



## *Making Music and Memories*

by Sharon Schmidt, Area 8 Chair

As handbell musicians, we make music. (Duh!) And we also make memories that enrich our lives and our friendships. When I see the cover of a handbell score, it sparks a memory of who I was with as well as the music.

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Festivals are well known for creating memories – for some reason, most of mine involve foam and missing celebrating our anniversary with my husband. You see, our anniversary is at the end of June, and for many years, the Area 8 Festival was at the end of June. In 2014, he surprised me by coming to Davenport for the closing concert—just in time to help load the truck!

Those of you who are coming to Kansas City will create a wealth of music and memories. We've struggled through the last 2 years to make music and memories. Video chats, virtual ensembles, small groups, recorded selections, and physical distancing have allowed us to keep our skills, communities, and friendships alive.

I hope that your ensemble, be it big or small, is forging new and reviving old ways of making music and memories that unite you. Hey – that's our motto: Uniting people through a musical art. So we live that motto every rehearsal, every worship service, every performance and every festival.

Elections! Every two years, Area 8 elects three new board members. You have a voice in who works for you to create events and support handbell musicians across the area. All the election information you need is contained in this issue. Read about the candidates, and vote June 1-15, 2022!

And in case you wondered, the 2022 festival is before our anniversary this year, and it's not my schedule that will prevent us from being together!



# Kansas City, Here I Come! Festival Update!

We're thrilled to announce that we've reached the maximum number of musicians we can register for massed ringing and have closed festival registration.

If you'd like to come to just attend classes, [email Linda](#) and we will get you registered.

If you'd like to be put on the waitlist, please use [this form](#) and we will contact you if space(s) open up. We'll fill from the waitlist on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Festival Registrants:

### Have you filled out your Ringer Data form yet?

Look for an email from [registrar.area8@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:registrar.area8@handbellmusicians.org) that has links that let you:

- Provide ringer data and select your classes
- Purchase concert tickets and Festival T-shirts
- Register for the Thursday Seminars: Worship and Directors, and the Thursday night Bonus Rehearsal

If you can't find your email (check that spam folder!) contact the Area 8 [registrar](#) to have it sent again.

*Watch for future emails about performing in the Showcase Concert and advertising opportunities for businesses, groups, and organizations. Contact Kendall at [ilcs.area8@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:ilcs.area8@handbellmusicians.org) if you'd like to arrange for a vendor booth or a table to advertise your group.*

## Area 8 Festival Hotel Information

Hilton Kansas City Airport  
8801 NW 112th St., Kansas  
City, MO 64153

Free wifi, free parking, and free grab & go continental breakfast. The updated guest rooms include a mini-fridge and coffee maker.

Price:\$119 per night.

### To Book Your Room:

Go to the [Booking Link](#) for the Hilton Kansas City Airport Hotel.

Group Name:  
Handbell Area 8 -Biennial-2022



## Area 8 Board

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Open: Contact [Sharon Schmidt](#)

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Nancy Youngman

# Festival Seminars

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Do you need a refresher course for directing and worship planning? Plan to arrive in Kansas City a day before the opening bell, and immerse yourself in one or two seminars that will teach you new tricks, affirm your vocational path, and introduce you to peers who just might become your new best friends! The Area 8 Festival Committee has scheduled Worship and Directors Seminars for Thursday, June 23, 2022, and participants can attend both. The cost is \$80 per seminar, or \$150 for both. You can register for these seminars after you register for the Festival

## Worship Seminar

Led by Nancy Youngman, Chris Peck, and Beth Ann Edwards  
Thursday, June 23, 8:30 am - 2 pm (Lunch break included,  
lunch on your own).

This seminar is designed for handbell directors and ringers who are looking for information, techniques, and resources specific to handbells in worship. The following topics will be covered:

1. Beyond the anthem: handbells in worship
2. Writing and arranging simple accompaniments for liturgies and hymns
3. Taking care of yourself - balancing work with personal faith development
4. Handbell programs for youth
5. Working with any number of ringers
6. Recruiting and incorporating new members into an existing choir

## Directors Seminar

Led by John Behnke and Alex Guebert  
Thursday, June 23, 2:15-9:30 pm (Dinner break included,  
dinner on your own)

Spend time with two experts who will guide you through basics and nuances of directing.

