



# *Wayne C. Henderson Music Festival and Competition*

Guitar Competition  
C/O Bob DeSanto  
475 Pine City Rd.  
Galax, VA 24333

## **Contestant Application Policy and Selection Procedure** **Please Read Carefully**

The growth and popularity of the Wayne C. Henderson Music Festival over the years made it necessary to revise the contest application and selection procedure in order to allow an equal opportunity for all applicants regardless of geographical location. This procedure is as follows:

1. Persons who wish to register for the competition should send a completed application form and a \$20.00 application fee by personal check or money order payable to the Wayne C. Henderson Guitar Competition. (Application fees are non-refundable except for those not selected or alternates who do not get to compete.)
2. Contestant application form can be obtained from the Wayne C. Henderson Music Festival and Guitar Competition website at [www.waynehenderson.org](http://www.waynehenderson.org) and mailed to:

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Anyone who cannot obtain an application via internet can request one by mail. Applications should be postmarked not before April 1 and no later than May 1. In all fairness, applications received before April 1 cannot be accepted.

3. Members of the Guitar Competition Committee will select guitar contestants in a blind and random drawing. Guitar competition judges are prohibited and excluded from contestant application selection. The preceding year winners, 2nd thru 5th place, can enter the competition without going through the drawing process. They will need to send in their application and entry fee within the specified time to guarantee a slot.
4. A maximum of 20 contestant applications and 10 alternate contestant applications will be selected for the guitar competition.
5. Applications will be drawn at random and approved by the Contestant Selection Committee as contestants for the competition.

Continued....

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6. The next ten applications will be drawn at random and approved by the Contestant Selection Committee as alternates for the competition. These applicants will be notified by mail that they have been selected as the first, second, third, etc. alternate. Alternates will be allowed to compete if any of the original twenty contestants are unable to compete on the day of the competition.
7. The selected contestants and alternate contestants will be notified and be provided with one "Performer's Pass," a Free Parking Pass, and a copy of the contest rules through the United States Postal Service no later than May 15.
8. Contest applicants not selected during the random drawing will have their \$20 application fee returned.

**Thank you for your continued support which has made the Wayne Henderson Guitar Competition one of the most popular guitar competitions anywhere.**

**The Wayne Henderson Music Festival, Inc.**



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## OFFICIAL APPLICATION

### *Applicant's Information*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Telephone

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Night Telephone

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I declare that the information in this application form is complete and truthful and that I will abide by all rules and regulations of the competition. I understand that if I am under a management contract with a management company, I will advise my management of my execution of this agreement and that any management fee is not the responsibility of the Wayne C. Henderson Competition and Music Festival. I hereby grant permission for part or all of any of my performances in the Wayne C. Henderson Competition and Music Festival to be electronically recorded, filmed or photographed for distribution in all media that is approved by the Wayne C. Henderson Competition and Music Festival. I will make no claim whatsoever for any funds that may accrue to the Wayne C. Henderson Competition and Music Festival from my performances at the Wayne C. Henderson Competition and Music Festival.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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## **General Rules for Competition**

Subject to change each year. Official rules are mailed to each contestant.

1. Any grand-prize winners before 2015 may apply for a slot in this year's contest (grand-prize winners from 2015 through 2019 are not eligible). Entries are accepted April 1 to May 1. The preceding year winners (2nd thru 5th place) can enter the competition without going through the drawing process but **THEY MUST REGISTER**. They must send an application and entry fee within the specified time and they are guaranteed a slot. The remaining slots will be filled by random drawing to create 20 contestants and 10 alternates.

The drawing will be held shortly after the May 1 deadline.

