

# NORTH AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF WALES – August 30 – September 3, 2023 – Lincoln, NE

## A. STAGE COMPETITIONS - INTRODUCTION

1. **IMPORTANT NOTE -- This document contains 3 sections, and only covers stage competitions: Introduction (p. 1), Entry Information (p. 2) and Stage Competition Particulars (p. 3).**
2. **Please review all sections of this document carefully, especially the Stage Competition Particulars (p. 3), which include critical, specific information on scheduling and entry requirements.** For further information and guidelines on our other competitions, namely, Poetry Composition and Visual Arts, please consult the Eisteddfod section at the Festival website, [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org).
3. **Our stage competitions include** two in Singing (Solo Voice/Semi-Professional and Hymn Singing) and two in Recitation (Welsh Language and English Language). These are planned for **Saturday, Sept. 2** at the Festival's headquarters hotel, The Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker, 333 S. 13<sup>th</sup> St, Lincoln, NE 68508. Entrants may enter as many stage competitions as they wish. In all competitions, adjudicators' decisions are final.
4. **For singing competitions:**
  - **A professional accompanist will be available**, if desired. The accompanist will also be available for rehearsals, and upon application you will be contacted to schedule a rehearsal time.
  - **The Solo Voice / Semi-Professional Competition (for the Welsh North America Prize)** is for singers with some professional training but whose income is derived only partially from performing. This signature competition of our Eisteddfod offers high-level adjudication for all competitors, offering first and second prizes of \$500 and \$250, respectively. Further, at their sole discretion, the adjudicators may award an additional scholarship of \$3000 to the first-prize winner for travel to compete at the 2024 National Eisteddfod of Wales (Rhondda Cynon Taf), if the performance is deemed to be of a suitable standard.
  - **The winners of both singing competitions (Solo Voice/Semi-Professional and Hymn Singing) will be invited to perform at the Sunday Worship Service.**
5. **For recitation competitions:**
  - **Competitors will recite a predetermined "set piece"** and will be adjudicated on the basis of interpretation, intonation and delivery. Prospective competitors will be furnished with the set piece (via email) on request, or otherwise will receive it upon application. Reciting the set piece from memory is strongly encouraged, but not required.
  - **There is no deadline for entering the Recitation competitions and, at the Eisteddfod Committee's discretion, walk-on entries will be permitted at the time of competition as much as space permits.** However, as entries will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis, prospective competitors are encouraged to apply for entry as soon as possible.
  - **A competitor in Welsh Language Recitation, if not fully conversant in the Welsh language, may declare as a "Learner"** when entering (online or via walk-on). Adjudicators will then take this into consideration when evaluating performances.
6. **Winners and selected others from the stage competitions will be asked to perform in the Winners' Concert at 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 2.** This concert has become a highlight of the NAFOW weekend.

**B. STAGE COMPETITIONS - ENTRY INFORMATION**

**1. Entry requirements:**

- The deadline for entering **singing** competitions (via the online entry form at the Eisteddfod section of the Festival website, [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org) ) is **August 21, 2023**.
- For **recitation** competitions, **there is no entry deadline**. Competitors may enter via the online entry form, while – at the Eisteddfod Committee’s discretion - walk-on entries will be permitted at the time of competition as much as space permits. However, as entries will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis, prospective competitors are encouraged to apply for entry as soon as possible.
- There are no **entry fees** for stage competitions **except** for Solo Voice / Semi-Professional (US\$25).
- For **singing competitions**, to assist our accompanist and adjudicators in their advance preparation, please scan and upload all pages of your chosen piece(s), where indicated in the online entry form, as a **single document**. (Note: This step is not necessary for Hymn Singing, if using the WNAA Hymnal.)
- For **all competitors** entering via the online entry form, you will receive confirmation of your entry after the WNAA (Welsh North American Association) has received your entry form. Please provide a valid email address for confirmation.

**2. Additional information:**

- Competition schedules are included (pp. 3-4) but may be changed. Please continue monitor the website [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org) .
- The Eisteddfod Committee reserves the right to reject any entry at its own discretion.
- **Critical, specific information on scheduling and on performance and other entry requirements for each stage competition can be found in the next section, “Stage Competition Particulars” (p. 3).**
- **QUESTIONS?** For more information and queries regarding these competitions, please contact the NAFOW Eisteddfod Committee (Tel: 412-215-9161, Email: [eisteddfod@nafow.org](mailto:eisteddfod@nafow.org)).

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## STAGE COMPETITION PARTICULARS: RECITATION (2 competitions)

**NOTE: Please also refer to pp. 1-2 of this document for other important information on (or affecting) recitation competitions.**

**Welsh Language Recitation:** WNAA Eisteddfod Committee Award  
 Winner: US\$75. *Second place: \$50. Third place: \$25.*

**Saturday, Sept. 2, 12:00 PM**

**English Language Recitation:** St. David's Society of Minnesota Award  
 Winner: US\$75. *Second place: \$50. Third place: \$25.*

**Saturday 12:30 PM**

Competition	Age	No. of pieces	Language	Set pieces (poems for recitation)
Welsh Language†	Open	1	Welsh	<b>Y Pethau Bychain</b> by Eurig Salisbury††
English Language	Open	1	English	<b>When all my five and country senses see</b> by Dylan Thomas

† - **Note:** For competitors not fully conversant in the Welsh language, you may declare as a “Learner” when entering (online or via walk-on). Adjudicators will then be instructed to take this into account when evaluating performances.

†† - The poet’s own English translation is available at: <https://www.eurig.cymru/the-little-things--march-2023.html> .

## STAGE COMPETITION PARTICULARS: SINGING (2 competitions)

**NOTE: Please also refer to pp. 1-2 of this document for other important information on (or affecting) singing competitions.**

**Hymn Singing Competition (Solo):** Rachel Christopher Memorial Award\*  
 Winner: US\$75 and the opportunity to sing in the Sunday Worship Service. *Second place: \$50. Third place: \$25.*

**Saturday, Sept. 2, 1:30 PM**

\* - *Sponsored by Huw Christopher.*

**Solo Voice / Semi-Professional: *The Welsh North America Prize***  
*(Formerly: The David Morris Award. Sponsored in 2023 by Ian K. Samways.)*

**Saturday, Sept. 2, 2:30 PM**

Winner: \$500 and, if adjudicated to be of a sufficient standard, an additional scholarship of \$3000 for travel to compete at the 2024 National Eisteddfod of Wales (Rhondda Cynon Taf, August 2024). If the scholarship is awarded and the winner travels to Wales, a report on the experience is required. Winner is also invited to sing an appropriate piece in the NAFOW Sunday Worship Service. *Runner-up: \$250.*

**NOTE: The Solo Voice / Semi-Professional Competition is open only to residents of the Americas.**

Competition	Age	No. of pieces	Language	Time limit	Comments
Hymn Singing (Solo)	Open	1	Welsh	8 minutes maximum	Sheet music may be used, accompanied or unaccompanied.
Solo Voice/ Semi-Prof.	Open	2	At least 1 in Welsh**	10 minutes (total) maximum	Selections must be memorized

\*\* - **Solo Voice/Semi-Professional Requirements:** 2 contrasted selections drawn from **art song, oratorio or operatic repertoire**. The 2 selections can be from two of the three categories, or from just one. Unfortunately, we cannot provide recommendations for performance selections but can confirm (on request) whether a selection is suitable for competition. A basic definition of “art song” can be found via: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art\\_song](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_song) .