

International Person of Leather

2019 Edition

Statement of Purpose

The International Person of Leather Contest is a celebration of the diversity in the Leather Community. The title of Person of Leather exists to promote that diversity.

International Person of Leather is a community service title. We see that the leather community consists of extremely diverse people with a common thread throughout, that thread being Leather culture.

Each year, a single International Person of Leather will be selected not based on gender-identity, sexual-orientation, race, physical appearance, age, or disability, but rather on their ability to articulate their views, passions, and dedications and to make an impact in their communities. We will expect these People of Leather to act as mentors, educators, role models and spokespeople throughout their title year.

The goal of the International Person of Leather is to promote and celebrate the diversity of Leather Culture both regionally and internationally throughout the alternative sex-positive community on behalf of the International Person of Leather Contest.

Person of Leather: One title, one community.

Contest Rules

Contestant Eligibility Requirements

The International Person of Leather Contest is open to any person who identifies as Leather and is at least 18 years old, irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Regional Eligibility

To participate in the International Person of Leather Contest, contestants must first compete in the closest regional contest to them geographically. For example: if there is no preliminary in New Hampshire and there is a regional contest in New York and New Jersey, a contestant residing in New Hampshire must compete in New York. If a potential competitor is in an area where no regional has been established, they may request the Production Team's permission to enter as an independent. The same contestant application and registration requirements apply. The entry fee for an independent is the same as the entry fee for a contestant with a regional title.

A regional producer may appoint a contestant if no regional representative has been selected in a regional contest. This includes previous winners so long as they have not previously won the International Person of Leather title.

Consent and Identification

Contestants will be required to provide photos / photocopies of a government issued photo identification of themselves with their application form.

Agreement to Compete In All Categories

By submitting an application form, each contestant agrees to participate in all of the categories of the International Person of Leather Contest, including Interview, Leather Lifestyle, Speech, Pop Questions, and Fantasy. They also agree to participate in International Person of Leather Weekend fundraising activities.

Entry Fee

The entry fee for contestants is \$250, benefits afforded regional producers and contestants is outlined in the regional producer contract.

Each contestant is permitted two performers to participate in their fantasy. These performers will be admitted to the contest, but are responsible for their Sin in the City weekend package if they chose to attend that event.

Hold Blameless

Each contestant and each performer participating in a fantasy agrees to hold blameless International Person of Leather and/or Sin in the City, their producers, staff, volunteer personnel and/or sponsors for injuries, economic loss, or any liability; and to pay all court costs in any litigation that may arise from any legal action taken by the contestant against the aforementioned.

Model / Photo Releases

Contestants and performers participating in a fantasy must also sign a standard model / photo release and a liability waiver prior to rehearsal.

Winner's Undertakings

Each contestant agrees to represent the International Person of Leather title during the full year of their title if they should win the contest. The International Person of Leather is not obligated to travel, speak, participate, or do any fundraising although they may be asked to do so by clubs, organizations, and businesses in the community. If they elect to travel, speak, participate, or do fundraising, they do so of their own volition. It is not a requirement of the title.

The contestant who wins the title of International Person of Leather agrees to attend the following year's International Person of Leather Contest and to participate in that contest in any capacity that the Production Team may determine. Admission to the following year's contest and Sin in the City and a two-night stay at the host hotel will be provided to the titleholder by the Production Team.

Travel Fund

The travel fund will be handled via quarterly reimbursement, with 25% of the travel fund being available each quarter. Receipts must be submitted electronically. Unused funds will roll into the next quarter. Funds will be delivered check. The winner will have 90 days after step down to claim any unused travel funds.

Runner-up Responsibilities

The first runner-up agrees to assume the title, privileges and responsibilities of the winner if the winner resigns or has their title removed. The second runner-up agrees to do the same whenever the winner and first runner-up no longer hold the title during the official title year.

Title Year Defined

The title year is defined as beginning when a contestant is named the winner of the International Person of Leather Contest until the following year's new winner is announced. The same applies to the state and regional titles.

