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Welcome!

General Information

- Name badges will be provided at registration and must be worn throughout the event. You will also receive a personal schedule to help you navigate each day. Badges are required to enter Handbell Commons and classes, as these activities are not open to the public.
- Use this program as your guide to the event. You'll find maps, schedules, biographies, class descriptions, concert programs, and more to help you.
- If you have any questions or need assistance, the Registration Desk is open Wednesday 11:00 AM – 5:30 PM; Thursday – Saturday 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM.
- Maps are available on pages 32-34.

Classes

- Try to arrive a few minutes before your class start time so you can get settled, and prepare your mind for the next 75-minutes of learning.
- Classes are for registered event attendees only. Please wear your name badge during classes to identify yourself as a registered event attendee.
- Class notes for most classes were available for download from the event website. You may still access them there by going to bit.ly/pinnacle-notes or scan the QR code on the right.
- It is your responsibility to download and/or print class notes. Notes will not be provided or printed on-site. If a class is not listed on the Class Notes web page, the instructor chose not to provide these or will be distributing them in class instead.
- There may be times when instruments/equipment must be shared to allow everyone the opportunity to participate in hands-on classes. Please be mindful of this and courteous to your classmates.
- Music packets provided during classes must be returned before departing each class. The music should be available for purchase from on-site retailers in Handbell Commons.
- Please make sure all equipment provided in the class is left in the room when you leave. Take care not to mistakenly walk away with mallets or other loaned items.
- Be sure to wear gloves for all hands-on bell classes. At the end of class, please wipe down any bells and return the room to its original set-up.

Class Evaluations

Class evaluations are very helpful as we plan for future events. Please take a moment to scan the QR code below or go to bit.ly/pinnacle-eval to access the evaluation form and provide feedback for each class in which you participate.

Musician Showcases

- All musician showcases are included with your registration. There is no charge for the general public to attend.
- Please silence cell phones, wait until presenters are between pieces to exit or enter the hall, do not talk while performers are playing, and show your appreciation with enthusiastic applause at the end of each piece.
- No video or audio recording of any kind is allowed in the Mary Jane Teall Theater.
- All musician showcases will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel at youtube.com/handbellmusicians. Tell your friends! The videos will remain available for 30 days following the event.



Scan the QR code for class notes
or visit bit.ly/pinnacle-notes



Scan the QR code for class evaluations
or visit bit.ly/pinnacle-eval

Columbia Handbell Ensemble



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**Brian Childers,
Guest Clinician**



**Bells of the
Caribbean**

**November 7-8, 2025
University of Puerto Rico – Carolina**

<https://Area4.HandbellMusicians.org>



**Meredith Alequin
Fajardo,
Guest Clinician**

Classes and Ringing Opportunities

Classes

Administration

Audio Recording and Audio for Livestreaming of Handbell Ensemble Performances

Bob Avant (Session 5)

Whether you are an experienced audio engineer, someone dabbling in recording, or someone who just wants to know more about how to specifically record handbell ensembles in concert or capture audio for a livestream, this session is for you. Capturing handbells presents a challenge compared to other instruments. There are several variables and details to consider, including performance layouts, recording equipment, mic placement, performance venue issues, the recording engineer, and much more. This session provides a great deal of information on these and related topics that will enhance your recording and livestreaming efforts.

Website Creation & Maintenance Using Weebly (WYSIWYG-style)

Damien Lim (Sessions 1, 9)

Websites are an integral and very basic part of digital marketing. You could be charged a fee for a professionally designed and corporate-maintained website, or you could DIY your website for your group or yourself, and even manage it from your phone while on the move. Using Weebly is absolutely free and easy. Come with your laptop with Wi-Fi connection for a quick DIY session, and create a baseline for your new website.

Building a Strong Volunteer-Based Program

Marci Corey (Sessions 2, 9)

Recruiting and retaining committed volunteers has long been a challenge for many music directors—a challenge that has only intensified in the post-COVID era. This has been evident in both church music ministry and in roles such as program management with the Girl Scouts and the Alzheimer's Association. Over the past 25 years, the presenter has developed and refined a number of strategies and best practices that have proven effective in building strong volunteer-based programs and fostering long-term commitment among volunteers. In this class, these strategies and best practices will be shared, along with opportunities for participants to discuss their own challenges and successes in volunteer engagement.

Setting Up and Using a Free Google Workspace Account for Your Organization

Marci Corey, Christian Warren-Corey (Sessions 3, 7)

Churches and other nonprofit organizations may qualify to set up a free Google Workspace account. We will share an overview of what products are available for your organization with Google Workspace. Then we will walk you through the process of applying for and completing the setup of the

full Google Workspace suite of products for your church or nonprofit organization. Finally, we'll share some practical real-world examples of how the Google Workspace suite can help support your organization and streamline its day-to-day functioning. We will also share how easy it is to collaborate with other staff members, board members, volunteers, and the general public using the Google Workspace suite of products.

The Leader's Journey: Discovering Your Leadership Impact

Marie Loeffler (Sessions 4, 9)

Strong leaders can make a difference. It all starts with an awareness of our natural leadership style and then developing the necessary flexibility to adjust so we can achieve the best outcome. This interactive workshop contains self-assessments and exercises where participants discover their impact and explore leadership qualities, styles, and skills. Participants will discuss the strengths and challenges of the various leadership styles and develop an awareness of when to use each to become a powerful and effective leader with a positive impact.

Going Viral on TikTok

Mitchell Eithun (Sessions 5, 9)

"I hope they play 'Hot to Go!'" How do handbells fit into social media trends? In this class, I will share my experience producing viral handbell videos for online consumption—particularly on TikTok. Together, we will think about how to explore the community's public image online and how engaging with pop culture can grow our reach in new and creative ways. What are our goals when we post about handbells? How can our online activities engage new audiences and challenge our assumptions about who plays handbells? This class is applicable to anyone interested in promoting the art of handbells.

Next Level Fundraising Events

Paul Berryman (Sessions 1, 6)

It takes time and energy to put on a great show. There are times when you want to kick it up a notch and have a special performance with all the extras—food, drinks, bringing in new supporters, and raising funds through auctions and donations. It can seem like an overwhelming amount of work to successfully host a large event while still having a superb performance on stage. Using my experience as the event coordinator for the Houston Chamber Ringers' "Chardonnay!" gala, I will show you how I planned the timeline, gathered resources, and organized volunteers to host our greatest handbell performance and fundraiser. I will share with you templates from my event planning that you can use to create your budget, schedule the event minute-by-minute, and promote to your fans.

Let's Chat About AI

Paul Berryman (Sessions 4, 8)

Technology can be a great asset to any organization. AI can make your work better. For years, applications have been blank slates for us to create documents and graphics, manage data, and present ideas. Now AI is here to help us be more productive and efficient. It may seem creepy or like a novelty, but the power of AI can suggest new ideas, help with repetitive tasks, and even adapt to your writing style and preferences. I'll demonstrate ways to use AI to your benefit with Microsoft Copilot. Participants will be able to try out AI features in class.

Keep Your Data Safe and Secure

Paul Berryman (Sessions 2, 7)

Nonprofit organizations have become popular targets for hackers due to their collection of sensitive information, like financial and personal data from donors. They often don't have the budget to properly address cybersecurity and perceive themselves as low-risk due to the nature of their work. It only takes one person to fall for a clever phishing email to make a costly mistake. Fortunately, one of the greatest assets is knowledgeable members who know how to respond to social engineering threats like phishing emails. I will share the basic steps you can take to prevent the most common attacks and protect yourself and your organization online.

Going Digital – Using Technology for Music in Handbells

Rick Holdsworth (Sessions 3, 4)

This class will cover HMA's digital music policy and give ringers a demonstration of the technology available for using digital copies of music on an iPad or tablet and cover many of the "what ifs." This class will give an overview of the technology, cover what equipment is needed, how to set up and use some of the basic features of the app, and how to contact publishers for permissions. Prior knowledge and use of tablets/iPads for digital music is not required for this introduction/overview class.

Roundtable: Organizational Structure

Sharon Schmidt (Session 3)

There are a few essentials of organizational structure for a musical nonprofit, but many ways to arrange them. Whether you're starting a group or revisiting your structure, join the discussion as we explore the pros and cons of multiple options.

Streamlining Organizational Operations

Sharon Schmidt (Sessions 6, 8)

You have bells, musicians, and a rehearsal space! How can your organization streamline day-to-day operations? Whether you're a nonprofit or for-profit organization, attending to a few items can improve your operations and allow you to spend more time making music. We'll look at fiscal structure and accountability, insurance, technology (including digital storage and free/low-cost resources), and basic policies.

Composing/Arranging

The Art of Arranging Pop Music for Handbells

Nick Hanson (Sessions 2, 7)

This class will explore various ways to bring popular music to the handbell medium. The class will take time to analyze different songs, discuss what pop music would or would not work on handbells (and the reasons why/why not), and ways to incorporate techniques and other musical ideas to best translate the performer's intentions. One point of clarification is that this is not a copyright class. The goal for this class is to specifically research and analyze reasons some music works well for handbells and steps to consider when making the arrangement.

Conquering Compositional Copyrights

Nick Hanson (Sessions 1, 5)

This class is proposed to participants who have wondered how to start the journey of receiving permission to arrange copyrighted music for handbells. Topics to explore will include simple scenarios like seeking permission from handbell publishers for small edits and changes up to tracking down ownership for songs from favorite artists, shows and movies, and performances. Some part of this class will also explore the concept of self-publishing, either as a sole entrepreneur or through an online service like Arrangeme.com.

Concerts/Performances

Handbell Show/Production Programming

Damien Lim (Sessions 3, 4)

Do you wish to produce a handbell concert or a handbell show/production? You might have seen the Ministry of Bellz (Singapore) on social media or YouTube. Come listen to how a multi-disciplinary handbell show is produced: from the conceptualization stage to the preparation of its technical (lights, sound, projection, effects) and artistic components (visuals, music, dance, drama, and show host), right down to the rehearsal schedule and even marketing and presentation strategies. You might even get a chance to design your own show during class time too. This handbell show concept is: Tried-Tested-Proven.

Traveling and Touring with Handbells

David Harris (Sessions 5, 7)

What are the unique aspects of touring with your handbell ensemble that you should consider? Where will we go? How will we pay for it? How do we publicize it? How will we travel? What about health and safety concerns? In this discussion-oriented class, we'll do our best to answer these and other questions that might come up.

Concert Creation

Elizabeth Mays Loebig (Sessions 1, 8)

Handbell concerts are wonderful events and a great way for handbell musicians to showcase their skills. But how does one go about creating a handbell concert experience? This class

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

7:00 pm - Doors open 6:30 pm
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
8301 NW Aurora Ave | Urbandale, IA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

3:00 pm - Doors open 2:30 pm
Plymouth United Church of Christ
4126 Ingersoll Ave | Des Moines, IA

CONDUCTORS

Patrick Gagnon, Julie Murphy,
and Beth Ann Edwards

ADMITTANCE

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FACEBOOK

Des Moines Concert Handbells
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BELLS OF WINTER

2025 Winter Concert

will look at the different elements to consider when planning a concert. It will also review examples of concerts given by various handbell ensembles to help brainstorm ideas that work for individual ensembles.

Program with a Purpose: Crafting Engaging Repertoire for Your Audience

Emily Li (Sessions 2, 9)

An insightful workshop focused on the art of repertoire selection for handbell ensembles. Participants will learn how to choose music that not only showcases the strengths of their group but also resonates with their audience. The workshop will cover key concepts such as thematic programming, creating a cohesive musical narrative, and selecting pieces that fit various performance contexts, all while considering the amount of rehearsal time available for the program. Special attention will be given to the unique characteristics of each ensemble, ensuring that the repertoire is appropriate and engaging for all participants. Attendees will engage in discussions and hands-on activities designed to enhance their understanding of how repertoire influences engagement and emotional impact.

Beyond the Church – Expand Your Handbell Performances

Nancy Youngman (Sessions 3, 7)

Have you wanted to step out of the box of handbell performances in churches, focused solely on handbell lovers? Or would you like to reach out and expose our wonderful art to a wider audience? We will explore ways to approach performances in interesting venues, maybe even with those who have not been exposed to handbells. We'll also explore ideas on how to present a concert of handbell music with other musical groups and in venues that may not even know what handbells are. A concert of handbell music at a rock and roll venue? Sure! A worship service for an international convention? Why not? Handbells with community choirs, bands, and orchestras? Perfect! All of these are attainable, but it does take some imagination and behind-the-scenes work. This class will give ideas on contacts, promotion, and ways to get the idea of handbells beyond church walls and into your communities.

The Rainbow Connection (The Human Experience)

Matthew Compton (Session 7)

What does it mean to connect to the music? To our congregations and audiences? The people ringing with us? Explore many ways to enhance your musical performance and playing through an in-depth look at musical nuance, memorization, and the responsibility we have as musicians to create a musical and emotional connection with everyone we encounter—and how to achieve that. Be prepared to explore and discuss the ins and outs of the emotional and mental human experience within handbells and how to create that “rainbow connection” with everyone we play with and for.

In Tune with Your Talk: Taking the Fear Out of Public Speaking

Marie Loeffler (Sessions 1, 2) – 2-session class; both required

This interactive course is designed for musicians and presenters who need to narrate concerts or pitch funding proposals with clarity and confidence. The first section focuses on mastering public speaking essentials—pace, structure, body language, and vocal inflections—with the goal of transforming nervousness into a polished, engaging delivery. In the second section, participants continue to develop these skills through personalized feedback and evaluation, providing a safe space to refine their presentations with constructive support. Join us to learn the tools and mindset shifts needed to successfully connect with your audience.

Festivals/Clinicians

The Care and Feeding of Your Handbell Clinician

Brenda Austin (Sessions 4, 8)

You've hired a clinician for your handbell festival. What's next? Leading a festival can be exhausting and anxiety-provoking for the planners and the clinician. The more you can eliminate worry and stress for everyone, the better your clinician and your festival will be. Let's talk about how to best work with your clinician to have a great festival.

Roundtable: Signing Your Life Away – A Chat on Clinicians, Commissions, and Contracts

Michael J. Glasgow (Session 5)

When you compare the handbell community to other paraprofessional arts demographics, we're a pretty small crowd, which is wonderful because it fosters an atmosphere of camaraderie and connection among handbell musicians. The downside, however, is that we can become a bit too casual when it comes to doing business. Because contracts can feel cold or sterile (and be intimidating), many of our clinician engagements and commission agreements have been through casual phone calls, texts, and emails. To be fair, that usually turns out okay, but the coronavirus pandemic caused widespread cancellations and postponements, and made a lot of folks wish they had had contracts. As the handbell world advances professionally, more and more clients and event organizers are negotiating contracts with composers, conductors, and clinicians. While this moderated and gently guided roundtable isn't a substitute for legal advice, participants will be encouraged to get serious about discussing the ups and downs of contracts, retainers, and cancellations (for event leadership as well as commissioned pieces) to optimize that all-important element on both sides of the equation: communication.

Handbell Group/Organizational Management

Starting and Sustaining a Community Handbell Program

David Harris (Sessions 1, 6)

In this session, we'll explore not only how to get off on the right foot with your new community group, but also how to keep it going year after year. We'll look closely at how to continue to make your organization vibrant and appealing for both audiences and ringing members alike.

