



LVAC TIMES



Friedrich Lips

ROARING 20'S CELEBRATION OCTOBER 14-17, 2019

Come join us as we celebrate 20 years of presenting the very finest in accordion entertainment and education. The Accordion Stars will certainly be shining come October 14, 2019. We are privileged to have a vast & varied program including something for everyone! We are honored to have Friedrich Lips joining an all-star lineup. Make sure to read on and see why you should join us for an AMAZING ROARING 20's CELEBRATION!



Ginny Mac



Cory Pesaturo

Professor Friedrich Lips, one of Russia's most renowned musicians, rose to fame in 1969 when he won first prize for his brilliant performance at the Internationale Musiktage in Klingenthal, Germany. Born and educated in the USSR. He quickly became famous while studying at the Gnesin Institute for Music Education in Moscow. He went on to become a Professor at the Gnesin Institute and is World-renowned as an educator, author, and virtuoso concert artist. Friedrich is also an author of a series of books about the Bayan Accordion. He has performed in many of the most famous concert halls in the world along with artists such as Yo-Yo Ma amongst many others. Yes, Friedrich does speak English and will be performing and teaching a few classes at our convention. We are very honored to have this once in a lifetime opportunity!



Grayson Masefield



Joan Sommers

Ginny, with her vivacious Texas charm and undeniable talent, was discovered back in 2002 when, as a young teenager, she was a Deiro Scholarship recipient. One evening with Ginny and you will have traveled to the West Texas plains, reminiscent of Bob Wills' soaring fiddle tunes, or perhaps to a sidewalk café in Paris, or to a two step or tango under the Texas skies. Hailing from Fort Worth, TX, Ginny Mac brings a fresh and exciting twist to vocal and instrumental stylings in the Country West Swing, Americana, hot Jazz and International music genres. We welcome Ginny back to our 20th celebration!



Gina Brannelli



Stas Venglevski

Cory, a convention favorite, is returning by overwhelming popular demand. An American musician from Cumberland, Rhode Island, he studied at the New England Conservatory of Music, becoming the second person to major in accordion and to graduate as an accordionist. Cory became the first American to win a World Accordion Championship since Peter Soave, 25 years earlier. He has studied and plays a variety of musical styles including jazz, folk, and classical music. Come help us celebrate Cory's return to Las Vegas – he is truly eager to share his knowledge and his passion.



Gordon Kohl

Grayson, last year's Honorary Conductor, has continually wowed convention audiences. In 2009 this amazing young man from New Zealand became the first person ever to win the prestigious Coupe Mondiale Virtuoso Classical and the Coupe Mondiale Virtuoso Entertainment awards back to back in the same year. **(Continued on page 2)**



Kim & Dan Christian



Pete Barbutti



The Las Vegas International Accordion Orchestra!

June 25, 2019

Dear Friends,

Hope this finds you enjoying your summer! I can't believe this will be our 20th convention. In planning the event in 1998 I would have never imagined it would have endured all these years thanks in major part to YOU the attendees. I am looking forward to seeing each and every one of you as we celebrate this milestone together. This year will be a very special event with the appearance of the world renowned Friedrich Lips.



Now is the time to register for the 20th Annual Las Vegas International Accordion Convention! Remember you will save \$50 off your registration when you book your Gold Coast room with our code (A9IAC10) before the room block goes away on September 14, 2019. Register now and save!

Oh what a marvelous time we will have October 14-17. Come join our Roaring 20's Celebration in honor of our 20th annual event! We have lots of great music and fun in store and great seats are available. Please accept my invitation to the BEST accordion event ever – in Las Vegas!

Our convention is a place to be entertained, to eat well, and to be educated with wonderful classes each day. The hotspot after each evening concert is Club Concerto, a place where you get to be the Star on stage in a wonderful cabaret setting.

Our Roaring Twenties Gala Evening will feature a costume parade and prizes. I am very excited to announce this year's artists! Surely 2019 will be our most exciting event yet! Look over this newsletter and color flyer and check www.AccordionStars for updates as we get closer to the event!

If you have not looked at airfares – do so today – they are lower when you make them at least 30 days out. Plus the hotel rate is now at \$47 a night (midweek) in addition to our reduced resort fee of \$12.99 saving you over \$12 off the regular resort fee, per night! Don't forget we will take \$50 off your registration when you book on our block (A9AIC10). This saves you over \$100 by booking now (\$50 plus the 4 night resort fee savings)!

If you have any questions or concerns or just need some help finding an airfare to Las Vegas, give me a call toll free 1-800-472-1695. I would love to hear from you. So register, make your reservations, mark your calendar, and come join our Roaring 20's Celebration!

Warm regards,


Paul Pasquali

Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

Accordion Stars – SHINE BRIGHTLY

(Continued from page 1) Grayson has become a sought-after musician performing all over the world. After graduating with a degree in music from Zurich, Switzerland, he is now teaching at the University of Auckland. Welcome back to Las Vegas!

Stas has a warm, positive personality and is both a popular performer and clinician. An acclaimed virtuoso who studied under Friedrich Lips in the former USSR, he is a highly respected accordionist. Stas is now an American accordion cheerleader, promoting musical excellence on the bayan accordion to varied audiences around the world. We welcome our friend and accordionist extraordinaire back to Las Vegas – rumor has it he and Joan Sommers have a special performance for us!

Professor Sommers, Honorary Conductor and recipient of the Golden Baton Award, is an annual favorite. What the Professor can do with just three short days of rehearsals is as miraculous as the sound she obtains from the orchestra. It is truly inspiring! Professor Emeritus Sommers has been honored numerous times by associations all over the world. Though now retired, Joan continues to teach, conduct & arrange – things she loves to do. Joan will be conducting the Las Vegas International Accordion Orchestra for the 12th year. Thanks, Joan, for your wonderful contributions!