1. What I Wish Someone Would Have Told Me 40 Years Ago About Handbells (John)
2. Pulses and natural accents (Alex)
3. Making techniques more effective (John)
4. Musical phrasing: Making beautiful music (Alex)
5. Musicianship: Playing together as an ensemble (John)
6. Cueing and shaping the melody with the left hand (Alex)

# Area 8 Elections Take Place June 1-15, 2022

*The nominating committee, consisting of Beth Ann Edwards, chair, KC Congdon, and Pat Latshaw are excited to present the Area 8 slate of officers. Bylaws require that each office includes two candidates, and with this slate, we know that Area 8 will be in good hands for the next two years.*

*Elections for Area 8 chair-elect, treasurer, and secretary will take place electronically from June 1 through June 15. More information about the voting process is forthcoming. Voting instructions will be sent to the email address listed on your HMA membership. If your membership has expired, [renew here](#). Please review information about the candidates before the election.*

## **Lori Fenton, Chair Elect**



Lori Fenton has been ringing handbells for almost 40 years and currently rings with the Des Moines Concert Handbells. She has participated in several national ringing events including the Bay View Week of Handbells, Distinctly Bronze East and West and Virtuoso. She toured Italy with Desert Bells in 2008 and attended the International Symposium in Vancouver in 2016.

Lori is also a vocalist and sings with the Des Moines Vocal Arts Ensemble and serves as an Alto section leader with her church choir.

Lori is completing her second term as the Area 8 Treasurer. She also serves as the Vice President for the Des Moines Concert Handbells and Treasurer of the Des Moines Vocal Arts Ensemble. Lori is actively engaged with United Way of Central Iowa's Women United, currently serving as the Campaign Chair.

Her day job is as a Finance AVP with Global Atlantic Financial Group in Des Moines. In addition to handbells, her interests include traveling, reading and listening to podcasts.

*If your church, school, or other organization is not in a position to renew its membership at this time, consider an individual membership. The cost averages out to about \$8 per month. Membership information can be found [here](#).*

*Are you or someone you know looking for a college that has handbells? Click [here](#) for a list of college handbell programs found on the national Handbell Musicians website.*

## Byron Jensen, Chair Elect



Byron Jensen's introduction to handbells began when he was appointed assistant professor of music at Ottawa University (OU Kansas) in 1990. Having no prior experience, his department chair contacted Judy Anderson in Topeka who attended a couple of handbell rehearsals, introduced him to Cynthia Dobrinski's Rondo Passacaglia, and the rest is history. During Dr. Jensen's thirteen years at Ottawa, the OU Ringers toured annually with the Choir and performed across the United States. The OU Ringers were twice invited to the Kansas Music Educators Conference in Wichita. He also directed handbells at Westminster Presbyterian Church where his spouse (Deb) and their children (Hannah and Nathan) were introduced to handbells.

In 2003, Dr. Jensen accepted an appointment at Hastings College (Nebraska) where he founded the HC Handbell Choir (HCHC). He immediately began conducting handbells at First Presbyterian Church where he was met with Petit-Fritzen (PF) handbells. A year later Hastings College purchased five octaves of bells, chimes and requisite equipment, and has since added several bass bells and chimes. As conductor and artistic director of the Hastings Symphony Orchestra (HSO) since 2004, Dr. Jensen connected with Kevin McChesney to lead a Nebraska Committee handbell workshop in Hastings, and have the Pikes Peak Ringers perform "Ring of Fire" with the HSO.

HCHC has toured extensively in Nebraska and Colorado; invited twice to perform at the Nebraska Music Educators conference where they also presented a session on handbells in the music classroom; performed for the Nebraska Handbell Committee workshop (Kevin McChesney, guest conductor); the Area 11 Spring Ring in Loveland, CO (Michael Joy, guest conductor); and have appeared four times with the HSO for Christmas concerts. Dr. Jensen has commissioned four handbell pieces on behalf of HCHC, of which three are currently in print. Dr. Jensen has attended Area 8 Festivals, including driving the U-Haul that collected several sets of handbells and delivered them to Omaha. He has served on the Nebraska Committee for many years, and is presently the recording secretary.

