

*distinctly* **bronze**  
*east*  
2024  
25<sup>th</sup>  
*Anniversary*



*Crescendo*

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March 3, 2024 • 4:00 PM

Riverfront Convention Center  
New Bern, North Carolina



**Handbell Musicians**  
O F A M E R I C A

# T ABLE OF CONTENTS

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UPCOMING EVENTS.....	1
CONCERT PROGRAM.....	2
ABOUT HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA .....	3
MEET THE CONDUCTORS.....	4
IN MEMORY OF TIMOTHY WAUGH .....	6
ABOUT THE CONCERT.....	8
RECOGNITION.....	14
PARTICIPANTS .....	14
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS .....	16



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

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## **Master Series 2024**

July 6-9, 2024

Connecticut Convention Center

Hartford, Connecticut

Composition with Sondra Tucker

Conducting with Dr. William Payn

Solo Ringing with Linda Krantz

## **National Seminar 2024**

July 9-13, 2024

Connecticut Convention Center

Hartford, Connecticut

## **Distinctly Teen 2024**

July 11-13, 2024

Connecticut Convention Center

Hartford, Connecticut

Erik Der, Conductor

## **21st International Handbell Symposium**

August 12-17, 2024

Hamamatsu, Japan

Hosted by the Handbell Ringers of Japan

## **Distinctly Bronze West 2024**

October 10-13, 2024

Vancouver Hilton

Vancouver, Washington

Fred Gramann, Conductor

# C ONCERT PROGRAM

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*Sunday, March 3, 2024 • 4:00 p.m.*

TODAY'S CONCERT IS DEDICATED TO  
TIMOTHY H. WAUGH - 1954-2024

*Nexus* ..... Matthew Compton

*All Time and Space* ..... Kathleen Wissinger

*Serenade* ..... Caleb Onstead

*Transit Time* ..... Kurt Meyer

Distinctly Bronze and Crescendo

*In the Shadow of Your Wings* ..... Karen Buckwalter

Crescendo

*Luna* ..... Sierra Tse

Distinctly Bronze and Crescendo

*Tongues of Flame* ..... Alex Guebert

*Dance of the Yao People* ..... Liu Tie Shan & Mao Yuan, arr. Toshikazu Yoshida

*Elegy* ..... Sondra Tucker

Crescendo

*Only Constant* ..... Jason Krug

Crescendo

*La Tempestad* ..... Mitchell Eithun

*The Thieving Magpie* ..... Gioachino Rossini, arr Martha Lynn Thompson

*Boulevard Promenade* ..... Michael Glasgow

*The Irish Washerwoman* ..... Leroy Anderson, arr. Hart Morris

*Soundscapes* ..... Matthew Compton

Winner of the David Davidson Composition Contest

# A BOUT HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA

## OUR MISSION

Handbell Musicians of America is dedicated to advancing the musical art of handbell/handchime ringing through education, community, and communication.

## OUR VISION

Uniting people to create a diverse community in which handbell musicians of every skill level realize their full potential through a musically respected art form.

## NATIONAL STAFF

Executive Director .....	Linda Onorevole
Business Manager .....	Ed Rollins
Publications Director .....	J.R. Smith
Director of National Events.....	Marie Clyatt-Larson
Music Advisor.....	Brian Childers
Area Events Coordinator .....	Vickie Iverson
Regional Membership Coordinators.....	Mya Dundzila (Areas 1-6) Kim Braswell (Areas 7-12)
Webmaster, Copy Editor.....	Michèle Sharik

## NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Greig Ashurst.....	President
Kathryn Jurado.....	President-Elect
Lynn Atkins.....	At-Large Member
Tracey Bowers.....	At-Large Member
Gillian Erlenborn.....	At-Large Member
David Harris.....	At-Large Member
Kathleen Wissinger.....	At-Large Member
Karen Eggert.....	Appointed Secretary

# M **EET THE CONDUCTORS**

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## **Emily Li, Distinctly Bronze**



Emily Li stands as a globally acclaimed handbell virtuoso hailing from Hong Kong, currently residing in Ontario, Canada. She is an accomplished conductor, composer, soloist, and educator with over 25 years of experience. Her fascination with and deep passion for handbells ignited in 1986. She is the artistic director of the Hong Kong Handbell Academy and Hong Kong Youth Handbell Ensemble, chairperson of the Handbell Association of Hong Kong, and the principal guest conductor of the Ministry of Bellz in Singapore.

