



8th Annual **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition
Dedicated in Memory of the Legendary Cajun Fiddle Player Mr. Wilson "Will" Kegley
04/02/1917 to 01/19/1985

Competition Rules and Information

The 2023 Cajun Fiddle Competition was a huge success thanks to last year's competitors and sponsors. We are gearing up to have the 8th Annual **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition. This year's competition will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024 in The Historic Strand Theater, 432 North Main, Jennings, LA. The competition starts at 10:00 am. Doors open at 9:00 am. This venue promises to be fun and exciting for everyone involved. This Cajun Fiddle Competition has become a premiere fiddle competition in this area.

Contest Details

The **"Battle of the Bows"** Fiddle Competition is an annual musical performance competition for those who play Cajun Style Fiddle. All ages and skill levels can compete. A panel of three judges, selected from the Cajun music genre, will judge the fiddle competition.

The competition is free to enter, but you **MUST REGISTER** to compete. The final deadline to enter is Saturday, November 2, 2024, at 9:30am. We ask you to submit your registration form as early as possible prior to the competition date to insure your registration is processed correctly and to guarantee a competition slot. The Battle of the Bows Committee reserves the right to accept late entries at its discretion. **No entries will be accepted after 9:30 am. No Exceptions!**

Competition Categories

- **Youth Category:** Ages 12 and under, on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Junior Category:** Ages 13-18 and on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Adult:** Ages 19-64, on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Senior Category:** Ages 65 and older, on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Professional Category:** All ages.
- **Twin Fiddle Category:** Open to Youth, Junior, Adult, Senior, and Professional fiddle players.

The winners will not only have the reward of being recognized as a Best-in-Class Cajun Fiddle Champion, but cash prizes and trophies will also be awarded to the winning contestants in each category. Only 1st and 2nd Places are awarded in the Senior Category and only 1st Place is awarded in the Twin Fiddle Category.

CASH PRIZES: The prizes for the 7th Annual **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition are going to be awarded as follows:

Youth Category:	1 st Place - \$ 125	2 nd Place - \$ 75	3 rd Place - \$ 50
Junior Category:	1 st Place - \$ 150	2 nd Place - \$ 100	3 rd Place - \$ 75
Adult Category:	1 st Place - \$ 250	2 nd Place - \$ 150	3 rd Place - \$ 100
Senior Category:	1 st Place - \$ 150	2 nd Place - \$ 75	
Professional Category:	1 st Place - \$ 400	2 nd Place - \$ 300	3 rd Place - \$ 200

Twin Fiddle Category: **Youth** \$ 50 for each winning contestant, **Junior** \$ 100 for each winning contestant, **Adult** \$ 150 for each winning contestant, **Senior** \$ 100 for each winning contestant, **Professional** \$ 200 for each winning contestant

Judging Criteria:

Each contestant will be judged generally on Accuracy of Noting and Intonation, Usage of Double Stop and Drones, Usage of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd positions, Bow Techniques, and Overall Difficulty of Tunes.

Each contestant is required to play one Cajun Waltz and one Cajun Two-step of your choice as listed on your entry form. You will have 2 full minutes per song to impress the judges with your skill, showmanship, and technique with the Cajun Fiddle. At the 1 minute 30 second mark, a red light on stage will remind you that you are nearing the end of your allotted time. **Note:** You may change your selected songs prior to competition, however, you must let Competition Officials know your changes so that the Judges can be informed accordingly prior to your performance. Please do not introduce yourself or announce your songs when you get on stage. The Master of Ceremonies will announce your songs prior to you playing each one. No vocals are allowed during the competition. The only parameters that will be judged are your fiddle playing skills. All Judge's decisions are final. **NOTE:** In the event of a tie in any category, the judges will pick a random Cajun song known to the competitors for final determination of a winner.

Note to Prospective Professional Category Competitors: Although you may also be eligible to compete in an Amateur Category as well, the **"Battle of the Bows"** Competition Officials reminds you that competitors who choose to compete in either or both of the Professional Categories, can only compete in those categories. **No exceptions.** This ruling is made in the interest of overall fairness to our Amateur Competitors in order to insure a level competition field across the Amateur Categories. You're co-operation is greatly appreciated!

Note to Previous 1st Place Winners: You are allowed to defend your 1st Place win for 2 consecutive competitions after your first win. If you win 1st Place for 3 consecutive competitions in the same category, you must sit out for the next competition in that category. You may compete during your sit-out year in any other category for which you may be eligible.

DIRECTIONS TO THE COMPETITION SITE: From Interstate 10, Exit 64: Head South on Hwy 26 (Elton Rd) to Shankland Ave (US Hwy 90). Turn left on Shankland, continue to North Main Street. Turn right on North Main and continue 8 blocks to the Strand Theater on your left.

From Interstate 10, Exit 65: Head South on Evangeline Hwy (Hwy 97) to North Cutting. Turn left at North Cutting and continue to East Academy Avenue. Turn right at East Academy Ave. and continue to North Main Street. At North Main, turn left, and the Strand Theater will be on your left. The Strand Theater address is 432 North Main, Jennings, LA, 70546.