In his 43-year career as an educator and conductor, Dr. Jensen has served in administrative positions and committee appointments, and has been involved with academic development. He is retiring from Hastings College this May with plans to remain involved in handbells, including revisiting selections he has composed/arranged, but never had time to complete.

What started as a, "I'll be conducting what!?!" thought in his 1990 interview at Ottawa University, became a journey to include his family, friends, church ringers, hundreds of middle/high school through college students, and enthused handbell colleagues and composers.

## Amy Knudsen, Treasurer



Hi! My name is Amy Knudsen. I would be honored to serve as the Area 8 Treasurer for the next two years. Here's a little bit about me:

I came into handbells late. I was a counselor at a high school music camp, and one of the area church handbell directors brought in his

four octave bells as a class. I volunteered to play and was hooked; even after tower swinging directly into a glass door of a stereo! (Nothing broke, but the director did cringe.)

After college, my husband and I moved to an area where the church I joined had a three octave choir needing ringers. After about six months, we moved to Kansas.

Again, the church I joined had four octaves of handbells, but they had no director. I volunteered and started by jumping in with both feet. I'm seriously not sure how we survived that first year, but after attending the Area 8 conference in St. Charles the next summer, I came back with lots of 'fixes' and ideas. We made it, and slowly became ringers. After eleven years, I had to step back from the handbells as I had two very active girls in junior high and high school. I was a competition dance mom, a marching band uniform chair for three years and helped plan the after-graduation parties for each year.

I subbed in the Southminster Presbyterian Church choir when they needed me, eventually becoming a full-time ringer. In 2019, I auditioned and made the Lawrence Community Handbell Choir and had one cycle of concerts before COVID. We continued to meet every now and then to keep up our skills, and started full time again this fall.

I have worked for Wendi with Third Bell on the Right, so I've traveled to the past two national conferences and other area conferences. One recent highlight was playing with our nerf guns in Phoenix during the mass ringing sessions. We even got Christine Anderson and Nikki Evans to play with us. (Carol Scheel with Heitz Handbells is incredibly sneaky.)

When not performing in handbells, I play the bassoon in The Kansas City Wind Symphony and the American Legion Band of Greater Kansas City. I also have been the personnel manager for the KCWS since 2014. On weekends, I can also be found playing with our two rescue dogs, reading or cleaning up the acreage we purchased in July of 2020.

## Tamara Kofran, Treasurer



I am a life-long resident of Cedar Falls, Iowa, except for a brief few years when I lived in North Carolina.

I graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 1984 with a BA in Administrative Management. I am

the Business Manager for Modern Builders, Inc. in Janesville, Iowa, and have been employed there for over thirty years.

I started ringing handbells around 1990 with my home church and have been hooked ever since. I've been solo ringing since about 1995 and have had the privilege of duet ringing with Carolyn Jensen (also from Cedar Falls) since about 2008. In addition to the solo and duet ringing, I'm a member of the handbell choir at St. John Lutheran Church here in Cedar Falls. I currently direct the handbell choir at my home church, First Christian Disciples of Christ.

In addition to attending various local bell events and our Area 8 handbell festivals, I've participated in several national events such as HMA National Seminar, Distinctly Bronze East and West, and SEE (Solo and Ensemble Extravaganza).

## Sara Washington, Secretary



Sara Washington has been involved with handbells for 47 years and has acquired many bell friends from all over the country while ringing and directing numerous choirs in Kansas, Indiana, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado, Iowa, Georgia and

Missouri. Sara is a past AGEHR Area VIII Board Member having served as Secretary from 2000-2004 and 2020 to present. She currently is ringing with Rezound! Handbell Ensemble and directing at Platte Woods Church in Kansas City. Besides ringing, Sara enjoys spending time with her extended family and doting on her new grand baby.

## Nancy Youngman, Secretary



Nancy Youngman, of Lincoln, Nebraska, has been a handbell choir director since 1984, and currently directs 4 handbell choirs in two churches with ringers' ages ranging from 5 to 94! She is the

founder/director of Bell-issimo, Lincoln'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 is currently State Chair (as well as in 1994 – 1996). 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, with the purpose of getting chimes into the educational setting. She 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. Nancy is an accomplished saxophone player, loves animals, and her husband and two adult children (as well as her daughter-in-law) all play handbells!

