

## 2020 Not Just OOM-PAH! Accordion Workshop and Concert

Featuring *Alicia Baker* ( French Café)

& *Kevin Solecki*, Grammy Nominated! (Polka)

Friday - Sunday, June 26 - 28, 2020 in Austin, TX.

### INFORMATION & REGISTRATION FORM

#### **PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION and Complete BOTH SIDES of REGISTRATION FORM**

This event begins with an accordion concert on Friday, June 26, at 6:30-9:00 pm.

The accordion workshop begins with registration on Saturday at 8:30 am and concludes on Sunday afternoon with a public dance session. Please see tentative schedule.

#### \$175 for Accordionist includes:

- ❖ Attendance for all workshop sessions
- ❖ Performing at public invited Dance Session
- ❖ All printed materials
- ❖ Lunch, Snacks on Saturday & Sunday
- ❖ Concert is FREE @ Central Market

***ARE YOU 18 years old Or YOUNGER!  
IF SO, we are offering  
ONE LUCKY YOUNG ACCORDIONIST  
a WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIP !  
Check out the  
Scholarship Application  
to see if you qualify, and if so,  
apply today!***

#### \$60 for Non-Accordionist includes:

- ❖ Lunch, Snacks on Saturday & Sunday
- ❖ Concert is FREE @ Central Market
- ❖ Non-Accordionist Attendee may not sit in on any workshops except public invited Dance Session. Exception: Non-Accordionist is the parent/guardian of Accordionist of 18 years or younger. If accompanying a minor, Non – Accordionist MUST be in attendance during Workshop Sessions.

***All Workshop Sessions June 27 & 28 will be held 8:30 am – 5:30 pm each day  
at Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave., Austin, TX. 78705***

***The Concert is FREE for ALL on Friday, June 26, 2020 at 6:30 - 9:00 pm  
Central Market, 4001 North Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX***

#### \*Workshop Participants should do before the workshop:

1. Register for workshop! If you are 18 yrs. or younger, fill out Scholarship Application. One lucky young accordionist will be selected for a Full Scholarship.
2. Make your Hotel reservations if you live out of town. See page 6 for more details
3. Bring Accordion, music stand, recording device if you would like, pens, pencils and highlighter.

Contact: Shirley Johnson [ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com](mailto:ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com) or [accsaj@gmail.com](mailto:accsaj@gmail.com) 512-680-0422  
Laura J. Niland [Ljniland@texas.net](mailto:Ljniland@texas.net) 210-651-4359  
[www.Vjeverica.com](http://www.Vjeverica.com) [www.NotJustOompah.org](http://www.NotJustOompah.org)

**COMPLETED FORMS AND PAYMENT DUE by JUNE 15, 2020**

## 2020 Not Just OOM-PAH! Accordion Workshop Instructors & Concert Performers

**Alicia Baker** is a classically trained accordionist, singer, pianist, and composer from Portland, Oregon, who currently resides in Denver, Colorado. Alicia earned 3 Bachelor of Arts degrees from Oregon State University; piano performance, vocal performance, and choral music education, in addition to a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2017.

*Alicia's repertoire spans a wide variety of musical genres, including jazz, pop, opera, French musette, folk songs, contemporary, classical, techno, etc. She often features her own arrangements and compositions in concert. Throughout her career, Alicia has won multiple International accordion competitions, received full-ride scholarships for all her degrees, sung leading operatic roles in multiple productions, and has performed at many accordion festivals as well as at notable venues including Carnegie Weill Hall in New York and the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland.*

*Alicia currently spends her time teaching private students, performing, composing, and arranging. You can visit her website for recordings and more information:*

*[www.aliciajobaker.com](http://www.aliciajobaker.com)*

**Kevin Solecki** was born and raised in Detroit, MI, but now makes his home in Pittsburgh, PA. Earlier highlights of his career include performances on several Detroit radio and television stations in the late 1980's and early 1990's. In 1996 he joined a nationally known polka band from Pennsylvania, the "Polka Family Band." For the next 10 years, Kevin and the band toured throughout the USA, as well as internationally in Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Caribbean, and Europe. They had the opportunity to perform at some of the country's top polka festivals, state fairs, county fairs, hotels, cruise ships, as well as on numerous radio and television shows.

