



Handbell Musicians
O F A M E R I C A

Area 4

Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas and Virgin Islands

2025 Florida Handbell Festival

Karen Buckwalter, Clinician

March 21 - 22, 2025 - Brandon, FL

Nativity Catholic Church

705 E Brandon Blvd. Brandon, Florida 33511

Registration Open for HMA Members

\$85 per person before 2/15/25

\$95 per person after 2/15/25

Registration Opens January 22, 2025 for Non-Members

\$110 per person

Registrations for both members and non-members will be accepted through March 1, 2025 as space allows.

Karen Buckwalter, Clinician

Karen Buckwalter, a distinguished organist, pianist and composer, served as a full time Minister of Music for 37 years in Hanover, PA. A graduate of Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ and The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, she is internationally known in the field of handbell composition. Recognized for her original compositions such as "Soliloquy for Bells" and "Nocturne in a minor," she now has over 140 handbell/choral compositions in print. She has earned enthusiastic praise for her creative compositions, her colorful harmonies and her use of chromatics that have raised the musicality in handbell music as a genre. Sought after as a handbell conductor/clinician throughout the country, her works have been performed and recorded in the United States, Asia and Europe.



Tentative Schedule

Friday

9:30am	Bronze Choir Rehearsal
10:30am	Check-in Opens
12:00pm	Lunch on your own*
1:00pm	Opening Bell
1:15pm	Mass Rehearsal
3:00pm	Session 1 Tin - Rehearsal Copper - Workshops
4:00pm	Session 2 Tin - Workshops Copper - Rehearsal
5:00pm	Mass Rehearsal
6:00pm	Bronze Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm	Dinner/ Social Event

Saturday

8:00am	Bronze Choir Rehearsal
9:00am	Announcements
9:15am	Mass Rehearsal
10:15am	Session 3 Tin - Workshops Copper - Rehearsal
11:15am	Session 4 Tin - Rehearsal Copper - Workshops
12:00pm	Lunch/ Shopping
1:15pm	Mass Rehearsal
3:00pm	Showcase Concert
4:00pm	Depart and Safe Travels

* Prepay lunch option available for \$12 per person

Repertoire

You must purchase these before attending, **no photocopies allowed**. Please come with the music fully prepared so that the conductor can focus on the musicality of the pieces instead of notes and rhythms.

Tin

Larghetto in D minor

Michael Mazzatenta
L2, Lorenz 20/2142

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Arr. Shawn Gingrich
L2, Choristers Guild CGB1351

Copper

In the Shadow of Your Wings

Karen L. Buckwalter
L3, Beckenhorst Press HB787

Gypsy Song

Glen Adkins & Tammy Waldrop
L3, Alfred AP36510

Mass

Easter Joy

John Behnke
L2+, AGEHR AG35260

Alleluia (Honduras Alleluia)

Patricia Hurlbutt
L3, GIA G-10221

A Highland Blessing

Derek Hakes
L3, From the Top 20788

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Cathy Moglebust
L2+, Choristers Guild CGB1331

Bronze

Prayer for Healing

Karen Buckwalter
L4, AG46017

American Carillon

James Weber
L4, Beckenhorst HB625

Festival Information

On-Site Check-in & Set-up

Set-up and check-in is between 10:30am and 1:00pm on Friday. If you have your own tables, you are encouraged to bring them. Table rental fees are on the registration form. You should also bring foam, covers and any equipment needed for ringing. Food and drinks are not allowed on the tables. Drinks should be capped, spill proof, and kept beneath the tables.

Orphans & Orphan Hosts

We will try to place orphans in your desired ringing position or as close as possible in a 'host' choir. Please mark orphan on the registration form. Please do not opt out of bringing your own equipment for convenience as orphan placement is limited. Choirs who are bringing equipment and have some positions open for orphans, please indicate those positions on the registration page.

Youth

Youth choirs are welcome to participate in the festival at the proper level of their ability. Underage participants (17 and younger) must be chaperoned (one adult, 21 years and older, per 6 ringers under the age of 17). Non-ringing chaperones may register as a guest for \$35. Ringing chaperones must register as a ringer. A notarized medical release form is required for underage participants (see page 9).

Bronze Choir

This group is for individuals or groups who would like to ring additional advanced music. Participating requires you to purchase additional music and prepare it **before** arriving at the festival. There will be additional rehearsals and **you must attend all rehearsals** to participate in the Bronze Choir. Fill out the Bronze Choir registration form on page 8 and complete your registration by February 15, 2025. This choir will require a minimum number of ringers. We will try to have all assignments out within the following week which will give the ringer a month to rehearse the music and their assigned part.

Refunds

There is a non-refundable \$25 administration fee charged on all refunds requested before March 1, 2025. No refunds will be given after March 1, 2025, but you may transfer the registration to another ringer.

Classes

A description of classes with instructors will be available on our website in February, 2025. If there is a class you would like to see, or if you would like to be considered as an instructor, please email the Florida Chair at fl.area4@handbellmusicians.org. We greatly appreciate your feedback!