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# *Summer Lovin' with Handbells*

Kendall Ladd, Central/Southern IL State Chair

Dearest gentle reader,

Like some of you, I too find myself in the midst of this wild second season of Bridgerton. Caught up in the drama, secrets, and never ending cliffhangers. I couldn't help but at least start off writing this article in the style of our favorite Lady Whistledown. We are swiftly approaching the insanity that is the Spring concert season (some of us may already be in the midst of this!). After this, many individuals may find summer break as a nice welcome (if you have one! Not all groups/individuals may take a break from bells during the summer). If you are a part of a group that breaks during the summer and are trying to think of creative ways (outside of festivals – which are a GREAT option by the way) to keep in touch with bells, I thought I would share some of mine.

## **Rhythm Exercises**

Tricky rhythms can be frustrating, especially if you are having to do a different rhythm with each hand. There are some fun ways to start practicing different rhythms to actual songs. One of my favorite individuals to follow is babyaustin95 on TikTok who does rhythm dot exercises at varying speeds with various rhythm combinations. I think this is a great and fun way to start improving rhythmic skills. This can even be done without the use of handbells if you don't have access to them!

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*What are your favorite things to do over the summer break to keep connected to handbells?*

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## **Solos/Small Ensembles**

If you have bells of your own or are able to borrow bells from a group you ring with regularly, the summer is a great time to dive into trying out solo ringing or small ensemble ringing. If you've ever been on the fence about trying it, taking the time to do so when you don't have other handbell rehearsals or engagements can not only keep you engaged with bell ringing, but can also help build any skills you've been wanting to work on!

## **Handbell Videos**

Okay, so this one may be a little less hands-on, BUT sometimes it's nice to give our hands, wrists, and arms a little break from physical ringing. You can still mentally engage with handbell material by watching old recorded concerts, instructional videos (even if you don't have bells to practice with on your own), or watching some fun and creative videos by Bruna Marinho on YouTube and Facebook.

What are your favorite things to do over the summer break to keep connected to handbells? Let me know!



*Kendall Ladd*

*Registration for International Handbell Symposium is open. Visit [here](#) for more information.*

# Music Educators, Take Note!

Nancy Youngman, Nebraska Chair

Are you a music educator? Are you a person who is always looking for ways to engage the students, add fun to your lessons, and enhance your curriculum? If you answered “yes” to any of those questions, I definitely have the program for you!!

Over 20 years ago, the Chime Loan Program was started to promote the use of chimes in schools. Malmark furnishes a 3 octave set of chimes to each state for a reduced cost with the idea of loaning these chimes to schools for a semester or year. At the end of the term, the school has the option of purchasing the set they used. Seven years ago, Area 8 began the task of replacing each state’s set of chimes with a brand new set, as the original sets were aging. At this point, every state has a new set of chimes. With the pandemic, several still have not been used. Please contact your state representative for an opportunity to use these!! (Those representatives are listed on the right.)

How can you use them? I actually used a set for a year with 6th grade exploratory music classes. The students loved them so much, the school purchased a set! Each state also furnishes a set of resources to be used along with the chimes, but the sky’s the limit on usage, along with your imagination!!

One excellent teacher in Nebraska used the chimes to teach scales and chord patterns. She would have the students sit in a row with a scale pattern. They played multiple scales—different keys and modes, depending on grade level and curriculum being used. With the C scale, she would have the students with the C, E, G stand up, and have the students count the interval between them---a wonderful visual of a third!! Then, the E would sit down, they’d count, and there was the fifth! Once the intervals were in place, she taught them how to figure out the I, IV, V chords, then these were used as accompaniment for several songs they sang. I personally used the I, IV, V concept with the singing, and the students did not want to sing with any other accompaniment from then on! Also, this particular teacher taught the students one verse of a piece they were learning to sing to play alone. So, even with a set curriculum of certain pieces to learn, these are easy instruments to add interest to the instruction.

As plans will start soon for the next school year, apply now. The application forms are found on the Area 8 website. The school will also have to furnish proof of insurance. If you have questions, feel free to [contact me](#) or your own state representative. Let’s spread the joy of ringing to our younger generation!



