

V-ACCORDION FESTIVAL

THE 6th ROLAND V-ACCORDION CONTEST

Regulations

Roland Europe S.p.A. and Roland Corporation announce the 6th "ROLAND V-Accordion" international Festival for accordion soloists.

The Festival is divided into two steps:



NATIONAL

1. in January 2012 at the NAMM Show the 6th V-Accordion Festival will be announced
2. As soon as possible every country shall organize the pre-selection
3. Right after the pre-selection, Roland JV shall arrange to loan every contestant one V-Accordion unit FR-7x/FR-3x/FR-1x
4. Two months after the pre-selection, every Roland JV shall organize the National Final and choose National Winners.
5. The National final must take place within 23rd September 2012. On September 26th it is mandatory for every Roland JV to send RES the names of National Winners (International Finalists)

INTERNATIONAL

1. The international event will take place on November 09th and 10th 2012
On 08th November 2012 all International Finalists must arrive in Rome – Italy
2. 1st Day of International Final :
Every International Finalist shall perform in front of Jury: 10 minutes long at least (15 minutes at longest).
3. 2nd Day of International Final :
the Final Round shall take place at 21:00.
All Finalists shall perform max. 5 minutes and the jury decides the winners.

CATEGORIES

National step will have these categories:

SENIOR SOLOIST



- One Accordion player only, without limitation about Pro/Amateur
- Minimum required age: 18
- Any genre of music is allowed

JUNIOR SOLOIST



- One Accordion player only, without limitation about Pro/Amateur
- Maximum required age: 17
- Any genre of music is allowed

International step will have only one category:

SENIOR SOLOIST



- One Accordion player only, without limitation about Pro/Amateur
- Minimum required age: 18
- Any genre of music is allowed

REQUIREMENTS TO BE A CONTESTANT

SENIOR SOLOIST division

- One accordion player only, without limitation about Pro / Amateur musicians.
- Participants who were born before April 1st, 1994 belong to the Senior category.
Minimum required age: 18 years.
- Any genre of music is allowed.
- At the National Final, the finalists are allowed to use any V-Accordion, they are not allowed to use any external module. They are allowed to use any V-Accordion onboard Orchestral sounds in addition to the V-Accordion onboard accordion sounds and PAD, PAD loop functions, Drum Bass&Chord.
- In case the National Finalists do not own any V-Accordion, Roland JV shall loan the necessary V-Accordions.
- One V-Accordion per single National Finalist is needed. It is not possible to share one V-Accordion among several contestants.
- At the International Final, the finalists are allowed to use only FR-7x/FR-7xb V-Accordion, they are not allowed to use any external module. They are allowed to use any V-Accordion onboard Orchestral sounds in addition to the Drum Bass&Chord function.
- At the International Final, every contestant has to play two different repertoires: one in the **Challenge**(Pre-Final) **it must take 10 minutes long at least (15 minutes at longest)** and another one in the **Final Round** (International step) **it must take max 5 minutes**
- At the National/International Final, contestants may not use any internal/external audio playback as Wave, MP3, CD, iPOD etc. (as a backing track) and/or external sound modules, MIDI sequencers.
- The participants may only play V-Accordion without sing.
- The winner (1st prize) of the previous International step may not participate in other V-Accordion Festivals.
- The winners of the National steps may participate again if they didn't win any International steps (1st prize).

JUNIOR SOLOIST division

- One accordion player only, without limitation about Pro / Amateur musicians.
- Participants who were born starting from April 1st, 1994 belong to the Junior category.
Maximum allowed age: 17 years.
- Any genre of music is allowed.
- At the National Final, the finalists are allowed to use any V-Accordion, they are not allowed to use any external module. They are allowed to use any V-Accordion onboard Orchestral sounds in addition to the V-Accordion onboard accordion sounds and PAD, PAD loop functions, Drum Bass&Chord.
- At the National Final, contestants may not use any internal/external audio playback as Wave, MP3, CD, iPOD etc. (as a backing track) and/or external sound modules, MIDI sequencers.
- The participants may only play V-Accordion without sing.
- In case the National Finalists do not own any V-Accordion, Roland JV shall loan the necessary V-Accordions.
- One V-Accordion per single National Finalist is needed. It is not possible to share one V-Accordion among several contestants.
- The Junior soloist division may only participate in the National step. The winner is not allowed to participate in the International step.

NATIONAL

Roland JVs shall organize their domestic festivals.

Application for the contest

The accordion players who want to enter the contest are requested to record their performance onto the video/audio media (any type video/audio data) and send it to the Roland JV who organizes the contest, together with their application forms (every Roland JV can manage this selection freely).

