

## Winners from Appalachian String Band Festival 2018 at Clifftop, West Virginia

The 29th annual Appalachian String Band Music Festival at Camp Washington-Carver in Clifftop, Fayette County, wrapped up on Sunday, Aug. 5, 2018. Twenty-one musicians, 12 bands and 11 dancers from California to Maine took home a total of \$7,500 in prize money. Seven of the winners are from West Virginia, including Jim Mullins, St. Albans, Kanawha County, third place senior banjo; Tessa Dillon, St. Albans, Kanawha County, third place fiddle; Big Possum String Band, St. Albans, Kanawha County, first place Traditional Band; Joseph Riley, Hillsboro, Pocahontas County, first place Youth Traditional Band; Luke Snuffer, Beckley, Raleigh County, second place Flatfoot – 15 years of age and younger; Lucas Bryant, Huntington, Cabell County, third place Flatfoot – 15 years of age and younger; and Will Roboski, Elkins, Randolph County, third place Flatfoot – 60 and older.

More than 3,000 musicians, dancers, fans and friends representing all 50 states and 10 countries attended the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History's five-day-event that features some of the world's finest string-band musicians and flat-foot dancers. Contests were held in four traditional categories – fiddle, banjo, string band and flat-foot dance – plus one neo-traditional string band category.

### Youth Banjo

1st Place: (\$100) – Nora Brown – Brooklyn, N.Y.

2nd Place: (\$50) – Silas Riley – Hillsboro, Va.

### Banjo

1st Place: (\$400) – Cathy Fink – Silver Springs, Md.

2nd Place: (\$200) – Carl Jones – Galax, Va.

3rd Place: (\$150) – Nora Brown – Brooklyn, N.Y.

4th Place: (\$100) – Cameron DeWhitt – Hillsboro, Ore.

5th Place: (\$50) – Brad Kolodner – Baltimore, Md.

### Senior Banjo

1st Place: (\$200) Cathy Fink – Silver Springs, Md.

2nd Place: (\$100) Carl Jones – Galax, Va.

3rd Place: (\$50) Jim Mullins – Saint Albans, W.Va.

### Youth Fiddle

1st Place: (\$100) – Aila Wildman – N/A

2nd Place: (\$50) – Lillian Chase – Weaverville, N.C.

3rd Place: (\$25) – Kai Grosklos – Columbus, Ohio

### Fiddle

1st Place: (\$400) – Henry Barnes – Washington Court House, Ohio

2nd Place: (\$200) – Amy Alvey – Coto De Caza, Calif.

3rd Place: (\$150) – Tessa Dillon – Saint Albans, W.Va.

4th Place: (\$100) – Joseph Decosimo – Durham, N.C.

5th Place: (\$50) – Erynn Marshall – Galax, Va.

### Senior Fiddle

1st Place: (\$200) – Betty Vornbrack – Hillsville, Va.

2nd Place: (\$100) – Pete Vigour – Crozet, Va.

3rd Place: (\$50) – Barb Kuhns – Medway, Ohio

### Youth Neo-Traditional Band

1st Place: (\$300) – Ithingtons – Ithaca, N.Y.

### Neo-Traditional Band

1st Place: (\$700) – Take Two – Charlottesville, Va.

2nd Place: (\$400) - Mama's Broke – Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada  
3rd Place: (\$300) – The Ken & Brad Kolodner Trio – Baltimore, Md.  
4th Place: (\$200) – Gray Scale – Pittsburgh, Pa.  
5th Place: (\$100) – Billy & The Blow Ground – Nellysford, Va.

**Best New Composition Song**

No monetary award – Hay Fever – N/A

**Best New Composition Tune**

No monetary award – The Ken & Brad Kolodner Trio – Baltimore, Md.

**Youth Traditional Band**

1st Place: (\$300) Joseph Riley, Hillsboro, W.Va.

**Traditional Band**

1st Place: (\$700) Big Possum Stringband – St. Albans, W.Va.  
2nd Place: (\$400) Steam Machine – Minneapolis, Minn.  
3rd Place: (\$300) Hoot & Holler – Coto de Caza, Calif.  
4th Place: (\$200) Big Foot – Asheville, N.C.  
5th Place: (\$100) The Moose Whisperers – Weaverville, N.C.

**Old-Time Flat-Foot Dance – 15 years of age and younger**

1st Place: (\$75) Audrey Sementilli – Albany, Ohio  
2nd Place: (\$50) Luke Snuffer – Beckley, W.Va.  
3rd Place: (\$25) Lucas Bryant – Huntington, W.Va.

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

1st Place: (\$75) Becky Hill – Ashland City, Tenn.  
2nd Place: (\$50) Aaron Ratcliffe – Boone, N.C.  
3rd Place: (\$25) Will Roboski – Elkins, W.Va.

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

1st Place: (\$75) Ben Lieb – Concord, Calif.  
2nd Place: (\$50) Emily Hammond – Alexandria, Va.

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

1st Place: (\$75) Gordy Hinnners – Banner Elk, N.C.  
2nd Place: (\$50) Rodney Sutton – Marshall, N.C.  
3rd Place: (\$25) Jan Scopel – Arnold, Md.

**Grand Champion Old-Time Flat-Foot Dance Winner**

(\$100) Gordy Hinnners – Banner Elk, N.C.