

FIDDLE CONTEST

JUNE 6, 2026

Now in its 49th year, the **INTERNATIONAL OLD TIME FIDDLERS CONTEST** draws fiddlers from both sides of the border to compete in categories ranging from Small Fry to Seniors. Some of the best fiddlers around the region will compete for cash prizes and trophies, plus the title of overall champion. Whether you come as a fiddler on stage or listener in the audience, you are sure to enjoy this day of great old-time music. Cash prizes totaling \$2,000 and trophies will be awarded.

WHO MAY COMPETE: The International Old Time Fiddlers Contest is open to contestants from all states and provinces. All contestants must enter in their age-specific groups. See Contest Rules for more information.

FEES: \$25 USD entry fee for International Old Time Fiddle Contest participants. Small Fry and Junior-Junior contestants, and those registered for the Fiddle and Guitar Workshops on Thursday and Friday are exempt from the \$25 fee. Entry fee can be sent in advance or paid upon arrival for the Contest. Contest admission for audience members is \$12 USD for the entire day.

LOCATION: International Music Camp at the International Peace Garden.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN: All events at the International Music Camp are subject to the International Peace Garden Gate Fee. 2026 admission is either \$12 per person/per day, or \$50 for a family annual season pass. If you do not have a passport, a birth certificate (everyone) and a photo ID (16 and older) is required to visit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

INTERNATIONAL OLD TIME FIDDLERS CONTEST
C/O IMC
111-111th Ave. SW, Suite 3
Minot, ND 58701

Phone:

(701) 838-8472, August - May

(701) 263-4211, June - July

info@internationalmusiccamp.com

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Registration / Check-In

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

7:30 a.m. Registration / Check-In / Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Orientation
9:00 a.m. Workshops Begin
10:30 a.m. Break
10:45 a.m. Break-Out Sessions
12:00 p.m. Lunch – Peterson Dining Hall
1:00 p.m. Workshops
2:30 p.m. Break
2:45 p.m. Workshops
4:00 p.m. Free Time / Practice
5:30 p.m. Dinner
6:30 p.m. Other Events

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Workshops
10:30 a.m. Break
10:45 a.m. Break-Out Sessions
12:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. Workshops
3:00 p.m. Workshops Conclude
5:30 p.m. Dinner
5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Registration / Check-In
7:00 p.m. **Friday Night Spectacular** - Ryan D'Aoust

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

ADMISSION FOR NON-PARTICIPANTS: \$12 USD

7:30 a.m. Registration / Breakfast
8:45 a.m. General Meeting with Judges and Contestants and Drawing for First Round Competitions
9:00 a.m. First Round Competitions for Senior, Adult, and Small Fry Divisions
10:15 a.m. First Round Competitions for Junior and Junior-Junior Divisions
11:30 a.m. Announcement of top 5 scores for Championship Draw, and Drawings for all Second Round Competitions
11:45 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. Second Round Competitions for Senior & Adult Divisions, Junior, Junior-Junior, & One Tune Division
3:00 p.m. Second Round Competition for Championship Division
Announcement of top 4 in Junior, Senior, and Adult divisions for final draws
Present awards to winners of Jr. Jr. and Small Fry divisions
3:45 p.m. Drawings for Finals Round
4:30 - 5:45 p.m. Dinner
6:00 p.m. Band Contest and FINALS for the Junior, Senior, Adult, and Championship Competitions (Top four in Junior, Senior, and Adult Competitions; top five in Championship Competition.)

AWARDS CEREMONY: Winners of all divisions will be announced. Selected Small Fry and Junior-Junior Division participants will perform.

All times are in Central Time. Times listed are approximate and will be finalized upon arrival.



at

The International Peace Garden

Hosted by:



NEW FOR 2026

TEACHING FIDDLE & BLUEGRASS FOR STRONG EDUCATORS

WORKSHOPS

JUNE 4-5, 2026

The International Music Camp presents the 30th annual Fiddle, Guitar, Bass, & 5-String Banjo Workshops. The Fiddle Workshop will offer instruction in Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Métis, Canadian Old-Time, and Bluegrass Fiddle styles. The Guitar/Banjo Workshop will focus on flat-picking and finger-picking styles. Both styles are used in folk and bluegrass music. The Bass Workshop will focus on finger picking accompaniment skills. Participants will learn new techniques to accompany old time fiddling. The workshops will begin each day at 9:00 a.m. CST and will conclude at 4:00 p.m. Break-out sessions will be offered again with topics such as mandolin, bluegrass, and more!

WHO MAY ENROLL: Beginning through advanced players, all ages.

INSTRUCTORS:

Fiddle/Education Coordinator Evie Andrus
Fiddle Caitlin Baker
Fiddle Shelby Huston
Banjo John Andrus
Guitar Steve Burket
Bass/Mandolin Daniel Koulack
Contest Accompanist Mat Reimer

FEES: Full Workshop Package: \$220 USD Includes tuition, meals, and lodging for Thursday and Friday (\$205 USD early bird registration if registered by June 1, 2026). Cancellations by June 1, 2026 will be refunded all but \$25. **No refunds after June 1. Workshop participants staying on to compete in the Fiddle Contest will be exempt from paying the Fiddle Contest entry fee.**

FAMILY RATE: \$150 USD per family member for three or more participants from the same home.