The International Person of Leather Contest

The main object of the different stages of the contest is for the judges to try to determine which of the contestants will best represent the title in the coming year. The contest includes five different categories: Leather Lifestyle, Interview, Speech, Pop Questions, and Fantasy.

Leather Lifestyle

The Leather Lifestyle category of the contest gives contestants the opportunity to demonstrate their concern for the entire Leather/SM/fetish community, during the weekend. Leather Lifestyle includes interaction with judges, other contestants, VIPs, and the general public during the International Person of Leather Contest weekend. This starts Friday when the contestants arrive and continues until the staged portion of the contest begins. We are looking for a titleholder who can get along with and be open to everyone. We believe that one-on-one interaction between the titleholder and the community is an important part of a titleholder's reign.

Interview

The judges will interview contestants to try to obtain a deeper understanding of their history and character. The interview will consist of a question-and-answer period with a panel of judges. Each interview will last approximately 15 minutes on the Saturday morning of the staged contest.

The Production Team will determine in advance if the interviews will be open to the general public. If they are open, contestants will be sequestered.

Speech

Titleholders are frequently asked to speak in public and this is often the best way they have to reach large audiences.

Each participant will give a speech from the stage on any subject they believe is relevant to the audience. The speech must last between 90 seconds and two minutes. No notes or visual aids will be allowed. Not meeting the time guidelines will be penalized in the scoring.

Pop Questions

The International Person of Leather needs to be able to think quickly and answer questions off the cuff, when interacting with other people.

Pop Questions include appearance on stage and how the contestant answers a light/humorous question and one serious question asked them by the emcee(s). The questions will be created in advance by the panel of Judges and will be drawn by lot by each contestant as they appear on stage. Every effort will be made to ensure that the questions are equally relevant and thought provoking to provide a fair balance.

Fantasy

The fantasy will be a staged erotic production of 3-5 minutes by each contestant. This fantasy does not have to be an SM fantasy, but must be descriptive of and/or based on at least one fetish. Fantasies must be done in accordance with Federal, Nevada and Clark County laws, within the limits of the contest venue, and any insurance policy guidelines.

The content of each fantasy must be cleared with the contest production manager before rehearsal begins. No surprises please!

Each contestant may have up to two additional persons performing in the fantasy.

Each contestant is responsible for their own props. International Person of Leather will supply basic props including a St. Andrew's cross, bondage table, spanking horse, two chairs and a table. This is done in an effort to save contestants and sponsors the time, effort and cost of transporting these items to Las Vegas. Each participant will have 1 minute to set the stage for their fantasy and 1 minute to clear the stage after the fantasy. No wax, oils, or sprays leaving residue, slipperiness, or discoloration on the stage may be used. If any liquids are used, a tarp covering the whole area beneath the fantasy must be used to protect the stage from damage and to make the change for the next fantasy expedient. Contestants must supply their own background music and sound in CD or MP3 (iPod) format. No mixing will be done on the spot, if you want your music to fade or start on a specific queue please provide your music pre-prepared.

Judging

The production team will appoint a judging panel made up by a Head Judge and six additional judges. The Production Team may remove or replace any judge without explanation.

The International Person of Leather will be announced on stage at the end of the Contest.

Scoring

The judges will use the Olympic method of scoring (where the highest and lowest score in each category is not counted). Judges' score cards will be collected and tallied at the end of each segment of the contest. In the event of a tie, the interview scores will be used to determine the winner. If a tie still remains first the leather lifestyle scores will be used and then, if necessary, the speech scores will be used.

The point values per judge for each of the five categories are as follows:

Interview = 200 points possible
Leather Lifestyle = 100 points possible
Speech = 75 points possible
Pop Questions = 50 points possible
Fantasy = 75 points possible;

This will result in a maximum possible score of 500 points. If only one contestant is running, their total score must be no less than 70% or 350 points.

Acknowledgement and acceptance of rules

Contestant Signature

Date