Emily established the Hong Kong Handbell Academy in 2004, aiming to offer the public access to handbell resources and comprehensive professional training. She founded the Hong Kong Youth Handbell Ensemble (HKYHE) in 2005 and the Handbell Association of Hong Kong (HAHK) in 2006. She founded Canada Handbell Service in 2023 to continue her vision of nurturing handbell musicians in her area.

Emily believes that a solid foundation is essential in handbell training for all ages, and her enthusiasm lies in fostering holistic growth through handbell ringing, a passion she shares by guiding HKYHE to captivate audiences globally. These include the biennial International Handbell Symposium, the Asian Youth Arts Festival in Kagoshima, and concert tours in Taiwan, Singapore, the UK, Helsinki, Estonia, Canada, and the US.

Emily served as the director of several pivotal international handbell events, including Handbell Musicians of America's All-Star Choir (2014) and Distinctly Teen (2018) at the National Seminar and Area 1 Festival Conference (2023); The National Residential Ringing Week of Handbell Ringers of Great Britain (2015 & 2023); massed ringing director of the 15th, 16th, 17th and 20th International Handbell Symposium in the United Kingdom (2012), Korea (2014), Canada (2016) and the United States (2022); International conductor for the Youth Festival in the 18th International Handbell Symposium in Cairns (2018) and conductor of the 3rd Singapore Handbell Festival (2019). She has also been a faculty member of HMA's National Seminar and the International Handbell Symposium since 2012.

As a handbell soloist, Emily's performances have resonated across global stages in Hong Kong, China, Singapore, the UK, Estonia, the US, and Canada.

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## David Harris, Crescendo



David M. Harris has been the director of The Raleigh Ringers (Raleigh, North Carolina) 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 and England; on International Television on the Hour of Power program; as a showcase choir for Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar and Area Festivals; with the North Carolina and Virginia Symphony Orchestras; and as special guest

performers at the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York.

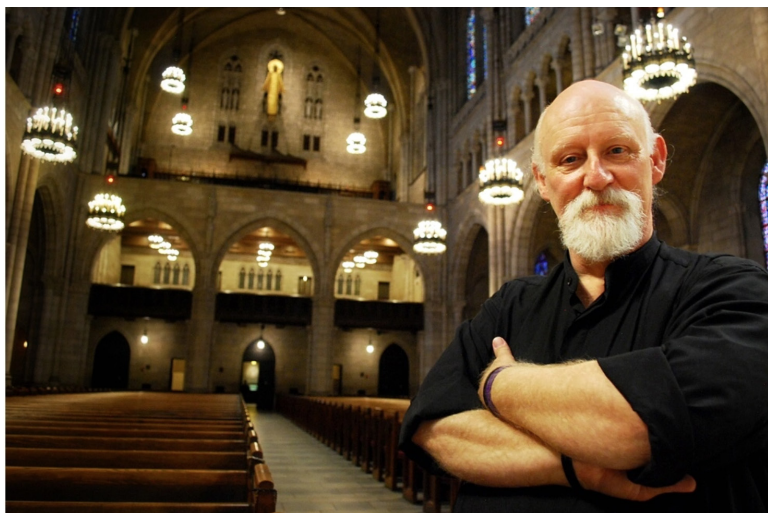
David is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University and has studied conducting privately with Dr. William Payn (Bucknell University). David has led well over 200 handbell festivals and workshops in 39 states as well as in England, Puerto Rico, Canada and the Caribbean. He has also been the primary 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 (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 Ringers and The Atlantic Ringers.

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# J N MEMORY

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**TIMOTHY H. WAUGH**  
**1954-2024**

We are deeply saddened at the news that internationally acclaimed conductor, composer, performance arts educator, and friend Tim Waugh passed away on Thursday evening, February 8, 2024. Tim was originally slated to conduct this year's Crescendo. He will be greatly missed by the handbell community, and we extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and music groups.