Why We Gather: Reframing the Community Music Ensemble

Kathryn Jurado (Sessions 1, 5)

Have you ever really thought about what is a community music ensemble? Yes, it's a group of people that play music and in this case, handbells, but what does it really mean?" In this class, participants will be presented with research findings on the topic of "community music" and be challenged to reframe their thinking as to what it means to be a community handbell ensemble or community music ensemble of any kind, what roles they serve, for what purpose (social impact, musical impact, etc.), and how to engage more people in community music-making.

You Have How Many Directors? Management and Implementation of the Community Handbell Ensemble with Multiple Directors

Kathryn Jurado and William J. Murphy (Session 7)

Many community music ensembles have a single artistic director or possibly an associate director, but there is another option—multiple directors. There are pros and cons to this setup, but it is certainly a viable option and allows for directors to continue honing their ringing skills. It also allows ringers the opportunity to improve their directing skills. Magic of Bronze is one such ensemble that uses multiple directors. Led by two of those directors, join us to learn how we make it work, along with the pros and cons of following this model in our community handbell ensemble.

Ensuring Harmony: Resolving Conflict and Creating Positive Change

Marie Loeffler (Sessions 6, 7)

The seeds of conflict invade our days in subtle ways and build up over time to create resentment and frustration, which can damage relationships, increase stress levels, and create a "culture of conflict" that negatively affects everyone. This interactive class defines conflict, the seeds of conflict, and why it is inescapable. There will be a conflict management style assessment to identify various characteristics taken on during moments of conflict and identify how to overcome them. As we fully explore the seeds of conflict and what contributes to continuing the struggle, we will uncover the five keys for managing conflict and a simple tool to turn disagreements into positive outcomes.

Handbell Auditions

David Harris (Sessions 3, 8)

Is your group ready to determine its membership by auditioning? Are you curious about how other groups conduct auditions? Our class will explore why you might join a community group, audition mechanics for directors, ringer preparation for auditions, and how you integrate into a group once passing auditions.

Health

Ring 'Til You're 100! Ergonomics and Handbells

Mary (Libbie) Randels (Sessions 2, 3)

The oldest ringer in the instructor's ensemble is 92 years old, while the youngest is 60. The class begins with warm-ups, followed by instruction on how to ring without straining any part of the body. Topics include Seat, Strike, and Stance, as well as additional strokes commonly found in modern music. The class also covers the physics of the bell and its sound. All these elements culminate in ringing actual pieces. This class is ideal for ringers of all experience levels and offers valuable insights for both new and experienced directors.

Ring and Singing with People Living with Dementia

Marci Corey (Sessions 4, 8)

People who ring in or direct handbell ensembles understand the joy of ringing handbells with others. It can elevate your mood, provide a sense of connection with others, help you learn new skills, and improve critical thinking skills. All of these benefits can also be experienced by people living with dementia. Individuals living with the disease often experience depression or agitation, and they may also feel isolated and disconnected from others. There are currently an estimated 6.9 million Americans living with dementia, and this number is on the rise. The need for easily accessible and appropriate music programs in assisted living centers, memory care units, adult day centers, and other facilities is critical. The activities presented in this session will be deliverable by anyone with a basic understanding of ringing handchimes and a willingness to encourage others to get involved in fun and uplifting ringing and singing activities.

Rehearsal and Performance

Ringer's Rehearsal Techniques

Beth Judd (Sessions 2, 7)

This class, designed for ringers and directors alike, will enable ringers to maximize their time in rehearsal. Tips will include effective score marking, analysis skills, effective use of downtime in a rehearsal, and much more. Participants will review a composition to reinforce the skills learned in the class.

The Handbell Rehearsal: Inside the Process and Best Practices

Billy Brandt (Sessions 5, 9)

As directors and ringers, it is easy for our focus to be on our culminating performances. However, the work we do in every rehearsal directly impacts the confidence and musicality our ensemble brings to performance. Advancing our ensemble requires us to look specifically at how we use our limited rehearsal time to get the most out of our ringing experiences. In this session, participants will consider their own rehearsal strategies and attitudes before examining best practices on warmups, setting clear goals, and long-term planning.

Stage Presence and Why It Matters

Hillary Marotta (Session 6)

The public performance is the culmination of all that a handbell choir has learned. This class teaches the importance of and attention to details that allow performances to truly stand out and communicate the unspoken messages and musicianship of the art of handbell ringing. From the way we as ringers and conductors get on stage through the final note of the last piece, this class covers all the ways we communicate with our audiences and achieve the level of professional musicianship.

Roundtable: Managing Performance Anxiety

Nikki Evans (Session 9)

Performance anxiety. Everyone has it—at least a little bit. What do we do with it? How can we use it to our advantage?

Handbell Artistry for Beginners

Michael Joy (Sessions 5, 6)

Handbell “artistry” can be an ambiguous concept. Some may describe it as a byproduct of many years of practice, performance, and perfecting one’s skill. Or maybe it’s something that happens collectively in an auditioned, advanced ensemble. But as beautiful as our instrument is, its potential for musicality is wholly dependent upon the ringer’s ability to move it artistically through space. Anyone at any ringing level can begin to learn how to move with intentionality, precision, and expressive energy. Participants will discover their personal movement preferences that help or hinder their musical growth, experience “Bound Flow” and how it creates precision in ringing, and explore and encourage the use of expressive rather than functional energy in music making. Missed notes will feel less discouraging in the learning process when music embodiment becomes the goal. If you are new to ringing, either with or without other musical experience, or if you are a handbell director looking for fresh ideas for teaching beginners, this class is for you.

Ear Training for Handbell Musicians

Ron Mallory (Sessions 2, 6)

Just by listening, can you tell whether a piece of music is in a major or minor key, or what the time signature is? When you look at a piece of sheet music, can you hear in your head what it will sound like? Some basic ear training techniques can help you learn to do both of these things and more. We’ll also explore how these skills can contribute to your becoming

a more fully rounded handbell musician and ensemble member, as well as deepen your overall ability to appreciate and enjoy any music to which you listen.

Audition Skills for Ringers

Sharon Schmidt (Session 7)

Are you eager to join a community or college group? Auditions can be new and scary territory for ringers. We’ll step through the entire process—from signing up to dealing with the results.

First Look: Strategies for Sight-Reading Success

Stevie Berryman (Sessions 3, 4)

First contact with new music doesn’t have to be a minefield. In this class, ringers will learn multiple strategies for sight-reading music, and directors will learn methods for introducing new music in ways that set their ringers up for success. Anyone can learn strategies for successful sight-reading.

Score Scanning Success

Anne Kelley (Sessions 5, 8)

This class will help directors and aspiring directors quickly navigate a handbell score to select repertoire for their ensemble and promote sight-reading success in one minute or less. After attending this class, you’ll be able to identify the trickiest parts of a score in seconds to help you select repertoire, determine the difficulty, plan ringing assignments, and prepare for sight-reading success. Whether you’re new to ringing, a director, or an advanced ringer, this will be a great review to help navigate handbell scores. Geared toward directors or ringers who want to direct, this class will help make any piece of music accessible for your group.

Lifting Them Up

Elizabeth Mays Loebig (Sessions 2, 6)

Building confidence in ringers is a key component of effective musicianship. This class will provide specific and effective rehearsal strategies to build confidence in all ringers, regardless of age or skill level. This includes repertoire selection, rehearsal preparation, recovery skills, and making effective musical corrections.

Religion/Worship

Handbell Performance and Christian Worship

Mitchell Eithun (Sessions 4, 6)

Are church handbell musicians “performers”? Is playing at church a “performance”? In this class, we will explore theological perspectives on the nature of handbell music in worship to better define our roles as church musicians. Drawing from Scripture, tradition, and contemporary theology, we will explore rich connections between creation, human vocation, and Christian ministry. Opportunities will be given for personal and collective reflection. This class is aimed at ringers and directors in faith-based handbell ensembles.

Handbells in Contemporary Worship

Ron Mallory (Sessions 3, 4)

Contemporary worship styles have become standard in many churches, and there's no reason handbell musicians can't participate—though it might involve thinking a bit differently about how we approach our instrument. Come explore some creative ways to use a full handbell choir, small ensemble, or soloist in a contemporary worship setting. We'll also discuss ways to have healthy conversations with your pastor or worship leader about casting a vision for incorporating handbells into contemporary worship.

Solo/Ensemble

Foundations of Ensemble Ringing

Forté Handbell Quartet (Sessions 4, 7)

This foundational handbell ensemble class introduces ringers to the small ensemble setting, covering the application of general handbell techniques to the ensemble space, coordination considerations within a small ensemble, and differences in notation within published music. Other topics within the class include reading, interpreting, and marking music effectively; applying weaving to tricky passages; passing bells to yourself or your neighbor; spatial awareness considerations to enhance teamwork and precision; and using 4-in-hand ringing to smooth out musical lines. Throughout the class, hands-on exercises and practical examples will solidify these skills, helping to build the ringers' confidence. By the end, participants will be equipped with the technical and collaborative skills to perform as part of a handbell ensemble, bringing musical pieces to life with teamwork, clarity, and expression.

Bell Tree and Handbell Choir

Karen Van Wert (Sessions 3, 9)

Since their inception, bell trees have been a showstopper, adding dimension and intrigue to concerts and performances. Louise Frier developed the bell tree concept to involve more people by combining handbells and chimes at the table with bell trees as a processional element. Composers continue to grow the repertoire available for this genre and build on the foundational concept of bell tree and handbell choir. I will take you on a journey of bell tree and handbell choir music, hoping you will find inspiration to include bell tree in your next performance.

Techniques

Rethinking Rhythms

Anne Kelley (Sessions 1, 2)

Do sixteenth-note rhythms stress you out? Is syncopation hard for you to ring? Then this is the class for you! Rhythms are easy, and advanced rhythms like syncopation and sixteenth notes should be a breeze! There are many different ways to practice and play rhythms. This class will offer insights into different rhythm methodologies to help you rethink

both basic and advanced rhythms. Whether you're a new or experienced ringer, you might pick up some tips and tricks to help you successfully play and say all types of rhythms.

Mallets in Motion

Jack Burdwood (Sessions 2, 5)

Handbells are a percussion instrument and need to be approached as such, especially when played with mallets. This class covers proper mallet technique through the methodology of stick control as used by orchestral percussionists. Participants will learn the most effective way to hold mallets, where to strike the bell, and how the participant's physical motions create different sounds on the bells. The malleting skills discussed will be taught through exercises that participants can take home and practice, with the idea that malleting skills are developed over time through repetition. The class will also draw attention to the visual aspect of handbell performances. Just as it is important to have all ringers ringing at the same height, it is also important to match stick height and, when appropriate, sticking patterns across the ensemble.

Basic Percussion Methods

Jack Burdwood (Sessions 4, 8)

How do I play the tambourine? What's a vibraslap? Why can't I play the triangle with a screwdriver? All these questions and more are answered in this crash course for all things percussion. This hands-on class covers the techniques, do's and don'ts for a variety of percussion instruments commonly used in handbell repertoire.

Beginning Bass Bells

Justin Wooten (Sessions 1, 5)

This class is aimed at ringers who are just getting started in bass bells. Improve, refine, and shape the basic skills of ringing in the bass and low bass. We will cover various subjects such as hand protection, ringing techniques, damping, weaving, and much more. We will be up, moving, and ringing—so be sure to put your ringing shoes on.

Advanced Bass Bells

Justin Wooten (Sessions 2, 6)

This class is for bass bell ringers who have experience in the bass/low bass but are looking to take their ringing to the next level. We will explore various advanced techniques—some of which have been around for decades, and some that are brand new. We will approach this class as if it were a bronze-level rehearsal, so bring your A-game, some clothes you can move in, and a positive attitude.

These Are Difficult Times: Pushing Beyond Common Time

Kathryn Jurado and William J. Murphy (Sessions 8, 9) – 2-session class; both required

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." is the paradoxical feeling of mixed meter for many ringers—and even directors. It often distinguishes the intermediate ringer from the advanced ringer. In these two sessions, we will break down tricky meters and rhythms in a systematic, step-by-step approach to help directors and ringers teach and master

difficult rhythms in unusual time signatures. We'll start with basic rhythmic reading as a whole group, then divide the rhythms by assigning certain beats or patterns to different people in the room—moving from composite rhythms to individually assigned ones. The first session will focus on rhythm reading using voice, hand, and body, progressing to audiation (inner hearing) and bells/chimes. The second session will move toward playing these rhythms on bells, then pulling excerpts from pieces like Jason Krug's *Novus* and Brenda E. Austin's *Vivace*, which include meters like 6/8, 7/8, and 8/8.

All About That Bass – Digging Deeper

Leslie Lewis (Sessions 7, 9)

In this class, we will dig deeper into the realm of possibility by looking at when and how to double down so we can use the expanded sets of bells and chimes with the golden oldies in our libraries. We will also take a closer look at assigning the bass bells—many of the philosophies apply to the entire range of bells. Participants should bring bass mallets with them.

Weaving Made Easy

Mary (Libbie) Randels (Sessions 1, 6)

Weaving is a must with most music. Stance, form, and bell grasp are essential. There are many ways to weave: the traditional method, the pass-the-bell method, and a knock method. All of this is simple once you learn the basics. We will work on all aspects until it is easy.

Six-in-Hand Methods

Nikki Evans (Sessions 3, 8)

This class is for treble bell hogs and soloists. Learn a variety of six-in-hand techniques and applications for each one.

Ringling Opportunities

Pinnacle attendees are not required to participate in a ringing track; however, those who choose to do so must attend all sessions of their selected track. Music must be purchased and learned in advance of the event. Participants will be informed of positions in advance and must bring their own music, pair of mallets, singing bell dowel, gloves, split-back music binder, music riser (if desired), and pencils.

Intermediate Ringing Track

Christine Chan, Conductor (Sessions 2, 6, 7)

Intermediate Ringing Track is for more experienced ringers to learn handbell techniques and improve musicality, challenge themselves, and practice new skills.

Intermediate Ringing Track Repertoire

- *Aglow*; Jason W. Krug; Grassy Meadow Music; GMH350013; L3
- *Kyrie*; Cathy Moklebust; Choristers Guild; CGB480; L3
- *The Prayer*; Joey Raney; Hope Publishing; HP2628; L3
- *Canticle of Praise*; Arnold B. Sherman; AGEHR Publishing; AG35288; L4-

Advanced Ringing Track

Matthew Compton, Conductor (Sessions 1, 5, 9)

Advanced Ringing Track is for highly experienced ringers. Participants will read and refine pieces that incorporate various styles and musical challenges.

Advanced Ringing Track Repertoire: *Rhythms of the Heart*

- *Flora*; arr. Yasuhiro Otsuka; Seibunsha International; MSI082; L3+
- *Reunited*; Alex Guebert; Hope Publishing; HP3076; L4
- *Transitions of the Heart*; Matthew Compton; Evergreen Music; EGM107; L3
- *Outburst*; Karen Lakey Buckwalter; Beckenhorst Press; BEHB715; L5

Pop/Rock Music Track (Sessions 3, 4, 8)

Nick Hanson and Brian Seemann, Conductors (Sessions 3, 4, 8)

This ringing track provides participants with the opportunity to ring/perform music specifically in the pop/rock genre. While ultimately performance-based, this class will also cover the unique ways to approach pop/rock music that are not equal to how musicians would approach other music found in the greater handbell repertoire. Participants can expect in-the-moment feedback for learning new music, collaborative experiences between each other and the instructors, and likely opportunities to get out of their ringing comfort zone. Even if participants go back to their home ensembles unable and/or unlikely to ring this music again, the skills learned and ways to approach this music will benefit them.