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FRIDAY NIGHT SPECTACULAR

JUNE 5, 2026 - RYAN D'AOUST

Ryan D'Aoust is an award-winning fiddler from the Norway House Cree Nation in Northern Manitoba. Ryan learned to play fiddle through the Frontier School division's Fiddling program offered in his school when he was in grade 6. His exceptional passion, talent, and commitment to his community soon led to his becoming a much sought after fiddler at a very young age. Ryan has played at countless square dancing and jigging contests throughout Manitoba.

His first album "South Side of the Strings" recorded in 2006 when he was still a teenager won a Canadian Aboriginal Music Award for best fiddling album of the year. His second album entitled "York Boats And Legends" included four original compositions which drew inspiration from his home community and supportive family. Ryan's style of fiddling is rooted in the tradition of Metis fiddling which goes back over 350 years in Northern Manitoba and is also influenced by the classic Canadian fiddle style purveyed by fiddlers such as Don Messer, Graham Townsend and Calvin Vollrath. Ryan is a magician with his bow and is known for his musical articulation, tone and danceable style. He is highly respected within the Fiddling community and appreciated not only for his playing, but for his sense of humour and warm demeanor.

The concert will take place at the International Music Camp in the International Peace Garden.

Tickets are required if not registered as a Fiddle Workshop/Showcase participant. Tickets for the concert are \$10 USD. Gate admission to the International Peace Garden is also required. If you do not have a passport, a birth certificate (everyone) and photo ID (16 and older) is required to visit.

FIDDLE CONTEST RULES

JUNE 6, 2026

- Each contestant must play a hoedown, a waltz, and a selection of his or her choice (not a hoedown or waltz), in that order. Small Fry contestants are only required to play a hoedown and a waltz. Novelty tunes such as "Orange Blossom Special," "Listen to the Mockingbird," and "Rocky Mountain Rag" will not be permitted. All tunes must be of dance able quality. You must use different tunes for each go-around.
- Contestants in all divisions except Small Fry will play at least two go-arounds each. Contestants will draw for their position in each go-around of the contest. Contestants advancing to the Finals will play one additional go-around (three go-arounds total.)
- Small Fry Division contestants will be required to play one go-around only. They will not advance to the Finals round. Contestants will have an opportunity to perform while finals are being tabulated on Saturday night. Certificates and a small cash prize will be awarded to each contestant in this category.
- Junior-Junior Division contestants will be required to play two go-arounds only. They will not advance to the Finals round. Prizes and trophies will be awarded in the Junior-Junior Division based upon the cumulative points of the two rounds. Junior-Junior contestants will have an opportunity to perform while finals are being tabulated on Saturday night.

- Band Division will be required to play one go-around only. The contestants can select two tunes of their choosing. Bands can consist of any number of performers and instrumentation.
- A maximum of five minutes will be allocated to each contestant for his/her performance in each contest go-around.
- One Tune Division contestants will play one go-around only. Music on stage allowed, but novelty tunes are still not permitted..
- Scoring by the judges will include the following point system:

Technical Ability: 0 to 100 points
 Tone Quality: 0 to 100 points
 Rhythm: 0 to 100 points
 Intonation: 0 to 100 points
 All points earned will be cumulative.

- All contestants will be allowed one or two accompanists. No accompanist will be allowed to use a bowed instrument. However, the acoustic string bass may be used if it is plucked. One standing microphone will be provided for each participant, but no contact microphones will be allowed.
- No sheet music shall be displayed in the contest area.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

Small Fry Division Contestants age 8 and under
Junior-Junior Division.....Contestants age 9-12
Junior Division.....Contestants age 13-18
Adult Division Contestants age 19-64
Senior Division Contestants age 65 or over
Band Division Contestants of any age
One Tune Division..... Contestants of any age



The International Music Camp's
21ST Annual Fiddle Camp
July 19-25, 2026

In conjunction with IMC's Orchestra Program, the Fiddle Camp offers a curriculum designed especially for fiddle players and fiddle enthusiasts.

Room, board, and tuition for this one week session is \$675 (\$660 USD before May 1). Call the International Music Camp office at (701) 838-8472 for registration information or go to our website.



2026 WORKSHOP REGISTRATION & CONTEST ENTRY FORM

NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ STATE/PROVINCE _____ CITY: _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE: (____) _____ EMAIL _____

SPECIAL NEEDS (DIETARY, ACCESSIBILITY, ETC.) _____

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION:

Please enroll me in (choose one): Fiddle Workshop Guitar Workshop Banjo Workshop Mandolin Workshop Bass Workshop Educator

My playing level is: Beginning Intermediate Advanced

A specific area of expertise I would like to focus on is _____

CONTEST ENTRY:

Please Check Division Entering:

Adult Division Senior Division Junior Division Junior-Junior Division Small Fry Division Band Division One Tune Division

This is my _____ appearance at the IOTFC. (How many years?) I have been fiddling for _____ years.

Return form and fees before May 15, 2026 to: IMC-FIDDLE, 111-11th Ave. SW Suite 3, Minot, ND 58701 and after May 15 to IMC-FIDDLE, 10834 Peace Garden Dr, Dunseith, ND 58229. Workshop fee of \$220 USD includes cost of instruction, room and board (bring your own sleeping bag or bedding, towels and toiletries, etc.) The fee is \$205 USD if registered before June 1, 2026. Participants canceling their workshop registration by June 1 will be charged a \$25 cancellation fee. No refunds after June 1.