

Quavers

Special Edition



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA
Area 8

June
2019



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*Keep Up To
Date with the
2020 Festival*

*Welcome New
Members*

*Meet our new
Quavers
Editor*

*Meet our
State Chairs*

Area 8 Chair, Beth Ann Edwards

Greetings, Area 8 members and friends! With great excitement, we present our new and updated newsletter, Quavers. I want to thank KC Congdon for the dedication and work she provided as Quavers editor for ten years. With her new responsibilities as director of The Agape Ringers, she has transitioned from editor to reader.

The Area 8 Board has superpowers. More than one board member independently came to me and recommended Cherryl Cox for our new Quavers editor. My fingers started to tingle when I sent the email inviting her into a conversation about the editorship, so I knew it was meant to be! I have enjoyed getting to know her via the wonders of electronic communication and can't wait to meet up with her in person!

I did not want to wait until July to present our first edition, so you are looking at our very first Area 8 "Special Edition." Look for State Chair bios on the State pages. In future issues, state chairs will be charged with submitting articles with informative and interesting information about handbells, ringers, and directors. And moving forward, Quavers will be published six times a year, in odd-numbered months. If you have ideas for future Quavers articles, please contact Cherryl Cox or me. We would love to hear from you! The newsletter is also an excellent spot for listing your upcoming events. We will list all HMA-sponsored and endorsed events, plus all concerts that you submit, in Quavers and on our Area 8 website.

My first six months as Area 8 Chair have been filled with activities, meetings, planning, budgeting, and more! The bonus in all of this is that I meet and work with wonderful people. You are enthusiastic, faithful, energetic, fun-loving handbell enthusiasts that make Area 8 and the world better and brighter. Thank you!

Area 8 Chair:
Beth Ann Edwards

Area 8 Website: <http://area8.handbellmusicians.org/>

Area 8

Amber McNeilly
LaSalle, Illinois

Chon Wherry
Moline, Illinois

Patricia A Christensen
Urbandale, Iowa

LaDonna McGohan
Decorah, Iowa

Renee G Weinberg
Sioux City, Iowa

Eric D Stone
Country Acres Baptist Church
Wichita, Kansas

Debbie Bullock
St James, Missouri

Pam Cunningham
Concordia Publishing House
St Louis, Missouri

Richard Reinwald
Lake Ozark, Missouri

Karen Rolland
Village Lutheran Church
St Louis, Missouri

Gay H Spears
New Hope Presbyterian
St. Charles, Missouri

Janet Chiochi
Southwood Lutheran
Church, Inc.
Lincoln, Nebraska

Kirsten M Oertell
Presbyterian Church
of the Master
Omaha, Nebraska

Alicia Opoku
St Paul United
Methodist Church
Lincoln, Nebraska

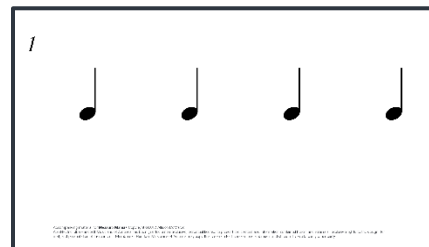
Member Resource Corner

Member Resource Corner By Beth Ann Edwards

Learning to ring handbells can be overwhelming. So many things need to happen at once. Find your note on the page! Ring it at the right time! Watch the director! Damp! Ring the correct bell! Follow the dynamics! Turn the page! Sometimes isolating one or two of these items can build confidence and help a ringer move to the next level. One teaching tool I have used for rhythm and tempo is a set of rhythm flashcards available to members on the HMA website.

The National website is loaded with member resources. One of my favorites, Measure Mania: Rhythm Flashcard Games, can be accessed by following this path:

- Handbellmusicians.org
- Log in with your username and password or create an account (Have your member number handy.)
- Visit the Member Center
- Resource Library
- Educational
- Measure Mania: Rhythm Flashcard Games



Members can download the flashcards in two sizes, and there are four levels of difficulty. I printed out the 8.5 x 11 size on cardstock, and a smaller size option is also available. An instruction sheet with nine game suggestions is downloadable.



