



Dear Music Friends:

Wyoming Fiddlers' Association District #4 would like to extend a personal invitation to you to help us celebrate the 25th Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Fiddle Championships & Music Festival here in Casper, Wyoming on August 14-16 at the Ramada Plaza Riverside. It is a special event for us, and we are excited to announce some new changes. We have added a Twin Fiddle category, and the Grand Championship Fiddle category will be judged on the combined scores for two rounds.

Friday night, Aug. 14, we will have an informal jam session to give participants and spectators the opportunity to renew old friendships and create some new ones.

We have a great panel of highly qualified judges: Scott Sumner from Milton Freewater, Oregon, and Daniel and Amy Carwile from Lexington, Kentucky.

All fiddle categories (except the novice categories) are certified by the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser, Idaho. First place winners will receive a beautiful certificate and their entry fees will be paid for the 2016 National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest.

On Saturday the music competition will start at 9 a.m. and run throughout the day with a break for lunch and dinner. Contestants will vie for over \$3400 in prizes and trophies. Saturday night will feature the final round of the Grand Championship category, as well as the final round for the new Twin Fiddle category. In addition, Wyoming Fiddlers' Association District #4 will do a short entertainment segment, and the judges will present the final performance of the evening.

There will be a buffet dinner prior to the Saturday night show. The cost is \$16.50 for adults/\$11.50 for children 10 & under. Reservations must be made by Monday, August 10.

On Sunday morning, one-hour music workshops will be presented by Amy and Daniel Carwile and Bill McKay. A fiddle workshop for beginner-intermediate players entitled "How to improve tone, intonation, technique & timing" will be presented by the Carwiles, who will also present a Master fiddle workshop entitled "Tips, techniques and suggestions for improvement" for intermediate-advanced players. Bill McKay will present "Getting beyond backup: Creative group playing for two or more." The cost of each workshop is \$25.

We have a block of rooms set aside especially for you at a cost of \$79/night for one to four people. Room reservations must be made by August 1, 2015 to get the special rate. Call 307-235-2531

Please come help us celebrate our 25th year!

*Ann Robinson,
Chairman*

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL FIDDLE CHAMPIONSHIPS & MUSIC FESTIVAL

ENTRY FORM (ONE CONTESTANT PER ENTRY FORM PLEASE. MAKE COPIES FOR ADDITIONAL CONTESTANTS.)

<u>CONTEST CATEGORY</u>	<u>ENTRY FEE*</u>	<u>LATE ENTRY FEE</u>	<u>AMT. PD.</u>
Small Fry Fiddle (ages 0-8)	Free	\$2.00	_____
Junior-Junior Fiddle (9-12)	Free	\$2.00	_____
Junior Fiddle (13-17)	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Young Adult Fiddle (18-36)	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Adult Fiddle (37-59)	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Senior Fiddle (60-69)	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Senior-Senior Fiddle (70 & over)	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Adult Novice Fiddle (18 & over)	\$5.00	\$7.00	_____
Youth Novice Fiddle (ages 17 & under)***	\$5.00	\$7.00	_____
Grand Championship Fiddle (all ages)**	\$15.00	\$17.00	_____
Guitar	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Twin Fiddle (all ages, top 5 will play 2 nd round at night)	\$15.00 (per team)	\$17.00	_____
Adult Variety Instrument (18 & over)	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Youth Variety Instrument (17 & under)***	\$5.00	\$7.00	_____
Male Vocal (all ages)***	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Female Vocal (all ages)***	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
TOTAL ENTRY FEES ENCLOSED:			_____

*Entry form must be received by Monday, August 10th to avoid having to pay the late entry fee.

**Contestants entering the Championship Fiddle Category must also enter their age categories with the exception of a contestant who has won his/her age group for three years in a row. Scores from the age group and the championship rounds will be combined to determine the championship winners.

***Children ages 12 and under do not pay an entry fee for any category (with the exception of the Grand Championship Fiddle Category), if they are pre-registered.