Pop/Rock Ringing Track Repertoire

- *Careless Whisper*; WHAM; arr. Nicholas A. Hanson; 8-Bit Handbell, Not for sale; Provided free at Pinnacle; L3
- *Defying Gravity*; Stephen Schwartz; arr. Brian Seemann; 8-Bit Handbell Publishing; 8BHB-0050; L3+
- *Die With a Smile*; Lady Gaga and Bruno Mars; arr. Nicholas A. Hanson; 8-Bit Handbell Publishing; 8BHB-0051; L3+
- *For Good*; Stephen Schwartz; arr. Sandra Eithun; Hope Publishing; HP3072; L3+



CONDUCTOR/CLINICIAN
KATHRYN JURADO



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8bit handbell.com



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Visit our booth in the Handbell Commons
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Sustaining Partners play an important role in ensuring the future of Handbell Musicians of America.

We are very grateful to our current Sustaining Partners for their support:

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The Legacy Society comprises people who make estate-planned commitments of support to Handbell Musicians of America.

We are very grateful to the following members of the Legacy Society:

<i>Lee Afdahl</i>	<i>Lynne G. Marks</i>
<i>Marlene Anderson</i>	<i>J. Michael McCrary</i>
<i>Brenda E. Austin</i>	<i>Monica S. McGowan</i>
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<i>Elizabeth Judd</i>	<i>D.L. Shearer</i>
<i>Kermit & Nancy Junkert</i>	<i>Joyce Terry</i>
<i>Jacques* & Jean Kearns</i>	<i>Felix* & Martha Lynn</i>
<i>Mary V. Kettelhut*</i>	<i>Thompson</i>
<i>Zana J. Kizzee</i>	<i>Jennifer Vangolen</i>
<i>Linda Krantz</i>	<i>Frances S. Vaughan</i>
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*Indicates member is deceased



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**Columbia
Handbell
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July 9 • 6:00 pm

**Rezound!
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This sponsorship is provided by Lori Fenton, Area 8 Chair, on behalf of Area 8

Faculty



BRENDA AUSTIN is in demand internationally as a conductor and clinician because of her dynamic and energetic approach to connecting musicians through handbells. In 2019, Brenda joined the team at Hope Publishing Company in Carol Stream, Illinois, as editor. In 2023, she was named music director for Embellish Handbells. Before joining Embellish, she served as the artistic director for the Detroit Handbell Ensemble since 2016. Under her baton, DHE was honored to open the Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar in 2018 and be the featured concert for HMA's Area 2 2019 Festival in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Additionally, she has served First United Methodist Church in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, as director of music since 2003. She is also active in the community directing children's musical theater. Brenda graduated with degrees in vocal performance from Western Michigan University and a Master of Music in choral conducting from the University of Missouri–Kansas City. She studied with Craig Arnold, Steve Zegree, and Eph Ehly.

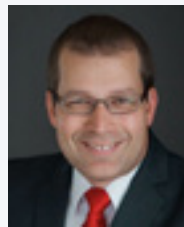
Brenda is sought after as a handbell clinician throughout the year and has been the conductor and clinician at numerous festivals and workshops, including HMA National Seminar and many of the Areas' festivals. Additionally, she has had more than 100 titles published for handbells and sacred choral since 2015. For more information about Brenda, please visit her website at www.BrendaEAustin.com.



BOB AVANT has been involved with handbells for nearly 40 years. He is a co-founder of the Austin Handbell Ensemble, which just concluded its 30th season with Bob as its director. For over 20 years, this group has been the recording ensemble for several major handbell music publishers as they sought demo recordings of their soon-to-be-released selections. Bob was the director and the audio engineer for these recordings. He was an early adopter of livestreaming and leveraged his knowledge of audio recording to enhance the streaming presentations. Since the Handbell Musicians of America has enabled livestreaming of its National Seminar concerts, he has provided the audio capture for these performances.

Bob's past and current careers and activities have included being a band director, an instructional technology consultant to area-wide school districts, an independent technology consultant, a composer, a handbell publisher, and, of course, a longtime handbell director at the church

and community levels. He is also an adjunct lecturer at Baylor University, serving as the director of the Baylor Bronze Handbell Ensemble for the past 15 years. Most recently, Bob published a book on handbell leadership and development, *Advancing Towards Excellence in Handbell Ensembles*. He holds three degrees, all from the University of Texas at Austin, including a bachelor's degree in music education, a master's degree in music (instrumental conducting), and a master's degree in education (instructional technology). Bob is active as a clinician and presenter of handbell-related sessions at the state and national levels.



PAUL BERRYMAN has a passion for security, education, and bad puns, bringing them together whenever possible. He has spent the last two decades protecting people from the usual suspects of hackers, criminals, and bored teenagers, with a focus on connecting through storytelling and energizing presentations to change behaviors to stay safe online. He is currently the Information Security Awareness Lead for Brown & Brown Insurance.

Never one to shy away from a side hustle, he, along with his wife, Stevie, owns Truly Horrible Things, a card game company specializing in sarcasm and good humor. They created *Crimes Against Handbells*, *Theatre Is Tragic*, *Band Is Horrible*, and other horrible products. He orbits the handbell world, supporting programs through administration and tech support. He has served on the Houston Chamber Ringers board for 12 years, currently as board member-at-large, and takes care of event planning, IT, A/V, and schlepping. He is also a ringer with Decibells at First Congregational Church in Houston, Texas.

Prior to working in security and education, Paul had six years of swashbuckling adventures with the United States Navy. He's a big fan of colleges, having attended seven different ones. He's earned a doctorate in education and teaches technology content to high schoolers, college students, and adults. He's figured out that strong security starts with teaching how to behave online. It isn't rocket science—but just in case, he has a degree in that, too.



STEVIE BERRYMAN can't whistle. But she makes fantastic pesto, and she can fold a fitted sheet. Likewise, her skills as a music director and teacher have also been acquired through long hours of arduous and dedicated practice. For much of her career, Stevie has directed seven or more ensembles each week, meaning she has 128 years of experience (in dog years). Her effusive energy and wild creativity found a perfect setting in 2013 when she became the artistic director of the Houston Chamber Ringers, which has let her smash together her love for music, laughter, and tacos in a truly remarkable way. In 2024, she became the director for the handbell ensemble at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. She has a particular passion for teaching beginners how to ring, and her innovative, play-based methods have made her a sought-after educator and clinician at area, national, and international handbell festivals.

She loves helping other choirs as a private clinician or planning epic concerts for them as a creative consultant. She and her husband, Paul, are co-owners of Truly Horrible Things, a snarky card game company—even though her mother always told her that no one would ever pay her to be sarcastic.



WILLIAM (BILLY) BRANDT is a music educator currently working as the director of choirs at Freedom High School, where he leads the vocal ensembles and handbell ensemble. He also serves as the director of choirs for the United Church of Christ in New London, Wisconsin, directing both the handbell and vocal ensembles. Lastly, he is the instructor of music literacy and instrumentalist coordinator for the Badger State Girl Choir.

As an educator, Brandt has been nominated for the GRAMMY Award in the Music Educator category. Ensembles under Brandt's direction have performed on high-profile stages across the world, including the Festival of Three in 2023, where Brandt made his international debut conducting concerts in Finland, Latvia, and Estonia. Furthermore, Brandt will make his Carnegie Hall debut in 2026.

As a composer, Brandt has works being performed both on national and international concert stages. His music is in print with different publishing houses such as MorningStar, From the Top Publishing, Paraboloid Press, and Meadowlark Melodies. Lastly, Brandt's works have appeared on prestigious curated lists such as JW Pepper's Editor's Choice list. An avid writer and presenter, Brandt has authored several articles with notable organizations such as the National Association of Secondary School Principals

(NASSP), the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), and the Handbell Musicians of America (HMA). He published his first book, *Let's Talk: Music*, with Barnes & Noble in 2021, and his second book was released in 2024.



JACK BURDWOOD has had a passion for handbells ever since she found the "Handbell Harmony" minigame on *Wii Music* in 2008. Four years later, she began ringing for audiences instead of high scores with the Wittenberg University Handbell Choir while also picking up her bachelor's degree in percussion performance on the side.

Jack performs as a highly skilled and versatile musician with the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble and as a pit orchestra percussionist throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In the past, she has also performed with the Austin Handbell Ensemble, the Austin Civic Orchestra, and the Pennsylvania Symphonic Winds. She is known for her high-energy clinics and student-focused private lessons, providing personalized instruction that sparks enthusiasm and curiosity, and encourages students to experiment with the sounds they can create. In addition to her performance and teaching work, she also instructs the drumline for the William Tennent Marching Panther Band. When not engaged in any of her musical endeavors, Jack also serves as a rookie bicycle mechanic.



CHRISTINE YIN-KI CHAN serves as an advisor, conductor, and performer for various community handbell teams in Hong Kong, actively promoting local handbell activities for over twenty years. Christine graduated from The Education University of Hong Kong with a Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Primary Education. She obtained the General Handbell Director Certificate Level 1 from the AGEHR and excelled in the handbell conducting, performance, composition, and pedagogy courses of the Master Program of Church Music at Concordia University, Wisconsin, under the guidance of Professor John Behnke. She is currently the director of Bellprints Handbell Supply, specializing in the development of school handbell teams and instructor training, and is the panel head of the music department of The Salvation Army Centaline Charity Fund Queen's Hill School.

In 2003, Chan and ten other handbell enthusiasts founded the Double Mallet Ringers, where she served as conductor and president until 2021. In 2013, Chan became the advisor for the RAW Ringers, building the team from scratch for a whole year and becoming the conductor for the RAW Ringers' debut concert. Chan's support for handbell teams

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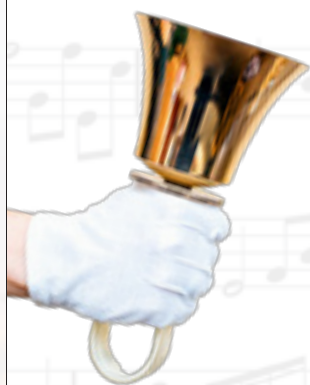
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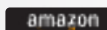
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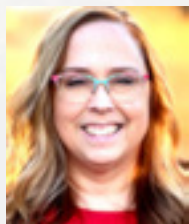
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also led to the establishment of Resonance Ringers in 2013. Resonance Ringers is a community team that brings together a group of young people who are passionate about handbell performance after graduating from high school. Sharing a common philosophy, Chan, along with Jessica Lok, Phoebe Yeung, and Janice Lai, founded the handbell quartet Bellprints, which performed Christmas handbell concerts at the Rudolf Steiner House in London in 2016 and 2017. Chan's handbell quartet arrangements *Jingle Bell Calypso* and *Santa Lucia* premiered in the 2017 concert and were published. Bellprints was also invited by an international fashion brand to kick off their Christmas event in Shanghai in 2017 and was invited to perform at the National Seminar Exhibition for Schulmerich in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 2018.



MATTHEW COMPTON, a native of Colorado Springs, Colorado, has been composing, arranging, and conducting music for handbells since 2007, when he was in the eighth grade. He had his first composition published at the age of 15, making him one of the youngest published handbell composers. Matthew graduated from Concordia University Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music, with an emphasis in composition and conducting.

Based now in Vancouver, Washington, he is the music director of Bells of the Cascades in Portland, Oregon, director of music ministries at Salmon Creek Church in Vancouver, and recently has become the new artistic director of Pikes Peak Ringers in Colorado Springs. Along with Alex Guebert, Matthew also co-directs Zenith, a new double handbell ensemble that is made up of 30 auditioned musicians from around the world each year. In addition to being a guest clinician at handbell festivals across the country, his music is frequently used at local and national handbell festivals, like the Bay View Week of Handbells and Distinctly Bronze East and West. In his limited spare time, Matthew can occasionally be found streaming a variety of games and music performances on Twitch, going hiking, or enjoying any number of movies, anime, or TV shows!

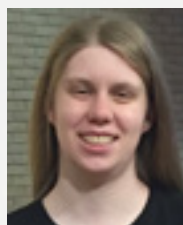


MARCI COREY is a longtime resident of Norman, Oklahoma, and received her bachelor's degree in instrumental and vocal music education from the University of Oklahoma. She taught music in the Norman Public Schools for eight years. Marci was a member and then the director of the Oklahoma City Handbell Ensemble for five years and has a passion for developing and leading ensembles of all ages and skill levels. She has led vocal and handbell choirs at several greater Oklahoma City metro area

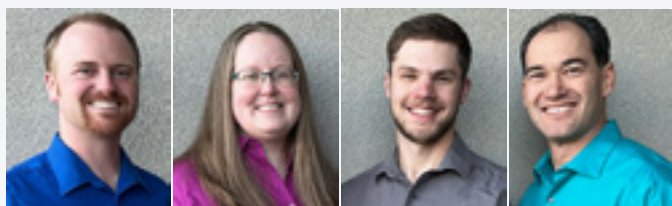
churches over the past 25+ years and is currently serving as the director of music ministries at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church in Norman. Marci also works full time in the Donor Services Department for the Alzheimer's Association. When she's not leading music, you can find Marci and her husband, Lance, out on their homestead raising dairy goats and chickens and tending their large raised-bed gardens.



MITCHELL EITHUN is a church musician, composer, and mathematician. He has over sixty published pieces of handbell music and has received commissions from community and church handbell ensembles. Mitchell is interested in developing innovative handbell rehearsal techniques and writing about the history of church music. He is the founding director of Bell Durham, a community handbell ensemble in Durham, North Carolina. Mitchell is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics and computer science and a minor in music from Ripon College in Ripon, Wisconsin, and a Master of Science in computational mathematics, science, and engineering from Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. Mitchell previously served as handbell director at the First Presbyterian Church of Holt, digital ministry intern at University Lutheran Church, and pastoral intern at Campus Edge Fellowship. He is an associate member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America and a member of Handbell Musicians of America. In his spare time, he enjoys learning the carillon and traveling to new places.



A native Texan relocated to Colorado, **NIKKI EVANS** has played other instruments (including piano, guitar, and knowing what the little buttons do on an accordion), but found her passion when she discovered the art of handbell ringing. As a soloist, she has presented concerts and contributed music to numerous worship services around the United States (and one special concert weekend in British Columbia!). Nikki has taught and performed at Handbell Musicians of America events at both the national and area levels, and she is excited for her first Pinnacle!



Based in Colorado Springs, Colorado, **FORTÉ** is an advanced quartet marked by artistry, energy, and dedication to their craft. In pursuit of musical excellence, Forté strives to explore, innovate, inspire, and glorify God through the gift of music. The musicians of Forté continually challenge themselves to “rethink possible,” expanding their musical and performance horizons, adding original compositions and arrangements to their ever-expanding repertoire, and seeking out new performance venues and educational opportunities. Forté was formed in 2007, and this group of four—Luke Nabeta, Megan Reishus, Dillon Ekle, and Tory Marting—is embarking on their tenth year ringing together. Since generation six began in 2015, Forté has had an increasingly active schedule of concerts and recordings, made possible with the help of their growing team of monthly supporters. They have been featured performers and faculty at Handbell Musicians of America events and independent workshops, have presented many successful tours across the country, and have released three CDs and numerous music videos filmed around the state of Colorado, with more currently in the works!