Continue reading on page 11

**Support Area 8
when you shop!**

Click Here to Sign up for

amazonsmile

Area VIII of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers Inc

Quavers Editor

Quavers Editor, Cherryl Cox

I am a CLA (Computer Lab Associate) at an Elementary School in the Olathe, KS School District. I get the pleasure of asking students "Is your Caps Lock Key On?" I also create PowerPoint examples that almost always have pictures of handbells or handchimes in them.

I have been playing bells since I was 10 and was the Kansas State Chair from 2010-2014.

You might also know me from Third Bell on the Right. I travel with Wendi and help sell some of the best handbell related merchandise.

I currently ring with Heartland Ringers in Prairie Village, KS. I've rung with them since we moved to Olathe in 2011. Before that I directed and rang with Calvary Ringers in Wichita, KS.

My husband Gregg & I have been married since 1992. We have a daughter who is married and lives in California and a son who will graduate high school in 2020.



Publishing in Quavers

6 publications per year. Published on the odd months.

Articles are due on the 10th day of even months.

6 Ads for 5! Run 5 identical ads in 5 successive Quavers and get the 6th Ad free.

Click [here](#) for more details about advertising in Quavers

Events & Concerts must be submitted by the 25th of even months to be included in Quavers.

Area 8 Quavers Editor:
Cherryl Cox

This Month's Q&A: National Seminar in St. Louis July 16-20, 2019

Is it true that the entire Area 8 board and membership are acting as Local Liaisons for this summer's National Seminar in St. Louis, Missouri, on July 16 through 20?

Yes, the rumors are true! We are gathering equipment and scheduling volunteers to make sure the event runs smoothly and classrooms and ringing spaces have bells, chimes, and other equipment for all who attend.

Can I still sign up to help? Yes, you can!

Equipment: We are in need of "acres" of foam, plus some bell tree stands and electronic keyboards.

Volunteers: Helpers are needed to unload and set up equipment on Tuesday, June 16, and to load up again on Saturday, June 20. We also need people throughout the event to work a shift or two moving equipment between classrooms.

Who do I contact to volunteer? Contact Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal at pastchair.area8@handbellmusicians.org or Beth Ann Edwards at chair.area8@handbellmusicians.org.

2020 Festival

More Than Meets the Eye



Alex Guebert, Clinician



John Behnke, Clinician

shopping on the Plaza and throughout the Metro, art museums, cultural events, Worlds of Fun amusement park, and more! All Area 8 events will take place in the Overland Park Sheraton, which is easily accessible via major interstate highways.

Mark your calendars and keep watching for more information. Please contact me if you have questions about this event and talk to friends and fellow ringers who might be interested in attending the Festival.

Beth Ann Edwards, Area 8 Chair

Chair.area8@handbellmusicians.org

Location: Sheraton Hotel, Overland Park, Kansas

Dates: June 18-19-20

Registration opens January 1, 2020

Plans are underway for the Area 8 biennial 2020 Festival: *More That Meets the Eye!* What's *more*, you ask? Listen to the beautiful, soul-stirring sounds of concerts and massed ringing. Meet with others who love handbells as much as you. Be inspired by concerts and take back new methods and techniques for ringing and directing handbells. Shop with vendors and sample new music to take back to your choirs. Set aside the busy-ness of everyday life as you focus on all things handbell related, while we expand our handbell community and circle of friends.

What's new in 2020? **Massed ringing and classes** will take place over a two-day period, Friday and Saturday, June 19 and 20. Additional opportunities will take place on Thursday, June 19: **Worship Seminar** with Deb Carr, **Directors Seminar** with John Behnke and Alex Guebert, and a **jump-start rehearsal** for those who want to look at the music one more time before Opening Bell on Friday morning. **YouthFest**, designed for youth in middle school and high school, will be led by Nick Hanson and begin on Thursday evening. **BronzeFest**, our Area 8 choir of advanced ringers, will be conducted by Lauran Delancy and also begin rehearsals on Thursday evening.

