

Winners from Appalachian String Band Festival 2009 at Clifftop, West Virginia

The 20th Appalachian String Band Music Festival at Camp Washington-Carver in Clifftop, Fayette County, wrapped up Sunday, Aug. 2. During the event, some of the nation's finest string band musicians and old-time dancers won prizes in four old-time "traditional" contests: fiddle, banjo, string band and flat-foot dance; plus one "neo-traditional" string band contest. In addition, ribbons for best original song and best original tune were awarded in the neo-traditional band category.

More than 4,300 people attended the festival, which began Wednesday, July 29. Visitors from Maine to California and Washington State to Florida were in attendance as well as folks from as far away as Canada, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Australia, France, England, Ireland and Japan, to name a few. The annual gathering features concerts, contests, crafts, dancing, family activities, workshops and master's showcases. Next year's festival will be held Aug. 4 - 8, 2010. Camp Washington-Carver is operated by the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History.

Fiddle

- 1st place (\$400) - Tatiana Hargreaves, Corvallis, Ore.
- 2nd place (\$200) - Eric Merriol, New Haven, Conn.
- 3rd place (\$150) - Emily Schaad, Rhinebeck, N.Y.
- 4th place (\$100) - Stephanie Coleman, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 5th place (\$50) - Rafe Stefanini, Elkins Park, Pa.

Youth Fiddle Honors - 15 years of age and under

- 1st place (\$100) - Tatiana Hargreaves, Corvallis, Ore.
- 2nd place (\$50) - Isaac Akers, Chapel Hill, N.C.
- 3rd place (\$25) - Tessa Dillon, St. Albans, W.Va.

Senior Fiddle Honors - 60 years of age and over

- 1st place (\$200) - Lester McCumbers, Nicut, W.Va.
- 2nd place (\$100) - Henry the Fiddler, Denver, Colo.
- 3rd place (\$50) - Walt Koken, Avondale, Pa.

Banjo

- 1st place (\$400) - Adam Hurt, Kernersville, N.C.
- 2nd place (\$200) - Walt Koken, Avondale, Pa.
- 3rd place (\$150) - Rick Good, Spring Valley, Ohio
- 4th place (\$100) - Bob Smakula, Elkins, W.Va.
- 5th place (\$50) - Nancy Sluys, Westfield, N.C.

Youth Banjo Honors - 15 years of age and under

- 1st place (\$100) - Jesse Reist, Lancaster, Pa.
- 2nd place (\$50) - Brennen Ernst, Lucketts, Va.
- 3rd place (\$25) - Jared Boyd, Laurel Fork, Va.

Senior Banjo Honors - 60 years of age and over

- 1st place (\$200) - Walt Koken, Avondale, Pa.
- 2nd place (\$100) - Marvin Gaster, Sanford, N.C.
- 3rd place (\$50) - Jimmy McCown, Hardy, Ky.

Traditional Band

- 1st place (\$700) - The Bailers, Greenville, W.Va.
- 2nd place (\$400) - The Yeah Buddies, Spring Valley, Ohio
- 3rd place (\$300) - Orpheus Supertones, Avondale, Pa.

4th place (\$200) - Uncle Henry's Favorites, Free Union, Va.

5th place (\$100) - The Tights, Ithaca, N.Y.

Neo-traditional Band

1st place (\$700) - Nora Jane Struthers and Her Band, Nashville, Tenn.

2nd place (\$400) - The Boston Collective, Boston, Mass.

3rd place (\$300) - The Old-Time Liberation Constituency, Lancaster, Pa.

4th place (\$200) - Mando Mafia, Charlottesville, Va.

5th place (\$100) - Green Willis, Mountain View, Ark.

Best Original Song

Nora Jane Struthers and Her Band, Nashville, Tenn.

Best Original Tune

Mando Mafia, Charlottesville, Va.

Old-Time Flat-Foot Dance - 15 years of age and under

1st place (\$75) - Rebecca Molaro, Asheville, N.C.

2nd place (\$50) - Lulu Furtado, Front Royal, Va.

3rd place (\$25) - Samantha Thomason, Hellam, Pa.

Old-Time Flat-Foot Dance - 16 years of age through 40

1st place (\$75) - Josephine Stewart, Charlottesville, Va.

2nd place (\$50) - Ryan Clover-Owens, Ithaca, N.Y.

3rd place (\$25) - Joel O'Brien, Nashville, Tenn.

Old-Time Flat-Foot Dance - 41 years of age through 59

1st place (\$75) - Ira Bernstein, Asheville, N.C.

2nd place (\$50) - Jay Bland, Kennesaw, Ga.

3rd place (\$25) - Jane Henderson, Bloomington, Ind.

Old-Time Flat-Foot Dance - 60 years of age and older

1st place (\$75) - Daniel Butner, Winston-Salem, N.C.

2nd place (\$50) - Mary Butner, Winston-Salem, N.C. 3rd place (\$25) - Carole Bendick, Winfield, Pa.