*Nancy Youngman*

## State Chimes Representatives

Illinois

[Patti Mangis](#)

Iowa

[Patrick Gagnon](#)

Kansas

open--consider volunteering  
for this wonderful program  
contact the Kansas [State Chair](#)

Missouri

[Christie White](#)

Nebraska

[Nancy Youngman](#)



Patrick Gagnon

*Most of the Iowa Chair's time has been taken up by the task of Education Chair for the 2022 Area 8 Festival/Conference in Kansas City, so this article will feature information about classes and repertoire reading sessions for that upcoming event. I look forward to seeing you all in Kansas City!*

# Class Offerings: Area 8 Festival

Festival attendees are scheduled for four class "sessions" doubled for back-to-back repeats, once for Blue, once for Gold. BronzeFest participants will rehearse during class sessions.

## (Just some of the) Non-Bell Classes

### **The difference between a good ringer and a great ringer is a PENCIL!**

Learn effective score preparation strategies that you can take back to your choir! Sometimes it's not about what you mark, but how effectively and clearly you mark it. Adopting a universal marking strategy in your choir can make each mark clear for any ringer or any substitute ringer.

### **Know Thyself!**

Learn to use a personality framework called "The Four Tendencies" to know yourself better and to be more productive, effectively develop habits etc. But it can also be helpful to understand the tendency of those around you so that you can effectively communicate with and motivate them.

### **Resonating Online: Making the Most of Social Media**

Beyond Facebook and Twitter! Learn new tactics to get the word out to the world about your awesome handbell program. Bring an internet connected device so you can practice what is preached by our past Area 8 Communications guru!

## (Just some of the) Yes-Bell Classes

### **Beginning Weaving**

Tackle those nasty accidentals and multiple-bell passages by learning and mastering the three-bell weave! Bring your gloves, questions about massed and divisional music, and leave with the ability to easily play even the hardest part of any piece in the battery.

### **Beginning Treble**

Learn or re-learn the basics from C6 and up! Gaining confidence with shelley and 4-i-h ringing can enhance your musical result and can make you a more versatile ringer. Arrive with gloves and leave with dazzling treble skill!

### **Beginning Bass**

Learn and master safe techniques for lifting, ringing, damping, and putting down bass handbells. For the purpose of this class, "bass bells" refer to instruments below B3. Bring your gloves and leave with the confidence to sling those buckets!

### **Ensemble Skills 1**

Learn tips and tricks for ringing a full complement of bells with less than a full choir. Ensemble ringing can be a special, difficult, challenging, diverting, and musically satisfying experience. Learn from one who has done and still does ensemble ringing and bring your ideas and questions.

### Bell Trees

Learn techniques for assembling and ringing bell trees. Several musical examples will be shown, and several pieces will be used in demonstration. These will be available for purchase from a vendor following the session.

### Stopped Techniques

Pluck, mart, mallet, thumb damp, hand damp? How, why, when, where, and why you should become a master of every stopped sound for handbells as presented by a master teacher.

## Repertoire Sessions

Enjoy new masterworks and old favorites for the upcoming season. Music will be available for purchase from a vendor following each session.

### Unpublished Music

Friday night following the Columbia Handbell Ensemble Performance. See page 13 in this edition of *Quavers* for more information.

### Advent/Christmas easier

music for the season set at AGEHR Levels 1-2.

### Advent/Christmas harder

music for the season set at AGEHR Levels 3-6.

### Lent/Easter easier

music for the season set at AGEHR Levels 1-2.

### Lent/Easter harder

music for the season set at AGEHR Levels 3-6.

### Originals easier

originals set at AGEHR Levels 1-2.

### Originals harder

originals set at AGEHR Levels 3-6.

### 2-3 octaves only

just like it says, only excellent music from G to shining G with some options.

### Behnke and Guebert

originals and arrangements by our two Headliners!



