



Portland Highland Games Association, Inc. • World-Class Scottish Athletics, Piping, Drumming & Dance

2017 Fiddle Competition Judge: **Rebecca Lomnicky**

Originally from Corvallis Oregon, Rebecca began playing classical violin and piano at age five, discovering Scottish fiddle music only a few years later. In 2005, she won the Junior Division of the U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Competition, and in 2006 recorded her first CD, *The Call*, praised by "Dirty Linen" magazine as "technically masterful, and wonderfully melodic."



In 2009, Rebecca won the 20th Annual Glenfiddich International Scottish Fiddle Championship held at Blair Castle, Blair Atholl, Scotland. The invitation only championship - seen as the Grammys of the fiddling world- is widely regarded as the most prestigious in Scottish fiddle. She was also selected for the Oregon All-State Honors Orchestra, the MENC All Northwest High School Honors Orchestra, and the Fiddler's Showcase at the Northwest Folklife Festival. In 2007, 2008, and 2009, Rebecca received the Goldie Rogers Award for original music composition. She has traveled to Italy on tour with the Camerata Strings Orchestra and has performed in China with the Heart of the Valley Children's Choir. Rebecca has also been featured on the BBC radio show, *Take the Floor*, and in 2009, recorded her second CD, *Inspired*, with David Brewer.

Rebecca spent half of 2013 living in Edinburgh, Scotland where she played regularly with many local musicians, including members of the Tannahill Weavers, Shooglenifty, and Salsa Celtica. She also conducted fieldwork research about traditional Scottish music and culture through the University of Edinburgh. In 2014, Rebecca graduated summa cum laude from Cornell University with a double major in Music and Sociocultural Anthropology. She was also awarded the 2013-2014 Ellen Gussman Adelson Prize for outstanding instrumental music performance. While attending Cornell, Rebecca played with the Cornell Chamber Orchestra and the baroque ensemble, *Les Petits Violons*.

In addition to performing, Rebecca is currently pursuing a graduate degree in Ethnomusicology from the University of California, Berkeley. Rebecca tours throughout the United States performing Scottish music with David Brewer as *THE FIRE* Scottish Band, and teaching workshops and private students.

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Rebecca is sought after for her technically masterful and passionate playing, her knowledge of Scotland’s history and culture, and the ability to weave these together in lively and exhilarating performance.

In the words of Calum MacKinnon, “It is evident from her playing . . . that Rebecca has listened hard to and absorbed the techniques of some of the greatest fiddlers alive today including Alasdair Fraser and Natalie MacMaster who are two of her heroes. But amazingly for someone so young, she has also developed her own style.”