Dress

Dress casual, wear comfortable shoes and layer for AC. Please no cologne/perfumes as your neighbor may have allergies. No special dress is required for the concert but matching shirts or outfits are encouraged.

Festival Information Continued

Meals

We will be providing dinner on Friday night and a light breakfast (donuts/coffee) and lunch on Saturday. Snacks and beverages will be available during the festival. If you need vegetarian meals, you must order them for the entire event.

Lunch on Friday can be pre-ordered for an additional \$12.00 per person (pizza or something similar).

Lodging

A hotel list will be made available soon. You will be emailed the hotel block details mid to late January.

Lighting

The lighting in the ringing room may not be the same in all areas. Please feel free to bring a music light if you prefer.

Music

You must purchase and prepare the music before attending. The conductor will focus on the musicality of the pieces instead of notes and rhythms.

No photocopies of the music allowed. If you use an electronic device you must have written permission from the publisher per the Handbell Musician guidelines ([Click here](#) for electronic music guidelines).

Payment and Registration Options

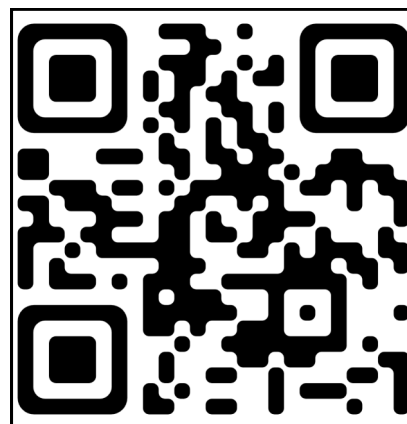
If you are attending as a group, please send registration money in a single payment. Registration fees can be paid by check (made payable to “Handbell Musicians of America—Area 4”, via PayPal (paypal.me/Area4Handbells), or through Zelle (treasurer.area4@handbellmusicians.org). Please add a transaction fee of \$5 per person if paying through PayPal.

Registration forms may be mailed (William J. Murphy, Area 4 Chair, 1120 Fennel Green Drive, Seffner, Florida 33584) or emailed (fl.area4@handbellmusicians.org).

You may also (and are encouraged) to complete the Registration process through Google Forms: [CLICK HERE](#) or scan the QR code with your phone.

Deadline

The early-bird deadline for members to register for the festival is February 15, 2025. Non-members can begin registering on January 22, 2025. The deadline for registrations is March 1, 2025 as space allows.



2025 Annual Florida State Handbell Festival Registration Form

Early Bird Registration Deadline: February 15, 2025
Final Registration Deadline: March 1, 2025 (or as space allows)

Contact Name: _____ Guild Membership #: _____

I am registering on behalf of a group

I am registering as an individual and I prefer to ring in the _____ and/or _____ position.

Church/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email (to be used for Area 4 events) _____

Best phone number to reach you: _____

Ringling Division (Choose one): Tin Copper

Floor Space Required: 2 octaves/12 feet 2-3 octaves/18 feet 3 octaves/24 feet

4 octaves/30 feet 5 octaves/36 feet Other: _____ feet

We are willing to host orphans within our choir.

We have these positions available: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

We will need _____ additional feet of tables for orphans.

Our group would like to perform the following selection in the final Showcase (We encourage full groups to perform a song in the final Showcase! With a supportive community, this is your chance to shine!) If you do not have a song chosen, please just check mark the box and then let us know by March 1, 2025 what the song will be for the program. Email fl.area4@handbellmusicians.org:

Title: _____ Catalog Number _____

Composer: _____ Performance Time _____ min _____ Sec

I/we give consent for pictures taken at the festival to be used for promotional purposes.

I/we give consent for video and/or live stream to be taken at the festival for use on social media.

2025 Annual Florida State Handbell Festival Registration Form (continued)

For ALL registrants (ringers/youth/guests/chaperones), submit the first and last names of the attendees using their **preferred first/last name** (for their nametag). For each person, circle ALL the applicable codes:

BC: Participating in the Bronze Choir **FL:** Friday Lunch (additional charge) **G:** Guests/Chaperones **V:**Vegetarian Meals **GF:** Gluten-free (*We are sorry we cannot yet accommodate vegan or other special diets.*)

1.	_____	BC FL G V GF
2.	_____	BC FL G V GF
3.	_____	BC FL G V GF
4.	_____	BC FL G V GF
5.	_____	BC FL G V GF
6.	_____	BC FL G V GF
7.	_____	BC FL G V GF
8.	_____	BC FL G V GF
9.	_____	BC FL G V GF
10.	_____	BC FL G V GF
11.	_____	BC FL G V GF
12.	_____	BC FL G V GF
13.	_____	BC FL G V GF
14.	_____	BC FL G V GF
15.	_____	BC FL G V GF
16.	_____	BC FL G V GF
17.	_____	BC FL G V GF
18.	_____	BC FL G V GF

2025 Annual Florida State Handbell Festival Registration Payment Form

Registration Costs

Rental Tables (6' tables)	<i>Number of Tables Needed</i>	_____	x \$15	\$ _____
Friday Lunch (pre-order only)		_____	x \$12	\$ _____
Member Registration*	<i>Postmarked by 2/15/2025</i>	_____	x \$85	\$ _____
	<i>After 2/15/2025</i>	_____	x \$95	\$ _____
Non-Member Registration		_____	x \$110	\$ _____
Guest Registration (for meals)	<i>Number of Guests</i>	_____	x \$35	\$ _____

Registration Total **\$ _____**

Payments can be made via check or PayPal.