*Where can you find silence at a handbell festival? At the Silent Auction! The purpose of this Silent Auction is to raise scholarship funds for future festivals of the Area 8 Handbell Musicians of America. Whether donating items or bidding, we are grateful for your generous contribution toward this effort.*

*To make a donation, go here for more information.*





Julie Assel

*Are you attending the Area 8 Festival in Kansas City this summer and want to see a bit of the city before you head back home on Sunday?*

# Visit Kansas City!

Julie Assel, Kansas Co-chair

Are you attending the Area 8 Festival in Kansas City this summer and want to see a bit of the city before you head back home on Sunday? Or do you have family visiting the city while you are at the festival? If the name of this year's festival "Kansas City Here I come!" makes you think of the Wilbert Harrison song, "Kansas City", you might try to find the famous 12th and Vine Street mentioned in the song. Unfortunately, nowadays you will only find a park at 12th and Vine, but back in the 1950s, it had jazz clubs, cafes, taverns, honky tonks, and barbecue joints. It was definitely a place to have fun! As a proud resident of this diverse metropolitan area, here are a multitude of ways to spend some time exploring the city:

## Restaurants

There are many places to get BBQ in Kansas City and almost all of them are wonderful! Near the "12th and Vine" is Gates Bar-B-Q, located at E. 12th Terrace & Vine Street. Nearby is also the American Jazz Museum at 1616 E. 18th Street which is devoted to jazz music with live performances, educational programs, and interactive exhibits ([www.americanjazzmuseum.org](http://www.americanjazzmuseum.org)). Open on Sundays from 12-5pm.

## Baseball

If you are traveling with family and baseball is more their thing, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum is co-located with the American Jazz Museum with exhibits on this segregated league's 1920 founding through Jackie Robinson's 1947 Brooklyn Dodgers debut (<https://www.nlbm.com/>). Or if you are interested in taking in a baseball game while you are in town, the Kansas City Royals will be playing the Athletics at 1:10pm ([www.MLB.com/royals](http://www.MLB.com/royals)).

## Family Outings

If you want to spend time outside after being inside at the festival, check out Powell Gardens, Kansas City's Botanical Garden, in the southeast portion of the metropolitan area. It features 6,000 varieties of plants, with 225,000 plants in seasonal displays. 1609 NW US Hwy 50, Kingville, MO (<https://powellgardens.org/>). If you are more interested in animals, check out the Kansas City Zoo with over 1700 animals on over 200 acres in the middle of the city: 6800 Zoo Drive, Kansas City, MO. Open starting at 9:30am, you can take in one or more of the "continents" and still have time to visit other stops on your list (<https://www.kansascityzoo.org/>).

## Fountains

If you only have a little time, you might try a tour of the fountains that gave Kansas City the name, "City of Fountains!" Grab the KC Streetcar from City Market on the north side to Union Station on the south connecting all the downtown neighborhoods or take a free tour of some of the oldest fountains in the world - some over 300 years old! Just 90 minutes of walking along 15 city blocks. A beautiful way to end your trip to a beautiful city!

## Area 8 Festival Hotel Information

Hilton Kansas City Airport  
8801 NW 112th St., Kansas  
City, MO 64153

Free wifi, free parking, and  
free grab & go continental  
breakfast. The updated guest  
rooms include a mini-fridge  
and coffee maker.

Price:\$119 per night.

### To Book Your Room:

Go to the [Booking Link](#) for  
the Hilton Kansas City Airport  
Hotel.

Group Name:  
Handbell Area 8 -Biennial-2022

# Unpublished Music Reading Session

Area 8 Festival/Conference 2022

by Patrick Gagnon, Education Chair

The Unpublished Music Reading Session will be offered on Friday, June 24, 2022 after the Columbia Handbell Ensemble Concert (10:00 pm or 15 minutes following the dismissal of the concert, whichever is later).

The Unpublished Music Reading Session is an excellent opportunity for any composer or arranger to hear their unpublished manuscript sight-read by a group of handbell enthusiasts who are kind, constructive, and excited about new handbell music.

Composers submitting a piece may request verbal and written feedback from preeminent handbell composers and arrangers John Behnke and Alex Guebert, both who have pieces being performed during the festival. Both are also prolific composers with hundreds of pieces in their respective catalogs.

Registration is open to anyone wishing to share their original composition or arrangement for handbells and/or handchimes that has not been published.

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*Composers,  
please register  
by June 10*

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Anyone may ring in the demonstration choirs or listen in the gallery and need not register in advance. Space at the table to ring in the demonstration choirs will be first come, first served. Multiple sets of handbells and handchimes will be available. Mallets will be provided. Please bring music folders and gloves if you intend to ring.