After a full-time church music career spanning more than 23 years, **MICHAEL J. GLASGOW** is now “full-time freelance,” and offers his clientele a full-service experience without the distractions of a church job or a school job. Michael is an award-winning composer of organ,

handbell, and choral works and has fulfilled more than 60 commissions. He is deeply committed to his craft and proud that each piece he writes has a story and a purpose behind it.

Michael made his Carnegie Hall debut conducting his *Requiem* for chorus and orchestra in June 2017 and conducted its European premiere in Vienna in June 2019. More than 170 engagements have brought him to three dozen states, as well as multiple engagements in England, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada, and a cruise ship in the Eastern Caribbean. Last December, his *Concerto for Castings* was premiered by Toronto’s Counterpoint Community Orchestra, with Emily Li performing the virtuosic solo. Michael has been named a Distinguished Composer and Conductor by MidAmerica Productions and will return to the podium at Carnegie Hall next June to conduct his riveting *Gloria* for chorus and orchestra (stop by his booth if you’re interested in being a part of this project!).

Michael serves as the bass section leader of the North Carolina Master Chorale, the chorus conductor of the Tar River Orchestra and Chorus in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, and a principal guest conductor of Singapore’s Ministry of Bellz. “The more people I meet through music,” he says, “the smaller the world becomes.” You won’t find him on Facebook, but visit www.michaeljglasgow.com and @MichaelJGlasgow on YouTube for more information and samples of his work.



After receiving his Bachelor of Arts in music (with a concentration in handbell performance) from Concordia University, Irvine, California, **NICK HANSON** began teaching at The Potomac School in McLean, Virginia, in 2006. At Potomac, he teaches private handbell lessons and

handbell classes to fourth–twelfth grade students in six handbell ensembles. He has also been the handbell director at Bush Hill Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, Virginia, for over 15 years. Nick is a sought-after faculty member, clinician, and conductor for workshops and events throughout the world, having served in this role nationally in over 20 states (as well as Washington, D.C.) and internationally in England, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Singapore. He was co-conductor for the Handbell Musicians of America All-Star Choir in 2018, has twice led HMA’s Distinctly Teen ensemble in 2015 and 2023, and most recently served as the conductor for Distinctly Bronze East this past March. In 2022, The Potomac School recognized Nick with the Bill Cook Excellence in Teaching Award, and he was featured in the *Arlington Magazine* article “Teachers We Love” in 2023. He is a published writer in the national handbell magazine *Overtones*, has composed and arranged over 100 pieces of handbell music, and is co-host of the podcast *Two Tacos High* with Brian Seemann.



DAVID M. HARRIS has been the director of The Raleigh Ringers since January of 1990, when he was instrumental in the formation of the group. Under his leadership, The Raleigh Ringers have performed across much of the United States; in France, England, and Canada; on

international television on the *Hour of Power* program; as a showcase choir for the Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar and 10 of 12 Area Festivals; with the North Carolina and Virginia Symphony Orchestras; and as special guest performers at the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York. David is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University and has studied conducting privately with Dr. William Payn (Bucknell University). He has served the Handbell Musicians of America in several capacities: as All-Star Conductor, Crescendo Conductor, Ringing Track Conductor, Instructor for the National

Seminar, North Carolina State Chairman, and as Area III Treasurer. He chaired the HMA national committee that planned the first Community/Professional Handbell Choir event, Pinnacle 2000, held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

David was elected in March 2023 to a six-year term on the HMA National Board of Directors. In July 2023, he was awarded Honorary Life Membership in HMA, the highest award presented by the organization. This distinction is reserved for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the art of handbell ringing. Because of his strong interest in the development of community handbell programs, David and The Raleigh Ringers developed and sponsor the biennial event *Virtuoso*, a performance-focused event for advanced ringers. David has led well over 200 handbell festivals and workshops in 39 states as well as in England, Puerto Rico, Canada, and the Caribbean. He has also been the primary handbell clinician for several denominational music events, including Montreat, North Carolina; Lake Junaluska, North Carolina; Lutheridge, North Carolina; Mo-Ranch, Texas; Massanetta, Virginia; and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians in Kentucky. David is an adjunct professor at Meredith College in Raleigh, where he leads the Meredith College Ringers. He also conducts the educational groups sponsored by The Raleigh Ringers, the Millbrook and Atlantic Ringers.



RICK HOLDSWORTH has dedicated his career to sharing music with the public as a vocalist, instrumentalist, director, arranger, and music educator. His love of music began at an early age and grew as a member of his high school marching band. After graduation, he began his first professional music career in the United States Navy. During his 30 years of service, Rick performed in, managed, and directed Navy bands around the world. After retiring as a master chief, he began his second career in music ministry. For 22 years, Rick led an extensive music ministry—including vocal and handbell choirs of all ages and skill levels—as the director of music at Pine Shores Presbyterian Church in Sarasota, Florida.

A recognized expert in all facets of handbell music and operations, Rick has been an enthusiastic member of the handbell music community for nearly four decades. In 2009, Rick founded Ring Sarasota—an advanced handbell community ensemble—and continues to lead the organization as principal conductor. He has been an invited guest conductor and clinician at handbell conferences and festivals throughout the Southeast and has published handbell arrangements and orchestrations with six different music publishers to date. His first handbell arrangement, a complete transcription of “Jupiter” from *The Planets*, was

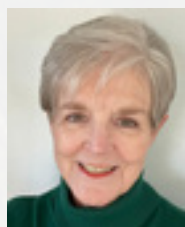
published by From the Top Music and selected for performance at Distinctly Bronze East 2015—an event he has participated in for a decade.

When not creating handbell music, he works behind the scenes as the Florida Handbell Doctor, repairing, adjusting, refurbishing, and cleaning handbell sets for organizations throughout the Southeast. In his spare time, he can be found tinkering with his Lionel O-Gauge model train layout.



Born and raised in Canton, Ohio, **MICHAEL JOY** has lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, since 1974. He received a Bachelor of Music degree in theory and composition from Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, Ohio. He studied handbells with Donald Allured and handbell composition with Arnold Sherman. In 2019, Michael retired from The Shipley School in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, where he taught for 21 years and developed the handbell program there. In June 2025, Michael retired as the music director of the First Presbyterian Church in Ambler, Pennsylvania, after almost 50 years. He started the handbell program there in 1978.

Michael is the executive editor for the GIA Foundations Series, designed specifically for developing handbell ensembles in schools. He is the co-author (with Sandra Eithun) of *Pathways to Musical Ringing*, a reproducible series from Choristers Guild. Michael is a published composer and has taught at Handbell Musicians of America Area Festivals and National Seminars, PMEA district and state conferences, and the 2008 International Handbell Symposium. He was the inaugural director of the first three College Ring-Ins from 2016 to 2018. In June 2019, Michael was the inaugural conductor for Reaching for Bronze (now called Crescendo), a handbell event for ringers who aspire to become advanced-level ringers. He received the Donald E. Allured Original Composition Award in 2011. Jeffers Publishing Company named Michael Composer of the Year for 2004 for his composition *Dorian Dance*.



BETH (WATSON) JUDD is nationally recognized as a leader in the field of handbells, having served for the past 40 years as a conductor and clinician for seminars, workshops, festivals, and denominational worship and music conferences. She has been Secretary/Treasurer of Area 9, National Music Chairman, and President for AGEHR/HMA, as well as serving on countless committees and task forces furthering the art of handbell ringing. Beth was the associate conductor of the Dallas Handbell Ensemble and the first conductor and artistic director of the Concert Bells of Fort Worth. She was also a

conductor at the International Handbell Symposium held in Toronto. She is retired from full-time music and arts ministry in the church after many years of conducting singing and ringing choirs for all ages, overseeing liturgical dance ensembles and art gallery ministries, coordinating concert series, and managing all aspects of liturgical worship. Beth is also honored and humbled to serve as a volunteer for Hospice Austin in patient care and family bereavement.

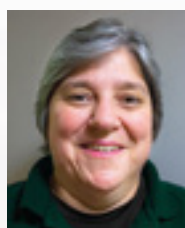


A musician with over 30 years of performance experience, 20 years of nonprofit volunteer work, and lifelong church music ministry service, **KATHRYN JURADO** has quickly gained prominence in the handbell community as a ringer and director. She has served as Treasurer of HMA Area 4 and now as President-Elect on the national board. She is one of the music directors and Vice President of Magic of Bronze, Orlando's premier community handbell ensemble, which was one of the featured performance choirs at the 2020 HMA National Seminar. Kathryn is also a province officer of Sigma Alpha Iota, International Music Fraternity; leads a handbell ensemble at the University of South Florida; is a freelance oboist; and serves in the music ministry at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida. Previously, she served a term as Associate Director of the Suncoast Bronze Ringers community handbell ensemble, taught music in Hillsborough County Public Schools for over a decade, and was the handbell director at Lake Magdalene Church (formerly United Methodist) in Tampa.

Kathryn served as clinician for Reaching for Bronze 2022 (now Crescendo) in New Bern, North Carolina; the handbell clinician for the Florida Chapter of the Fellowship of Worship Artists' Worship Arts Week in Fruitland Park, Florida, in June 2024 (and was invited back for 2025); was the inaugural director of Bells of the Caribbean in Puerto Rico in November 2024; director of HMA's 2025 College Ring-In; and will be the clinician for the 2025 Utah Spring Ring. As a ringer, Kathryn has participated in Distinctly Bronze East and West, HMA All-Stars since 2018, Virtuoso 2019, 2022, and 2024, and Zenith 2023 and 2024. As a professional freelance oboist, she has performed with various musical acts and orchestras, including Ray Charles, Il Divo, Hanson, The Irish Tenors, Opera Tampa, numerous musicals, and *La La Land Live!* Kathryn is looking forward to completing her master's degree in music from the University of South Florida in May 2025 and starting her new role as the editor of the Alfred Handbell catalog with Jubilate Music Group.



ANNE KELLEY is an enthusiastic handbell director, educator, and ringer who is passionate about the art of handbell ringing. She graduated *summa cum laude* with her Bachelor of Music Education: Choral degree from Northern Arizona University. During her undergraduate career, Anne served as President of the Harold M. Harter Memorial Handbell Choir and was appointed Bellmaster her senior year. Anne currently resides in Apache Junction, Arizona, where she teaches kindergarten through sixth grade general music, third through sixth grade choir, and two fourth through sixth grade advanced and beginning handbell choirs at Greenfield Elementary School in Gilbert, Arizona. She also serves as the handbell director at St. Matthew United Methodist Church in Mesa, where she directs the Bells of Joy Handbell Choir. Anne is often invited as a guest conductor to work with secular and sacred handbell choirs around the East Valley. She is also an on-call substitute for handbell choirs of different denominations. In July 2021, Anne participated in the Handbell Musicians of America Conducting Master Class under the direction of Dr. William Payn. She has taught handbell workshops at various conferences including AMEA, AzACDA, and the 2024 Area 11 Festival. She currently serves as Chair for Area 11 and is a recipient of the Carl Wiltse Scholarship for the 2025 Bay View Week of Handbells.



LESLIE LEWIS has been ringing handbells since 1979, when she was introduced to them at the Montreat Worship and Music Conference. She has been ringing in the bass section for Distinctly Bronze East since the event began in 1999, participated in the Distinctly Bronze European Tour in 2007, and added Distinctly Bronze West in 2019 and 2021. She has rung low bass in many area and national All-Star Choirs and rang low bass at Virtuoso 2017, 2019, and 2022, sharing the stage with The Raleigh Ringers for the final concert. In 2022, Leslie crossed Bay View Week of Handbells off her bucket list and plans to continue participating when the International Handbell Symposium doesn't conflict with the dates. Leslie had the honor of traveling to Singapore in 2023 as a Foreign Guest Ringer with the Ministry of Bellz (MOB) and rang with MOB at the 21st International Handbell Symposium in Hamamatsu, Japan, in 2024.

Leslie enjoys substituting for choirs in the Gastonia/Charlotte and Wilmington/Myrtle Beach areas, assisting The Raleigh Ringers with demo recordings, and dabbling in solo ringing. Having added the lower sixth and seventh octave chimes to her growing set of handbell "toys," she hopes to offer her services to add lower chimes for groups that don't have them available.

After graduating from North Carolina State University with a degree in computer science, Leslie worked for IBM and First Union National Bank for a combined 15 years before turning a part-time role preparing income taxes into a career. Leslie is currently President of Unified Income Taxes and Accounting, Inc. in Gastonia, North Carolina, where she prepares all types of tax returns and, as an Enrolled Agent, represents clients during IRS tax audits and appeals. Outside of bells, Leslie enjoys playing golf and walking on the beach as a precursor to life after retirement in Lockwood Folly Country Club near Holden Beach, North Carolina.



EMILY LI stands as a globally acclaimed handbell virtuoso from Hong Kong. She is an accomplished conductor, composer, soloist, and educator with over 25 years of experience. Her handbell journey began in 1986, igniting a deep passion for the instrument. Since 2000, Emily has refined her handbell expertise in the United States, studying under esteemed masters.

She firmly believes in the importance of a strong foundation in handbell training for all ages, and her passion lies in fostering comprehensive growth through handbell ringing. As the founder of the Hong Kong Handbell Academy, Hong Kong Youth Handbell Ensemble, and Handbell Association of Hong Kong, she has significantly popularized handbell ringing through festivals, global tours, and professional training. Emily has been a distinguished faculty member and conductor at pivotal handbell events across Asia, Europe, North America, and Australia, including HMA's All-Star Choir (2014), Distinctly Teens (2018), Distinctly Bronze East (2024), and International Handbell Symposiums (2012–2024).



Trained as a military and theatre percussionist and Yamaha Electone musician, **DAMIEN LIM** is the founder and music director of the award-winning Ministry of Bellz from Singapore. Percussion and handbells have led him to perform, teach, and adjudicate in more than 20 countries, including the United States, Japan, Egypt, Canada, Australia, South Korea, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Ireland, Turkey, and France.

Damien is a Fellow of the London College of Music (United Kingdom). He holds a Master of Music (Performance) from the University of West London – London College of Music and was recently awarded the title of Doctor of Letters (*honoris causa*) by ATU in 2022 for his work in handbell music development in Singapore. He is currently pursuing his second Master of Music (Leadership) at the National University of Singapore – Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of

Music. Damien directs advanced handbell teams at five schools and is a consultant for eight other school ensembles. He is also Executive Director of the Handbell Ringers of Singapore (HRSG).

A firm believer in creative excellence through handbell music, he contributes actively to the development of handbell standards in Singapore through his tireless work with students, youth, persons with special needs, and his colleagues. He constantly seeks to be “purposeful in pursuit of excellence.” Learn more about Damien at www.damienlim.weebly.com.



At eight years of age, **ELIZABETH MAYS LOEBIG** picked up a C7 behind her mother's back one afternoon at the church handbell rehearsal. Upon discovery of her daughter's transgression, director Linda immediately assigned Beth said C7 as a member of the choir. Over thirty years later, Beth graduated from Azusa Pacific University with master's degrees in both handbell performance and conducting. She is now an accomplished soloist, music teacher, and conductor. Her graduate recital, *The History of Handbells*, featured 13 pieces narrating the rich traditions of English handbells as well as moving the art forward into the next generation. She has earned the first Master of Music degree in Performance: Handbells in the United States. Beth is now continuing her studies at Claremont Graduate University, working on a Ph.D. in musicology, with a research focus on performance practice issues of handbells. She is a founding member of the professional handbell ensemble Timbré and serves as Education Director for Area 12 of the Handbell Musicians of America. Her debut solo handbell album, *Pure Imagination*, is currently in progress.



