

2025 LIAC Workshop Descriptions:

Workshops are \$15 if paid by June 10 or \$20 at Leavenworth

#1 Playing in an Orchestra

**With Cooksie Kramer (Kaserzon) - ABCA, LBCA, Member ABRSM Trinity College London, UK
Fri 10:00-11:30am Grange/Upper**

“Description: TBA

Sheet music for the parts will be provided.”

#2 TBA

With TBA

Fri 12:30-1:30pm Grange/Upper

Description: TBA

#3 The World Of Polkas

With Hank Thunander

Fri 2:00-3:00pm Grange/Upper

The average person can name four different styles of polka but there are many more than that. The polka conquered the world in the 19th Century and dozens of ethnic groups adopted it and made it their own. In this workshop, participants will learn about the various different styles of polkas, complete with demonstrations of elements of the different styles of playing. Hank Thunander has played all different kinds of polkas throughout his career and can guide players from Finland to Mexico through their various styles of polkas.

#4 Accordion Circle Jam

With Bonnie Birch and Andy Mirkovich

Sat 10:00-11:30am Grange/Upper

Description: TBA

#5 Tango Articulation and Phrasing on the Accordion

With Ben Thomas

Sat 1:30-2:30pm Grange/Upper

Have you wondered about how to get that “tango” sound on your accordion? Come explore how to apply some of the techniques used on bandoneon for tango to your own instrument. We’ll examine some general approaches to the articulations and phrasing used in tango and ways to produce them on the accordion.

The workshop will cover both melodic ideas and comping.

Come put some bandoneon in your accordion!

Open to all levels.

**#6 The Accordion in Ragtime, Hot Jazz, and Early Swing
with Matt Tolentino
Sat 3:00-4:00pm Grange/Upper**

This workshop will focus on the accordion and its importance in popular music of the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. It will take an in-depth look at the artists and bands who employed the accordion during this time, along with sheet music, interviews, and historic recordings of the era.

**#7 The Accordion in Ragtime, Hot Jazz, and Early Swing
with Matt Tolentino
Sat 4:30-5:30pm Grange/Upper**

This is a repeat of workshop #6. This will give people more choices to attend Matt's very informative workshop

Be sure to attend our **FREE** Sessions!

Playing in a group; performing at the gazebo

with Toby Hanson and Jakob Bean

Thurs 3:00 – 4:30pm Grange/Upper

Gazebo gig book is available via email or via LIAC website

Workshop: Participants will be accordionists who want to perform in an organized jam environment such as the ones held at the Gazebo on Fri and Sat afternoons.

Requirements: Accordionists will bring their instruments and a music stand to this workshop. Prior to LIAC, workshop participants should obtain a copy of workshop music. This may be done by going to the LIAC website to obtain the music.

Music on the website: www.accordioncelebration.org/gazebo.html .

Music by email, contact Jakob Bean: trombone29@icloud.com .

Content: The workshop content will focus on performance practice and rehearsal techniques for ensemble playing. Topics will include selecting appropriate reed combinations on right and left hand, balancing the parts, watching the director for performance cues, listening to others and improving stage presentation.

The LIAC Gazebo Jam presents a performance opportunity for all accordionists. To rehearse for the Gazebo Jam, performers will be provided a playlist of new music in addition to the well-known selections in the “gig” book.

The Button Box Across the Centuries

with Tom Tilton

Fri 12:30 – 1:15pm Festhalle by Button Box display