Tim was well known in many performance mediums, including handbell, choral, church music, and musical theatre. Early in his career, he became noted for his work in conducting and teaching children and youth, and was always excited to work with children of all ages. He was a tireless champion for performance arts in the church, classroom, and community.

He continued his work as an independent professional musician, including a career spanning over 33 years of public school music education and with award-winning choral groups in southern West Virginia. He also served many churches throughout his native West Virginia and in North Carolina.

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Tim most recently served as the artistic director and founding conductor of Charlotte Bronze Handbell Ensemble, a professional community choir, and a consultant to Charlotte Bronze Mid-Carolinas Handbell Festival, both based in uptown Charlotte, North Carolina. He also served as director of music and coordinator of worship arts at First Presbyterian Church in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Tim had a close relationship with HMA's event for advanced musicians, Distinctly Bronze, having rung in the early years with David Davidson and having compositions included in the DB repertoire. The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers board (now Handbell Musicians of America) named him a Master Teacher of Rhythm and Movement.

In 2008 Dean Jensen of The Handbell Podcast called Tim "the busiest guy in handbells" and he certainly worked hard in the following years to maintain that title. His conducting, workshop, and performance travels have taken him to almost every US state, four continents, and over 12 countries, including his ancestral Scotland, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Hong Kong, Canada, England, and Ireland.

Some of his most memorable performance venues include Simon Bolivar Hall (Center for Social Action through Music – Caracas); Riverside Church; Carnegie Hall, New York City; Hampton Court Palace, Surrey; Sheldonian Theatre, University of Oxford; St. Patrick's Cathedral; Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, and just about anywhere there were handbells to be found in Puerto Rico.

In addition to his work in handbells, he actively founded community choruses and music festivals and conducted or chaired many festivals for children's choir, middle and high school choirs, and bell festivals for all ages.

He has taught and conducted at International Symposium three times, including 1996-Albuquerque, where his commissioned piece "Fancye" was premiered, 2008-Orlando, where he was featured as the conductor for the first Distinctly Teen, and 2016-Vancouver, British Columbia, where he was the mentor/conductor for Sound Effects Youth Division, who premiered his piece "Recollection."

# A BOUT THE CONCERT

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"A Tapestry of Unity" threads through our repertoire, where each composition becomes a unique strand intricately woven to craft a harmonious whole. Each piece enriches our ensemble, from the cosmic resonance of "All Time and Space," symbolizing our connection with the universe, to the romantic nuances of "Serenade," portraying love's unity across distances. The rhythmic tour de force of "La Tempestad" and the classical richness of "The Thieving Magpie" celebrate the diversity within our group. "Boulevard Promenade" encapsulates the vibrant diversity of Las Vegas Boulevard, highlighting the beauty in our differences and our fundamental unity. From the traditional flair of "The Irish Washerwoman" to the innovative celebration of sound in "Soundscapes," our musical tapestry emerges as a profound expression of unity, resonating with the powerful threads of connection, love, diversity, and celebration. Each musical note resonates like a thread in the realm of handbell ringing, and collectively, we weave a vibrant tapestry of harmony. Just as a tapestry culminates from many threads, the unity in our ensemble is the beautiful synergy of unique individuals, creating a collective masterpiece.

## PROGRAM NOTES

(Each piece includes a subtitle that echoes the theme)

### **Nexus - Threads of Connection**

Commissioned by Pikes Peak Ringers, Atlanta Concert Ringers, and Forté Handbell Quartet, premiered as a surprise tribute at Kevin McChesney's final concert as conductor of Pikes Peak Ringers, "Nexus" is a fiery and captivating thread in our tapestry. With syncopation, mixed meters, and engaging melodic lines, it weaves connections between ringers and audiences from start to finish, honoring the unity in our shared passion for handbell music.

### **All Time and Space - Harmonies Across the Cosmos**

Commissioned in honor of Beth Ann Edwards, the opening theme features her initials: B-A-E. This stunning and ethereal masterwork explores the vastness of the universe in three distinct sections. Each section, from "Let There Be Light" to "The Great Expanse," challenges ringers with advanced techniques, creating a harmonious journey through time and space.