Overland Park, Kansas is the perfect spot for 2020. Kansas boasts a very active handbell community, and they can't wait to show off their gracious hospitality. The hotel's proximity to Kansas City, both on the Missouri and Kansas sides, provides an opportunity to stay an extra day or so and enjoy Royals baseball games,



Lauran Delancy, BronzeFest Clinician

More Than Meets the Eye at a “glance”

Leadership

Clinicians: Alex Guebert and John Behnke

BronzeFest Director: Lauran Delancy

YouthFest Director: Nick Hanson

Worship Seminar Leader: Deb Carr

Directors Seminar: Alex Guebert and John Behnke

Featured Choir, Friday Night Concert

Columbia Handbell Ensemble, Ed Rollins, Director

Schedule

January 1, 2020

Registration Opens for Area 8 Festival: *More Than Meets the Eye*

Thursday, June 18, 2020

- Worship Seminar
- Directors Seminar

Thursday evening, June 18, 2020

- First BronzeFest rehearsal
- YouthFest begins
- Brush-Up and Double-Check extra rehearsal

Friday & Saturday, June 19 & 20, 2020

- Massed Ringing
- Two Ringing Divisions
- BronzeFest Choir
- Back to Bells (non-performing) Track
- YouthFest
- Classes
- Reading Sessions
- Concerts
- Vendors & Shopping

Volunteer Opportunities

- Loan bells, chimes, and equipment for classrooms
- Sponsorships and vendor recruitment
- Committee opportunities: promotion, advertising, and more!
- Classroom and massed ringing set-up on Thursday, June 18



Nick Hanson, YouthFest Clinician



Deb Carr, Worship Seminar Clinician



Columbia Handbell Ensemble

Illinois



Central/Southern Illinois
State Chair:

Kendall Ladd

Chicago Area Chair:
OPEN – contact

Beth Ann Edwards

Western IL Rep:
Don Wood

Secretary:
Beth McFarland

Registrar:
Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal

Events:
Sharon Schmidt

Music Librarian:
Beth McFarland

Handbell Services Rep:
Debi Robey

Handchime Loan Program
Coordinator:
Patti Mangis

Handchime Loan
Program Mentor:
Diane Oster

Food Coordinator:
Anna Piro

Central/Southern Illinois State Chair, Kendall Ladd

Kendall Ladd is a current member of Bells in Motion in Springfield, IL, and frequently “subs” with Bells of Wesley at Wesley UMC in Bloomington, IL and with Bloomington-Normal Community Bells.

She got her start ringing handbells when she was 10 as an extracurricular activity at her elementary school. Continuing to ring with her school choirs throughout middle school and high school, she eventually got her start ringing with community handbell choirs as a member of Joyful Sound in Indianapolis. She has attended numerous Area 5 festivals as well as National Handbell Seminars where she has started her handbell certification and participated in Distinctly Teen and All-Star Choir. She looks forward to attending more events in Area 8 and becoming more involved with Handbell Musicians of America.

Kendall currently lives in Normal, IL where she is working on her Master of Science degree in Quantitative Psychology at Illinois State University. She also has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Criminology from Butler University. Her non-handbell hobbies include yoga, traveling, listening to music, reading, and binge-watching Netflix.



Massed Rehearsal



Festival Bell Tree Class

Illinois is looking for their next Chicago Area Chair. To find out more about the position contact [Beth Ann Edwards](#)

Iowa

Iowa State Chair, Patrick Gagnon

Patrick Gagnon is a music educator dedicated to the development of the tuneful person. He is a K-5 Vocal Music Specialist and HS Vocal Music director for the Eldora-New Providence CSD and is Director of Music at First Congregational UCC in Eldora. Patrick serves as Performance Chair for Hardin County Performance Series and has done music direction for productions of *Into the Woods*, *Les Miserables*, *The Secret Garden*, *Little Women*, *Oklahoma*, and *Godspell* for the Department of Music and Theater at Iowa State University. He has served Handbell Musicians of America in numerous capacities as a board member both in Area 1 and Area 8 and as a member of the HMA Education Resource Task Force.