At the beginning of their recorded performance, applicants are requested to verbally declare the title and authors of the songs they are going to perform.

All sorts of accordionists will be admitted to compete by playing any kind of instrument of any trademark.

The duration of the performance must be maximum 5 minutes long.

Pre-Qualification

The Pre-Selection session is not opened to the public.

Judgement shall be made based on a recorded performance on the VIDEO/AUDIO media (every JV can manage this selection freely).

Every Roland JV shall take care of establishing the number of the jury members depending on their own decisions.

At the end of the Pre-Selection the jury will choose the contestants who shall be entitled to compete in the National Final (National Finalists).

Every Roland JV shall take care of establishing the number of National Finalists for every division (senior and junior soloist) depending on their own decisions.

It is not mandatory to establish two divisions, in case JV expects big difficulties to have enough number of applicants for two different divisions. In that case JVs can decide to organize the entire National step so as to take place with only one category.

National Final

Once the Pre-Qualification has finished, JV shall arrange to loan every contestant (National Finalist) one V-Accordion unit for the senior and junior divisions.

Two months after the Pre-Qualification, every Roland JV shall organize the National Final.

Every Roland JV shall choose a venue.

National Final is an event opened to the public.

During day time, sound check and rehearsal are held.

In the evening or afternoon, every National Finalist (Senior and Junior soloists) shall play maximum 10 min. on stage in front of an audience and the jury members.

At the Senior and Junior divisions, National Finalists may play only V-Accordion for max. 10 minutes (No limitation about the number of songs).

Every JV shall take care of establishing the number of the jury members depending on their own decisions.

This National Final event shall include also attraction programs such as V-Accordion Demonstration part, V-Accordion hands-on, etc.

Recommendations:

- In case the total number of applicants is large and several National Finalists are chosen, the National contest event can be organized in two or more days.
- JV's that cover more than one country market and are willing to organize a National festival in every managed country are allowed to send every Senior winner to the International step.
- The National final must take place within 23rd September 2012 at latest.
- Within 3 days after the National final, RES need:
 - Name, Surname, Nationality, short biography of the winner;
 - Photo of the winner;
 - Title of songs and author chosen by participant for his/her performances at the International Final;
 - Some pictures of player's country and some pictures of National event;
 - Agreement with Roland Europe signed by contestants. This agreement is mandatory to participate in the V-Accordion International Final and clear copyright issues related to the video and audio recording sessions during the final competition in Rome.
 - Requested hotel accommodation for attendants, participants and any other people.
 - Requested tickets for attendants, participants and any other people.
 - Short video of the winner in the "Junior Soloist" category.

National Final winner prize

JUNIOR SOLOIST division → The prize for the winner is: FR-1x/FR-1xb

SENIOR SOLOIST division → The prize for the winner is: FR-7x/FR-7xb

INTERNATIONAL

The **International Final** is organized by Roland Europe.
It will take place in Auditorium Parco della Musica – Sinopoli Hall - Rome – Italy
Every JV may send only one winner from their senior soloist divisions.

08th November 2012 – Meeting and Drawing

On 08th November 2012 all contestants and attendants have to arrive in the hotel in Rome

- at 20:30 Welcome dinner;
- at 22:00 Drawing for the performance order of participants. All contestants and attendants must be present.

Note: This order will be used also for the final evening performance

09th November 2012 – The Challenge (First Judgement)

On 09th November 2012 the selection by the jury will be made:

- in the morning (09:00 - 12:00) soloist division - first group;
- in the afternoon (15:00 - 18:00) soloist division - second group;

The International Final is the event opened to the public.

The performance of every finalist (soloist) it must take 10 minutes long at least (15 minutes at longest)

The jury judges but the result of this section will not be disclosed to the competitors or jury members as long as the final result has been announced.

10th November 2012 – The Final Competition

At the final Competition all participants may perform max. 5 minutes long.

The final Round shall take place at 21:00.

All musicians will play according to the above mentioned duration, for an overall duration of approx. 2.5 hours.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd ranking winners will be announced.

This International Final event shall also include the attraction programs such as V-Accordion Demonstration part, V-Accordion hands-on, etc.

Note: Every contestant has to play two different repertoires: one in the **Challenge (Pre-Final)** and another one in the **Final Round** (International step)

International Final winner prize

- The 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes are: trophies

A dedicated jury composed entirely of journalists will award a prize

- Press award is: trophy

Compensation for the performer:

- The 1st classified will be indemnified with a € 5000 fee.
- The 2nd classified will be indemnified with a € 2000 fee.
- The 3rd classified will be indemnified with a € 1000 fee.
- The 1st classified of the journalist award will be indemnified with a € 500 fee.