## ***Serenade - Love's Unity Across Distances***

An exquisite composition resonating with emotional currents, “Serenade” depicts the unity of love across distances. Composer Caleb Onstead’s heartfelt insights guide us through this beautiful piece, inviting the audience to immerse themselves in the tapestry of emotions.

## ***Transit Time - Rhythmic Journey of Delivery***

Inspired by the shipping and delivery experience, “Transit Time” is an upbeat, rhythmic piece reflecting the imagined journey of packages and mail. With dynamic techniques and contrasting textures, it engages ringers and entertains audiences while celebrating the unity in our shared modern experiences.

## ***In the Shadow of your Wings - Comfort, Solace, Protection***

An introspective original, “In the Shadow of Your Wings” explores themes of comfort and solace. It was dedicated in memory of Mrs. Sun-Joo Shin, a passionate advocate who tirelessly worked to share the joy of handbell ringing, bridging cultures from the East to the West. Her inspirational efforts have touched many souls across borders. The haunting melody of this composition, supported by gentle harmonies and handchimes, creates a contemplative mood, reminding us of the emotional threads woven into our collective tapestry.

## ***Luna - Celestial Harmony***

Another reflective piece, “Luna,” explores themes of comfort and protection with a poignant melody and evocative textures. Handchimes add a celestial touch, enhancing the contemplative mood and contributing to the emotional depth of our musical tapestry.

## ***Tongues of Flame - Spirited Celebration***

An inspiring and rhythmic show-stopper, “Tongues of Flame,” paints the fiery picture of the Pentecost story. Its dignified yet playful tone adds a spirited celebration thread to our tapestry.

## ***Dance of the Yao People - Cultural Celebration***

This captivating orchestral masterpiece, representing 20th-century China, is inspired by the culture of the Yao ethnic minority in the Hunan and Yunnan provinces. This evocative composition draws from the traditional Yao tribe music, known as the “Long-Drum Dance.” This arrangement vividly paints the landscape, capturing the joyous celebration and creating a mesmerizing thread in our diverse tapestry.

## **Elegy - Soulful Longings**

“Elegy” plumbs the depths of the soul, expressing poignant longings. Suitable for solemn occasions, it adds a reflective and emotional thread to our concert, contributing to the rich diversity of our musical tapestry.

## **Only Constant - Harmonic Threads of Unity**

This original work, commissioned by Three Rivers Ringers in honor of their tenth anniversary, is a driving tour-de-force full of vitality! It stands as a celebration of a decade of musical prowess, symbolizing the constant ascent of Three Rivers Ringers through the ever-evolving threads of handbell artistry.

## **La Tempestad - Rhythmic Storm**

“La Tempestad” is an invigorating masterpiece that evokes both Latin dance and a violent storm. It is inspired by the sounds of Latin dance music but defies any regular form by employing a constantly shifting meter. It adds an energetic and exciting thread to our diverse ensemble.

## **The Thieving Magpie - Mysterious Overture**

A transcription of Rossini’s overture from the fun two-act opera *The Thieving Magpie*, written in 1817. The story is about the mystery of a spoon stolen by a bird. This arrangement sets a military tone with malleted bass and triplets. It is challenging and lively and adds a mysterious and playful thread to our concert.

## **Boulevard Promenade - Joie de Vivre on the Strip**

Commissioned for the 20th anniversary of Harmony Handbells of Las Vegas, “Boulevard Promenade” captures the city’s carefree spirit. The composer intends to harness the city’s live-and-let-live, carefree *joie de vivre*. This charming, jazzy musical stroll adds a lively and diverse thread to our tapestry.

