



Scholarship Guidelines and Rules

Cotati Accordion Student Stage (CASS) 2023

All accordion students are welcome to apply regardless of nationality and residency. We encourage all students to apply after consulting with their teachers. There is no fee associated with the application form.

Students may apply for a scholarship through age 18. If a student should graduate high school in the summer in which they apply, they can still apply for a scholarship during the current festival year if they remain enrolled in accordion lessons.

All materials, including application forms and copies of all sheet music are the responsibility of the applicant, and everything must be received by the coordinator no later than July 1, 2023. No exceptions are made for late arrivals.

The Cotati Accordion Student Stage is designed to reward students on their own merits. While there is a competition for excellence based on individual scores, each student is evaluated on the number of years studied, the selection of appropriate pieces well-suited to the student's ability and the student's overall mastery of skills. The Contino scholarship has additional eligibility requirements.

Students are not required to memorize their selections; however, memorization is strongly urged. Students are not deducted points if they read from a score; however, placement of the sheet music stand should not interfere with the judges' need to observe students. It is the student's responsibility to have someone available to turn pages if needed.

CASS awards on the basis of accumulated points. The top-scoring student receives a \$500 scholarship; second place receives \$400 and third place receives \$300. Only the top three-scoring competitors will be awarded scholarships on the stage. Seniors are eligible for the Dick & Judy Contino \$1000 Scholarship. All students are eligible for the San Francisco Accordion Club \$500 scholarship. Awards are based on the highest score, in addition, age eligibility and level of difficulty may apply to the winning student(s).

All competing students and their teachers may request the judges' score totals and written remarks. Contact the CASS Coordinator after the festival. Generally, it takes a few weeks to return feedback in the form of an email. The summary and results are transcribed and made available for the purpose of improvement only. The judges' names and their scores always remain anonymous.

Student scholarships are distributed on the Main Stage at approximately 1:30p on Saturday. A student need not be present to win but it is highly advised that they be present. Students will be notified by via mobile phone as identified on application. If you are not called, you are to assume that you did not earn sufficient points to earn a scholarship.

Sheri Mignano Crawford, CASS Asst to the Coordinator (David Noferi)

CotatiAccordionStudentStage@yahoo.com 1- (707) 772-9816 REV 1.24.2023