

2019 Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration
Divisions and Requirements for Competition and Accordion Artistry

Competitive Categories – Open to both Professionals and Amateurs
No Age Restrictions

Category	Age	Category Code	Fee
Leavenworth Open	All	LV-O	\$35
Classical Open	All	CL-O	\$25
LIAC Old Time Open	All	OT-O	\$25
Accordion Duets Open	All	AD-O	\$20 (per entrant)
Diatonic	All	DI-O	\$20
Bands	All	BA-O	\$15 (per band member)

Competitive Categories – Open to Amateurs Only

Category	Age	Category Code	Fee
Variety 1	19 +	V-1	\$20
Variety 2	15 - 18	V-2	\$20
Variety 3	11 - 14	V-3	\$15
Variety 4	10 & under	V-4	\$15
Amateur Classical	17 & under	CL-A	\$20

Non- Competitive Categories – Open to Amateurs Only

Category	Age	Category Code	Fee
Accordion Artistry	18 & over	AA-1	\$20
Accordion Artistry	17 & under	AA-2	\$15

Evaluation – Open to All Accordionists

Evaluation	All Ages (non-competitive)		\$15
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Rules & Requirements – LIAC 2019

General Rules

1. Entry applications must be postmarked no later than **June 10, 2019**. The LIAC Committee reserves the right to accept late entries at its discretion. Late entries, if allowed, will play first in any category.
2. The contestant playing order is determined by a random drawing prior to beginning the competition.
3. For this competition, the term “PROFESSIONAL” is anyone who is currently active in a career playing the accordion; *i.e. Listed in Publications as a concert performer, promoting oneself as a professional, receiving money through contracts to perform, etc.* **Those considered Professional musicians may participate in the Leavenworth Open, Classical Open, LIAC Old Time Open, Accordion Duets Open, Diatonic and Bands only.**
4. The LIAC Committee reserves the right to limit entries in any category. Categories with 3 entries or less are subject to review and could be cancelled.
5. Digital/Midi Accordions will be allowed in all categories in 2019. However, Acoustic Accordion settings must be used. Sequencing, other sounds, effects or other instruments are not allowed. Amplified accordions are not permitted in any division. Exception: a Bass accordion in the Band Category may be amplified. If further clarification is needed, contact the Competition Chairman.
6. Competitors must provide proof of age upon request by the LIAC Committee.
7. The adjudication process begins with the on-stage presence of the contestant and is concluded with the preparation of remarks and scores by the adjudicators. Adjudication for all categories will be based on the appropriateness of music, interpretation (appropriate style), tone projection and balance, stage presence and appearance, phrasing and articulation, dynamics and shading, technique and accuracy, tempos and rhythm, bellows technique and control and level of complexity.
8. Discussions with adjudicators about a contestant’s performance must be delayed until after the day’s competition is completed to avoid interference with the adjudication process. Good Sportsmanship is expected. This courtesy to the adjudicators is essential and a contestant may be disqualified by the LIAC Committee for violation of this procedure. Score sheets and adjudicators remarks are available to contestants at the end of the Celebration after the awards ceremony. The decision of the judges is final.
9. The contestants must present a pleasing appearance. Good grooming and dress is expected. Tank tops, T-shirts, shorts and jeans are unacceptable attire unless part of the ethnic costume dress.
10. Any camera and video pictures taken must not interfere with competitors, adjudicators and audience. No flash photography of contestants when active playing is occurring.
11. Only a Page Turner is allowed on stage to assist the competitor during the performance.
12. The decision of the LIAC Committee shall be final regarding all of the above rules, except for scoring, which shall be the responsibility of the adjudicators (judges).

Music Style Definitions

For the purpose of this competition, “**OLD TIME**” refers to the manner and style in which the selection was written or is being played, not to the selection’s age or ethnic origin. Old-time music is fittingly described as the style and tempo predominantly and successfully used for executing the **polka, schottische, and waltz** throughout a broad cross-section of North American and European communities during the past few centuries. For the purposes of this competition, the **march** may be included. All cultural styles are equally acceptable as long as the selection is played in the manner used by the culture of origin. Competitors must play two different old time music styles.