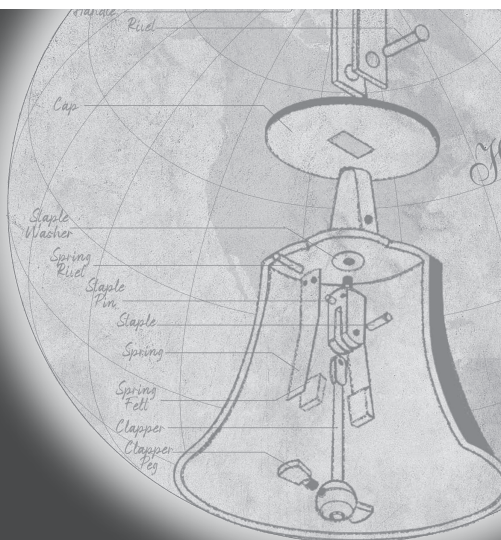
## **The Irish Washerwoman - Rollicking Celtic Joy**

Leroy Anderson’s lively rendition challenges ringers with competing melodic lines and chromatic changes. The lively tempo only increases as the piece progresses, creating a rollicking and joyous thread in our concert tapestry. It’s a challenge to ringers in every way possible.

## **Soundscapes - Celebration of Sounds**

This winner of the David Davidson Composition Contest is an experimental composition that uses different sound effects and handbell types to create a wide range of timbre. A “water bell” technique is used in the middle section to create a unique sound effect. As an avant-garde thread in our tapestry, “Soundscapes” is a celebration of sounds that combine the past and the future.

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### DISTINCTLY BRONZE PARTICIPANTS

Stephanie Alm - NC  
Kim Almandmoss - IN  
Marlene Anderson - WA  
Lisa Arnold - MA  
Linda Ashley - NE  
Diane Barnes - OR  
Greg Bayless - OH  
Kat Bendt - NC†  
Regina Blackman - SC†  
Laura Blauch - NC  
Ellen Blue Daniels - NC  
Shirley Bockstahler-Brandt - MD  
Lynn Bogovich - MD  
Chris Boswell - MN  
Laveita Brinson - NC  
Ruth Brown - NC  
David Brown - NC  
Clarice Brown - MI  
Jodi Caldwell - KS  
Jay Carter - NC  
Jenny Cauhorn - OH†  
Matthew Compton - WA  
Jerry Conry - TX  
Donna Countryman - NC  
Philip Cress - NC  
Kathe Cunningham - CO  
Jeannie Cushman - VT  
Linda Duffendack-Oxley - OR  
Lynn Duhon - TX  
Mya Dundzila - ME  
Joyce Easter - VA  
Beth Ann Edwards - IA  
Mitchell Eithun - WI†  
Peter Engstrom - PA  
Josh Fitzgerald - TX  
Christine Fox-Roberts - DE  
Amy Fugate - PA†  
Michael Glasgow - NC  
Lisa Grainger - SC†  
Teri Gregory - MD  
Sharon Griffith - NC†  
David Lee Grossman - SC†  
Mary Kathy Grove - MI  
Greg Guinther - VA  
Michael Handy - NC  
Ben Harris - TX  
Sandy Haynes - VA  
Amber Hitchcock - NC  
Tessique Houston - CA  
Jeanne Jessup - FL  
Malia Johnson - WA  
Kathryn Jurado - FL  
Karen Kaneko Baker - AZ  
Cindy Karm - TX  
Sandy Keeney - MD  
Lynn Key - WI†  
Nancy Kindraka - MI  
Penny Kindraka - MI  
Ashley Knoy - NC†  
Amanda Kosloski - VA  
Linda Krantz - CA  
Patricia Lane - MD  
Stephanie LaShoto-Westfield - MA  
Grace Lau - WA  
Steve Leadbetter - FL  
Scott Leggett - CA  
Lois Leong - IN†  
Leslie Lewis - NC\*  
Dee Loux - NC  
Hillary Marotta - PA  
Beth Mays Loebig - CA  
Elizabeth McCarthy - VA  
Monica McGowan - SD  
Barbara Meinke - CA  
Linda Minnotte - PA  
Tammera Missel - VA  
Carol Lynn Mizell - TX  
Diana Montgomery - TX  
Ellen Moretz - NC\*  
William Murphy - FL  
Julie Murphy - IA  
Kathy Murray - IL  
Alis Nikolson - FL  
Stacey Nordmeyer - WI  
Laurel Ohlson - VA†  
Laura Olsen - IL  
Paul Owen - OH†  
Chad Parker - MD  
Gillian Penn - VA  
Cyndi Peterik - NC†  
Tracy Peterson - NE  
Pat Pranger - VT  
Deb Price - MI†  
Gretchen Rauch - CA  
Camille Ream - Alberta, Canada  
Heather Riley - NC