Composers and arrangers wishing to submit a piece PLEASE register by June 10. Depending on the number of people registering to submit music, registrants may be permitted to bring a second piece to be rung. Composers and arrangers registering will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis with the number of registrants accepted being at the facilitator's discretion. To register to submit a piece, complete the Unpublished Music Reading Session [Registration Form](#) and email it to the facilitator (Patrick Gagnon, education.area8@handbellmusicians.org) by June 10th.

Thanks in advance to all of the composers, arrangers, ringers, spectators, equipment suppliers and coordinators whose hard work will be represented at the Unpublished Music Reading Session. The registration is detailed and the rules are firm, but this will help us maximize our time together, giving us the opportunity to read through even more wonderful creations!

# Unpublished Music Reading Session Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q: WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?**

A: Anyone may come to ring or listen, with no registration in advance. As for who may register to present a piece, anyone who has something they have written or arranged! (Please include permission to arrange clearances on all copies of arrangements of non-public domain pieces.) You don't have to be previously published, write at a certain level, in a certain style, or for a certain number of octaves or ringers.

## **Q: HOW EXACTLY DO YOU DEFINE "UNPUBLISHED"?**

A: If your piece is in print with a publisher or self-published for sale, it is **\*NOT\*** eligible. If your piece is under contract with a publisher, it is **\*NOT\*** eligible. If, however, you have submitted your piece for publication and are awaiting a response or had it rejected at the time of the Unpublished Music Reading Session, you are welcome to present it. If you have not submitted your piece anywhere for publication consideration, it is of course welcome as well!

## **Q: DO I HAVE TO HAVE THE MUSIC PRINTED ON A COMPUTER?**

A: Not at all. If you still write by hand, you are welcome. Just remember that legibility often helps ensure success, especially in a sightreading setting.

## **Q: HOW DO I SUBMIT MY MANUSCRIPTS?**

A: Each composer/arranger is responsible for bringing copies of his/her own pieces. Please make these copies at home and bring them with you; it saves the hassle and expense of finding a copy center at or around the hotel. Bring a copy for yourself (or a guest director, see below) and at least 28 additional copies of each piece, and **\*\*\*PLEASE HAVE THEM HOLE PUNCHED WITH THE TITLE AND COMPOSER/ARRANGER'S NAME ON EACH PAGE\*\*\*** Even if your piece is for a smaller number of octaves, at least 28 copies are requested so that even those not ringing may follow along in the score. (While it is not required, having the music run on 11x17 paper and folded in half like a traditional bell folio will be far more manageable than a bunch of single-sided copies.)

## **Q: I'M NOT A CONDUCTOR, MAY I STILL BRING MY WORK?**

A: Of course! If you are a composer/arranger but not a director, we will be happy to conduct the piece for you, or you may bring a friend along to do so.

## **Q: HOW LONG CAN THE PIECE BE? MAY I WORK ON IT AT ALL?**

A: Since time is always a factor, each piece will be given no more than 10 minutes (including setup time). You may use the time as you wish, should you desire to work through a tricky spot or experiment with a different technique somewhere. Remember, everyone is sight-reading, so the piece is unlikely to be "performance ready" during this session. In fairness to other composers, please do not monopolize the session or push the envelope with your time. And if your piece is short and you are happy with it, feel free to end your time early; this will allow us to get through more music.

## **Q: DO I HAVE TO BE THERE TO HAVE MY PIECE RUNG?**

A: Absolutely. Pieces will not be rung with composers/arrangers in absentia. All composers and arrangers are asked to attend the entirety of the session: leaving after your piece is done is inconsiderate.

## **Q: MAY I COMPOSE A PIECE WITH EXTRA INSTRUMENTS?**

A: Of course you may. You just won't be able to hear those parts unless you provide the instruments and the players.

## **Q: WHAT IF THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY PIECES TO GET THROUGH?**

A: We simply may not get through everything. However, since composers and arrangers must register in advance on a first-come, first-served basis, the cut-off point will be fair. Every registrant is subject to the "as time permits" clause. If, for example, 20 composers register, it is unlikely that all of those composers will be able to present their pieces.

