

## SPAH Youth Scholarship Application

### to attend the 2023 SPAH Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, August 15-19, 2023

Attention young harmonica players. SPAH (the Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica) needs you! The SPAH Youth Committee will make several awards to suitable applicants to attend the 2023 SPAH convention in St. Louis, Missouri. SPAH may be able to offer assistance with travel costs, based on available budget and need. Awards for each recipient include:

- Hotel room & tax at the SPAH Convention hotel for the nights of Tuesday, August 15, through Saturday, August 19, departing Sunday the 20th.
- Full Convention registration *including the Saturday banquet*.
- Registration and banquet ticket for one parent or guardian to assist in chaperoning and other duties.
- Complementary SPAH membership from August 2023 through December 2024, including the Harmonica Happenings quarterly magazine.

The Committee seeks applicants who either have *experience in performance*, or can clearly demonstrate *the promise of accomplishment* in playing their chosen type(s) of harmonica with accompaniment.

Applicants must be no older than 21 years of age. Each award recipient will be offered the opportunity to perform at least once at the SPAH Convention and will be expected to sell raffle tickets after youth shows, at the Saturday night banquet, and at the Youth Scholarship table where you can talk with other harmonica players and SPAH members. Priority will be given to applicants who have not been selected previously and performed at an in-person SPAH. We encourage everyone attending the convention, especially those with underlying health conditions, to be vaccinated & boosted for Covid-19. However, this is not a requirement for attendance. All registrants for the convention must indicate that they: take personal responsibility for their health while at the convention; are healthy on arrival, and; release SPAH from any related liability.

If you're interested in applying, please write short paragraph essay answers to the following questions and then submit a sample of your playing (with accompaniment) with your application via CD (address available on request), an MP3, a sharing website (e.g., YouTube), or playing live for the selection committee on a video call (e.g., Skype) or on the telephone. Applications may be submitted by email to [scholarship@spah.org](mailto:scholarship@spah.org)

**Applications** for the SPAH Youth Scholarship (including the sample of the applicant's harmonica playing) **must be received by Sunday, May 28, 2023**. Recipients of the SPAH Youth Scholarship for the 2023 SPAH Convention will be selected by the SPAH Youth Support Committee and notified by no later than **June 1**. We encourage all to apply and know that attending a SPAH convention is an experience worth seeking.

Please provide answers to the following questions:

Name:				Age:	
Address:		City	State	Zip	
Telephone:		Email:			
Preferred method of contact: Phone [ ] Email [ ] Telephone [ ] Postal mail [ ]					

1. How long have you been playing the harmonica?
2. When and how did you first become interested in the harmonica?
3. What are your principal hopes and dreams in making music with the harmonica?
4. Are you self-taught or do you have a teacher? If you are currently studying with a teacher, can we contact him/her for a recommendation? If so, please provide a phone number and the best time to reach him/her.
5. Have you been to a SPAH convention before? If so, in what year? What was the experience like for you?
6. Why would you be a good recipient of the SPAH Youth Scholarship?
7. What would you like to get out of the SPAH Convention?
8. How did you find out about this scholarship?