

AREA 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)

Area 1 experiences great success with first-ever Totally Tins event!

Mastering Handbell Musicality Through Motion

On March 8, 2025, Area 1 offered its first "Totally Tins" workshop, an event designed to help even the most beginning ringers create a broad palette of musical sounds.

Clinician Abby Schoppe led an optional morning session for those ringers who do not yet read music, leading them through a number of pre-color-coded etudes to introduce note values, rests, ties, and more.

In the afternoon, clinician Kimberlee Strepka introduced participants to concepts from Laban Movement Theory. Ringers applied the concepts of "glide," "press," "dab," and "punch" to two Level 1 and 1+ pieces of music.

Because most groups attended as full choirs, Tins-level ringers were able to experience a true massed ringing event – but without the stress of a public concert at the end! 65 handbell musicians from Massachusetts and Rhode Island (many of whom had never before attended an Area 1 event) participated, and the feedback has been unanimously glowing.

The Area 1 board anticipates offering Totally Tins as an annual or biennial event going forward!



#becauseofhandbells

AREA 1 LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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AREA 1 WEB DIRECTORY

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Facebook: facebook.com/HMAarea1

Youtube: [@area1handbellmusiciansofam265](https://youtube.com/@area1handbellmusiciansofam265)

AREA 2 (NJ, NY, PA)

A promotional poster for the 2025 Area 2 Festival Conference. The background is a scenic view of a resort building and a lake. The text is centered and reads: "REACHING FOR THE SUMMIT! 2025 AREA 2 FESTIVAL CONFERENCE FEATURING". Below this, there are four circular portraits of the featured individuals: Michael Helman (Festival Conductor), Jason Krug (Masterclass Clinician), Kathy Ebling Shaw (Tin Track Clinician), and Sue Garton (Featured Performer). To the left of the portraits is a circular logo with a bell and the text "REACHING FOR THE SUMMIT! HMA-Area 2". To the right is a QR code. At the bottom, the dates "June 27-29, 2025" and location "Split Rock Resort - Lake Harmony, PA" are listed. A blue banner at the very bottom contains the URL: "HTTPS://AREA2.HANDBELLMUSICIANS.ORG/AREA-2-FESTIVAL-CONFERENCE-2025/".

REACHING FOR THE SUMMIT!
2025 AREA 2
FESTIVAL CONFERENCE
FEATURING

Michael Helman
FESTIVAL CONDUCTOR

Jason Krug
MASTERCLASS CLINICIAN

Kathy Ebling Shaw
TIN TRACK CLINICIAN

Sue Garton
FEATURED PERFORMER

June 27-29, 2025
Split Rock Resort - Lake Harmony, PA

<HTTPS://AREA2.HANDBELLMUSICIANS.ORG/AREA-2-FESTIVAL-CONFERENCE-2025/>

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AREA 2 WEB DIRECTORY

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Facebook: facebook.com/hmaarea2

Instagram: instagram.com/hmaarea2

AREA 3 (DE, DC, MD, NC, VA)

AREA 3 CELEBRATES 65 YEARS OF RINGING!



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AREA 3 WEB DIRECTORY

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Facebook: facebook.com/groups/90491126540/

AREA 4 (FL, GA, SC, PR, BS, VI)

JUNE 6-7, 2025
HYDE PARK UMC
TAMPA, FL
CLINICIAN: BRENDA AUSTIN

**BRONZE
UNDER THE SUN**

*Watch
Live!*
**JUNE 7, 2025
3 PM**
YouTube.com/@Area4_HMA

**Bells of the
Caribbean**
November 7-8, 2025
University of Puerto Rico – Carolina
<https://Area4.HandbellMusicians.org>

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AREA 4 WEB DIRECTORY

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Facebook: facebook.com/area4handbells
YouTube: www.YouTube.com/@area4_HMA

AREA 5 (IN, KY, MI, OH, WV)

Area 5 hosted the Columbus Spring Ring on April 25-26 which took place at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Ohio. Attendees of this event were guided by Composer and Director Fred Gramann who holds degrees in organ performance from Syracuse University and University of Michigan. He has provided the handbell community with many amazing arrangements throughout the years. He previously served as the director of music for the American Church in Paris and is also the honorary associate director of the Raleigh Ringers. Over 600 individuals and choirs attended throughout Area 5 including a few guests from outside the Area.



We are excited to announce that Embellish of Grand Rapids, Michigan will be attending and performing at Pinnacle on July 10th!

Under the Direction by Brenda Austin, Embellish has delighted Michigan for over 25 years and we are grateful to these ringers for representing Area 5 at this National Handbell Musicians of America event!