*Solecki's career highlights include a PBS Television documentary on the polka recorded with the Polka Family Band in 2001, a 2006 GRAMMY nomination for his debut album "Solecktions", followed by multiple visits to the GRAMMY Awards since. In 2006, Kevin's GRAMMY recognition earned him appearances at the International Accordion Convention in Las Vegas, the Milwaukee Accordion Club's Summer Concert Series, the International Accordion Spectacular Show in New York, along with several sold-out concerts for the Michigan Accordion Society. Another career highlight for Kevin was when he received a personal invitation from Harry Connick Jr. to perform at Connick's sold-out June, 2013 performance at Pittsburgh's historic Heinz Hall. Per Harry's request, Solecki performed solo for several songs, and then he accompanied Connick's band for a tune. It was a memorable night of music and fun!*

*Currently Kevin continues to perform with a versatile repertoire at many accordion functions around the United States and abroad. Kevin also teaches, repairs, and sells accordions at his Pittsburgh based accordion shop "Carnegie Accordion Company." For more information about Kevin, as well as his recordings, visit his website: [www.kevinsolecki.com](http://www.kevinsolecki.com)*

**2020 Not Just OOM-PAH! Accordion WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**  
**June 27 – 28, 2020**



**ALICIA BAKER**  
**Workshop Presenter**

***Session Descriptions (subject to revision):***

***Parisienne Café Music***

Get exposed to fun new repertoire from the “Parisienne Café” genre of music! New tunes will be handed out in sheet music form, and students will both get to hear the tunes, and then get a jump start on learning them.

***All About Articulation***

Learn how to polish your playing with simple tips that revolve around the art of articulation. Discussion around key touch, dynamics, phrasing, and how to create variety in articulation will all help to increase the accordionist's awareness of important musical details.

***Tips and Tricks for Left Hand Accordion***

Learn how to play left hand accordion with more cleanliness and style. In this workshop, alternatives to typical chord progressions are offered to enhance knowledge of bass lines. In addition, articulation style of basses will be discussed to help create a cleaner, stronger bass sound.

***Bellows Bellows Bellows***

Learn about the heart of the accordion - the bellows! The technique of utilizing the “bellows” properly is sometimes overlooked, yet it is essential to the instrument and resulting musicality. Discussion around how to use bellows for phrasing, dynamics, articulation, and overall sound will be the focus of this workshop.

***The Ultimate Coordination: Singing while Playing Accordion***

Accordion may seem hard enough on its own, but why not add the element of singing as well? Lots of musicians love to sing while they play their instruments; however, accordionists have some special obstacles to overcome to achieve this. Discussion will be surrounding topics like; how to breathe well, how to establish good posture for playing and singing, and how to best accompany yourself while singing.

***How to use Piano Sheet Music for Accordion***

The piano accordion shares lots of similarities to a piano; however, it has a large number of differences as well. A fair portion of piano sheet music can be played on the accordion, utilizing a few important steps to make the transition. We will discuss how to choose piano music that has the best chance of a successful transition to accordion, as well as how to make that transition once the music has been chosen.



**Kevin Solecki**  
**Workshop Presenter**

### ***Session Descriptions (subject to revision):***

#### ***Different Styles of Polka Performance***

We will discuss and dissect various selected polka styles... Polish, Slovenian, German, Czech, Mexican, and Irish. These styles vary in tempo, articulation and instrumentation. Live musical performance examples will demonstrate what makes these styles unique.

#### ***Other Styles of Ethnic Music***

This session will focus on other different ethnic styles of music such as Hambo, Waltz, Schottische, Oberek, etc. Similarities and differences will be discussed along with a brief history on the origination of these styles. Live musical performance will be included.

#### ***How to Embellish Your Music (How to Play a Polka Effectively)***

In this session the emphasis will be on different ways to embellish a standard melody, primarily with an emphasis on polka. Examples are changing key signatures and tempos, adding notes to the melody, and using simplistic musical techniques and theory to enhance the overall sound.

#### ***History of Polka***

Where did the Polka originate? Let's explore the history of the polka, from its origin and meaning to modern day polka in America and across the world.

#### ***Playing With Others (Duets/Bands)***

Discussion on different ways to perform alongside another musician, with melody and accompaniment suggestions. Several musical approaches to fit in with a band will be discussed as well. Also, we will be preparing the workshop participants to perform for the Dance Session.

#### ***Polka & Folk Dance Session***

A public invited dance session featuring Kevin Solecki and the "Not Just Oom-Pah!" Accordion Workshop participants. There will be instruction from San Antonio Accordion Association member Gaby Thompson.