While living in Boston he served as Massachusetts Chair, Adult Weekend Chair, Directors' Seminar Co-Chair, Festival/Conference 2009 Chair, and finally Chair-Elect of HMA Area 1. Patrick was a founding member and later associate director of Back Bay Ringers and was a member of Merrimack Valley Ringers. Since moving to Iowa, he has served Area 8 as Iowa Chair and has served the six-year sequence on the Area 8 Executive Committee as Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past Chair, including serving as Chair for the 2016 Festival/Conference. He was a member and director of the North Central Iowa Handbell Ensemble and is a founding ringer and director of Des Moines Concert Handbells. Patrick will serve as the Education Chair for the 2020 Area 8 Festival/Conference in Overland Park, Kansas.



Iowa State Chair:

Patrick Gagnon

Treasurer:

Mary Lee Parks

Secretary:

Donna Sprague

Historian:

Christina "Tina"
Elwood Gehrke

Western Iowa
Representative:

Yvonne Johnson

Eastern Iowa
Representative

Cat Walker



Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Area8Handbells/>

Area 8 Website: <http://area8.handbellmusicians.org/>

Kansas

Kansas State Chair, Kipp Willnauer



Kansas State Chair:

Kipp Willnauer

Treasurer:

Karla Denton

Secretary:

OPEN - Contact

Kipp Willnauer

Chimes:

Shirley Myers

Kipp Willnauer began his lifelong career in church music more than 47 years ago in New Britain, CT. He received his Bachelor of Music Education from Baker University and a Masters in Education Administration from University of Missouri, Kansas City (UMKC).

Since 1972, Kipp has taught vocal music and handbells/chimes in the elementary, middle and high schools of Gardner, and Olathe KS. He previously served as music director at both Indian Heights United Methodist Church and St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Overland Park, KS.

Kipp is currently Director of Music at King of Kings Lutheran Church and Vocal & Handchimes director in Wheatridge Middle School. Kipp is a member of the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music, and Worship Arts, MENC, ACDA, NEA, & Handbell Musicians of America.

The Raleigh Ringers

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Missouri

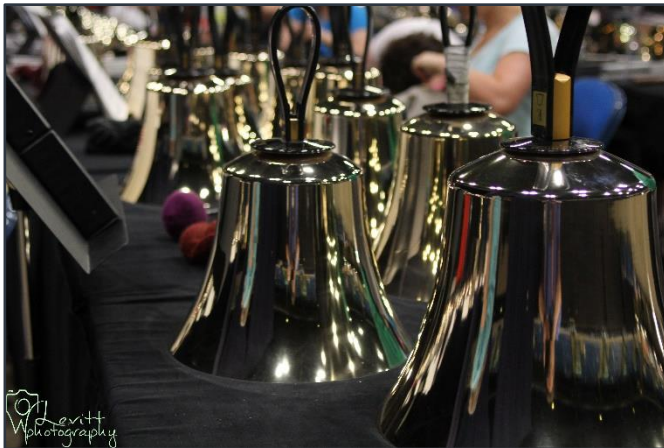
Missouri State Chair, Cheri Leigh

Director of handbell choir at St. John's UMC, Kansas City, MO

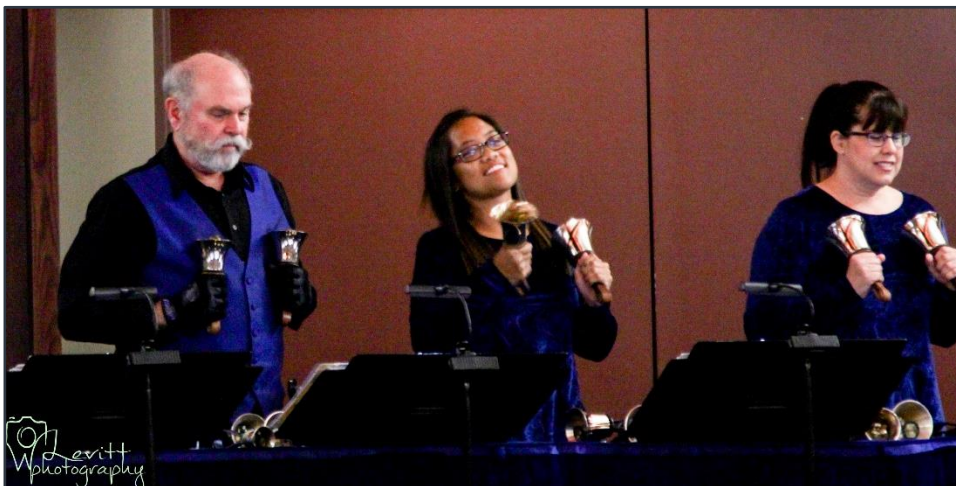
Cheri has been playing handbells for twenty years. She took over the leadership of the choir when the funding was eliminated from the budget "just to keep it going." That was 8 years ago.