CLASSICAL describes the category of music which follows the original form and intent of the composer; **repeats may be omitted** to fit the time requirement. The printed sheet music is provided to the judges. Classical music must be played in the Classical Open, Amateur Classical, and may be played in Accordion Artistry categories.

LIGHT CLASSICAL MUSIC is based on a classical piece or theme but is reinterpreted to have entertainment value; it does not have to follow the format of the original composition.

Competitive Categories

OPEN COMPETITIONS: Any player, professional or amateur, is eligible to play in any "Open" category. In the "Variety" and "Artistry" categories, only amateurs may play.

If a person has won the same Open competition for two consecutive years, they must sit out one year before competing in that particular Open again.

When competing in more than one category, the music selected must be different for each category. Contestants may restart a selection within 15 measures of its start without penalty. If restarting, the full time limit is allowed as if no playing had yet taken place. Only one restart allowed with no penalty.

Competitors are not required to play for the entire time segment but must play the required music for each category.

Leavenworth Open

The Leavenworth Open requires the competitor to play three selections. The competitor will play 3 selections from genres such as jazz, popular, old time, accordion standards, ballads, and light classical. Classical music is not allowed. The 3 pieces must be from different music styles. If the competitor chooses to play more than one old time music selection for the category, the music must be selected from the remaining old time list as defined above.

Limits: 3 selections of different genres – max time: 12 minutes

Classical Open

Classical Music is played only in the classical categories – Open and Amateur and may be played in Accordion Artistry. **Light Classical** music may be played in the Leavenworth Open, Duet, Band, and Varieties divisions.

Limits: 1 selection – max time: 8 minutes

LIAC Old Time Open

LIAC Old Time Open is an old time competition unique to Leavenworth. All cultural styles are equally acceptable as long as the selection is played in the manner used by the culture of origin.

Limits: 2 selections of different Old-Time styles - max time: 7 minutes

Accordion Duets Open

The **Duet** category requires one Old Time selection plus another piece from any other music genre. This class is for 2 accordions only. Competitors may choose to play old time music exclusively; in that event a different style will be required for the 2nd piece. **Limits:** 2 selections – 1 must be Old-Time – max time: 8 minutes

Diatonic

Diatonic accordions of all types/styles are allowed but only "old-time" music selections permitted. This category is open to amateur and professional accordionists.

Limits: 2 selections – both must be Old-Time – max time: 8 minutes

Bands

The **Band** category is an open division. This must be a group of three or more musicians with a predominant acoustic accordion lead. The lead accordion **may be amplified** but not electronic or virtual accordion and must lead at least 2/3 of the time. There are no age limits and professionals can participate. Support instruments will be judged on the quality of harmony with the lead instrument. Support instruments may be amplified to achieve a loudness level consistent with the lead accordion. Vocalists may be substituted for instruments.

Limits: 2 selections of different genres – max time: 10 minutes

Variety 1 - 4

The **Variety** category is for **amateur players** only. The competitor will play 2 selections from any genre: old time, popular, jazz, light classical, ballad, accordion standards, Latin etc. Each selection must be different. (a waltz with a tango for instance). Classical music is not accepted in this category. Should a player choose to play 2 old time selections, they must be of different styles as listed above.

Limits: 2 selections any style except Classical– max time: 8 minutes

Amateur Classical 17 & under

See Classical Open

Limits: 1 selection - max time: 8 minutes

Non-Competitive Categories

Accordion Artistry

New in 2019 there will be an **Accordion Artistry** category for players 17 and under and for those 18 and older. This is a non-competitive category for **amateur players only**. The participant will perform on the Feshhalle stage and will be adjudicated for the performance. Artistry performances may be solo, duet, or combo; a performer may be in more than one artistry performance (one as a soloist, another as a duet, for example). Duets and combos must have at least 1 accordion but may have other instruments/vocalists. Amateur performers will play in either the Variety category or Artistry Performance; they may not participate in both.

Limits: 1 or 2 selections - max time: 8 minutes

Evaluation

This category will have a panel of qualified accordionists reviewing the performance. The purpose is to give the player an opportunity to have their playing evaluated in a constructive and helpful manner without the pressure of competition. This category does not have monetary awards but the award is in the helpful comments obtained. Young players participating in the evaluation qualify for the LIAC bursary. **All evaluations will be done at the Grange.**

Limits: 1 or 2 selections any style