PLEASE NOTE: All contestants are asked to use the rear entrance of the Strand Theater on North Broadway Street.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: What skill of fiddle players are going to be entering the competition? Will it be professionals, amateurs, or what?

A: All of the above...The **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition has a category for all levels of Cajun Fiddle Style players. The **"Professional"** category is open to anyone who is currently active in a career playing the Cajun Fiddle Style of playing. i.e.: Listed in publications, music professional, receiving money through contracts to perform, etc.

Q: Who has entered? How many people have entered?

A: Prior to the start of the competition, Contest Officials will not divulge who has entered or how many competitors there are because we want to keep the contest as fair as possible and encourage participation in all categories.

Mark your calendar for the 8th Annual "Battle of the Bows" Cajun Fiddle Competition, Saturday, November 2, 2024.

Registration forms are available online from the Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission website at www.jeffdavis.org, or via email request to dougugas57@gmail.com.



8th Annual **"Battle of the Bows"** 2024 Cajun Fiddle Competition

Dear Contestants,

The 2023 **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition was a huge success thanks to your generous participation as a contestant. The SW Louisiana Cajun Music Jam in association with the Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission is preparing once again to present the 8th Annual **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition for 2024. This year's competition will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024, in The Historic Strand Theater, 432 North Main, in Jennings, LA. The competition will have a later start time this year. The competition will begin promptly at 10:00 am. Doors will open at 9:00 am.

As you are well aware, this event has become a premiere fiddle competition in this area. However, the contest would not be what it has become without participation from contestants like you. We truly and humbly appreciate your past participation. That being said, we would like to invite you to participate once again in our 2024 competition. Our success continues to depend on contestants that are willing to share their talent with our audience and the rest of the world. Please consider signing up and showcasing your talents once again. Registration forms are available by contacting Doug Dugas @ (337) 329-0106 or via email at dougugas57@gmail.com

Competition Categories

- **Youth Category:** Ages 12 and under, on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Junior Category:** Ages 13-18 and on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Adult:** Ages 19 to 64, on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Senior Category:** Ages 65 and older, on or before November 2, 2024.
- **Professional Category:** All ages.
- **Twin Fiddle Category:** Open to Youth, Junior, Adult, Senior, and Professional fiddle players.

The winners will not only have the reward of being recognized as a Best-in-Class Cajun Fiddle Champion, but cash prizes and trophies will also be awarded to the winning contestants in each category. Only 1st and 2nd Places are awarded in the Senior Category and only 1st Place is awarded in the Twin Fiddle Category.

CASH PRIZES: The prizes for the 8th Annual **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition are going to be awarded as follows:

Youth Category:	1 st Place - \$ 200	2 nd Place - \$ 150	3 rd Place - \$ 75
Junior Category:	1 st Place - \$ 300	2 nd Place - \$ 150	3 rd Place - \$100
Adult Category:	1 st Place - \$ 400	2 nd Place - \$ 200	3 rd Place - \$125
Senior Category:	1 st Place - \$ 150	2 nd Place - \$ 75	
Professional Category:	1 st Place - \$ 600	2 nd Place - \$ 400	3 rd Place - \$200

Twin Fiddle Category: **Youth** \$ 50 for each winning contestant, **Junior** \$ 100 for each winning contestant, **Adult** \$ 200 for each winning contestant, **Senior** \$ 100 for each winning contestant, **Professional** \$ 300 for each winning contestant

Thanks for your consideration and we look forward to seeing you at the 2024 **"Battle of the Bows"** competition!!

SW Louisiana Cajun Music Jam
Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission
2024 **"Battle of the Bows"** Cajun Fiddle Competition



Battle of the Bows

Cajun Fiddle Competition

Dedicated in Memory of the Legendary Cajun Fiddle Player Mr. Wilson "Will" Kegley

04/02/1917 to 01/19/1985

Registration Form

The 8th Annual **Battle of the Bows** Cajun Fiddle Competition is open to Cajun Style fiddle players of all ages and performance levels. There is no registration fee for the 2024 event. The competition begins promptly at 10:00 am in the Historic Strand Theater in Jennings, La.

Please check the appropriate category:

- Youth Category: Age 12 and under, on or before November 04, 2023
- Junior Category: Age 13 - 18, on or before November 04, 2023
- Adult Category: Age 19 -64, on or before November 04, 2023
- Senior Category: Age 65 and older, on or before November 04, 2023
- Twin Fiddle Category: All ages. Please list two fiddle players:
Fiddle 1: _____ Fiddle 2: _____
- Professional Category: All ages

Note: All fields of the registration form are required to complete the registration process

Contestant name: _____ Cajun Waltz of Choice: _____

E-mail address: _____ Cajun 2-Step of Choice: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell phone #: _____

Age on day of competition (11/02/2024): _____ years old

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Country: _____ T-Shirt size: S M L XL XXL

How did you hear about the **Battle of the Bows** Cajun Fiddle Competition?