She attended her first National Seminar in Cincinnati and was excited to learn so much about directing and playing handbells. She has sent portions of her choir to three area festivals and several local festivals and they always learn so much.

By training she is a retired structural engineer. Cheri has always had music in her life, from choral choirs to playing the piano and organ in church, to now leading the handbell choir. She still enjoys playing the handbells and is starting to play four in hand with her small six-person ensemble.



Festival Handbells on a table



Festival Rezound Concert



Missouri State Chair:
Cheri Leigh

PastChair:
Suanne Comfort

Treasurer:
Suanne Comfort

Membership:
Sherry Boland

Chime Chairs:
Anne Miller
Kathy Harrison
Christie White



Nebraska State Chair:
Nancy Youngman

Registrar:
Linda Ashley

Scholarship Committee:
Joyce Miller

Nebraska

Nebraska State Chair, Nancy Youngman

Nancy Youngman has been a handbell choir director since 1984, currently with 5 choirs in two churches under her direction, ages ranging from 5 to 94! She is the founder/director of Bell-issimo, Lincoln Nebraska's auditioned Community Handbell Choir.

Nancy has degrees in Instrumental Music and German, and recently retired from Lincoln Public Schools, where she taught both subjects for years.

Since 1990, Nancy has been a member of the Nebraska State Handbell Committee, and is currently serving the Guild as Area 8 Chimes Chair and Nebraska State Chair as well as serving previously as State Chair from 1994 – 1996 and Area 8 Secretary from 1996 – 1998, plus teaching at many Nebraska and Area 8 events.

Area 8 Festival

Handbell Musicians of America

Sheraton Hotel • Overland Park, Kansas
June 19-20, 2020
Pre-Festival Workshops June 18

YouthFest • Mass Ringing • Classes • Concerts • Shopping



Featured Concert Choir
Columbia Handbell Ensemble
Ed Rollins, Director



more than meets the eye!
2020
June 18-20
Overland Park, KS
Area 8 Handbell Festival & Conference

Registration begins January 1, 2020



For list of repertoire and more Festival information, please visit our website area8.handbellmusicians.org/2020-festival/



Clinician
Alex Guebert



Clinician
John Behnke



BronzeFest Director
Lauran Delancy



YouthFest Director
Nick Hanson



Worship Seminar
Leader: Deb Carr

...Continued

Member Resource Corner...continued

The flashcards each have a unique rhythm for a measure equal to four quarter-notes. Feel free to use the cards as they might best suit your needs. I invented Game #10 and it works well for young ringers. Give each ringer a pair of rhythm sticks, or they can clap instead. When I hold up the flashcard, the ringers beat the rhythm with the sticks. If the card has four quarter-notes, they hit the sticks in rhythm four times. If there are two half-notes, they hit sticks on beats one and three. To keep the rhythm, they can also move the sticks outward (like windshield wipers) on beats two and four. If the ringers are new to reading music, I might click the rhythm once while they can view the card and have them click the rhythm back to me. When they have mastered the Level 1 rhythms, we can mix them up, put them in a sequence of four measures, or change the tempo. I can also pull out measures with rhythms that line up with a new piece of music I will introduce when the flash card game is completed.

When we move to the level where rests are introduced, the ringers continue to hit the sticks for the notes, and they hit the floor (or the bell table) for the rests. By using an action for the rests, they are introduced to the concept of damping, which requires an action to stop the sound of the handbell. This activity also teaches ringers to listen to each other and feel the pulse of the tempo. It might take a while before all the clicks and table taps happen at the same time, and if the learning process starts to slow down, I'm never above using ~~bribes~~ (I mean incentives), such as chocolate! Most of the ringers will be able to transfer this exercise to ringing bells and chimes, and periodic reinforcement will help them keep the beat!

