tunes (not including time for audience applause, interview time with the emcee, etc.). The penalty for playing in excess of the time limit prescribed is five (5) points for each 30 seconds, or fraction thereof, of overtime.

ENTRY FEE: The entry fee for the Junior Division is \$40 with a penalty fee for late entry \$25. This entry fee is not refundable unless the contest is canceled.

PARENTAL CONSENT: Contestants in the Junior Division must have their entry confirmed by a parent.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR THE SENIOR DIVISION

* Note: Senior contestants should also read all of the Regular Division rules, as many apply to both divisions! Senior contestants may NOT enter both the Regular Division AND Senior Contest.

ELIGIBILITY: Senior contestants are defined as those 60 years of age or older on the day of competition. Any contestant winning the Senior Division a total of three (3) times (not necessarily in consecutive years) may no longer be declared champion in the Senior Division. However, the contestant may continue to perform in any other eligible contest.



FORMAT: A total of six (6) Senior Division contestants may play two selections each on Saturday. Three (3) contestants may be chosen to advance to perform two selections each on Sunday's Semi-finals, after which the champion will be selected. Senior contestants are not required to play the "theme selection" as required in the Regular Division.

REPERTOIRE: Contestants need to prepare four (4) 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 PE's, and each player who advances into the Semi-Finals on Sunday afternoon will play two more selections that meet contest requirements. Contestants are not required to reveal repertoire for specific rounds, rather, each contestant may choose their repertoire from their "pool" list provided. Contestants may play their selections in any order from their list within each round as long as selections are not repeated.

PRIZES: The Senior Champion is awarded a prize of \$300 and a permanent trophy. A second-place prize of \$200 and third-place prize of \$100 will also be awarded.

TIME LIMIT: A total of eight (8) minutes playing time is allowed for each contestant's performance of both their tunes (not including time for audience applause, interview time with the emcee, etc.). The penalty for playing in excess of the time limit prescribed is five (5) points for each 30 seconds, or fraction thereof, of overtime.

ENTRY FEE: The entry fee for the Senior Division is \$50 with a penalty fee for late entry \$25. This entry fee is not refundable unless the contest is canceled.

NEW RAG CONTEST

ELIGIBILITY: Contestants of any age are eligible to compete.

ENTRY FEE: The entry fee is \$30 and is not refundable unless the contest is canceled.

TIME LIMIT: A five-minute time limit applies from a tune's start to finish.

PRIZE: The prize for the New Rag Contest shall be \$200 and a trophy.

PERFORMANCE: A competitor may play a composition themselves or designate another piano player to do so for them beginning at 6:00 pm on Friday following a drawing for the 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. Composers who are not in attendance must solicit a performer and provide the printed score to the performer no later than one month in advance. **Contest personnel will no longer be available to play New Rags.*

SPECIFICATIONS: 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.*

STYLE: The selection should adhere as close as possible to the authentic form, melody, rhythm and harmonic language of the ragtime era. Three to four sections are compulsory, each containing distinct contrasting themes. New works should also contain familiar rhythmic features normally associated with ragtime such as syncopation and regularly accented accompaniment. Composers are permitted creative latitude with regard to melody and harmony while, at the same time, adhering to the historic definition of a "rag."

JUDGING: The contest provides qualified judges familiar with the music and capable of judging the composer's success in writing Ragtime music. Each composition will be judged on originality, musicality and audience appeal. A written score of the music is not required by the judges.

ENTRY DEADLINE: The New Rag Contest is strictly limited to a total of ten (10) competitors. Walk-on entries will be allowed provided there are fewer than 10 advance entries.

ENTRY SUBMISSION: The Contest Coordinator, William McNally, will answer rule and contestant questions at this address: pianobill@gmail.com. On line entries will be instantly processed 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. The address for mail-in entries is Old-Time Piano Contest, c/o Ian Hominick, University of Mississippi Dept. of Music, PO Box 1848, University, MS 38677-1848.





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Contest would like to thank the following individuals and groups for their contribution to this year's event.

The University of Mississippi Department of Music
Visit Oxford
Yoknapatawpha Arts Council

PLUS all of the students and individuals from the community who have stepped forward to help make this event run smoothly.



THE UNIVERSITY of
MISSISSIPPI



Yoknapatawpha
Arts Council



CONTEST PERSONNEL



TED LEMEN
Founder and Emcee
Bradley, IL



IAN HOMINICK
Artistic Director &
Site Coordinator
Oxford, MS



ADAM SWANSON
Co-Emcee
Durango, CO



WILLIAM MCNALLY
Contest Coordinator
San Antonio, TX



PORTIA DAVIS
Judging Assistant
Jackson, MS



WAYNE ANDREWS
Yoknapatawapha Arts
Council
Oxford, MS



CHARLIE MILES
A/V Technical Director
Oxford, MS



ELLEN THOMAS
Merchandise Sales
Peoria, IL



OLIVIA HUEY
Card Girl & Set Design
Pontotoc, MS



JORDAN PRESLEY
A/V Technical Director
Oxford, MS



JEANNE LIPPINCOTT
Sales
Oxford, MS



SAVIOUR SALLAH
Student Assistant
Oxford, MS

Thank you to all community volunteers who have stepped forward to assist with this year's event!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

The Contest operates as a non-profit entity through the University of Mississippi Department of Music. A separate budget is not provided for Contest operating expenses. Funds must be generated through ticket sales and grants to go toward cash prizes & trophies, guest artist & judges' fees, staff hotel, advertising, and a host of other logistical expenses.

If you would like to donate to the Contest to help defray these expenses, please contact the Contest Artistic Director Ian Hominick at oldtimepianocontest@olemiss.edu.

Checks should be made payable to: *University of Mississippi May Piano Contest*

Mailing address: Ian Hominick, Contest Artistic Director
UM Department of Music
PO Box 1848
University, MS 38677-1848

*Many thanks for your patronage and support of the
ONLY comprehensive competitive event for old-time pianists,
and for the opportunity you are providing these talented performers!*

IN MEMORIAM



Judy Leschewski (1938-2022) served as Contest Coordinator for many years in Illinois, initially competing in the 1977 contest in Monticello, IL in its third year when it took place on the rear platform of a railroad caboose.



Joyce Ray (1946-2022) was a former contest helper and singer, ready and able to belt out a tune in the party rooms or for our Saturday night shows.



Harriett Wall (1938-2021) was the former Contest Board secretary in Illinois.



Paul Schwimmer (1933-2021) served as a Contest Board member for many years in Illinois.

IN MEMORIAM



MARTY SAMMON (1977-2022)

Buddy Guy playing a duet with Marty Sammon at Buddy Guy’s club “Legends” in Chicago (photo by Patrick Lenehan). Marty was Guy’s keyboard player for 19 years prior to his untimely death last October, and was twice the Junior Division champion before getting bit by the Blues. He was replaced for Buddy Guy’s Farewell Tour by three-time Junior Division Champ Daniel Souvigny in late 2022.