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AREA 5 WEB DIRECTORY

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Facebook: facebook.com/area5HMA

Instagram: instagram.com/area5hma

Twitter (X): @area5hma

AREA 6 (AR, AL, MS, LA, TN)

Pictures From The Chattanooga Handbell Festival With Brian Childers and Central Alabama Handbell Festival With Michael Glasgow



AREA 6 LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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AREA 6 WEB DIRECTORY

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Facebook: facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064537908533

Instagram: instagram.com/handbells.area6

AREA 7 (MN, ND, SD, WI)

CELEBRATING AN AREA 7 TREASURE

For more than 40 years, Area 7 has been fortunate to have a handbell music business in our midst. Norm Heitz started selling handbell music in the early 1980s in Minneapolis, MN. Through the years, the business grew and moved locations throughout the Twin Cities, from a front porch to church basements, to warehouses, and across town. Norm loved handbells and was always ready to share a story when we stopped by to get our handbell music.

Fast forward to 2010 when Norm joined forces with Carol Scheel; together they formed a partnership. After Norm's passing, Carol continued to grow the business. In the past 15 years, Carol has brought Heitz Handbells and Music to national, area, and local events across the country where she shares her joy of handbells with all of us. Music recommendations, singing bell batons, handbell themed gifts, bell tree and small ensemble music, vintage music from days gone by — and, of course, full ensemble music — are all at her fingertips to help grow the handbell scene around the world.

Thank you, Norm and Carol.



Save the date!

Area 7 festival
"Down by the Riverside"
June 26-28, 2026
St. Cloud, MN

Clinicians: Carlos E. Rivera-Aponte, Jill Mahr, Jennifer Cadwell

AREA 7 LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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Announcing ANTHORNIS 2025



Amy Maakestad, clinician

Westwood Lutheran Church
St. Louis Park, MN
October 31-November 1, 2025

*For those who want to ring more
challenging music*

area7.handbellmusicians.org/events

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AREA 7 WEB DIRECTORY

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Facebook: facebook.com/HandbellMusiciansArea7

AREA 8 (IL, IA, KS, MO, NE)

Meet the 2025 Pinnacle Local Liaison Team!

What could possibly be on their minds?



Amy Knudsen, Kathy Leonard, and Janelle Flory Schrock are ready to wrangle equipment!

Can you Volunteer or Loan Equipment for Pinnacle?

The team is looking for:

- Volunteers to work before and during the event
- Handbells & Handchimes & Foam, oh my!
- Select percussion instruments
- And a little bit more!

Benefits:

- Knowing you are assisting with promoting the art of handbell ringing
- One-year membership in HMA for loan of 3 octaves or more of bells or chimes
- Volunteers receive free meals during their shifts
- Meet new friends and handbell lovers

Connect with Local Liaison Team for More Information

Janelle Flory Schrock (McPherson, KS)
communications.area8@handbellmusicians.org

Kathy Leonard (Manhattan, KS)
kantink@ksu.edu

Amy Knudsen (Kansas City, KS)
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AREA 8 WEB DIRECTORY

Website: area8.handbellmusicians.org
Facebook: facebook.com/ Area8Handbells

AREA 9 (OK, TX)

Don't Miss These Area 9 Opportunities!

**Kristopher Jon
Anthony
Memorial
Scholarship
to Pinnacle 2025**
Area 9 members can
apply on
our website.



FALL FANFARE August 16, 2025

Texas
First Presbyterian Church
Austin, TX
Oklahoma
St. Stephen's UMC
Norman, OK
Rookie Ringers
Workshops
Reading Sessions
Director Sessions



CHIME LOAN PROGRAM



Apply now and be
ready for the next
school year!



Visit us at www.area9.handbellmusicians.org

AREA 9 LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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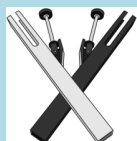
AREA 9 WEB DIRECTORY

Website: area9.handbellmusicians.org
Facebook: [facebook.com/ HandbellMusiciansArea9](https://facebook.com/HandbellMusiciansArea9)
Instagram: [instagram.com/ area9handbells](https://instagram.com/area9handbells)
Twitter (X): @Area9Handbells

AREA 10 (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA)

Spring Wrap-up

There are just a few items to wrap-up this Spring's handbell events in Area 10.



