

Message from the CIA President

Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA) Member International Music Council (IMC-UNESCO)

Kevin Friedrich - President
P.O. Box 150393, Kew Gardens, NY 11415-0393 USA

Phone/Fax: 718 850-6833
E-mail: accordion@compuserve.com
Internet: www.accordions.com/cia



Message from the President

On behalf of the Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA) Executive Committee and CIA Member Nations worldwide, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 3rd Edition of the CIA International News which is published to coincide with the 112th General Assembly of Delegates in Pontarlier, France.

You are sure to enjoy reading about the activities of our CIA Voting and Corresponding members from around the world as they work to promote accordion excellence in their respective countries. We hope that you will be able to take advantage of this information to include each other on your respective mailing lists. There are many exciting activities such as competitions and festivals taking place around the world, and these reciprocal exchanges of information will serve to increase the flow of information between nations.

This year we find ourselves in France for the eighth time to celebrate our annual International Competition for Accordionists where our 57th Coupe Mondiale is hosted by The Confédération Nationale Française de L'Accordéon (CNFA).

During our visit to this beautiful mountain location of Pontarlier, it is exciting for our organization to be able to promote accordion excellence during these five days of annual Coupe Mondiale competitions, concerts and meetings. This worldwide exposure is an important opportunity for our members and guests to meet and hear our winners who are now regularly being invited by our CIA members and others, to perform in various countries around the world.

We offer our sincerest thanks to Patrick Genre - the Mayor of Pontarlier, Madame Michèle Chabod and the Club Melody and their respective teams for the tremendous work that they have done in preparing this world class event. We sincerely appreciate your hard work and thank you for your kind hospitality as you open your arms to our visitors from around the world.

In particular, I would like to thank Frédéric Deschamps - the CNFA organizer for his tireless efforts on behalf of the CIA and the accordion in general. He has worked throughout the course of several years to ensure that the 57th Coupe Mondiale is a terrific success. In addition to traveling to and from Pontarlier many times, the endless coordination between the CIA and Pontarlier and arranging many of the intricate details, he also supports the competition by mentoring his many students. My sincere thanks to Frédéric for making this event a success.

Finally, I would like to thank the contestants and teachers for supporting our competitions. We know there is a tremendous amount of work involved in preparing for the competitions and it often involves travelling significant distances to attend. You are all winners, and we truly appreciate your efforts!

I wish you all a most pleasant and successful stay here in Pontarlier, and I look forward to having the opportunity to meet many of you during the festival.

Sincerely,

Kevin Friedrich – President
Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA)

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