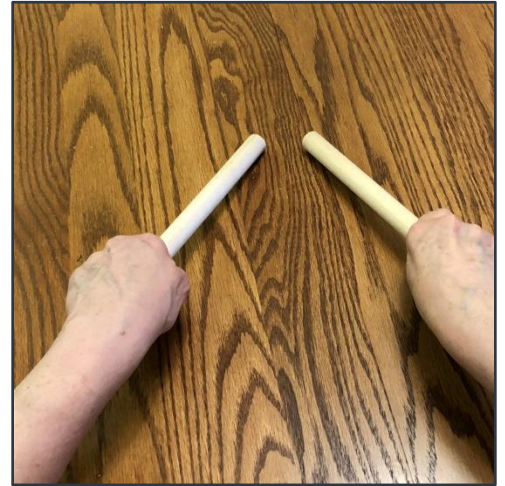
If you, the reader, have used these flashcards, or have another teaching tool for rhythm and tempo, send me an email. I would love to hear from you! (chair.area8@handbellmusicians.org)



Rhythm Sticks demonstrating a Note



Rhythm Sticks demonstrating Wait



Rhythm Sticks demonstrating a Rest

Area 8 Board

CHAIR: Beth Ann Edwards

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Clive, IA 50325-5610
515.490.9408

CHAIR-ELECT:

Sharon Schmidt

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Naperville, IL 60540
630.369.9879

SECRETARY: Pat Latshaw

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Prairie Village, KS 66207
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TREASURER: Lori Fenton

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Kristin Kalitowski- Kowal

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Gilberts, IL 60136
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COMMUNICATIONS:

Laura Kopff

CHIMES CHAIR:

Nancy Youngman

FINANCIAL ADVISOR:

Stephen Swanson

MEMBERSHIP:

See Past Chair & Chair-Elect

RESOURCE LIBRARIAN:

Charlton Pendry

WEBMASTER:

Wendi Calkins-Levitt

EDUCATION:

Patrick Gagnon

HISTORIAN:

Christie White

QUAVERS:

Cherryl Cox

Upcoming Events

June 2019

Saturday, June 1

9:00am Resonate - Advance Handbell Event: Overland Park, KS

7:00pm Resonate Concert: Overland Park, KS – Free Public Concert

Friday, June 7

7:00pm Des Moines Concert Handbells: Des Moines, IA – Free Public Concert

July 2019

Sunday, July 7

3:00pm Intergenerational Handbell Camp: Parkville, MO

Monday, July 8

Intergenerational Handbell Camp: Parkville, MO

Tuesday, July 9

Intergenerational Handbell Camp: Parkville, MO

Wednesday, July 10

Intergenerational Handbell Camp: Parkville, MO

Thursday, July 11

Intergenerational Handbell Camp: Parkville, MO

Thursday, July 11

7:00pm Intergenerational Handbell Camp Concert: Parkville, MO

Tuesday, July 16, 2019

National Seminar: St. Louis, Missouri July 16-20

Distinctly Teen at National Seminar: St. Louis, MO July 16-20

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

National Seminar: St. Louis, Missouri July 16-20

Distinctly Teen at National Seminar: St. Louis, MO July 16-20

Thursday, July 18, 2019

National Seminar: St. Louis, Missouri July 16-20

Distinctly Teen at National Seminar: St. Louis, MO July 16-20

Friday, July 19, 2019

National Seminar: St. Louis, Missouri July 16-20

Distinctly Teen at National Seminar: St. Louis, MO July 16-20

Saturday, July 20, 2019

National Seminar: St. Louis, Missouri July 16-20

Distinctly Teen at National Seminar: St. Louis, MO July 16-20

January 2020

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Registration Opens for Area 8 Festival: *More Than Meets the Eye*

June 2020

Thursday – Saturday, June 18-19-20, 2020

Area 8 Festival – *More than Meets the Eye*: Overland Park, KS

[Find the most updated calendar and all the details about events on the website](#)