2. **The \$20.00 application fee is non-refundable** except for those not selected or alternates who do not get to compete. Please make check or money order payable to Wayne C. Henderson Guitar Competition.
3. **If you must cancel your registration, please notify us as soon as possible.**
4. Contestants will assemble promptly at 10:00 am behind the stage area, at which time they will draw numbers for their playing order. **ANY CONTESTANT WHO DOES NOT APPEAR FOR THE DRAWING PROMPTLY AT 10:00 AM WILL BE IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED.**
5. Competition will begin **PROMPTLY AT 10:30 AM**. Any contestant who is not present to compete when his/her number is called will be disqualified.
6. Judges will not see the contestants who will be referred to only by their numbers. This "blind judging" makes the competition as fair as possible.
7. Contestants will be judged on timing, style, tuning, and difficulty of material, execution, clarity and overall performance.
8. Fingerpicking or flat-picking is allowed.
9. All tunes must be in the public domain (no copyrighted material) or be the contestant's own composition.
10. Contestants are allowed one instrument back up (accompanist) of their choice.
11. No singing is allowed.
12. Contestants will play one tune with a time limit of three (3) minutes. **CONTINUED....**

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13. In cases of broken strings/picks, contestants will be allowed to repeat the same tune without penalty.
14. No electrical instruments are allowed for contestants or accompanists.
15. The top 5 contestants will be announced from the stage around 1:35 pm. Contestants will assemble promptly at 1:40 pm behind the stage area to draw numbers for their playing order. **ANY CONTESTANT WHO DOES NOT APPEAR FOR THE DRAWING PROMPTLY AT 1:40 PM WILL BE IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED.**
16. Play-off will begin **PROMPTLY AT 2:40 PM.** Any contestant who is not present to compete when his or her number is called will be disqualified.
17. Play-off contestants will perform 2 tunes with a time limit of three (3) minutes each. They will be judged and scored only on this performance. Previous scores will be erased.
18. Winners will be announced at approximately 5:25 pm.
19. GUITAR PRIZES:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE.....Handmade Henderson guitar
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE.....\$300.00 and a plaque
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE.....\$200.00 and a plaque
  - 4<sup>th</sup> PLACE.....\$150.00 and a plaque
  - 5<sup>th</sup> PLACE.....\$100.00 and a plaque
20. You will be sent **ONE (1) “Performer’s Pass” and a free “Parking Pass.”** Pass is not transferable. Misuse will result in disqualification of the contestant.

For information about Grayson Highlands State Park, call 276-579-7092.

To reserve a camping space, call 800-933-PARK.

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## *General Rules for Judging*

1. Contestants will be judged on 100 possible points.
2. Competition will begin PROMPTLY AT 10:30 AM. Any contestant who is not present to compete when his/her number is called will be disqualified.
3. Judges will not see the contestants who will be referred to only by their numbers. This "blind judging" makes the competition as fair as possible.
4. Contestants will be judged on timing, style, tuning, and difficulty of material, execution, clarity and overall performance.
5. Fingerpicking or flat-picking is allowed.
6. All tunes must be in the public domain (no copyrighted material) or be the contestant's own composition.
7. Contestants are allowed one instrument back up (accompanist) of their choice.
8. No singing allowed.
9. Contestants will play one tune with a time limit of three (3) minutes with 20 points being deducted for exceeding the time limit.
10. In case of broken strings/picks, contestants will be allowed to repeat the same tune without penalty.
11. No electrical instruments are allowed for contestants or accompanists.
12. The top 5 contestants will be announced from the stage after the second band has performed (around 1:35 pm). Contestants will assemble promptly at 1:40 pm behind the stage area to draw numbers for their playing order. **ANY CONTESTANT WHO DOES NOT APPEAR FOR THE DRAWING PROMPTLY AT 1:40 PM WILL BE IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED.**
13. Play-off will begin PROMPTLY AT 2:40 PM. Any contestant who is not present to compete when his or her number is called will be disqualified.
14. Play-off contestants will perform two (2) tunes with a time limit of three (3) minutes per tune. They will be judged and scored only on this performance; previous scores will be erased.
15. Winners will be announced around 5:25 pm.

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