MARIE M. LOEFFLER enjoyed a successful career as a professional dancer, choreographer, and studio owner. When she transitioned to arts administration, she discovered handbells and a new way to bring music to life. Never looking back, Marie has earned the moniker of “Belldancer” for her graceful performances as a solo ringer. Her popular workshops include a myriad of technique and performance topics.

In addition to her handbell achievements, Marie holds a degree in behavioral sciences and is a certified life purpose and career coach. She is a popular speaker and workshop presenter known for her original *Ringin' True* series, which helps professional women rediscover their creativity, increase their confidence, and strengthen their leadership

skills. Her bells frequently share the stage at her speaking engagements and add a unique twist to each presentation, thus creating a one-of-a-kind experience for her participants.

As an active member of Handbell Musicians of America for many years, Marie has served on the boards for both Area 1 and Area 4. Currently living in Melbourne, Florida, Marie continues to ring as a soloist, introduces bells to every new venue she can find, and is ringer/manager for the bell choir at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, where she continues to encourage her ringers to move beyond their comfortable two-bell boxes.



RON MALLORY has been playing, directing, and composing for handbells for nearly 30 years. He has extensive experience working with handbell ensembles in church, school, and community settings, and has more than 250 handbell pieces in print. Ron currently directs the handbell choir at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Wichita, Kansas. He has served as a guest conductor at numerous festivals and teaches regularly at local and national handbell conferences. Ron also runs Martellato Media, which produces handbell demos and music for multimedia projects, and Paraboloid Press, a music and arts publishing company. Outside of music, Ron's primary interest is astronomy, and he is actively involved in science education using his portable planetarium dome. Many of Ron's musical compositions are written on astronomical themes.

Ron has a master's degree in choral conducting from the University of Washington and a bachelor's degree in music composition from California State University, Long Beach. He lives in Mulvane, Kansas, with his wife Emily and their children, Vivian, Miles, and Rigel. A lifelong Christian, Ron is always working to grow in his relationship with God. For more about Ron and his music, visit www.ronmallorymusic.com.



HILLARY MAROTTA first became a musician through piano and flute but fell in love with handbells at Bucknell University under the direction of William Payn while playing for the Rooke Chapel Ringers. Since then, she has reprised her role at her alma mater both as a ringer and conductor, and has played in church groups in Pennsylvania and Virginia. She has rung with the Hershey Handbell Ensemble and is a regular Distinctly Bronze attendee. She was a 2022 Virtuoso ringer with The Raleigh Ringers. She has studied conducting under the direction of William Payn both privately and through masterclasses. She currently conducts her own group of beginning-level ringers and coordinates both Distinctly Teen at National Seminar and the College Ring-In for Handbell Musicians of America. She obtained a master's degree in

curriculum and instruction, specializing in adult education, and has taught and trained adults in various settings. She looks forward to bringing those teaching skills to Pinnacle.



WILLIAM J. MURPHY is a singer and musician with over 30 years of experience. He received a Bachelor of Music degree in music education from Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where he rang with the Westminster Concert Bell Choir, playing in over 40 states, at Carnegie Hall, and on the *A Royal Christmas* tour with Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer. William has both rung with and directed several ensembles in the Central Florida region, including Magic of Bronze in Orlando, Grace Notes in Orlando, and Suncoast Bronze Ringers in Tampa. He has rung with many high-level ringing choirs, including Distinctly Bronze East and West, the HMA All-Star Choir, Virtuoso, and Zenith, and is looking forward to ringing at Bay View in 2025. William is an active member of the music department at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida, singing in the choir and with a gospel barbershop quartet. He is currently serving as the Chair of Handbell Musicians of America, Area 4, having served on the board for almost 10 years and holding the positions of Treasurer and Secretary.



LIBBIE RANDELS began ringing and directing handbells in 1986 in Houston, Texas, and continued her passion across four different states. After moving to Phoenix in 2007, she joined the Handbell Ringers of Sun City, Arizona, and became the group's director in 2009. Under her leadership, the ensemble has grown into a double five-octave choir with 26 ringers ranging in age from 64 to 92. The group performs Level 3–4 music and presents two concerts each year.

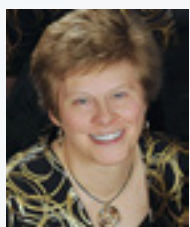
Libbie also directs a five-octave church handbell choir, which includes ringers of varying skill levels and ages. She holds a Bachelor of Science in music education, with certification in both vocal and instrumental instruction (K–12), from Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. From 2008 to 2014, she served on the Area 11 Board as the Desert Sub-Chair. In that role, she organized and taught workshops throughout Arizona and New Mexico and has continued to teach at both national and Area handbell events. As a ringer, she has performed with Distinctly Bronze West and participated in advanced, auditioned choirs at Area and national events, including the National All-Star Choir. Her enduring motto and goal for handbells is: for those who love to ring, let's all "Ring 'Til We're 100!"



Regarded as one of Puerto Rico's foremost handbell masters, **CARLOS E. RIVERA APONTE** has had a fruitful career of more than thirty years as director of various handbell programs in Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Colombia. Carlos received a Bachelor of

Arts with a major in education and music from the University of Puerto Rico. He later received his master's degree in music education with an emphasis on choral music at Florida State University's College of Music in Tallahassee, Florida. He is an active handbell clinician and has inspired many people to become involved in handbell ringing and musicianship. He describes himself as a handbell missionary, in his belief that "there are so many people who have not been able to be in contact with this wonderful instrument; once they do, they'll fall in love with it."

Carlos served two years as an at-large member of HMA National Board and now is the HMA Area 4 Chair-Elect. He currently works as Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, music professor and choral conductor at the University of Puerto Rico-Carolina. He founded San Juan Handbell Ensemble in February 2024.



SHARON SCHMIDT is the director of Bells of the Rockies, an auditioned community handbell ensemble in northern Colorado. Before relocating to the Denver, Colorado, area, she was a 30-year member of The Agape Ringers, an auditioned community handbell ensemble from the Chicago area,

and served as Treasurer and Chair for Area 8. She previously directed multiple handbell ensembles at Gary United Methodist Church in Wheaton, Illinois; served on the Area 8–Illinois State Committee from 1994–2021; was chair for eleven Distinctly Bronze events; and was the national Certification Program Coordinator for five years. Her handbell teaching experience includes numerous local events, events in Areas 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10, multiple National Seminars, a National Festival, and an International Handbell Symposium.



BRIAN SEEMANN is currently the Director of Handbell Ensembles at the Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland, and the Music Director of Virginia Bronze. In addition to his work with Virginia Bronze, Brian has held the role of Music Director for both the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble and the

New England Ringers and has performed with Sonos Handbell Ensemble, Back Bay Ringers, and the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble. Brian is a published composer and has served as a faculty member, clinician, and conductor across the United States, including Handbell Musicians of America National Seminars, as well as at several International Handbell Symposia. His ensembles have been invited to perform at the

Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar three times—in 2016, 2019, and 2024. In addition to being a ringing member, Brian serves on the Board of Directors for Sonos Handbell Ensemble. When he's not ringing or conducting, Brian co-hosts *Two Tacos High*, a handbell podcast along with Nick Hanson.



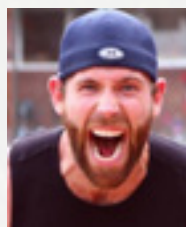
With an insatiable thirst for knowledge and a passion to share what she has learned, **KAREN VAN WERT** is at home in a classroom or at the podium. She will tell you, "There is nothing more rewarding than witnessing a ringer grasping a concept and executing it in their music. Building skills and instilling confidence in a ringer is the goal of every rehearsal, for then we can make music."

Bell tree ringing has become a focal point of her educational passion, lowering the barrier to entry into the bell tree world. Virtual and in-person classes to share knowledge, the gathering of bell tree enthusiasts to grow the art form (Into the Forest), and ringing in praise bands to explore new possibilities are just a few steps on this incredible journey. Karen and her bellboy, James, make their home in Ames, Iowa.



CHRISTIAN WARREN-COREY has been in the information technology field for a decade. He has worked for both the private and public sectors and is currently working for a management service provider based out of southern Florida. Christian started playing handbells in youth choir in high

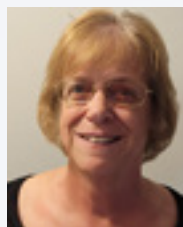
school. After taking a break for several years, he had the opportunity to join one of the bell choirs led by his mother at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church in Norman, Oklahoma, and has been ringing the low bass bells for the past four years. When Christian is not working or ringing bells, he is an active member of the live-action role-playing (LARP) and boffer combat game, Amtgard. He also enjoys reading, leatherworking, and video games.



JUSTIN WOOTEN hails from the western foothills of North Carolina, just an hour north of Charlotte, in a small, sleepy town called Union Grove. After finishing a high school career dominated by athletics, Justin switched gears, started working in regional professional theaters across the United

States, and went to Elon University, where he received a degree in music theater. Immediately after college, he moved to Los Angeles for the sunny days, bodacious beaches, and active lifestyle. While soaking up the rays, he became a fitness trainer; teaching classes, training fitness enthusiasts and celebrities, and learning as much about the human body as possible was just a typical day in the life.

Throughout all his adventures in life, handbells have always been a constant. He began playing handbells at the ripe old age of seven. Even after moving to Los Angeles, he played with L.A. Bronze under the leadership of Linda Krantz. In 2020, during the pandemic, Justin moved back to North Carolina, where he immediately joined Charlotte Bronze under the direction of Tim Waugh. His one rule in life is: "If it's heavy, try to pick it up. If it's too light, make it heavier. If it's too heavy, get stronger." This should explain why he only hangs out in the low bass. Post-pandemic, Justin has traded in the big city vibes for the quiet country lifestyle. He continues to pick up heavy things, set them down, then repeat as many times as possible. He also runs his own fitness studio, where he teaches others to do the same. On top of all that, he lives on a farm with cows, donkeys, dogs, watermelons, blueberries, and a friendly family of raccoons in his backyard.



NANCY YOUNGMAN has been a handbell choir director since 1984, serving two churches since 1991. She is the founder and artistic director of Bell-issimo, Lincoln, Nebraska's auditioned community handbell choir. Nancy has degrees in instrumental music and German and is retired from Lincoln Public Schools, where she taught both subjects. Since 1990, she has been a member of the Nebraska State Handbell Committee and has served as State Chair twice. She served on the Area 8 Board of Handbell Musicians of America as Secretary from 1996–1998 and is currently the Area 8 Chimes Chair. Nancy has taught at workshops throughout Nebraska and neighboring states, as well as at Area 8 Festivals, and has served as guest clinician for several handbell workshops.

RiverBend Bronze
The premiere handbell ensemble of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois
www.riverbendbronze.org info@riverbendbronze.org

John Kiopp
Music Director

A decorative border at the bottom of the collage features a repeating pattern of the RiverBend Bronze logo, which consists of three handbells.

Handbell Commons

Exhibiting Partners, Musician Showcase Presenters, and HMA Areas

About Handbell Commons

Handbell Commons, located in the Grand Eagle Ballroom, is the hub of all social activities and the place to visit our Exhibiting Partners. There will also be opportunities to visit with the Musician Showcase presenters and representatives of HMA's regional Areas to learn about the various handbell activities happening around the country.

Handbell Commons is also the home to the silent auction and is a place where you can win prizes from our Exhibiting Partners, spend time with fellow attendees, and eat Grab and Go breakfasts and lunches. We will also be hosting a Welcome Reception, Happy Hour, and Dessert Reception. Check out the schedule below.

Handbell Commons Hours

Wednesday	4:00 PM – 5:30 PM, Welcome Reception Sponsored by Malmark, Inc.
Thursday	7:00 AM – 10:00 AM; 11:30 AM – 1:45 PM 3:00 PM – 5:45 PM 4:30 PM, Happy Hour Sponsored by Schulmerich Bells, LLC
Friday	7:00 AM – 10:00 AM; 11:15 AM – 12:45 PM 4:00 PM – 5:45 PM
Saturday	7:00 AM – 10:00 AM; 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM 1:00 PM Dessert Reception Sponsored by Linda Onorevole in memory of Pat Foote

Exhibiting Partners

8-Bit Handbell	Jeffers Handbell Supply
AGEHR Publishing	LDM Embroidery
Alfred Handbell	Malmark Bells, Inc.
Beckenhorst Press	Michael J. Glasgow
Choristers Guild, Inc.	Port-A-Bell Inc.
Forté Handbell Quartet	Resonate Tours
From The Top Publications	Schulmerich Bells, LLC
Grassy Meadow Music	Third Bell on the Right
Handbell Mart	Truly Horrible Things
Heitz Handbells and Music	Two Tacos High
Hope Publishing Company	Vreana
J W Pepper & Son Inc	Witte Travel & Tours

Exhibiting Partner Showcases

Several of our Exhibiting Partners will present showcases featuring reading sessions and product demonstrations.

Thursday, July 10

Session 1, 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Michael J. Glasgow and Vreana:

What the Music Means to Me (Glasgow) and A New Generation of Secular Repertoire (Vreana)

Michael J. Glasgow and Mareike Davis, presenters
Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio (Trail Rooms)

Michael Glasgow returns for the second installment of *What the Music Means to Me*, a unique opportunity to hear directly from the composer some of the stories behind the origins of several of his works (entirely new repertoire from last year), as well as "where are they now?" glimpses into the journeys some of his pieces have taken. Join us to share in the funny, moving, sweet stories that afford an intimate look into the muse of this creative composer and arranger. Then, if you're looking for music selections for an advanced community choir, or your church choir is ready to present a concert of secular and pop-style pieces, Vreana Independent Publishers can help you find what you need. We'll have a blast ringing through pieces written by the next generation of handbell composers on the second half of this showcase! Works will typically range from 3 to 7 octaves, level 3 and up.

Witte Travel & Tours:

"We'll be in Scotland afore they!"

Birch Room

Will we take the high road or the low road? Find out. Join Keith Cole to hear about next year's pre-International Symposium tour of Scotland.

See page 34 for a map of Exhibiting Partner displays

Session 2, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Jeffers Handbell Supply:

New Music and All-Time Favorites from 50 Years of Jeffers Handbell Supply

Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio (Trail Rooms)

Join Jeffers Handbell Supply and editor/composer/arranger Kevin McChesney as we ring through some of our newest music along with a few handbell classics in honor of 50 years of Jeffers Handbell Supply. It's our anniversary, but you'll get the prizes!

Session 3, 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM

Malmark Bells, Inc. and Alfred Handbell: Creative Music-making with Malmark and Alfred Handbell

Hyosang Park and Kathryn Jurado, presenters

Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio (Trail Rooms)

Join Hyosang Park and Kathryn Jurado as you explore exciting new releases from Alfred that feature a variety of instruments from Malmark Bells, Inc.

Friday, July 11

Session 4, 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc.: J.W. Pepper Presents Editors' Choice Selections

Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio (Trail Rooms)

Join Linda Lorgus for an engaging showcase highlighting new Editors' Choice handbell music. This session will feature a curated collection of outstanding pieces that represent the diverse range and artistry of handbell repertoire, offering something for ensembles of all levels. Participants will have the opportunity to sight-read through these exemplary works, gaining inspiration for their own programming. Additionally, the session will include a discussion on the significance of Editors' Choice in the handbell community, exploring how it serves as a valuable resource for directors and ringers, streamlines music selection, and promotes the growth of the art form. Don't miss this chance to experience and celebrate the best in handbell music!

