

Annual Jeanie/Stephen Auditions Instructions

January 20, 21, 2017

(Please read carefully and bring with you when you come to the auditions.)

VOCAL PRACTICE: There will be no time to practice after you arrive in White Springs. Do all your practicing before you arrive.

REHEARSAL SESSION: Each participant is required to attend the scheduled rehearsals and the Friday night Golden Slipper Gala & program. Failure to attend will result in disqualification. You will be given specific instructions on Friday afternoon. Your introduction should be confined to introducing your accompanist, giving titles and composers of your songs. You will sing your Foster selection, then your second song by an American composer. Sing no more than 3 verses of each song and not more than 7 minutes for entering, singing and exiting. Time this before coming, as you will be timed at the rehearsal session and asked to cut minutes off, if you exceed 7 minutes.

ACCOMPANIST: Participants must furnish accompanists. It is advisable to have your own accompanist since you would have had time to practice together before coming to the auditions. Practice time is limited during the auditions. If you do not have an accompanist, please contact the registrar by checking the appropriate place on the application form to receive information about available accompanists. You will be responsible for getting your music to him/her along with a rehearsal CD in advance. You are responsible for paying your accompanist's fee. If your accompanist prefers normal dress for the Saturday auditions, this is acceptable.

SHEET MUSIC AND SONGS: Only two (2) songs are required. One must be by Stephen Foster. The second must be by an American composer. Photocopies of the Foster songs are permissible since they have been out of print since 1970. Please supply a photocopy of your Foster song for each of the **three** judges. However, your second selection by an American composer must honor COPYRIGHT LAW and have an original copy provided for the judges. Measures must be numbered in each song for commentary purposes. Delete name(s) of contestant, teacher, university or college, or any other **identifying information by erasure, white-out or by covering with opaque label**. Make sure your accompanist has each of your songs in hand when it is your turn to sing at both Friday afternoon rehearsals and Saturday morning auditions as well as your alternate selection for Saturday afternoon if you win. It is suggested that each contestant choose their two songs with varied tempos. The winner of the Jeanie title must be prepared to sing another song by an American composer while the Stephen winner will be asked to sing two verses of "*I Dream of Jeanie*" to the new Jeanie.

CLOTHING AND APPEARANCE:

MALES: Wear comfortable, neat and informal clothes for the Friday rehearsals. **All participants must wear a cut-away tux** in the style of the 1850's for Friday evening's program and Saturday auditions.

FEMALES: Wear comfortable, informal clothes, no tight skirts or high heels, which will hamper mounting steps and curtsying at the Friday rehearsal. **YOU MUST WEAR YOUR 1850-1870 HOOP STYLE BALL GOWN loaned to you by the sponsoring FFMC Music Club FOR FRIDAY EVENING'S PROGRAM AND THE SATURDAY AUDITIONS.** Be sure your gown fits well. Practice walking up and down steps wearing your gown. Be on time as being late could disqualify you.

SHOES / FAN: Wear comfortable shoes of your choice; preferably dress pumps with medium heels. Please bring or wear the shoes which you will be wearing on stage (Saturday), for practice on Friday, as well as your fan. **The fan is required.**

HAIR: Dress your hair in the style most becoming to you, keeping in mind your ball gown for your Saturday performance. Hair pieces are permissible to achieve the 1854 effect.

JEWELRY: Jewelry should be limited to period pieces that will enhance your ball gown; perhaps earrings and a simple locket.

NO GLOVES: Research shows gloves were not stylish with 1854 ball gowns.

CURTSY/FORMAL BOW: When you take your place on stage both Friday afternoon at rehearsal as well as the Saturday morning auditions, you will curtsy (bow) deeply, one time to judges and audience seated in front of you. You will announce both songs before singing. The audience will be instructed not to applaud. After you sing both songs girls curtsy and gentlemen bow deeply. Instructions will be given to you Friday, on curtsying/bowing, entering, and exiting.

ESCORTS: You may provide your own escort. This is an honor to be asked and could be a member of the family or a date. Please ask them to wear a suit or tuxedo for the Friday night activities. If you do not have an escort, one will be provided for you.

RESERVATIONS: You are responsible for your own motel/hotel reservations.

- **Country Inn & Suites Lake City**, 350 SW Florida Gateway Drive, Lake City, FL 32025
Phone (386) 754-5944.....Nightly rate \$99.00 breakfast included. A heated indoor pool.

Mention the Jeanie Auditions/Florida Federation of Music Clubs to get the **\$99.00 rate**.
Cut-off date is December 26, 2016

MEALS: You are on your own for Friday noon. On Friday evening your dinner is included at the Gala. Breakfast on Saturday is provided at Country Inn and Lunch is included at Nelly Bly's Kitchen at the Park. Bottled water is also provided at the auditions. Cost for Non Contestants-Gala \$25.00 & Lunch \$12.00

LUNCHEON: The Saturday luncheon at the Nelly Bly's Kitchen at the park is for candidates, sponsors, families and guests. All candidates' lunches are already included, but reservations must be made ahead of time for all others. Charge is \$12.00. Box lunch or specify vegetarian. Include this on applications or web site.

PUBLIC AUDITIONS: 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. The public is invited to attend the Open Auditions. No advance tickets are required. Dress is informal for the audience.

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS: If additional information is needed. Do not hesitate to e-mail or call the Jeanie/Stephen Chairman, Connie Lill. - jeanie@ffmc-music.org or cell (561) 703-7333

Thank you for your interest in the **Jeanie/Stephen Auditions**.

Project of the Florida Federation of Music Clubs, a nonprofit, tax-exempt(501(c)3 organization promoting American Music and musicians.

Co-sponsored by Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center, White Springs, Florida