#### **AVAILABLE FOR SALE DURING the WORKSHOP:**

- ❖ CDs from Alicia Baker and from Kevin Solecki
- ❖ MARIO PEDONE, a Houston Master Accordionist, will have for sale his CDs and several USB Flash Drives containing Sheet Music for Accordionists. Each USB also includes Background Music for the musical selections. [marioaccordion@gmail.com](mailto:marioaccordion@gmail.com)

Nick Ballarini will be at the workshop for all your accordion and accordion accessory needs and desires.

[www.NickBallarini.com](http://www.NickBallarini.com)

## 2020 Not Just OOM-PAH! Accordion Workshop and Concert Schedule

### **CONCERT at CENTRAL MARKET 4001 North Lamar Blvd., Austin , TX 78756**

<b>Friday, June 26</b>	<b>CONCERT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ! Donations accepted !!!</b>	<i>Purchase food and beverages at Central Market! Bring Friends &amp; Family!</i>
5:00 pm	SOUND CHECK for Baker/Solecki	<i>Stage set up for crew and musicians</i>
6:30-7:00 pm	Alicia Baker	French International Café
7:00-7:30	Kevin Solecki	Polka Plus
7:30-8:00	<i>BREAK</i>	<i>BREAK</i>
8:00-8:30	Alicia Baker	French International Café
8:30-9:00 pm	Kevin Solecki	Polka Plus

### **Workshop at LAMAR SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, Austin, 78705**

<b>Saturday, June 27</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Description</b>
8:00 – 8:30			Set Up
8:30-8:50 am			Registration, Opening Remarks
9:00 – 9:30			Meet and Greet
9:30-10:20	Session 1 A	Solecki	
10:30-11:20	Session 1B	Solecki	
11:30-12:20	Session 2A	Baker	
12:30-2:00	<i>LUNCH and</i>	<i>JAM SESSION</i>	<i>LUNCH provided for workshop participants Open Jam Session for fun!</i>
2:00-2:50	Session 2B	Baker	
3:00-3:50	Session 3A	Solecki	
3:50 – 4:10	<i>BREAK</i>	<i>BREAK</i>	
4:10-5:00	Session 3B	Baker	
5:30 pm		<i>Out of Building</i>	<i>You are On your own for dinner *****</i>

<b>Sunday, June 28</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Description</b>
8:30-8:50 am			Snacks, beverages, announcements
9:00-9:50	Session 5A	Baker	
10:00-10:50	Session 5B	Baker	
11:00-11:50	Session 6A	Solecki	
Noon-12:50 pm	<i>LUNCH</i>	<i>*****</i>	<i>LUNCH provided for workshop participants</i>
1:00-1:50	Session 6B	Baker	
2:00 – 2:50	Session 7	Solecki	
3:00-5:00	Session 8	Solecki Gaby Thompson	<i>Polka Dance Session HANDS ON Workshop with Active Participation. All ages! Public Invited. Free - Donations accepted</i>
5:30 PM	<i>The End</i>	<i>Out of Building</i>	<b>END OF WORKSHOP THANK YOU!!!!</b>

ATTIRE: Comfortable and casual.

FOOD: Lunch will be provided on Saturday & Sunday, however each attendee is responsible for their own breakfasts & dinners. Light snacks will be served in the morning and throughout the day.

**If you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, Please let us know by June 15, and note that with your registration! Thank you.**

NOTE: NO refunds will be given after June 15, 2020. If you need to cancel attendance prior to June 15, please let Shirley or Laura know IN WRITING. Prior to June 15, 2020, all workshop/concert payment will be refunded except for \$25.00 per attendee cancellation.

HOTEL: Our suggested hotel is Hyatt Place Austin-North Central  
7522 North IH – 35, Austin, TX. 78752 512-323-2121

**Please book your room ASAP although the hotel will honor the reservation rate until May 28, 2020.** Any reservations not received on or before this cutoff date are subject to hotel availability at the best available rate.

The group rate is \$115.00 per night for June 25 - 28, 2020.

This rate INCLUDES free breakfast, Free Wi-Fi, and free parking. Remember to include your “Our World of Hyatt” membership number, if applicable.

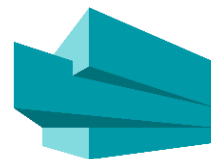
Be sure to have your credit card ready when making your reservation. It is not recommended to use debit cards. A valid credit card is required upon check in and will be authorized for room and tax plus \$15 per day for incidentals.

For online reservations, use:

[https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/texas/hyatt-place-austin-north-central/auszn/area-attractions?corp\\_id=G-OOMP](https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/texas/hyatt-place-austin-north-central/auszn/area-attractions?corp_id=G-OOMP)

OR Call 888-HYATT-HP (888-492-8847) and ask for group code **G-OOMP**

“This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department.”



