

It's Time to Prepare for Leavenworth
June 26 – 29, 2025
by Doris Osgood
www.accordioncelebration.org

Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration is coming soon! International professional performers headline an outstanding line up for concerts at the Festhalle. Master musicians will showcase the versatility of the accordion with a variety of musical genres. Workshops are available that will hone your skill and musicianship and there are adjudication opportunities in varying forms to encourage your continued learning.

The Gazebo Ensemble will perform Friday and Saturday at the gazebo, as has been the custom for the past several years. The gazebo ensemble music is on the LIAC web site.

(www.accordioncelebration.org) There are two versions of the Ensemble gig book. One is more like a “lead sheet” version. Either works. Print out the music as soon as you can and begin preparing. (Music will not be provided on site) The 2020 version prepared by Toby Hanson and Lyle Schaefer has not changed. If you have that already, you’re set. A Thursday rehearsal/workshop for those able to attend will be scheduled. The time will be printed in the LIAC program and will be available on the web site. Be sure to bring your own music and music stand for the rehearsal and to the gazebo for performances. Players will bring out extra chairs at the gazebo and will restore them after the program.

Public performances at the gazebo and King Ludwig’s Restaurant will be scheduled beginning May 1. Prepare Bavarian/ethnic/**audience friendly** music for your performances downtown. Bavarian/ethnic attire would be great! **You cannot sign up on line**; you can see what opportunities are available. The gazebo, grange, competition/workshop schedules are posted on the celebration web site: www.accordioncelebration.org **Review your plans** for the festival and contact Doris Osgood for times that will fit your schedule. Doris will schedule the performers and the roster will be updated on line regularly. To sign up for performance contact: dorisosgood@frontier.com or 503-357-0417. Folding chairs are provided at the gazebo, but bring your own music stand if you need one. Remember, the performance schedule at the gazebo is tight. **If you plan to amplify, contact the sound technicians prior to your performance** to see if what you wish to do is compatible; we must use the system provided for the gazebo and are obligated to follow the regulations in town for the level of volume. Time your program and be ready to roll when you are scheduled. Tardiness or delay in setting up does not mean you will have your full 15 minutes; the next player will be “on” as scheduled. **The last date to schedule performances via email and phone will be June 21.**

For those participating in competition, artistry or in private coaching, bring any “special” equipment you may need for your performance, like a music stand or stool. There are folding chairs on stage at the festhalle, gazebo and at the grange.

Volunteers make our event happen. This is an important part of the celebration. **Participate** in the competition, workshops, concerts, parade AND volunteer for a shift or two. Check the volunteer schedule to see what times and venues are available. Invest yourself in the accordion

celebration! The web site is being updated and you will be able to sign up for volunteer positions on line. Kathleen Falco, our volunteer coordinator is hoping that the process will be streamlined and simplified. kathleen.falco@yahoo.com (208-610-8426)

The *Frank Calapristi Accordion Parade*, a special and unique part of LIAC, will happen close to the lunch hour on Saturday during the celebration. **The time will be posted and printed in the festival schedule.** The music is Leavenworth friendly; most will be in the key of C. Usually there is only time to walk down the street playing *Happy Wanderer*, *Edelweiss* at the gazebo with singing, the *Snow Waltz*, the *Beer Barrel Polka* a time or two, and then depart the gazebo marching back to the Festhalle! Come to the Festhalle about 15 minutes before parade time for a brief rehearsal and marching orders from parademeister, Rod Miller. Everyone is welcome to join in.

The web site is being updated now and should be have complete schedules and information by March 1. The **schedules are subject to change**; adjustments may be required. Doris will have the “official” gazebo schedule on site at the gazebo. **Do not rely upon old data for the accurate gazebo schedule.** See you in Leavenworth – June 26 - 29, 2025 – *for the love of the accordion.*