



Newsletter



Volume 10
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From the Chair:



Happy Holidays Everyone!! I know that we all in the midst of final rehearsal preparations for all of the Christmas performances. We have a lot going on in Area 11 that we want to make sure you know about. Please check out all of the information. We have registration info for the 2018 Area 11 Festival Conference in Albuquerque. There is information about Membership Drive and benefits of

membership. Information is available about our area wide Read and Ring Event – Super Bell Saturday. And so much more!!

I would like to also let you know about the opportunities available to serve on the Area board. We have the Desert Sub Area Chair position open. This position is an appointed position with a 2 year team. The Desert Sub Area Chair is the contact for Arizona and New Mexico for anything happening or going on in those states. Send me an email if you are interested in serving the area in that position. We are also getting ready for elections for Chair Elect and Secretary/Treasurer. We are looking for nominations for those positions. If you are interested or know someone that would be great at either position, please consider filling out the nomination form. The elections will be held in the Spring and the new board members will begin serving in September of 2018. I am happy to answer any questions that you may have about any of the positions. The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2018.

I hope that the holiday season is as wonderful as possible for each of you. I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Shannon Casey, Chair

Chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Area 11 Website

area11.handbellmusicians.org

National Office Website

Handbellmusicians.org

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Area 11 2018 Festival/Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico

2018 Area 11 Festival/Conference

June 21-24, 2018

Embassy Suites Hotel and Spa in Albuquerque, New Mexico



Registration is OPEN for our 2018 Albuquerque Festival!

Lead Clinician: **Alex Guebert**

Featured Showcase Group and Teachers for our classes and workshops: **Forté Handbell Quartet**
(Read their bios on the following page)

Find all the registration information and forms on our Area 11 website at:

<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/area-festival-2018/area-festival-2018/>

We have two options for registration.

Option 1: Mail-in registration form and pay a deposit by check, with the balance due later

Option 2: Register online and pay with a credit card.

Registration fee (deadline is March 15, 2018) – \$350.00

If registering online with credit card, processing fees will apply.

Late Registration (between March 16, 2018-May 1, 2018) – \$450.00

If registering online with credit card, processing fees will apply.

Lodging is **NOT included in this registration fee.**

You will need to contact the hotel to make reservations.

Embassy Suites Hotel is offering a special rate to those attending our Festival.

Registrants who live outside a 60 mile radius from the hotel and choose *not* to stay at the Embassy Suites Hotel must pay an Off-site lodging surcharge of \$100.00.

This helps insure we meet our contracted room blocks, keeping all costs as low as possible.



Area 11 2018 Festival/Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico



Alex Guebert is a composer, arranger, percussionist, music director and music teacher from Orange, California. He directs five handbell groups in the area; among those are two advanced-level groups: Cathedral Bells of St. John's Lutheran Church in Orange, and L.A. Bronze. His compositions and arrangements have been published and performed nationwide and overseas. Alex's compositional style is a result of his background as a percussionist, his love of film score, and his desire to broaden the horizons of handbell repertoire. Alex holds a bachelor's degree in percussion from Concordia University Irvine, and an M.M. in Music Composition from Cal State Long Beach, where his graduate recital featured a 25-minute work for handbells, strings, and percussion, titled "Ransom". His recent piece, "Out of the Silent Planet", won the Bells of the Cascades (Portland, OR) 25th Anniversary Composition Contest and was played at Distinctly Bronze East in 2017 under the baton of Dr. William Payn. Alex has studied conducting with Dr. Payn, Dr. Herbert Geisler (Concordia University Irvine), and Ramona Miller (former director of Cathedral Bells). He teaches music classes and leads band programs at schools in Orange County, and has taught several mallet technique and percussion classes at handbell seminars in Pennsylvania, Wyoming, and California. Married in 2014, Alex spends most of his free time adventuring with his wife Heather, bicycling around Southern California.



Based in Colorado Springs, **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.

Formed in 2007, Forté began as an extended outlet for advanced ringers in Colorado Springs and immediately began to be featured in several concerts and tours with the Pikes Peak Ringers. But with an ever-expanding repertoire and the enhanced scheduling flexibility that only a small ensemble can provide, Forté soon emerged as a unique performance and educational quartet, quickly developing an elite reputation within the handbell world. 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 already-challenging repertoire, and seeking out new performance venues and educational opportunities. In the past few years, Forté has had an increasingly active schedule of concerts and recording CDs and music videos, were featured performers at the Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar in 2016, presented a successful tour from Colorado to New York and back, another to Minnesota and back, and are planning several more tours and recording projects in the coming years. In 2017 the group has been celebrating its tenth year and is looking forward to many more!

Stay tuned to Forté's website and Facebook page for announcements of what's next! For more information about Forté and its members, visit www.fortehandbells.org



Area 11 Membership Drive

Why should I be a member of/ refer a member to Handbell Musicians of America?

Pass the message!