Session 5, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Grassy Meadow Music and AGEHR Publishing: New Music from Grassy Meadow Music and Great Choices from AGEHR Publishing

Jason Krug and Brian Childers, presenters

Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio (Trail Rooms)

Come ring through a few of the newest selections from Grassy Meadow Music! Whether handbell solo, duet, 8-bell or 12-bell ensemble, or full choir, there's something for all handbell musicians! We'll also ring through some of the great music from AGEHR Publishing, and participants will be able to choose 1 copy of their favorite title from the session to take with them! We look forward to seeing you there!

Truly Horrible Things It's All Fun and Games!

Handbell Commons

Paul Berryman, presenter

Play some card games, including the new limited edition National Seminar expansion deck for Crimes Against Handbells. Share some laughs while you learn about products that can either elevate or decimate your rehearsals like our new Wheel of Handbell Hijinks!

Session 6, 4:15 PM – 5:40 PM

8-Bit Handbell and From the Top Music What's New in 2025

Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio (Trail Rooms)

Selections from the Summer 2025 Catalog of New Releases

Saturday, July 12

Session 7, 8:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Hope Publishing and Schulmerich Bells: There's Always Hope with Schulmerich

Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio (Trail Rooms)

Come read through what is new at Hope Publishing and meet many of our fine handbell composers. Additionally, Greig Ashurst from Schulmerich will be introducing his new Mallet Technique manual. Read down some great tunes, and pick up some tools for your group's malleting. Brenda Austin, Jason Krug, Sondra Tucker, Kurt Meyer, Greig Ashurst, Sandra Eithun, Mitchell Eithun, and Ron Mallory, presenters

Session 8, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Choristers Guild: Showstoppers and More

Immerse yourself in recent Choristers Guild releases under the direction of Matthew Compton, Mitchell Eithun, Carol Lynn Mizell, and Cathy Moglebust. Discover new finds for community, church, and school venues. Join in the fun and be inspired!

Silent Auction

A popular feature of Handbell Commons is our annual Silent Auction. Stop by to find many wonderful and unique items and help support HMA at the same time.

In addition to our in-person Silent Auction, we are also hosting an online-only auction open to everyone—whether you're attending Pinnacle or participating from home. Bidding for the online auction is open now through July 26.

To access the online auction, go to 32auctions.com/pinnacle2025 or scan the QR code.



Facility Maps

Century II Performing Arts Center & Hyatt Regency

Century II Promenade Level

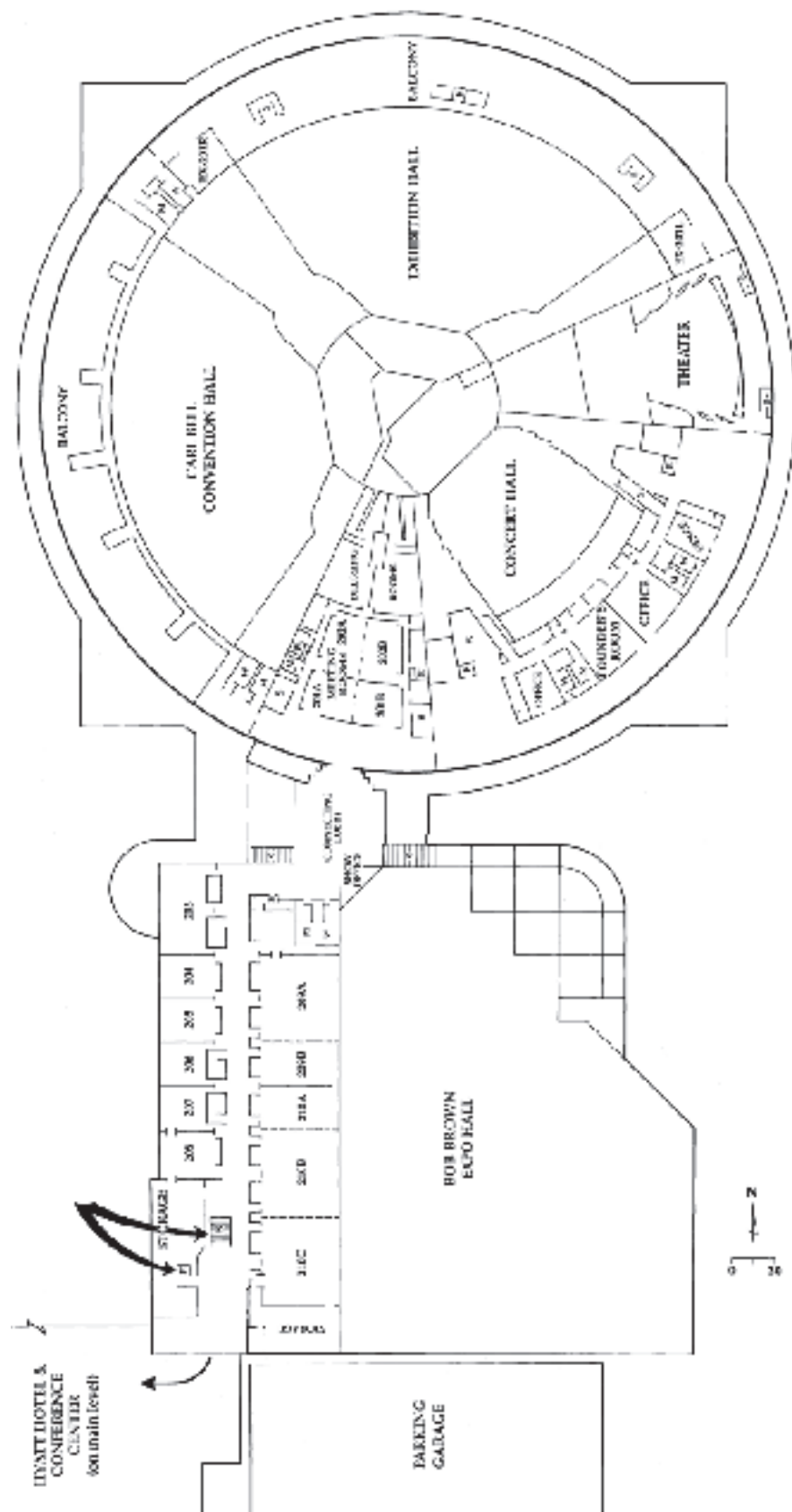
Legend

S - Stairs

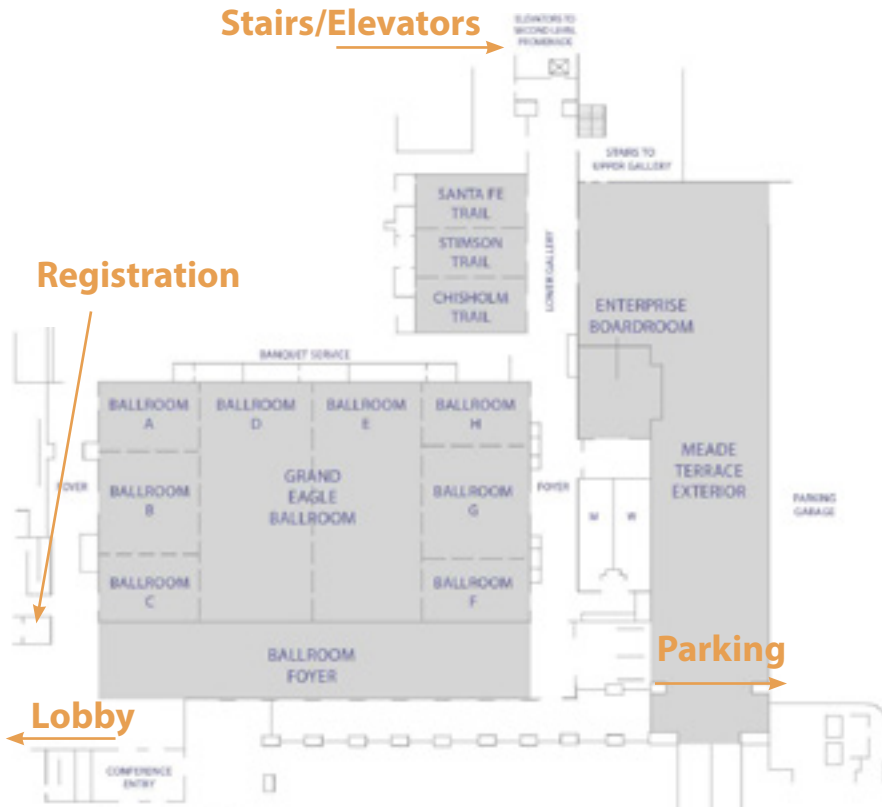
E - Elevator

M - Men's Restroom

W - Women's Restroom



Hyatt Regency Level 1



Handbell Commons = Grand Eagle Ballroom (All sections)

- Only entry/exit will be through Ballroom Foyer (ABCHGF doors will be blocked)

Exhibiting Partner Showcases = Sante Fe, Stimson, Chisholm Trail Rooms combined

To classes:

- Walk past Trail rooms use elevator or stairs to Promenade Level
- Stairs lead to small open lobby near Redbud rooms

To Fruit Rooms:

- Continue straight through Promenade to Upper Connecting lobby
- Go through glass doors to reach Peach and Cherry rooms

To Mary Jane Teall Theater from Handbell Commons:

Option 1 (Handicapped accessible):

- Walk past Trail Rooms and use elevator/stairs to Promenade
- Walk past all Tree classrooms to Connecting Lobby
- Use stairs/elevator down to ground floor and cross Connecting Lobby
- From glass doors turn right to start around the circle
- Walk past the Concert Hall to Mary Jane Teall Theater entrance

Option 2:

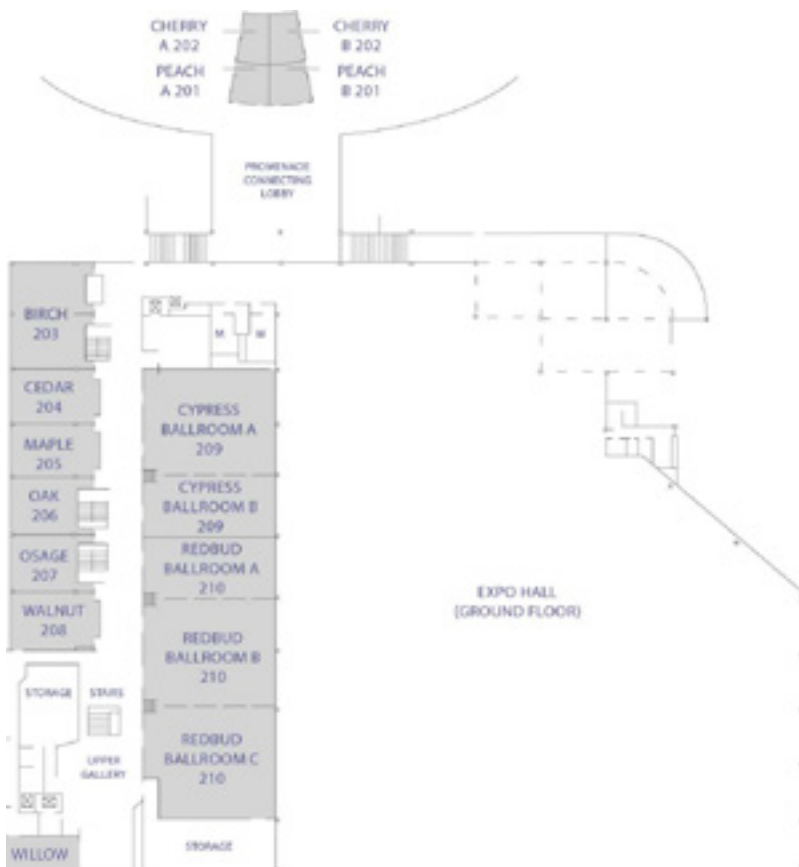
- Stay in upper connecting lobby
- Turn right at the Fruit rooms
- Continue past Concert Hall
- Enter Mary Jane Teall Theater from the top (back row) of seating and proceed down the stairs

To Convention Hall for Friday Luncheon:

From Handbell Commons:

- Walk past Trail Rooms and use elevator/stairs to Promenade
- Walk past all Tree classrooms to Connecting Lobby
- Use stairs/elevator down to ground floor and cross Connecting Lobby
- Slight left to enter Convention Hall

Century II 2nd Level Promenade Meeting Rooms



Handbell Commons

Grand Eagle Ballroom



Exhibiting Partners

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Tables

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Area 11	C
Area 12	M
Embellish Handbells	J
Emily Li	E
Rezound! Handbell Ensemble	O
Twin Cities Bronze	H

Event Schedule

Mary Jane Teall Theater opens 15 minutes prior to each Musician Showcase.

DATE/TIME

ACTIVITY

LOCATION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

11:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Registration Desk Open for Check-in	Eagle Ballroom Foyer
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Welcome Reception in Handbell Commons Sponsored by Malmark, Inc.	Eagle Ballroom
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Musician Showcase, Columbia Handbell Ensemble Sponsored by Lori Fenton and Area 8	Mary Jane Teall Theater

THURSDAY, JULY 10

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Grab & Go Breakfast in Handbell Commons	Eagle Ballroom
7:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Registration Desk Open	Eagle Ballroom Foyer
8:30 AM – 9:45 AM	Class Session 1	Classrooms
10:15 AM – 11:00 AM	Musician Showcase, Forté Handbell Quartet Sponsored by Anonymous Donor	Mary Jane Teall Theater
11:30 AM – 1:45 PM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	Class Session 2	Classrooms
12:45 PM – 2:00 PM	Grab & Go Lunch in Handbell Commons	Eagle Ballroom
2:00 PM – 2:45 PM	Musician Showcase, Pikes Peak Ringers Sponsored by Anonymous Donor	Mary Jane Teall Theater
3:00 PM – 5:45 PM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
3:15 PM – 4:30 PM	Class Session 3	Classrooms
4:30 PM – 5:45 PM	Happy Hour in Handbell Commons Sponsored by Schulmerich Bells, LLC	Eagle Ballroom
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Musician Showcase, Embellish Handbells Sponsored by Anonymous Donor	Mary Jane Teall Theater
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Unpublished Music Reading Session	Cypress A

FRIDAY, JULY 11

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Grab & Go Breakfast in Handbell Commons	Eagle Ballroom
7:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Registration Desk Open	Eagle Ballroom Foyer
8:30 AM – 9:45 AM	Class Session 4	Classrooms
10:15 AM – 11:00 AM	Musician Showcase, Emily Li Sponsored by Anonymous Donor	Mary Jane Teall Theater
11:15 AM – 12:45 PM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	Class Session 5	Classrooms

FRIDAY, JULY 11, cont.