Provide a few words about yourself so that the Competition officials and Judges can be familiar with you and your musical history such as how long have you been playing, what or who inspired you to start playing, do you play other instruments, the name of your teacher and school if you have taken lessons, do you play with a band, have you played with a band, or whatever else you feel is relevant to your musical background.

You can submit the registration form by emailing a copy to dougugas57@gmail.com or mail the form to: SW La Cajun Music Jam, c/o Battle of the Bows, 2110 Hwy 90 East, Jennings, LA 70546. Completed registration forms can also be dropped off at the Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission office. Contact Doug Dugas at (337) 329-0106 or Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission at (337) 821-5536 if you need more information regarding registration. Additional registration forms can be downloaded from the Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission website at www.jeffdavis.org by clicking on the Battle of the Bows Event listing.

You must register in order to compete. Deadline for registration is Saturday, November 2, 2024 by 9:00 am.



SW La Cajun Music Jam and the Jeff Davis Tourist Commission

Proudly Presents

The 8th Annual **Battle of the Bows** Cajun Fiddle Competition

Dedicated in Memory of the Legendary Cajun Fiddle Player Mr. Wilson "Will" Kegley

04/02/1917 to 01/19/1985

"Helping Preserve and Promote Our Cajun Heritage and Music"

June 20, 2024

Dear Sponsors,

The 2023 **Battle of the Bows** was a huge success thanks to our loyal sponsors. We are preparing once again to present the 8th Annual **Battle of the Bows** Cajun Fiddle Competition. The SW La Cajun Music Jam (SWLACMJ) and the Jeff Davis Tourist Commission have collaborated to host this special event each year in our community. The **Battle of the Bows** Cajun Fiddle Competition is going to be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at 10 am at the historic Strand Theater in Jennings, LA. The SWLACMJ and the Jeff Davis Tourist Commission recognize that our sponsors play an essential role in the success of this event by providing funding for some great family fun and great memories for not only local residents, but also visitors from all over the country, and the world, to our area. We truly and humbly appreciate your support.

By becoming a sponsor of the **Battle of the Bows** Cajun Fiddle competition, you will help ensure the future of this annual event, and help further our mission statement of ***"Helping Preserve and Promote Our Cajun Heritage and Music"***.

There are three levels of sponsorship. All levels of sponsorship will have the business name listed on T-shirts, brochures, posters, and event promotions for the **Battle of the Bows** prior to, and on the day of the competition. Your business name will also be announced during the competition. Complimentary seating tickets and T-shirts will also be provided as indicated for each level of sponsorship. Sponsorship levels are:

1. The **Executive Gold Sponsor** level is \$1,000 for this event. You will receive 6 free tickets for seating in the V.I.P. section and you will also receive 6 free T-shirts.
2. The **Corporate Purple Sponsor** level is \$500 for this event. You will receive 4 free tickets for regular seating and you will receive 4 free T-shirts.
3. The **Business Green Sponsor** level is \$250 for this event. You will receive 2 free tickets for regular seating and you will receive 2 free T-shirts.

NOTE: All tickets for the competition are going to be held at the ticket office in your name. Any tickets not picked up 15 minutes prior to start of competition will be available for sale to the public.

If your business or organization would like to participate in this year's event as a sponsor, please choose a sponsor level, complete the Sponsorship Level Form, and mail it to the address on the Sponsorship Level Form. Should you want more information, please call Doug Dugas at (337) 329-0106, or email "dougugas57@gmail.com", or contact the Jeff Davis Tourism Commission at (337) 821-5521. Thank you for your time and consideration. On behalf of the SW La Cajun Music Jam and the Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission, we appreciate your support!

Note: The Southwest Louisiana Cajun Music Jam is tax exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3). Please retain a copy of the Sponsorship Level Form for your records.

Sincerely,

SW La Cajun Music Jam
Jeff Davis Parish Tourist Commission



SW LA Cajun Music Jam and the Jeff Davis Tourist Commission
Proudly Presents

The 8th Annual **Battle of the Bows** Cajun Fiddle Competition
Dedicated in Memory of the Legendary Cajun Fiddle Player Mr. Wilson "Wil" Kegley
"Helping Preserve and Promote Our Cajun Heritage and Music"

Sponsorship Level Form

November 2, 2024

Company Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

Website: _____

Level of Sponsorship

- _____ \$ 1,000.00 Executive Gold Sponsor
- _____ \$ 500.00 Corporate Purple Sponsor
- _____ \$ 250.00 Business Green Sponsor
- _____ \$ _____ Associate Sponsor

_____ Payment Enclosed _____ Please Invoice

Make checks payable to: SW LA Cajun Music Jam
c/o Battle of the Bows
2110 Highway 90 East
Jennings, LA 70546

Signature Agreement: I _____, representing _____ (company),
agree to be a sponsor of the 8th Annual Battle of the Bows Cajun Fiddle Competition.

Should you want more information, please call Doug Dugas at (337) 329-0106, or email
"dougugas57@gmail.com", or contact the Jeff Davis Tourism Commission at (337) 821-5521.

Note: The Southwest Louisiana Cajun Music Jam is tax exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3). Please retain
a copy of this document for your records.