Chime Loan Applications

for the 2025/2026 school year are due June 30th. For more information, and to apply, visit: [https://](https://area10.handbellmusicians.org/chime-loan-program/)

area10.handbellmusicians.org/chime-loan-program/

Bell Tree Composition Contest



The entry deadline is May 31st. For more information about the contest or to give your support to the contest fund, visit:

<https://area10.handbellmusicians.org/2025-bell-tree-composition-contest/>

The winner will be announced on September 1st.

Fall Ringing Round-Up

October 17-18, 2025 will be the inaugural weekend of an ALL-AREA event that happens closer to "home." This will be an annual event held in the years between the NOW Triennial AREA 10 Conference. Locations were chosen to be within a 2–3-hour drive from the hometowns of ringers in AREA 10.

The event is designed to bring ringers together for ringing, workshops and fellowship. The massed ringing will be stress free with the Music provided at the event; NO having to learn the music before the event, and with a workshop on Friday night helping to build your skills. On Saturday, the group will experience taking music from sight-reading to finished product. The event is for individuals. Full Choirs are welcome. Join the Fun and get to know the ringers in your "neighborhood" of AREA 10.

WHERE: Bend OR, Olympia WA, Spokane WA, Great Falls MT, Anchorage, AK

WHEN: Oct 17 at 7-9 pm, Oct 18 at 9 am - 4:30 pm

WHY: For skills-building, education and fellowship

Online registration opens June 1.

Registration fee: TBD

More details can be found at:

<https://area10.handbellmusicians.org/area-10-events/>

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Facebook: [facebook.com/ HandbellMusiciansOfAmericaArea10](https://facebook.com/HandbellMusiciansOfAmericaArea10)

AREA 11 (AZ, CO, NM, UT, WY)

Coming Up In Area 11 . . .



**Fall
Tune-Up**
September 2025



Website



Facebook

AREA 11 LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY BOARD

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AREA 11 WEB DIRECTORY

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AREA 12 (CA, HI, NV)

SAVE THE DATE!

June 18-20, 2026: Area 12 Conference in Las Vegas, NV.
Join us in Las Vegas for three days of making beautiful music together. Watch for more information this summer!

CALLING ALL COMPOSERS:

The Area 12 invites all composers to participate in the Area 12 Composition Contest for our 2026 Area 12 Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Prize: \$1500. Deadline: October 15: 2025.

The Handbell Musicians of America Area 12 Composition Contest strives to expand the handbell repertoire with interesting and accessible compositions while providing a tool for learning and enjoyment at the Area 12 conference. The winning submission will be appealing to a massed or divisional choir and may include percussion and/or vocal parts.

Composition contest applicants are not required to be a member of Handbell Musicians of America (the Guild), nor are they required to reside in Area 12 (California, Hawaii, and Nevada), but Guild and Area 12 members will be allotted additional points in the adjudication process.

Additional details can be found at: <https://area12.handbellmusicians.org/composition-contest/> or by contacting Marci Nuoffer at: pastchair.area12@handbellmusicians.org

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DIRECTOR'S WORKSHOP SUCCESS!

Being a handbell director can be a lonely endeavor. Directing and teaching handbells are very personal acts because we put ourselves out there emotionally and physically in front of our choirs. Handbell directors often feel like they are herding cats! Ringers and cats are both fiercely independent and have their own agendas yet have must work together to ring musically. In an ensemble where cooperation and collaboration are of utmost importance, it can be daunting. Plus, you need to know how to communicate with your ringers non-verbally in order help them ring musically and connect the music to those listening.

On February 8th in Walnut Creek, CA, a dozen hardy souls showed up to a directors' workshop led by Tessique Houston and Barbara Walsh. Barb said, "It was wonderful to see these ladies put themselves out there to be coached and cheered on by this newly formed community. What a joy it was to see them dig in and work with us and the ringers to communicate how they wanted the music expressed! I hope they are all as proud of themselves as we are of them!"

Fernanda Van Atta participated in the workshop and reports, "The directors' workshop was a great place to refine my skills, learn new things, and connect with other handbell directors from around Northern California and Nevada. I appreciated the opportunity to receive real-time feedback on my directing and discuss other relevant topics such as recruiting and rehearsal management."

APPOINTED POSITIONS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: TBD, membership.area12@handbellmusicians.org
Education: Elizabeth Loebig, education.area12@handbellmusicians.org
Events: TBD, events.area2@handbellmusicians.org
Communications: Cathryn Griggs, communications.area12@handbellmusicians.org
Vendor Liaison: Fran Sanders, vendorliaison.area12@handbellmusicianns.org
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Social Media: Harley Glenn, media.area12@handbellmusicians.org
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AREA 12 WEB DIRECTORY

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