



## AMERICAN TRADITIONS COMPETITION

FOR SINGERS | APRIL 1 - 4, 2009

The American Traditions Competition for singers celebrates the vocal music repertoire of the United States. America's musical genres represent excellence and artistic integrity, and our Competition seeks to increase performance of these genres. These include art songs, operatic excerpts, blues, jazz, cabaret songs, hymns, spirituals, musical theater, songs from film and television, and popular songs penned by American composers over the last two centuries. It is our desire that the competition will create greater appreciation for American music.

This contest will be held in historic Savannah, Georgia, during the 2009 Savannah Music Festival (March 19 - April 5), the largest music festival in the state of Georgia and, arguably, the most diverse in the entire world.

Above: 2008 Oxnard Gold Medalist Kiley Watson

## \$35,000 IN PRIZES

- Oxnard Gold Medal \$12,000
- Courtney Knight Gaines Foundation Silver Medal \$6,000
- Stanton Bronze Medal \$3,000
- Finalists \$1,200
- Semifinalists \$600
- Quarterfinalists \$300

Contestants can receive only one cash award.

Left to Right: Minnita Daniel-Cox, Tom Krebs, Shirley Crabbe, Ashley Logan, Josef Spencer, Todd Donovan, Dennis Jeter, Leenya Rideout, David Bankston



THE 16TH ANNUAL  
**AMERICAN TRADITIONS COMPETITION**  
 FOR SINGERS | APRIL 1 - 4, 2009



204 West Saint Julian Street  
 Savannah, Georgia 31401  
 912.234.3378 or 800.868.3378  
[www.savannahmusicfestival.org](http://www.savannahmusicfestival.org)

Non-profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Savannah, GA  
 Permit No. 301

LARGER PRIZES!!



Step Up...  
 Sing Out...  
 Win Big!

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KENNICKELL is the official Print & Communications sponsor of the 2009 Savannah Music Festival

## Repertoire Requirements

All songs submitted in a contestant's repertoire must be composed by American composers. Please contact the Savannah Music Festival for any questions regarding acceptability of chosen titles. In planning repertoire, performers must stay strictly within the 10-minute time limit. The entire program is to be determined when your application is submitted. No subsequent changes may be made. Performers may choose to perform older material in original styles, and new arrangements are permitted. Medleys are allowed as long as time limits are observed.

## Preliminary CD

The Preliminary round is a maximum 10-minute CD performance submitted with the application. The selections recorded on the CD must be sung by the applicant and include the following:

- 1) A song from a musical theater work by an American composer.
- 2) An American spiritual, song of praise, or hymn of your choice.
- 3) A selection of your choice which represents an American tradition or is composed by an American. (See description on other side.)

After reviewing all CD's, an independent panel of judges will select the singers who will be invited to Savannah to perform live in Competition. Those selected will be notified by a letter postmarked on January 16, 2009.

## Quarterfinal Rounds (April 1 - 2, 2009)

Contestants selected for the Quarterfinal rounds will be invited to Savannah to present a live 10-minute performance of songs submitted on the preliminary CD. Substitutions are not permitted. Up to twelve contestants from this round will advance to the Semifinal rounds.

### Quarterfinal Round Accompaniment

- You may accompany yourself.
- We will provide a staff accompanist (piano).
- You may bring a personal accompanist.

## Semifinal Rounds (April 3, 2009)

Contestants selected for the Semifinal rounds will present a 10-minute program consisting of one selection from each of the following categories (no repeated selections from the Quarterfinal round):

- 1) A song selected from the Semifinal Song List found on our website, [www.savannahmusicfestival.org](http://www.savannahmusicfestival.org).
- 2) A song from the Tin Pan Alley Song List found on our website, [www.savannahmusicfestival.org](http://www.savannahmusicfestival.org).
- 3) A selection of your choice which represents an American tradition. (See description on other side.)

### Semifinal Round Accompaniment

- You may accompany yourself.
- We will provide a staff accompanist (piano or guitar).
- You may bring a personal accompanist.
- We will provide a trio consisting of piano, bass and drums.
- You may bring a personal trio consisting of piano, bass and drums.

## Final Round (April 4, 2009)

Up to six contestants will advance to the Final round. Finalists are required to present a 10-minute program, choosing music from the American traditions as represented in the Competition requirements. One song presented in the Final round must be written by Savannah native Johnny Mercer. Selections may showcase each contestant's area of expertise but must also demonstrate versatility with regard to style and genre. Finalists may not present any material they have sung in earlier rounds of the Competition.

### Final Round Accompaniment

- You may accompany yourself.
- We will provide a staff accompanist (piano or guitar).
- You may bring a personal accompanist.
- We will provide a trio consisting of piano, bass and drums.
- You may bring a personal trio consisting of piano, bass and drums.

## ENTRY DEADLINE DECEMBER 1, 2008

(912) 234-3378, x102

[www.savannahmusicfestival.org](http://www.savannahmusicfestival.org)

Please complete application requirements, and return with a check, money order, or credit card information for \$50 to:

### American Traditions Competition

c/o Savannah Music Festival  
204 W. Saint Julian Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Travel to Savannah is the responsibility of the contestant.
- Competition time limits must be observed.
- Illegal use of photocopied material is not permitted.
- Competition dates are April 1- April 4, 2009
- Selections must meet repertoire requirements.
- No personal compositions allowed.
- Returning contestants are urged to submit fresh song selections for consideration.
- Contestants are evaluated on the basis of Voice Quality (40%), Interpretation (40%), Diversity of Repertoire (15%), and Diction (5%).

## APPLICATION FORM

### American Traditions Competition for Singers

*Please type or print clearly.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Repertoire

List song titles, composers and the titles of musicals for musical theater selections. (Use an additional sheet if necessary.)

### Preliminary and Quarterfinal Rounds:

1) A musical theater selection:

\_\_\_\_\_

2) A spiritual, hymn or song of praise:

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Your choice:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Semifinal Round:

1) A song from Tin Pan Alley:

\_\_\_\_\_

2) A selection from the Semifinal Song List:

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Your choice:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Final round:

1) Songs with music or lyrics by Johnny Mercer:  
(Prepare 3 selections, the judges will select one.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) Your choice:

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Your choice:

\_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

**Open to all singers over the age of 21. In order to apply, please submit the following:**

1) The completed application form filled out in its entirety. Incomplete application forms will not be processed. Repertoire must be determined at the time of application and cannot be changed. If you have questions regarding repertoire, please contact the Savannah Music Festival at (912) 234-3378, x102.

2) A CD of you singing the repertoire requirements for the Preliminary Round. (Send 3 UNMARKED copies.)

3) Tell us how you heard about the Competition.

\_\_\_\_\_

4) A non-refundable entry fee of \$50.

\_\_\_\_\_

• Check or money order enclosed, payable to Savannah Music Festival.

• MasterCard    Visa

• We do not accept American Express cards.

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Advancing Quarterfinalists will be required to electronically submit a high-quality headshot and a 50-word bio.

\_\_\_\_\_

Please visit our website for complete competition details and festival updates: [www.savannahmusicfestival.org](http://www.savannahmusicfestival.org)

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Want to submit an application online? Sonicbids lets people in the music business send and receive press kits online. Create an easy-to-use, web based Electronic Press Kit and submit your music to the American Traditions Competition using Sonicbids: [www.sonicbids.com/americantraditions2009](http://www.sonicbids.com/americantraditions2009)