



INFORMATION FOR CONTESTANTS at the International Whistlers Convention and Music Festival 2009

The Annual International Whistlers Convention is held in Louisburg, North Carolina on the third or fourth weekend in April. **For 2009 the dates are April 22-26.** The Convention is a musical festival of whistlers who share a common interest in the art of whistling, in competition, in concerts, in seminars, in training classes, at dinners, and at church and school programs. The convention is also a time for non-whistlers to support whistling and for whistlers' fans to join the festival of events.

WHISTLING COMPETITION, April 23-25, 2009

If the applicant has not previously been a contestant at the International Whistlers Convention, a cassette tape or CD recording of two or more songs in each contest category is required to be submitted to the IWC not later than *January 1, 2009*. Contestants may choose one or more of the categories listed below. But for serious whistlers whose goal is **to become an international grand champion, they must enter both the classical and popular categories** and be prepared to have different songs if in the finals. Competition is a solo performance. (If the judges declare a tie, the finalists will need an additional song, and the contestant must be prepared with a piece that has not be performed at this 2009 competition.) The competition begins Thursday at 1:00 p.m. and continues until Saturday afternoon.

***Be sure to make a copy of your application form to keep for your records.
This information page is for you to keep.***

CHILDREN AND TEEN CATEGORIES Entry for Children and Teens is determined by age of entrant on date of competition. **Child**—Up to 12 years old **Teen**—13-19 years old **Adult**—20 and over

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COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

Each Whistling Competition contestant must complete a separate Application Form. If enrolling additional Whistling School participants and/or making additional reservations for the meals, you may do that on your application form. If you are registering for the Banquet and/or Dinner ONLY, please use the Banquet Reservation Form.

Print or Type very carefully, particularly your name and address so that mail or email gets to you instead of returned to IWC. Circle "Male" or "Female." List name in box as it is to appear on name tag. Be sure to put the birth date for child or teen contestants. If you are coming early from another country and will have a USA address/phone/email address, list all that apply in the space provided showing the dates when to use this data. Then complete page 2 of the application before filling in Fees/Costs.

On page 2 of Application Form: #1. **INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR WHISTLERS:** enter number registering in the box, including yourself if you are attending the school. List names as they should appear on name tags of other participants with a "B" (Beginner) or "A" (Advanced). #2. **RECEPTION/BANQUET**, April 24, and #4. **CLOSING DINNER PARTY**, April 25: enter number of reservations; we do not need names of those attending the dinners. Both dinners are at 6:00 p.m. in Jordan Student Center at Louisburg College. #3. **WHISTLING COMPETITION:** check the appropriate box and category(ies) for your entry. In each section, on the appropriate line put the total Fees for each event. Each contestant must submit a separate application.

RELIGIOUS MUSIC: It has become customary for some whistlers to perform religious music in local churches or locations at religious services on Sunday morning at 9 or 11 a.m. If you would like to participate (usually only one song is sung or whistled), please sign in the appropriate space on Application. If you have not performed religious music in the Louisburg area before, send a taped example of your performance style. A host will take you to and from the church or location.

Return to the front page of the Application and complete the Total Fees/Costs. Be sure to sign your application and enclose your check or money order in US Dollars. We suggest you print the application front and back on one page.

International School for Whistlers: Educational Seminar, April 22 and 23, 2009

The International School for Whistlers provides an opportunity for students of all ages to receive training in the art of whistling. It has a professional and distinguished director/teacher, and depending on the number of applications, has other teachers. Some of the subjects covered are: techniques and performance; history and appreciation of melodic whistling; tone, rhythm, pitch, vibrato; stage presence; self-confidence; and whistling styles. The seminar begins with registration and orientation on Wednesday night at 7:00-10:30 p.m. for beginners, and for the advanced class on Thursday, April 23 from 8:30—11:00 a.m.

JUDGING: A judging panel (which may consist of five or more) must hear all contestants perform all selections. (The judges are chosen by the Franklin County Arts Council, for either their academic knowledge of music, the art of whistling, or other musical qualifications the Arts Council attributes as appropriate.) A rating scale of one (the lowest) to ten (the highest) is used to define quality in each of the following:

Technique: Grading value 50%
 (1) Breath Management (efficiency, support);
 (2) Whistle (focus, resonance, sonority, virtuosity); (3) Intonation (balance of tone, pitch); (4) Agility/Articulations (legato, marcato, staccato, aspirato)

Presentation: Grading value 35%
 (1) Rhythm (accuracy, vitality);
 (2) Phrasing/Dynamics (nuances, expressions); (3) Style (appropriateness to the selection)

Performance: Grading value 15%
 (1) Visual Stage Appearance (facial and body language); (2) Dramatic Impact (empathy and projection of meaning)

MUSICAL SELECTIONS/TIME LIMITS:

Contestants are limited to only one selection in each category during the initial performance and as finalists. To avoid penalties, time should be no longer than five minutes on classical selections, four minutes on popular selections, or four minutes on allied arts.

ACCOMPANIMENT:

Recorded back-up music may support each selection. Please be sure to indicate on your entry form the choices you will use: a cappella, cassette, or CD. All sound equipment for your cassette or disc will be furnished by Convention technicians. If using cassette, the song to be performed must be at the beginning of each side of a tape. *You will need a separate tape or CD for each number. Label each with your name, category, and title of music.*

Information for mailing applications

Please make all checks payable to the Franklin County Arts Council in US dollars and mail with your application to **IWC, Franklin County Arts Council P.O. Box 758 Louisburg, North Carolina 27549**

Please make a copy of your application for your files. If you need to call us, the most immediate telephone response is 919-496-4771 or 919-496-1191, or E-mail: artsfcac@nc.rr.com & Web: www.whistlingIWC.com.

We suggest that you print application front and back on one page.

On a separate page, please include with your application updated information about yourself if you have attended before. If this is your first time, biographical information and a photo are required.

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AWARDS

A variety of awards are presented that may include trophies, cash, ribbons, plaques, certificates, and sponsor awards.

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| International Grand Championships | Adults | 1st Place, Male and Female 2nd and 3rd Place, Male and Female | Cash Award and Trophy Trophy |
| | Teenagers | 1st Place, Male and Female 2nd and 3rd Place, Male and Female | Cash Award and Trophy Trophy |
| | Children | 1st Place 2nd and 3rd Place | Cash Award and Trophy Trophy |
| Adult, Teenage, and Children's Divisions Classical and Popular Categories | | | 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Medallion |
| Allied Arts Division (All age categories) | | | 1st and 2nd Place Medallion |

Entertainer of the Year (Achievement Award) A plaque presented annually in memory of Lillian Williams, "America's Whistling Sweetheart," to a male and a female whistler who have achieved national or international recognition as an entertainer with other talents, in addition to whistling.

Hall of Fame Award A plaque presented annually to a living whistler, or in memory of a whistler, of outstanding national or international distinction. It is the Convention's highest award.

Special Awards A plaque is presented by the Town of Louisburg for the contestant who has traveled the farthest distance. A plaque or certificate is presented to the individuals who are cited by the judges or the Arts Council as deserving of recognition other than the awards above. Examples may be an award for the senior whistler, or honors received from their peers or media, or audience favorite.

Honorable Mention Awards Ribbons for all contestants.

**** *The judges or the Board of Directors of the Arts Council may disqualify any contestant whose performance, language, or behavior is disruptive, offensive, unethical, or unprofessional to the public.* ****