

2014 Vandalia Gathering Contest Winners Announced

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – West Virginia’s champion old-time fiddle, bluegrass banjo and mandolin players, and cupcake and pound cake bakers competed for top honors on Saturday, May 24 during the West Virginia Division of Culture and History’s 38th annual Vandalia Gathering. On Sunday, May 25, old-time banjo, lap dulcimer and flatpick guitar musicians, and liars vied for awards.

Liars (all ages)

Biggest Liar (1st place and *Goldenseal* magazine’s Golden Shovel award) - Fred Pollack, Charleston

Bigger Liar (2nd place) - Ariana Kincaid, Charleston

Big Liar (3rd place) - Gary Buchanan, Creston

Youth (age 15 and under, and *Goldenseal* magazine’s Golden Shovel award) - Noah Lepp, Charleston

Cupcakes (all ages)

1st place - Judy Grigoraci, Charleston

2nd place - Ella Hoffman, Charleston

3rd place - Jan and Tori McCullough, Bridgeport

Youth (age 15 and under) - Kendall Atkins, Scott Depot

Pound Cake (all ages)

1st place - Judy Grigoraci, Charleston

2nd place - Lynna Middleton, Charleston

3rd place - Beverly Samples, South Charleston

Youth (age 15 and under) - NA

The annual Vandalia Gathering is a free celebration of the traditional arts, music, dance, stories, crafts and foods of West Virginia. The Culture Center and State Capitol Complex grounds play host to this expanding family-style gathering each year on Memorial Day weekend. The unique blending of ethnic and cultural heritage combines an atmosphere as comfortable as a family reunion with the excitement of a state fair. The statewide folk festival, named for the proposed 14th colony, pays tribute to the state’s ethnic heritage through a variety of exhibitions and programs.

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History is an agency within the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts with Kay Goodwin, Cabinet Secretary. The division, led by Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith, brings together the past, present and future through programs and services focusing on archives and history, arts, historic preservation and museums. For more information about the division’s programs, events and sites, visit www.wvculture.org. The Division of Culture and History is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.