## **Q: WHAT IF SOMEONE IS LATE, OR DOESN'T SHOW UP?**

A: The session will begin at 10:00 pm or 15 minutes following the dismissal of the Columbia Handbell Ensemble Concert, whichever comes later. ANY registrant who is not present at the start of the session will be moved to the end of the list. When his or her work comes up in rotation, it will simply be skipped and returned to at the end, time permitting. To keep things fair and objective, no exceptions will be made, so please don't make us even enact this clause! (Bring your baton, gloves, etc. to the concert on Friday night so you are not caught without them at the last minute.)

## Illinois Committee

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Beth McFarland

### Central/Southern Illinois State Chair

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Debi Robey

### Hand Chime Loan

### Program Coordinator

Patti Mangis

### Hand Chime Loan

### Program Mentor

Open - please contact  
Kendall Ladd

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## Kansas Committee

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Janelle Flory Schrock

### Treasurer

Karla Denton

### Secretary

OPEN - Contact  
Julie or Janelle

### Chimes

OPEN - Contact  
Julie or Janelle

## Does Your School Qualify?

Area 8 offers a handchime loan program to schools in its five-state jurisdiction of Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. *Qualifying schools will receive:*

- 3-octave set of handchimes for one semester (approx. 4 months) with teaching materials
- support network and/or mentor
- one-year membership to Handbell Musicians of America.

To check availability of handchimes for loan or to submit an application, please contact Nancy Youngman, Area 8 Chimes Chair.

*To learn more about the Chime Loan Program, visit the [Area 8 website](#).*

*A video featuring Nancy Youngman describes in detail the Area 8 chime loan program and can be found [here](#).*

# Upcoming Area 8 Events

## May 2022

**May 15, 2022**

4:00 pm Gateway Ringers Spring Concert  
Wentzville United Methodist Church, Wentzville, Missouri

**May 21, 2022**

7:00 pm Lawrence Community Handbell Choir Spring Concert  
Leavenworth First UMC, Leavenworth, Kansas

**May 22, 2022**

4:00 pm Gateway Ringers Spring Concert  
Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Missouri

4:00 pm Lawrence Community Handbell Choir Spring Concert  
Central United Methodist Church, Lawrence, Kansas

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## June 2022

**June 5, 2022**

4:00 pm Gateway Ringers 25th Anniversary Concert  
Kirkwood Baptist Church, Kirkwood, Missouri

**Friday, June 10, 2022**

7:00 pm Des Moines Concert Handbells Concert: All Time and Space  
St. John's Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa

**Saturday, June 11, 2022**

7:00 pm Des Moines Concert Handbells Concert: All Time and Space  
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

**Sunday, June 12, 2022**

2:30 pm ECHO Ringers Celebrating America  
Court Street United Methodist Church, Rockford, Illinois

**Thursday, June 23**

Area 8 Festival, Pre-conference Worship & Director's seminars,  
registration, massed load-in, first Bronzefest rehearsal, Hilton Kansas City Airport

**Friday and Saturday, June 24 & 25**

Area 8 Festival, with closing concert @ 7:30 pm on Saturday  
Hilton Kansas City Airport

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## July/August 2022

**Saturday, July 30 - Saturday, August 6, 2022**

International Handbell Symposium & Associated Events, Nashville, Tennessee  
For more information, visit the [Handbell Musicians of America website](http://www.handbellmusicians.org)

### **Publishing in Quavers**

4 publications per year,  
published once each season.

### **Articles**

Articles are due on the  
10th day of January, April,  
July, and October.

### **Advertising**

[Click here](#) for more details  
about advertising in *Quavers*.  
6 ads for the price of 5!  
Run 5 identical ads in 5  
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the 6th ad free.

### **Events & Concerts**

must be submitted by the  
25th of January, April, July,  
and October to be included  
in *Quavers*. To submit  
a concert or event for  
inclusion, [click here](#) or  
go to the A8 Website,  
Events page.

### **Questions?**

Please send all questions  
and comments about  
this and future *Quavers*  
publications to Beth Ann  
Edwards, Editor:  
[newslettereditor.area8@  
handbellmusicians.org](mailto:newslettereditor.area8@handbellmusicians.org)

*Find the most up-to-date  
calendar and details  
about events on the  
[A8 website](http://www.area8.handbellmusicians.org).*

Please check websites for  
updated calendar and event  
information.

Due to social distancing and  
COVID-19 requirements,  
events may be cancelled after  
this newsletter is distributed.