Kim & Dan, a convention favorite duo, grew up together performing and teaching the accordion and established themselves among the premier accordionists in the world. Their unique ability to play together with exact precision is unparalleled. They have excellent technique and mastery of the accordion. Their performances are charged with vibrant energy and a passion and love that create an experience that will be cherished. We are excited to hear from them again!

Mary is a treasured performer, beloved instructor, author, and friend to all. Mary has set the bar high for decades. She performs all over the world, has released two solo CDs, and is a published author who has done much to promote music in early childhood – carrying the accordion forward to new generations! She is not only extremely knowledgeable but she has a genuine willingness to share. Mary's classes are exceptional. Try to attend one. Thanks Mary – Looking forward to seeing you!

Gordon, 2017 Honorary Conductor, is a knowledgeable, skilled, dedicated, “multi-cultural” accordionist. His playing credentials, which include commercials, video tracks, and work with TV shows and stars, would fill an entire page. Gordon has a great love for music and is a master of the Concerto accordion. Gordon is a treasured performer who has supported and contributed to every convention since the beginning. Thanks Gordon, for all you do!

Pete Barbutti, a convention favorite, is an American comedian and musician (playing piano, “cordeon” and trumpet), who went on to become one of the most famous stand-up comedians in history. Pete is also a very fine musician who has appeared and worked with many musical legends. Pete contributes greatly to our annual event and is a favorite celebrity. We look forward to laughing with him again.

Gina, a big thanks for your inspiration in 1998, for the inception of this wonderful annual event. Gina has played a significant role for all 20 years of the Convention and we appreciate her greatly. Today she teaches accordion, voice and piano. She has said, “I am proud to present the accordion, as it has been part of my family for three generations!” Thank you Gina for being a friend and a part of the convention for all these years – you inspire us all!

Fun at Club Concerto with a Roaring 20's Theme!

Why Las Vegas? – MORE FUN & It Really Does Cost Less!

Compare the true cost of attending any accordion hotel event in North America! Add up the following: event fees, travel costs, hotel rooms and meals - these total your true cost. Remember our event fee includes 7 wonderful meals and concerts for 4 phenomenal days, in addition to over 40 workshops, plus after-hours entertainment at Club Concerto – a true bargain!



FYI - costs of rooms without meals in a Marriott, Hyatt, or other event hotel averages over \$200-300 plus tax & fees per night. Add in the meal costs in these hotels for two people for four nights and your expenses can be well into the thousands even before event fees and travel costs.

Las Vegas, at \$47 a night for four nights, plus the resort fee of \$12.99, plus the cost of breakfast at \$9 each, comes to about \$80 a night - so the answer is very clear – LVAC is a BARGAIN no matter how you add it up.

All this - plus the largest lineup of world class entertainment - including invaluable workshops, and you will see why the LVAC is by far the least expensive event with the most to offer for your dollar! **PLUS A FUN Roaring 20's Themed Dress Up Night with costume parade & contests too!**

OUR PROMISE TO YOU: Attend just once, and you'll discover why people come back year after year saying, "Paul, I don't know how you do it – this event is really first class. What a wonderful week - what a bargain!"

Come join us at the best kept secret in the accordion world!



Lots of Great Seats Enroll Now & Save!



If you are considering attending, then please **register today**.

We strongly recommend that you make your hotel and travel reservations early. If you wait until the last minute you might be caught paying much higher airfare and room rates. The \$47 rate goes away Sept. 14 or as soon as the rooms are gone!

Enclosed is a color flyer with registration form & hotel information. Simply fill it out and return it to convention headquarters at LVAC, 1760 South 450 West, SLC, UT 84115. Or you may go online to AccordionStars.com and follow the links to register and pay online.

Las Vegas International Accordion Orchestra Needs YOU!

Professor Sommers, our very own Maestro Extraordinaire, is now preparing the 2019 program – so if you want to be a part of this exciting orchestra, NOW is the time to let us know so there is time to get your music to you!

The Orchestra's past performances have been very exciting. Anyone who has heard this magnificent orchestra would have to say the sound was nothing less than glorious under Maestro Sommers' baton!

If you are interested in joining this prestigious group and in being a part of accordion musical history, then the steps are simple:

Register today and tell us you want to be in the orchestra.

1. Fill out the orchestra questionnaire form online at AccordionStars.com (or call us for a form).
2. Practice your assigned parts and learn them before coming to Las Vegas.
3. Bring your music, your accordion, and a music stand to Las Vegas. Portable music stands will be available for purchase at the Convention store.
4. Rehearse each day from 3 to 5 PM with our illustrious conductor, Joan Cochran-Sommers.
5. Wear black and white to the Thursday GRAND FINALE performance!

**NEWS 2019 Exciting Lineup of Stars INSIDE
Plus how to save over \$100!**



*Roaring 20's Celebration
Accordion Stars
October 14-17, 2019*

STARRING

**Friedrich Lips
Ginny Mac**

**Cory Pesaturo
Grayson Masefield
Stas Venglevski**

**Kim & Dan Christian
Mary Tokarski
Gordon Kohl**

Gina Brannelli - Pete Barbutti & MORE!

FEATURING

**Professor Joan Sommers
Directing "The Las Vegas International
Accordion Orchestra"**

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP!



Promoting young accordion players! Scholarships are available to all

accordion players under the age of 18, who are accompanied by a paying full time adult parent or guardian attendee.

If you know a youth accordion player, please have them contact us about a scholarship.

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