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Lunch Banquet and Presentations	Convention Hall
3:00 PM – 3:45 PM	Musician Showcase, Twin Cities Bronze Sponsored by Anonymous Donor	Mary Jane Teall Theater
4:00 PM – 5:45 PM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
4:15 PM – 5:30 PM	Class Session 6	Classrooms
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Musician Showcase, Arsis Handbell Ensemble Sponsored by The Raleigh Ringers	Mary Jane Teall Theater

SATURDAY, JULY 12

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Grab & Go Breakfast in Handbell Commons	Eagle Ballroom
7:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Registration Desk Open	Eagle Ballroom Foyer
8:30 AM – 9:45 AM	Class Session 7	Classrooms
10:15 AM – 11:00 AM	Musician Showcase, Rezound! Handbell Ensemble Sponsored by Lori Fenton and Area 8	Mary Jane Teall Theater
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	Class Session 8	Classrooms
11:30 AM – 2:30 PM	Handbell Commons Open	Eagle Ballroom
1:00 PM – 2:15 PM	Grab & Go Lunch in Handbell Commons Dessert Reception Sponsored by Linda Onorevole in Memory of Pat Foote	Eagle Ballroom
2:45 PM – 3:30 PM	Musician Showcase, Distinctly Teen Sponsored by HMA Area 4, Suncoast Bronze Ringers, Mike and Tami Lamb, and William J. Murphy and Kathryn Jurado	Mary Jane Teall Theater
4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Class Session 9	Classrooms
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Musician Showcase, Concordia University Irvine Handbells Sponsored by Nick & Genevieve Hanson	Mary Jane Teall Theater

On Saturday evening, the event committee, staff, and volunteers will be loading out the significant amount of equipment used for this event. If you are able to assist, we would greatly appreciate the help. Please visit the registration desk for details.

Class Schedule

Thursday, July 10

	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
Room	8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	11:30 AM - 12:45 AM	3:15 PM - 4:30 PM
Trail Rooms Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio	Exhibiting Partner Showcase A New Generation of Secular Repertoire <i>Vreana</i> What Music Means to Me <i>Michael J. Glasgow</i>	Exhibiting Partner Showcase New Music and All-Time Favorites from 50 years of Jeffers Handbell Supply <i>Kevin McChesney</i>	Exhibiting Partner Showcase Creative Music-making with Malmark and Alfred Handbell <i>Kathryn Jurado and Hyosang Park</i>
202 Cherry A	Why We Gather <i>Kathryn Jurado</i>	Building a Strong Volunteer Based Program <i>Marci Corey</i>	Roundtable: Organizational Structure <i>Sharon Schmidt</i>
202 Cherry B	Next Level Fundraising Events <i>Paul Berryman</i>	Keep Your Data Safe and Secure <i>Paul Berryman</i>	Handbell Auditions <i>David Harris</i>
201 Peach A	Concert Creation <i>Elizabeth Mays Loebig</i>	Lifting Them Up <i>Elizabeth Mays Loebig</i>	Handbell Show: Production and Programming <i>Damien Lim</i>
201 Peach B	In Tune With Your Talk Session 1 of 2 <i>Marie Loeffler</i>	In Tune With Your Talk Session 2 of 2 <i>Marie Loeffler</i>	Bell Tree and Handbell Choir <i>Karen Van Wert</i>
208 Walnut	Starting and Sustaining a Community Handbell Program <i>David Harris</i>	Ringer's Rehearsal Techniques <i>Beth Judd</i>	Beyond the Church <i>Nancy Youngman</i>
207 Osage	Re-Thinking Rhythms <i>Anne Kelley</i>	Re-Thinking Rhythms <i>Anne Kelley</i>	Going Digital <i>Rick Holdsworth</i>
206 Oak	Website Creation and Maintenance <i>Damien Lim</i>	Program With Purpose <i>Emily Li</i>	Setting up a Google Workspace <i>Marci Corey and Christian Warren-Corey</i>
205 Maple	Conquering Copyrights <i>Nick Hanson</i>	Ear Training for Handbell Musicians <i>Ron Mallory</i>	Handbells in Contemporary Worship <i>Ron Mallory</i>
204 Cedar		Mallets in Motion <i>Jack Burdwood</i>	First Look: Sight Reading Success <i>Stevie Berryman</i>
203 Birch	Exhibiting Partner Showcase "We'll be in Scotland afore they!" <i>Witte Travel & Tours</i>	The Art of Arranging Pop Music for Handbells <i>Nick Hanson</i>	Six-In-Hand Methods <i>Nikki Evans</i>
209 Cypress A	Advanced Ringing Track Session 1 of 3 <i>Matthew Compton</i>	Intermediate Ringing Track Session 1 of 3 <i>Christine Chan</i>	Pop/Rock Music Track Session 1 of 3 <i>Nick Hanson and Brian Seemann</i>
210 Redbud A	Weaving Made Easy <i>Libbie Randels</i>	Ring 'Til You're 100 <i>Libbie Randels</i>	Ring 'Til You're 100 <i>Libbie Randels</i>
210 Redbud B	Beginning Bass Bells <i>Justin Wooten</i>	Advanced Bass Bells <i>Justin Wooten</i>	

Friday, July 11

	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
Room	8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	11:30 AM - 12:45 AM	3:15 PM - 4:30 PM
Trail Rooms Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio	Exhibiting Partner Showcase J.W. Pepper Presents Editors' Choice Selections <i>Linda Lorgus</i>	Exhibiting Partner Showcase New Music from Grassy Meadow Music <i>Jason Krug</i> Great Choices from AGEHR Publishing <i>Brian Childers</i>	Exhibiting Partner Showcase What's New in 2025 from 8-Bit Publishing and From the Top Music <i>Nick Hanson and Laurie Lackey</i>
Eagle Ballroom Handbell Commons		Exhibiting Partner Showcase It's All Fun and Games <i>Truly Horrible Things</i>	
202 Cherry A	The Care and Feeding of Your Handbell Clinician <i>Brenda Austin</i>	Why We Gather <i>Kathryn Jurado</i>	
202 Cherry B	Let's Chat About AI <i>Paul Berryman</i>	Going Viral on TikTok <i>Mitchell Eithun</i>	Next Level Fundraising Events <i>Paul Berryman</i>
201 Peach A	Handbell Show: Production and Programming <i>Damien Lim</i>	Traveling and Touring <i>David Harris</i>	Lifting Them Up <i>Elizabeth Mays Loebig</i>
201 Peach B	Handbell Performance and Christian Worship <i>Mitchell Eithun</i>	Score Scanning Success <i>Anne Kelley</i>	Handbell Performance and Christian Worship <i>Mitchell Eithun</i>
208 Walnut	Ringling and Singing with People with Dementia <i>Marci Corey</i>	The Handbell Rehearsal <i>Billy Brandt</i>	Starting and Sustaining a Community Handbell Program <i>David Harris</i>
207 Osage	The Leader's Journey <i>Marie Loeffler</i>	Roundtable: Signing Your Life Away <i>Michael Glasgow</i>	Streamlining Organizational Operations <i>Sharon Schmidt</i>
206 Oak	Going Digital <i>Rick Holdsworth</i>	Conquering Copyrights <i>Nick Hanson</i>	Ensuring Harmony <i>Marie Loeffler</i>
205 Maple	Basic Percussion Methods <i>Jack Burdwood</i>	Audio Recording and Livestreaming <i>Bob Avant</i>	Stage Presence and Why it Matters <i>Hillary Marotta</i>
204 Cedar	First Look: Sight Reading Success <i>Stevie Berryman</i>	Mallets in Motion <i>Jack Burdwood</i>	Handbell Artistry <i>Michael Joy</i>
203 Birch	Handbells in Contemporary Worship <i>Ron Mallory</i>	Handbell Artistry <i>Michael Joy</i>	Ear Training for Handbell Musicians <i>Ron Mallory</i>
209 Cypress A	Pop/Rock Music Track Session 2 of 3 <i>Nick Hanson and Brian Seemann</i>	Advanced Ringing Track Session 2 of 3 <i>Matthew Compton</i>	Intermediate Ringing Track Session 2 of 3 <i>Christine Chan</i>
210 Redbud A	Foundations of Ensemble Ringing <i>Forté Handbell Quartet</i>	Advanced Ensemble Ringing and Adapting <i>Forté Handbell Quartet</i>	Weaving Made Easy <i>Libbie Randels</i>
210 Redbud B		Beginning Bass Bells <i>Justin Wooten</i>	Advanced Bass Bells <i>Justin Wooten</i>

Saturday, July 12

	Session 7	Session 8	Session 9
Room	8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	11:30 AM - 12:45 AM	3:15 PM - 4:30 PM
Trail Rooms Malmark & Schulmerich Showcase Studio	Exhibiting Partner Showcase There's Always Hope with Schulmerich <i>Hope Publishing and Schulmerich</i>	Exhibiting Partner Showcase Showstoppers and More <i>Choristers Guild, Inc.</i>	
202 Cherry A	You Have How Many Directors? <i>Kathryn Jurado and William Murphy</i>	The Care and Feeding of Your Handbell Clinician <i>Brenda Austin</i>	Building a Strong Volunteer Based Program <i>Marci Corey</i>
202 Cherry B	Keep Your Data Safe and Secure <i>Paul Berryman</i>	Handbell Auditions <i>David Harris</i>	Going Viral on TikTok <i>Mitchell Eithun</i>
201 Peach A	Traveling and Touring <i>David Harris</i>	Concert Creation <i>Elizabeth Mays Loebig</i>	Roundtable: Managing Performance Anxiety <i>Nikki Evans</i>
201 Peach B	Ringer's Rehearsal Techniques <i>Beth Judd</i>	Score Scanning Success <i>Anne Kelley</i>	Bell Tree and Handbell Choir <i>Karen Van Wert</i>
208 Walnut	Beyond the Church <i>Nancy Youngman</i>	Ringling and Singing with People with Dementia <i>Marci Corey</i>	The Handbell Rehearsal <i>Billy Brandt</i>
207 Osage	The Rainbow Connection <i>Matthew Compton</i>	Streamlining Organizational Operations <i>Sharon Schmidt</i>	The Leader's Journey <i>Marie Loeffler</i>
206 Oak	Ensuring Harmony <i>Marie Loeffler</i>	Let's Chat About AI <i>Paul Berryman</i>	Website Creation and Maintenance <i>Damien Lim</i>
205 Maple	Setting up a Google Workspace <i>Marci Corey and Christian Warren-Corey</i>	Basic Percussion Methods <i>Jack Burdwood</i>	Program With Purpose <i>Emily Li</i>
204 Cedar	Audition Skills for Ringers <i>Sharon Schmidt</i>	These Are Difficult Times Session 1 of 2 <i>Kathryn Jurado and William Murphy</i>	These Are Difficult Times Session 2 of 2 <i>Kathryn Jurado and William Murphy</i>
203 Birch	The Art of Arranging Pop Music for Handbells <i>Nick Hanson</i>	Six-In-Hand Methods <i>Nikki Evans</i>	
209 Cypress A	Intermediate Ringing Track Session 3 of 3 <i>Christine Chan</i>	Pop/Rock Music Track Session 3 of 3 <i>Nick Hanson and Brian Seemann</i>	Advanced Ringing Track Session 3 of 3 <i>Matthew Compton</i>
210 Redbud A	Foundations of Ensemble Ringing <i>Forté Handbell Quartet</i>	Advanced Ensemble Ringing and Adapting <i>Forté Handbell Quartet</i>	
210 Redbud B	All About That Bass Digging Deeper <i>Leslie Lewis</i>		All About That Bass Digging Deeper <i>Leslie Lewis</i>

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Of Omaha



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Musician Showcases

Columbia Handbell Ensemble

Wednesday, July 9, 6:00 PM • Sponsored by Lori Fenton & Area 8



The Columbia Handbell Ensemble, Inc. (CHE), is now celebrating its 37th anniversary season, though some could argue that the COVID pandemic knocked two years off the organization's life. Formed in 1988, CHE was Missouri's first community-based, auditioned ensemble and one of very few in the nation. The ensemble's first "big" performance was in St. Joseph, Missouri, for the 1992 Area 8 Festival.

Since that time, CHE has performed for four national events of Handbell Musicians of America, three other performances for Area 8 and Area 1, and a host of regional, national, and international events. CHE has been a trendsetter on the national level for community-based handbell organizations and has been instrumental in helping to spark the growing development of community groups around the country.

Program

Concert to be selected from the following:

Land of Make Believe; Mangione/arr. Hart Morris; FM20816
Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day; arr. Kevin McChesney; JHS9628

Carol of the Birds; Traditional Catalan Carol/arr. Deborah Carr; AG45054

Hoe Down, from Rodeo; Copland/arr. Hart Morris; FM20821

Libertango; Piazzolla/arr. Patrick Dell; unpublished

America, from West Side Story; Bernstein/arr. Arnold Sherman; unpublished

Bound for the Promised Land; Wilberg/Patrick Dell; to be published by From the Top

Be Still My Soul; Sibelius/arr. Hart Morris; FM20806

You Can't Top the Beat; Wittman and Shaiman/arr. Nicholas Hanson; 8-Bit Handbell Publishing

Forté Handbell Quartet

Thursday, July 10, 10:15 AM

Sponsored by Anonymous Donor



Based in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Forté is an advanced quartet marked by artistry, energy, and dedication to their craft. In pursuit of musical excellence, Forté strives to explore, innovate, inspire, and glorify God through the gift of music. The musicians of Forté – Luke Nabeta, Megan Reishus, Dillon Ekle, and Tory Marting – continually challenge themselves to "Rethink Possible," expanding their musical and performance horizons, adding original compositions and arrangements to their ever-expanding repertoire, and seeking out new performance venues and educational opportunities.

Since forming in 2007, Forté has maintained an increasingly active schedule of concerts and recordings, made possible with the help of their growing team of monthly supporters. They have been featured performers and faculty at Handbell Musicians of America events and independent workshops, have presented many successful tours across the country, and have released three CDs and a DVD of music videos filmed around the state of Colorado.

Program

Offertory; by Domenico Zipoli; transcribed by Kevin McChesney; STEP07-32

I Love You, Lord; by Laurie Klein; arranged by Patricia Sanders Cota; HP2131

Head Above Water; by Avril Lavigne, Travis Clark, and Stephan Moccio; arranged by Young Min You; unpublished

Flight of the Bumblebee; by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov; transcribed by Forté; unpublished

Meditations on the Theme of Peace; by Derek K. Hakes; FM20559

Sail Away; by Roma Ryan and Enya; arranged by Kevin McChesney; HP2476

The Hallelujah Chorus; by G.F. Handel; arranged by Michael R. Keller; AGSE05

Pikes Peak Ringers

Thursday, July 10, 2:00 PM

Sponsored by Anonymous Donor



Since 1991, the Pikes Peak Ringers have continually expanded the boundaries of traditional handbell music, bringing their extensive repertoire, innovative techniques, and distinctive visual approach to numerous projects and venues around the country. Recognized worldwide as one of the premier handbell ensembles in North America, the Pikes Peak Ringers released their sixth studio CD, *Classics*, in the spring of 2011, which includes “Dona Nobis Pacem,” PPR’s track with world-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma. That track was released in December 2009 as part of Mr. Ma’s Grammy Award-winning CD, *Songs of Joy and Peace*.

With an annual performance schedule that includes several local and out-of-state concerts, they have also been featured at national handbell events and on several promotional recordings, in addition to their own studio CDs, instructional DVD, and a live concert DVD of the world’s first-ever classical concerto for handbells and orchestra. Today, as a non-profit organization, the Pikes Peak Ringers continue to provide an outlet for advanced ringers in the greater Colorado Springs, Colorado, community, to teach others about handbells through workshops and other venues, and to create vivid performances that showcase the instrument of English handbells with the highest-quality presentation and musicianship.

Program

I’ve Got an Idea!

