

## 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.

### Youth Old-Time Fiddle (age 15 and under)

1st place - Jarred Carter, St. Albans

2nd place - Chloe Sergent, Milton

3rd place - Bella Zucker, Morgantown

### Old-Time Fiddle (age 59 and under)

1st place - Andy Fitzgibbons, Montrose

2nd place - Jesse Milnes, Valley Bend

3rd place - Jesse Pearson, Huntington

4th place - Jenny Allinder, St. Albans

5th place - Tessa Dillon, St. Albans

### Senior Old-Time Fiddle (age 60 and over)

1st place - Gerry Milnes, Elkins

2nd place - Darrell Murray, Charleston

3rd place - John Morris, Ivydale

4th place - Jim Mullins, St. Albans

5th place - Elmer Rich, Morgantown

### Mandolin (all ages)

1st place - Karl Smakula, Elkins

2nd place - Dan Kessinger, St. Marys

3rd place - Seth Marstiller, Elkins

4th place - Bob Smakula, Elkins

5th place - DJ Kessinger, St. Marys

### Bluegrass Banjo (all ages)

1st place - Andrew Kidd, Hurricane

2nd place - Jake Eddy, Parkersburg

3rd place - Rita Hunt, Premier

4th place - Karl Smakula, Elkins

5th place - Logan Hoy, Belle

### Lap Dulcimer (all ages)

1st place - Hunter Walker, Beckley

2nd place - David O’Dell, Glenville

3rd place - Martha Turley, Ona

4th place - Janie Miles, Pliny

5th place - Timmy Gillenwater, Griffithsville

### Old-Time Banjo (59 and under)

1st place - David O’Dell, Glenville

2nd place - Ben Townsend, Romney

3rd place - Dave Bing, Harmony

4th place - Trevor Hammons, Marlinton

5th place - Logan Hoy, Belle

Senior Old-Time Banjo (age 60 and over)

1st place - Bob Shank, Bruceton Mills

2nd place - Paul Gartner, Yawkey

3rd place - Jay Lockman, Green Bank

4th place - Jim Mullins, St. Albans

5th place - Ken Sheller, Elkins

Youth Flatpick Guitar (age 15 and under)

1st place - Isaac Putnam, Looneyville

2nd place - Austin Lewis, Hurricane

3rd place - Claire Walker, Charleston

Flatpick Guitar (all ages)

1st place - Adam Hager, Kenna

2nd place - Dan Kessinger, St. Marys

3rd place - Jamie Rhodes, Culloden

4th place - Matt Lindsey, Culloden

5th place - Bryant Underwood, Charleston

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](http://www.wvculture.org). The Division of Culture and History is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.