NAME: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

“Get Acquainted” Dinner Buffet - \$16.50/adult, \$11.50/child 10 & under (tax & tip included):
 _____ adult tickets _____ child tickets **(Tickets must be purchased by Monday, August 10th)** TOTAL \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WFA #4 Mail to: WFA #4, P.O. Box 876, Mills, WY 82644

3 Sunday morning 1-hour workshops:

Bill McKay – “Getting beyond back-up: Creative group playing for two or more”

Daniel & Amy Carwile, contest judges will present some great fiddle workshops

Workshop fee is \$25. Make checks payable to Bill McKay or Carwile WORKSHOP TOTAL \$ _____

Go to our website at <http://www.casperwyofiddleclub.com> for more information, as it becomes available.

GENERAL CONTEST RULES

1. Contest officials will draw playing order and post it as soon as possible.
2. Judges will judge from a remote location.
3. Contestants will hand tune sheet to emcee, and will not speak into the microphone.
4. Contestants are responsible for appearing on stage on time. Contestants not appearing on stage within two minutes after their numbers are announced may be disqualified.
5. All music must be titled and reflect traditional country, folk or bluegrass style. No medleys are allowed. Tune disqualification must be a unanimous judges' decision.
6. Instruments must be unamplified. Contact microphones are not allowed.
7. If a string breaks or slips, the contestant will have the option to continue or stop at that point. If the tune is completed, it will be judged as played. A contestant who stops will be allowed to begin with that tune and continue his/her round.
8. The sound system will be preset to desirable general levels. No individual adjustments will be made.
9. Contestants may play without accompaniment, or with no more than 3 accompanists, except the Small Fry and Junior-Junior categories, which are limited to 2 accompanists. Use of a second fiddle is prohibited. Vocalists who are self-accompanied may have two additional accompanists.
10. Time limit on stage for all categories is four minutes, except for the Grand Championship Fiddle, which is allowed five minutes. No stopwatch is used, but judges will deduct points for a performance that becomes too long and/or repetitive.
11. Scores are based on: old-time ability, danceability, rhythm & timing, and tone quality. Points will be deducted for rules infractions.
12. First through third place ties will result in a one-round playoff. Tunes previously performed may not be repeated. Ties will be resolved in this manner for first through fifth place in the Grand Championship Fiddle category.
13. Individual score sheets will be available upon request after awards for a category have been announced.
14. A contestant who threatens, verbally or physically attacks, or attempts to influence a judge, or attempts to jeopardize the performance of another contestant will be disqualified from the current and following year's contest.
15. The contest director reserves the right to alter the time schedule and order of categories, as necessary.
16. By submitting an entry form, contestants waive recording rights to performances at the contest, are responsible for entering the proper category, and agree to abide by all contest rules.
17. Decisions of the judges and contest director are final.

SPECIFIC CATEGORY RULES

FIDDLE

1. Contestants must compete in their age categories in order to enter the Grand Championship Fiddle category. A contestant who has won his/her age division three years in a row will play to establish first-round score only. **Scores from the age category performance will be added to the scores in the final round of the Grand Championship Fiddle.**
2. Contestants must first play a hoedown; second, a waltz; and third, a tune of choice other than a hoedown or a waltz except for **Twin Fiddle contestants, who will play a slow tune and a fast tune each round.** No tune the contestant played in an age category shall be repeated in the Grand Championship Fiddle category.
3. No trick or fancy fiddling is allowed. No cross-tuning is allowed. Disqualification of a tune must be a unanimous decision of the judges.
4. A contestant winning an age category three years in a row must sit out or judge the next year, except Small Fry & Junior-Junior contestants, who must move up one age division.
5. A contestant who wins the Novice Fiddle category may not enter the Novice Fiddle category in future years. Contestants entering the Novice category may not enter any other fiddle category.

GUITAR, VARIETY INSTRUMENT & YOUTH VARIETY INSTRUMENT

1. Contestants will play two tunes of choice.
2. There are no stylistic restrictions (i.e. finger style or flat picking)
3. Contestants may enter the Variety Instrument category more than once, on different instruments. Entry fee must be paid for each appearance on stage. This category includes all instruments that don't have a specific category. **Youth guitarists (17 & under) may play either in Youth Variety Instruments or the Guitar category. Adult guitarists must enter the Guitar category.**

VOCAL

1. Contestants will sing one tune.
2. In addition to the judging criteria outlined in general contest rule #11, tone quality will include diction, breath and voice control, phrasing and pitch.
3. All vocal categories are solo performances.
4. Vocalists must take special note of general contest rule #9.

The favorite accompanist award will be based on the number of appearances on stage.