Piano Contest Sets
Open Door Policy

BY E. CLYDE WHITLOCK

There have been various practices with regard to the admission of the public to the events of musical competitions. Some have been held entirely behind closed doors, while limited access has been accorded by others. But Fort Worth is making all the events of its Van Cliburn International Piano Competition available to observers. All preliminary and semifinal playings will be freely available to the public. For two final events on Oct. 4 and 5, when six players in groups of three will play concerts with the Fort Worth Symphony under the direction of Milton Katims of the Seattle Symphony, and the individual recital by the first place winner on Oct. 7, a course ticket at $9 is offered.

THE APPEAL of the competition as an audience event is indicated by acceptances from foreign parts of invitations sent out by the sponsoring committee, headed by Mrs. Grace Ward Lanford.

The latest acceptance comes from Mr. and Mrs. Burt Bacon of Ewa, Hawaii, who will stay throughout the entire period, from Sept. 24 to Oct. 7.

The Royal Consulate of Sweden will be represented by Mrs. Alice Roberts, vice consul.

From the New Orleans office of the Canadian consulate general comes the reply that E. Mary Stick, vice consul and information officer, will be on hand.

Julia Smith (Mrs. O. A. Vieleher), a native of Denton but long resident in New York, while she taught for years in the Harrit School of Music, will be visiting in Denton at the College, will come with a companion.

Miss Grace M. Wimmer of Grand Rapids, an active teacher in that city, expects to attend all phases of the event.

THE RED TAPE encountered in arranging for attendance of Soviet and eastern European exchange staff of the U. S. Department of State, comes through with an official announcement of attendance from Russia, to the surprising total of seven.

They are Sergei Vladimirovich Fedorovskiy of the ministry of culture: Iza Ekatjona Graubir of the Moscow State Conservatory; Nina Semenovna Lelchuk, Nikolaj Arnoldovich Petrov and Mikhail Sergeevich Voskressenski of the conservatory; Lev Nikolaevich Oberin, professor at the conservatory, who is a member of the jury, and Mikhail Valeriya Petrovna Shlikhova, interpreter with Tass news agency.

Mrs. Minerva Garcia of Brownsville will come, bringing her daughter, who she hopes will be a contestant in the next meet four years from now.

SOL HUROK, perhaps the nation’s leading concert manager, has announced his intention of taking the first winner under his management, and will be here in person for the contests.

These names also appear on the list of acceptances: Wiktor Labunski, Kanssa University; Wendy Machin, New York; Irene Liskar, Toronto; Mrs. Laura Stroud Batesch, Appleton, Wis.; Mrs. Malisa Staffa, Rio de Janeiro; Mrs. Carl Beutel, Detroit; Mrs. Francelle Bellenger, Coral Gables, Fla., and Mrs. H. V. Apgar of Oklahoma City, who has ordered 26 season tickets for the final trials and the recital by the first winner.

All sections of Texas are well represented.

The local public again is reminded that a package rate of $9 is set up for the two final playings with orchestra and an individual receipt by the winner. All other events are free.