CRITERIA OF JUDGEMENT

a) **Technical skill**

b) **Musical Interpretation**

c) **Specific skill in exploiting the whole potential of V-Accordion**

We mean the ability to play V-Accordion by using all the sound expression possibilities contained in this instrument.

SCORE RANGE			
NOT GOOD	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT
1 ~ 5	6 ~ 13	14 ~ 19	20 ~ 25

- Each one of the criteria points will be assigned a mark from 1 (lowest mark) to 25 (highest mark) according to above "SCORE RANGE" table.
- The members of the jury who belong to the same country of contestants are not allowed to vote for those candidates.
- The sum of all marks will determine the overall points (full mark =75 points) and the final judgement of contestants.
- Once all the voting sheets have been collected, the one featuring the highest mark and the one featuring the lowest mark will be discarded. The marks coming from all the other remaining voting sheets will be taken into consideration. The sum of all their marks will be divided into the number of jury members that have voted and the resulting number (average mark) will represent the overall mark of candidate.
- Results of the First Judgement won't be communicated to the jury and anyone prior to the final result.
- The jury will assign a mark from 1 (lowest mark) to 25 (highest mark) for each criterion in the **Challenge(Pre-Final)**, while in the **Final Round** (International step) they will assign only one mark from 1 (lowest mark) to 100 (highest mark).
- Every contestant has to play two different repertoires: one in the **Challenge(Pre-Final)** and another one in the **Final Round** (International step)
- All marks will be published in the <http://www.v-accordionfestival.com>

JURY

At this Contest, we expect many different types of musicians with different musical backgrounds (Classic, Folk, Pop, Tango / Acoustic, Electronic, etc.), who shall compete with each other. Accordingly the selection of jury members shall be carefully made.

Especially the jury members should have versatile musical knowledge. For example, we cannot say simply an excellent acoustic accordion player is a good jury member, if he does not have any good understanding about electronic musical instruments.

The jury have be "international", this means every member of the jury should come from a different country.

GENERAL RULES CONCERNING ALL CONTESTANTS FOR THE NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONTEST

- 1) The jury has the right not to award any prize whenever candidates do not prove to have enough artistic skills.
No judgement may be expressed by any jury member who is acquainted with one or more contestants because of:
- family ties
- 2) None of contestants may come equal for the first three places. The judgement expressed by the jury is final and irrevocable.
- 3) Every contestant has to play two different repertoires: one in the ***Challenge*** (Pre-Final) and another one in the ***Final Round*** (International step)
- 4) Any possible use of auditions like DVD video/CD Audio and of the final concert for TV or radio broadcast purposes shall not make contestants eligible for any fee. Each contestant has to fill in a special agreement form prepared by RES.
- 5) Applying for the contest means accepting these regulations without conditions.
- 6) The winner (1st prize) of the previous International step may not participate in other V-Accordion Festivals.
- 7) The winners of the National steps may participate again if they didn't win any International steps (1st prize).
- 8) In the National Final, contestants shall pay for their travel and accommodation expenses. The organization committee of every Roland JV is ready to help contestants in finding an accommodation.
- 9) In the International Final the cost of contestants' travel and accommodation shall be covered by JV
- 10) The Festival Staff Team does not take up any responsibility for any occurrence to contestants during the contest.
- 11) All JVs have to send Roland Europe the agreement signed by the winner of every National event. This agreement is mandatory to participate in the V-Accordion International Final and to clear copyright issues related to video and audio recording sessions during the final competition in Rome.
- 12) The instruments allowed to participate are the Roland V-ACCORDION FR-7x or FR-7xb only.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1) Every Roland JV shall form the Festival Staff Team to solve any organization issue.
- 2) The Festival Staff Team of every Roland JV shall provide all necessary materials for the National contest to take place (advertising materials, printed regulations, prizes, mark sheets, support to contestants in finding accommodations and restaurants, accommodation for the jury, etc.);
- 3) Every JV shall choose a proper venue for the National contest;
- 4) Every Festival Staff Team of every JV shall decide the rule / procedure how to apply for the Pre-Qualification (see Application Form at the end of this document) and the related deadline;
- 5) Right after every National Final, every JV shall ask the winner to fill in and sign the "Agreement" form (to be supplied by RES to JVs) and send it to Mrs. Alessandra Curzi (acurzi@rolandeur.com) of Roland Europe S.p.A.
- 6) Every JV will take care of establishing the number of the jury members depending on their own decisions in the National contest (Pre-Qualification and National Final).
- 7) Roland Europe shall take care of establishing the number of the jury members in the International Final.