Cosmic Dance; Sondra Tucker; CSHB002

Golden Gaiety; Al Almanza

With Quiet Grace; Jason Krug; AG35325

The Roar of Storms; Matthew Compton; FM20738HB

Psalm of Peace; William Payn; AG56002

Soundscapes; Matthew Compton; AG48001

Embellish Handbells

Thursday, July 10, 6:00 PM

Sponsored by Anonymous Donor



A West Michigan tradition, Embellish Handbells has been dazzling and delighting audiences for over 25 years. As a locally acclaimed, advanced community handbell choir, Embellish showcases music on their set of 6+ octaves of Malmark handbells and chimes. (That’s over one ton of musical equipment!)

Embellish performs multiple concerts each season, encompassing everything from classical favorites to modern hits, original compositions for handbells, and everything in between. For their 2024–2025 season main events, Embellish will present a Bells & Brews concert and fun night in the fall, several holiday concerts throughout the community, and will be part of the Grand Rapids, Michigan, Symphony Holiday Pops series. EmbellishHandbells.com.

Program

There’s No Place Like Home

Procession in Bronze; Arnold Sherman; RRG0011

Platinum Celebration; Brenda Austin; BEHB793

Frolic Flight of the Hummingbird; Kurt Meyer; FM20684

For Good; Stephen Schwartz/arr. Sandra Eithun; HP3072

Nexus; Matthew Compton

Home on the Range; Sondra Tucker; CSHB009

Rewrite the Stars; Brenda Austin; To be published by From the Top Music

Neither Angels Nor Demons; Matthew Compton; EGM127

Overture to the Marriage of Figaro; Brenda Austin; Unpublished
Celebration; Ron Mallory; HP3084

Emily Li

Friday, July 11, 10:15 AM • Sponsored by Anonymous Donor



Emily Li is a handbell soloist, composer, and conductor. She obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees in music from Hong Kong Baptist University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong, majoring in composition. She was a lecturer and the handbell director in the Music Department of Hong Kong Baptist University from 1997 to 2004. She is the founder and Artistic Director of the Hong Kong Handbell Academy and the Hong Kong Youth Handbell Ensemble; founder and Music Director of Gloves Handbell; Chairperson of the Handbell Association of Hong Kong; and Principal Guest Conductor for the Ministry of Bellz in Singapore. Her ensembles have performed around the world to high acclaim.

Emily started ringing handbells in 1986 and has since developed an obsession with the instrument. She completed the Graduate Program in Handbells at Concordia University, Wisconsin, studying with many handbell experts, and has attended numerous National Director Seminars in the U.S.—teaching classes, performing as a soloist, and serving as the conductor of pivotal handbell events across the globe. As a handbell soloist, Emily's performances have resonated across diverse global stages in Hong Kong, China, Singapore, the United Kingdom, Estonia, the U.S., and Canada. Her handbell compositions have been published both in Hong Kong and the U.S.

Program

Piano: Lois Leong; Cello: Catherine Clyatt Schroth;
Flute: Michèle Sharik

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing; Based on WARRENTON and PROMISED LAND/arr. Christine Anderson; HP1835

Arioso; J. S. Bach/arr. Nancy Hascall; DR029

Cantabile (for Bell Tree and Handchimes); Emily Li; Unpublished
Waltz in A Minor, B.150, Op. Posth; Frédéric Chopin/arr. Nancy Hascall; Unpublished

Plaisir D'Amour; Jean Paul Egide Martini/arr. Emily Li; HPS30004

What a Wonderful World; George David Weiss and Bob Thiele/arr. Carol Smith; FM1141

Fisherman's Song At Dusk; Traditional Melody adapted by Li Guoquan/arr. Emily Li; Unpublished

Asturias (Leyenda); Isaac Albeniz ("Cantos de España, 1892)/arr. Larry Sue (ASCAP); Soon to be published by Choraegus

Movement 3 from "Concerto for Castings" for orchestra and solo handbell keyboard; Michael J. Glasgow; New Domain Music distributed by MichaelJGlasgow.com

Twin Cities Bronze

Friday, July 11, 3:00 PM

Sponsored by Anonymous Donor



Twin Cities Bronze (TCB) is a performing ensemble specializing in the music and art of handbells. Selected by annual audition, this ensemble of advanced ringers hails from the metropolitan area of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Minnesota. TCB celebrates the opportunity to present music from diverse composers and collaborate with a wide variety of performing artists. Providing educational experiences and innovative performances is integral to the ensemble's identity.

TCB hosts and facilitates an annual Mid-Winter Workshop and runs a "mobile classroom" to provide area ringers and organizations opportunities to enhance skills and gain appreciation for handbell techniques and maintenance. TCB annually performs two to three high-caliber concert cycles (two performances each) and a biannual tour, as well as commissions new handbell repertoire.

The essence of the organization is captured in their Shared Values statement:

- As professionals, we strive at all times for musical excellence.
- As educators, we share our technical knowledge of this unique medium.
- As artists, we showcase the diversity of handbells through innovative performances.
- As friends, we support each other and have fun.

Program

Oblivion; Astor Piazzolla/arr. Douglas Anderson; FM20426

Midnight Stars Make Bright the Sky; Huan-Sha-Ch'i Chi-fang Liang/arr. Hart Morris; CGB359

Blaze; William Kyle; AP44599

Go Ask the Stars; Pregúntale á las Estrellas/arr. Fred A. Merrett; FLHB294

Icefall; Mitchell Eithun

Evensong; Conditor Alme – St. Clement – Vesper Hymn/arr. Derek K. Hakes; HP2297

Novus; Jason Krug; FM20568

Arsis Handbell Ensemble

Friday, July 11, 6:00 PM • Sponsored by The Raleigh Ringers



The Arsis Handbell Ensemble was founded in 1993 and now has several concert groups and operates two handbell schools, located in Tallinn and Tartu, Estonia. The 12-member Arsis group was selected through a competition from students of the Arsis Handbell School in 2011. To date, the ensemble has performed hundreds of concerts in Estonia and abroad, including in Latvia, Lithuania, Finland, Poland, Israel, Slovakia, the United States, Malta, Sweden, and many other countries. The ensemble has also participated in numerous large-scale projects with various orchestras in Estonia and internationally.

In 2016, at the International Youth Music Competition-Festival held in Bratislava, Arsis won the highest prize—the Grand Prix. The ensemble was also awarded the Golden Diploma, and Aivar Mäe received a special prize for conducting. In spring 2018, the ensemble won First Prize in the Muse International Music Competition.

Aivar Mäe has been the conductor of Arsis since its founding in 1993. He has led international festivals and seminars for choral and handbell music both in Estonia and abroad. He has received many cultural prizes and awards for his contributions to the development of cultural life in Estonia. Since August 2023, he has been serving as the general manager of the Vanemuine Theatre.

Program

Homeland Tune; Heino Eller

Spiegel im Spiegel; Arvo Pärt

Prelude from Holberg's Suite; Edvard Grieg/arr. Douglas J Benton; FM20453

Grande Valse Brillante; Frédéric Chopin/arr. Ruth Artman; SPHP5327

Awake, My Heart; Estonian Folk Song/arr. Tõnu Kõrvits

A Baby Rocking Song; Estonian Folk Song/arr. Tõnu Kõrvits

Flight of the Bumblebee from The Tale of Tsar Saltan; Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov/arr. Vahur Soonberg

Waltz from Sleeping Beauty; Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky/arr. Brian Childers; NMHB533

Nimrod from Enigma Variations; Edward Elgar/arr. Douglas E Wagner; PSM336

Italian Polka; Sergei Rahmaninov/arr. Amaranta Pöld

Hungarian Rhapsody No 2; Franz Liszt/arr. Douglas E Wagner; HHB51

Rezound! Handbell Ensemble

Saturday, July 12, 10:15 AM

Sponsored by Lori Fenton and Area 8



Rezound!, Kansas City's auditioned community handbell ensemble, has been creating and performing exceptional music since 2001. Our membership encompasses the greater Kansas City, Missouri, region and, while a love of music and handbells is the common thread connecting us, the musicians' interests and occupations are quite diverse.

While maintaining a busy concert schedule, the ensemble also places an emphasis on education for all levels of handbell musicians by hosting local workshops and serving as instructors and clinicians at Handbell Musicians of America and other conferences. Their summer tours throughout the United States provide the extraordinary opportunity to serve as musical ambassadors for our hometown.

Performances of note include the Kansas City Symphony Christmas Festival concerts starting in 2010 and numerous collaborations with regional choral groups and handbell choirs. The ensemble has also performed at the Community of Christ World Conference (2004), an international scientific conference banquet (2011), Area 8 Festivals (2016 and 2024), the 2015 Handbell Musicians of America National Pinnacle event in Dallas, Texas, and the Gala Banquet Concert at the 2019 Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Program

Outburst; Karen Lakey Buckwalter; BEHB715

Prelude and Fugue on Noël Nouvelet; Traditional French Carol/arr. Fred Gramann; FM20783

Fantasy on an Irish Tune; Star of the County Down/arr. Arnold Sherman; AG36058

Fly Me to the Moon; Bart Howard/arr. Joel Raney; HP2822

Air and Hornpipe; Sondra Tucker; NMHB673

Ash Grove; Welsh Melody/arr. Matthew Compton and Alex Guebert; HP3041

Expedition; Joel Raney; HP2679

I'm Still Standing; John and Taupin/arr. Kevin McChesney; JHS9622

Distinctly Teen

Saturday, July 12, 2:45 PM

Sponsored by HMA Area 4, Suncoast Bronze Ringers, Mike and Tami Lamb, and William J. Murphy and Kathryn Jurado



Distinctly Teen is a fun and exciting handbell event for ringers ages 13-18. Participants spent 2½ days playing intermediate to advanced repertoire and developing skills in handbell technique and general musicianship under the leadership of conductor, Carlos E. Rivera Aponte.

Program

Program will be selected from the following:

Libertango; Astor Piazzolla; arr. Hart Morris; FM20854

Sway; Pablo Beltrán Ruiz; arr. Sandra J. Eithun; HP 2587

Guantanamera; arr. Paul A. McKlveen and Ann W. LeGarde; JHS 9237

En mi Viejo San Juan; Noel Estrada, Carlos E. Rivera Aponte; FM20886

Jamaican Holiday; Greig Ashurst; FM20793

Distinctly Teen event sponsored by Jenny Cauhorn

Concordia University Irvine Handbells

Saturday, July 12, 6:00 PM

Sponsored by Nick & Genevieve Hanson



Concordia University Irvine's handbell program has become highly respected internationally for its performances and for its preparation of handbell musicians and directors. The ensemble has performed in 12 nations across Asia, Europe, and Australia, as well as in 38 states and provinces of North America. They perform the highest levels of handbell repertoire at a virtuosic level, led by nationally recognized directors Alex Guebert and Erik Der.

They are featured annually on Concordia's made-for-TV Christmas special, which is seen by hundreds of thousands of viewers. Most importantly, they believe in training the next generation of handbell musicians and teachers. Music education is at the core of what they do, so they prioritize composition and conducting opportunities for their students. Through annual tours, clinics, invitational, and a concert series, the program has become a hub for handbell talent in Southern California.

Program

Change Ring; Traditional; unpublished

Deo Gratias; William Walton/arr. Erik Der; unpublished

Fisherman's Horizon; Nobuo Uematsu/arr. Alex Guebert; unpublished

Soar Away; A.M. Cagle/arr. Al Almanza; unpublished

Wonders of a New Land; MJ Siegert; unpublished

Waterfalls; Daniel Ujifusa; Heitz Handbells

Rasputin; Frank Farian, Georg Reyam, Fred Jay/arr. Nick Hanson; unpublished

Snowdin Town; Toby Fox/arr. Daniel Laguilles; unpublished

The Almost Christian; Daniel Read/arr. Timothy Maggs; unpublished

Built on the Rock; F.S. Grundtvig/arr. Alex Guebert; JHS9593

Merry-Go-Round of Life; Joe Hisaishi/arr. Ben Phipatanakul & Erik Der; unpublished

The Pinnacle; Christian Guebert; unpublished

Benediction; Eden Griffith; unpublished

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Into the Forest

August 21-23, 2025, Livonia, Michigan

Distinctly Bronze West 2025

October 23-26, 2024, Tacoma, Washington

Brenda E. Austin, Conductor

Distinctly Bronze East 2026

February 26-March 1, 2026, New Bern, North Carolina

Michael J. Glasgow, Conductor

Crescendo

February 27-March 1, 2026, New Bern, North Carolina

Barbara Meinke, Conductor

National Seminar 2026

July 14-18, 2026, Cincinnati, Ohio

Distinctly Teen 2026

July 16-18, 2026, Cincinnati, Ohio

For further details and continuing updates of all our events, visit bit.ly/handbellevents or scan the QR code at the right.



The Raleigh Ringers

CONCERTS & EVENTS

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AUGUST 23

Annandale, VA

AUGUST 24

Open Date for a Concert

OCTOBER 4

Greenville, NC

OCTOBER 5

Open Concert Date

NOVEMBER 7

Capital Area
Workshop

NOVEMBER 8

Capital Area
Handbell Festival

NOVEMBER 9

Advanced Read & Ring

NOVEMBER 15

Statesville, NC

NOVEMBER 16

Martinsville, VA

DECEMBER 5

Louisburg, NC

DECEMBER 6

Open Concert Date

DECEMBER 7

Open Concert Date

DECEMBER 14

Holiday Concert

DECEMBER 15

Holiday Concert

JUNE 4-7

Virtuoso

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Bronze Fanfare - L1 12 bells to 5 octaves
Carefully introduces many techniques

Providence - L1+ 3 or 5 octaves
Techniques, accidentals, key change

Sakura - 3 scores L1, L2, L3 3-5 oct.
Strong chords, counter melodies.

Griffin's Hornpipe - 3 scores: L1/2 3-5 oct.; BT+Ens.;
BT+Piano - Cheery, modal. 8 possible BT solos

My Paddle's Keen and Bright - L2 3-5 oct., L1 3-5 oct.
Compatible scores, opt. vocal solo, play by chords

Wellerman - L2 2 oct./L3 3-5 opt. vocal, percussion
Coming soon! 12 bell+opt. piano, BT solo/piano

Shenanigans - L2 2 or 3-5 oct.
Chromatic w/sneaky marts!

The Best Gift - L2/3 3-6 oct. / BT solo+piano
Original Celtic joy for worship & concert.

Call of the Water - L3 3-7 oct., opt. BT/Flute
Calm and luscious, opt. perc. FC and WC.

Here's One - 4 scores: L3+ 3-5 oct. opt. clarinet;
L4+ 5-7 oct.; BT solo/Piano; Vocal/piano/opt.BT.

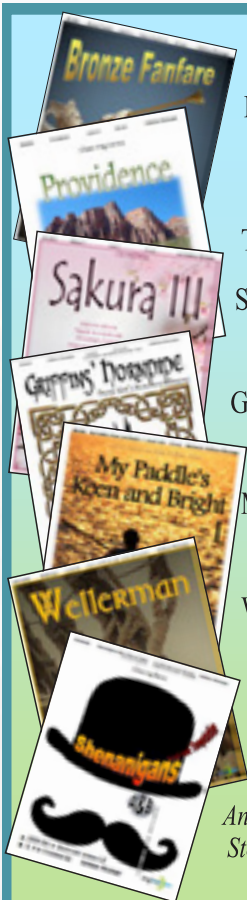
Through the Storm - L4 3-6 oct.
Passionate, opt. vocal at end.

Nocturnelle - L4 3-7 oct.
Chopinesque, rich, chromatic

All Time and Space - L5+ 3-7 oct.
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