There are many, many reasons to be a member. In recent newsletters I've mentioned being able to access online resources such as free music, resources to improve your ringing or musicality, or the ability to attend handbell events. HMA continues to try to provide more membership benefits that people want—in particular the Last membership chat focused on use of handbells in contemporary worship with Brenda Austin. Without a doubt finding a place for handbells in contemporary worship is a way to keep us all playing for years to come!

But how about what you give back to the handbell world by being a member? I want to suggest to you that it's also important for us to further handbell ringing by supporting HMA with both individual and organization memberships.

It's really our memberships that keep HMA going, and allows them to support handbell activities. Without memberships Area 11 would have no way to organize and promote activities such as read and ring or festivals. I think often people don't realize that when they see 150 people at a festival, that may be only 10 memberships, so every membership is a big part of support for HMA activities. In addition, because we promote handbell ringing, there is a market for our handbell composers. What other musical field allows you to work with your favorite composers once or twice a year?! In short, even if your group does not have a membership you are benefiting from composers having a place to get their music heard and played. And how would new techniques get disseminated without an organization to experiment and develop these new techniques? Think "the singing bell".

Finally, think of this in terms of professions—we all support areas that we care about. And I don't think there is anything you can belong to for \$95 a year (less than \$8 a month). If we love ringing (and really do you know a handbell ringer who doesn't?) it is in all our best interests to keep HMA alive and furthering the art of handbell ringing!!

So join us! During our membership drive, you can get \$15 off an individual membership or a group membership. And tell a friend. We need HMA to keep on ringing. Area 11 Membership Drive continues through December 31, 2107.

During the joining process on Handbell Musicians of America website:

<http://handbellmusicians.org/membership/join-the-guild/>

enter one of the following codes:

AREA11-I for an individual membership

AREA11-G for a group membership

By entering one of those codes, you will automatically save \$15 off your registration fees.

****This offer is good for new members or any member whose membership has lapsed for two or more years.***

****This offer is only good for members of Area 11: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming***



Recognizing Area 11 Members



Cathie Olds, our C.H.I.M.E Chair, has decided to step down from her position after serving the area for seven years. Cathie has done a great job managing and administering the Area 11 Handchime Loan program. Cathie has been very enthusiastic about getting chimes in the schools of Area 11. She has been able to place all seven sets of chimes every school year. Many of those schools and churches went on to purchase their own chimes after the completion of the year long program. This is due entirely to Cathie's enthusiasm about chimes and helping each location get started and keep going throughout the school year. Area 11 appreciates all of Cathie's hard work and dedication to the CHIME loan program.

Thank you, Cathie, for everything you have done for Area 11 by helping children to be able to play chimes and start to learn about handbells and a young age!

RING OF FAME NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

In 2002, the Area 11 Board of Directors established the RING OF FAME to recognize and honor those who have made outstanding contributions to the art of handbell/handchime ringing. We would love to have your nominations for this award. Please consider nominating people you have worked with or know have made contributions. We will be recognizing some of these exceptional members from Area 11 during the 2018 Festival in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The full information for who is eligible for this award, as well as more information on the Ring of Fame or to nominate someone to receive the award, visit the following page on our website. <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/about-us/ring-of-fameselection-process/>

If you have questions, please contact Lorrie Hart, chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Accepting Submissions for Special Feature Articles

If you and/or your choir would like to share an event you have participated in or organized, we would love to feature you in our Area 11 Newsletters. If you would like to submit an article, send your submissions, including any pictures you have, to Mary Moffett at Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org. We're looking forward to hearing about the wonderful things happening with the handbell ringers in Area 11! You may also write an article on a topic of interest to the members of our area.

Special Feature Articles may be sent at any time and will be included in any future issue of our Area 11 Newsletter. You will receive an email telling you in which issue your article will be featured.

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Area 11 Upcoming Events



For additional information about each event on this page, visit our Area 11 website at <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/events-4/events/>



Area 11 Festival 2018
Albuquerque, New Mexico
June 21-24, 2018
Embassy Suites Hotel
in
Albuquerque
Registration is OPEN!

<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/area-festival-2018/area-festival-2018/>



Super Bell Saturday VI, Area-wide Read and Ring

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018

Location: Several locations around the Area!

Registration form can be found on our website!

Registration Deadline: Jan. 20, 2018



Find us on:
facebook®

2018 Spring Ring Events Around Area 11

Northern Colorado Handbell Festival

Date: Saturday, March 10, 2018

Clinician: Sondra Tucker

Location: Loveland, Colorado

Registration form and repertoire are available on the Area 11 website.

Utah Spring Ring

Date: Saturday, March 10, 2018

Clinician: Deborah Carr

Location: Riverton HS, Utah

Registration form and repertoire are available on the Area 11 website.

Wyoming Spring Ring

Date: Friday-Saturday, April 13-14, 2018

Clinician: Monica McGowan

Location: Ramkota Hotel, Casper, Wyoming

Additional details coming soon.

Arizona Spring Ring

Additional details coming soon.



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