**Cultural Arts**

CITY OF AUSTIN  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

Additional Support is from  
Texas Folklife,  
Central Market in Austin,  
and the San Antonio Accordion Association.

**TEXAS FOLKLIFE**

Grant Administrators:  
Shirley Johnson and Laura Jean Niland



**2020 Not Just OOM-PAH! Workshop  
Registration and Payment Information Form**

**Complete BOTH SIDES of this Form**

**COMPLETED FORMS AND PAYMENT Are DUE by JUNE 15, 2020**

Print forms, enclose check or money order for total amount due, and mail to:  
Shirley Johnson, P.O Box 203244, Austin, TX. 78720-3244

Or DOWNLOAD FORMS ONLINE and PAY using PayPal at  
[www.Vjeverica.com](http://www.Vjeverica.com) or [www.NotJustOompah.org](http://www.NotJustOompah.org)

Email completed forms to: [ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com](mailto:ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com) AND [accsaj@gmail.com](mailto:accsaj@gmail.com)  
If you want to use Venmo to pay, please contact Shirley Johnson. 512-680-0422

***Attendee Number 1***

First Name	Last Name
First Name you would like on Badge	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Phone Number ( )	Cell Phone Number ( )
Email	
Please Circle: Attendee is an adult / Minor (18 years or younger)	
Please Circle: Attendee is an Accordionist / Non-Accordionist	
If Accordionist please circle all that apply: 1. Level of Expertise Beginner - Intermediate – Advanced	
<b>In case of an emergency, please provide us with this contact information. Thank you.</b>	
Emergency contact's Name:	
Phone Number ( )	Relationship:

***Attendee Number 2 (if applicable)***

First Name	Last Name
First Name you would like on Badge	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Phone Number ( )	Cell Phone Number ( )
Email	
Please Circle: Attendee is an adult / Minor (18 years or younger)	
Please Circle: Attendee is an Accordionist / Non-Accordionist	
If Accordionist please circle all that apply: 1. Level of Expertise Beginner - Intermediate – Advanced	
<b>In case of an emergency, please provide us with this contact information. Thank you.</b>	
Emergency contact's Name:	
Phone Number ( )	Relationship:

**2019 Not Just OOM-PAH! Registration and Payment Information Form ( Continued)**

**Attendee Number 3 (if applicable)**

First Name		Last Name	
First Name you would like on Badge			
Street Address			
City, State, Zip Code			
Phone Number (     )		Cell Phone Number (     )	
Email			
Please Circle: Attendee is an adult / Minor (18 years or younger)			
Please Circle: Attendee is an Accordionist / Non-Accordionist			
If Accordionist please circle all that apply: 1. Level of Expertise    Beginner - Intermediate – Advanced			
<b>In case of an emergency, please provide us with this contact information. Thank you.</b>			
Emergency contact's Name:			
Phone Number (     )		Relationship:	

**PAYMENT**

Type	Description	Quantity	Enter the Amount
<b>Accordionist</b>	\$175		
<b>Non-Accordionist</b>	\$60		
<b>Donations ***</b>	Donations accepted----->		
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>PLEASE PAY THIS AMOUNT---&gt;</b>		

Print forms, enclose check or money order for total amount due, and mail to:

**Shirley Johnson, P.O Box 203244, Austin, TX. 78720-3244**

Or DOWNLOAD FORMS ONLINE and PAY using PayPal at [www.Vjeverica.com](http://www.Vjeverica.com) Or [www.NotJustOompah.org](http://www.NotJustOompah.org)

And Email completed forms to: [ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com](mailto:ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com) AND [accsaj@gmail.com](mailto:accsaj@gmail.com)

If you want to use Venmo to pay, please contact Shirley Johnson. 512-680-0422

\*\*\* If you would like to make a simple donation to help us defray costs, please add into the total.

HOWEVER, if you want to make a **tax deductible donation**, please make out a **SEPARATE check** to "Texas Folklife", and write "Not Just Oom-Pah" in the lower left hand corner.    **Thank You!**

**NOTE: Please list any food allergies or special dietary needs: (ex: gluten free, soy free, etc.)**

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**PLEASE CHECK ONE:**    I DO     I DO NOT     want my Name, Phone Number, and Email placed on the Workshop Attendee List given to other participants. I understand that if I choose NOT to be placed on this list, I will also NOT RECEIVE the Workshop Attendee list.