Sheri Roach - MT  
 Linnette Rodriguez - Puerto Rico  
 Kristen Russo - CT  
 Susan Schultz - MA  
 Susan Schwartz - MN  
 Brian Seemann - VA  
 Chris Shaheen - DC  
 Sarah Sheffield - NC  
 Laura Shelton - VA  
 Shelly Siemer - IA  
 Tricia Smith - NC  
 Sterling Smith - NC  
 Melissa Smith - MD  
 Diane Sorrels - TX  
 Casey Spring - MA†  
 Ruth Stevens - NC  
 Brenda Swindle - TX  
 Cathy Taylor - TX  
 Joyce Terry - MD\*

Cathy Thill - NE  
 Elaine Turner - FL  
 Heidi Twedt - WI  
 Fran Underwood - VA  
 Greg Urban - MA  
 Marquise Usher - CA  
 Wilson Van Tine - TX  
 Sharon Vogrinetz - Alberta, Canada  
 Lacey Ward - VA  
 Jessica Westgard Larson - ND  
 Lisa Woerner - NC  
 Joyce Wolfe - NC  
 Justin Wooten - NC  
 Laura Wrubel - VA  
 Jo Ann Youhas - VA

Special Designations  
 \* All-time attendee  
 † First-time attendee

## CRESCENDO PARTICIPANTS

Cylinda Areno - TX†  
 Charles Arnold - MA  
 Kathy Boyd - OH†  
 Monty Brekke - NC†  
 Peg Broughton - NC†  
 Wendy Cheng - MD  
 Cheryl Classen-Atkisson - NE  
 Ande Deaton - FL†  
 Carol Edwards - PA†  
 Jan Harper - AZ  
 Cindy Hawkins - CA†  
 Ruth Haynie - KY  
 Phil Herold - NC†

Kathy Holden - TX  
 Dana Humphreys - ME†  
 Mark Keeney - MD  
 Danny Lyons - FL†  
 David Mangler - DE  
 Lisa McCulloch - CA†  
 Jacinda McMeel - MA†  
 Patrick Missel - VA†  
 Marci Nuoffer - NV†  
 Marcia Payne-Wooten - NC  
 J.R. Smith - OH  
 Lisa Spring - MA†  
 Cindy Wersosky - VA†

## PARTICIPATION BY STATE/PROVINCE

Alberta, Canada	2	Minnesota	2
Arizona	2	Montana	1
California	9	North Carolina	31
Colorado	1	North Dakota	1
Connecticut	1	Nebraska	4
Washington, D.C.	1	Nevada	1
Delaware	2	Ohio	5
Florida	8	Oregon	2
Iowa	3	Pennsylvania	5
Illinois	2	Puerto Rico	1
Indiana	2	South Carolina	3
Kansas	1	South Dakota	1
Kentucky	1	Texas	13
Massachusetts	8	Virginia	16
Maryland	10	Vermont	2
Maine	2	Washington	4
Michigan	5	Wisconsin	4

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*We are grateful to Distinctly Bronze founder David Davidson (1948-2009) for creating this special event 25 years ago.*

*A special thank you to the companies and individuals whose generous contributions and hard work make Distinctly Bronze possible:*


Distinctly Bronze East Conductor • Emily Li  
Crescendo Conductor • David Harris  
Distinctly Bronze East Chair • Sheryl Martin  
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Christine Fox-Roberts	The Raleigh Ringers
Teri Gregory	Brian Seemann
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Tessique Houston	Virginia Bronze
Leslie Lewis	Tim Waugh
David Mangler	



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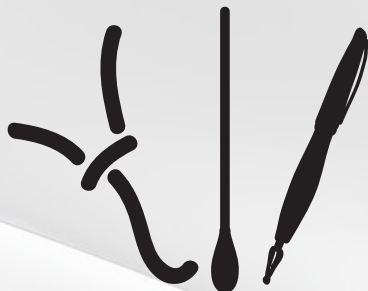
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Handbell Musicians of America

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July 9-13, 2024

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*master series*

July 6-9, 2024



July 11-13, 2024

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