Checks: Make checks payable to "Handbell Musicians of America, Area 4". Please submit one check if registering as a group. Checks can be mailed to William J. Murphy, Area 4 Chair.

PayPal: Online payments can be made through PayPal at [PayPal.me/Area4Handbells](https://www.paypal.com/area4handbells). Please add a transaction fee of \$5 per person to your payment. If you have questions concerning PayPal, please contact Michael Lamb: treasurer.area4@handbellmusicians.org BEFORE submitting payment.

Zelle: Another way for online payment is through Zelle, email address treasurer.area4@handbellmusicians.org. There is no transaction fee. If you have questions concerning PayPal, please contact Michael Lamb: treasurer.area4@handbellmusicians.org BEFORE submitting payment.

Mail registration forms and checks to the address below. Registration forms can be emailed to fl.area4@handbellmusicians.org if paying by PayPal or Zelle.

William J. Murphy, Area 4 Chair
1120 Fennel Green Drive
Seffner, FL 33584

Registrar Use Only

Payment: Check # _____ PayPal Confirmation # (last 6 digits) _____

Registration received: _____ online _____ mail Confirmation sent _____

2024 Annual Florida State Handbell Festival Bronze Choir Registration Form

**Please fill out one form per person participating in the Bronze Choir.
Registration for Bronze Choir is due by February 15, 2025.**

Name: _____

Church/Organization: _____

Email: _____

Best phone number to reach you: _____

Please rank your preferred ringing locations (1-most preferred,4-least preferred, X if you will not play in a certain area)

Low Bass (C3-B3) _____

Bass (C4-A4) _____

Battery (B4-B5) _____

Treble (C6-C8)* _____

**Treble must play 4-in-hand*

Have you ever rung with Florida Bronze/Bronze Under the Sun? Yes No

Have you ever rung at Distinctly Bronze? Yes No

Please return forms to: fl.area4@handbellmusician.org or William J. Murphy, Area 4 Chair, 1120 Fennel Green Drive, Seffner, Florida 33584.

If you have never rung in one of the above Bronze Choirs, please provide a name and e-mail address of someone who can recommend you for this choir.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Parental Consent and Medical Authorization (For participants under 18 years old)

Name of Registrant: _____ Birth Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____ (home) _____ (cell)

Evening Phone Number: _____ (home) _____ (cell)

As the parent (or legal guardian), I give my permission for _____
(attendee name) to participate in the 2025 Florida Handbell Festival Musicians of America Event on March 21-22, 2025 at Nativity Catholic Church in Brandon, FL.

_____(initial) I also give consent for pictures taken at the festival to be used for promotional purposes. And video and/or live stream on social media.

Medical Treatment Authorization

It is my understanding that the Handbell Musicians of America, Area 4 will attempt to notify me in case of a medical emergency involving my student. If a representative from Area 4 cannot reach me, then I give authorization to the chaperone accompanying my student to hire a doctor or health-care professional, and I give my permission to the doctor or other healthcare professional, to provide the medical services he or she may deem necessary. I will pay for any medical expenses so incurred.

Allergies or other health considerations: _____

Insurance Company: _____ Policy/Group #s: _____

Name of parent or guardian (please print): _____

Signature of parent or guardian: _____

Person to contact other than parent in an emergency:

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE NOTARIZED

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF _____

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 20 ____,

by _____.

(NOTARY SEAL)

Signature of Notary Public

Name of Notary, Typed, Printed, or Stamped

Personally Known OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced _____

Florida Festival Advertising Information

Deadline March 1, 2025

The Annual Florida State Handbell Festival is being held at the Nativity Catholic Church in Brandon, FL this March. We hope many of you in the Handbell Industry Council and other business or concert organizations will join in supporting this event by placing an advertisement in our festival booklet. Remember that many of our participants are Florida "snowbirds" who come from all over our nation, and often carry your message, via this booklet.

All submissions for publication should be "camera-ready" images, actual business cards, or clean copies that may be scanned and resized as needed (please have in pdf, jpg, or png format). The Back and Inner Back pages are first come, first served and must be full pages.

Company or Group Name: _____ Date: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Office Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Page Size:

Full Page—Back Cover (Color) (4.5" x 7.5") \$150

Full Page—Inside Back Cover (Color) (4.5" x 7.5") \$100

All others are within the booklet.

Full Page—Color (4.5" x 7.5") \$75

Full Page—B&W (4.5" x 7.5") \$60

Half Page—Color (4.5" x 3.75") \$45

Half Page—B&W (4.5" x 3.75") \$35

We will reach out to you with confirmation of your ad placement and an invoice.

Send JPG (preferred), png or pdf of your ad to:

fl.area4@handbellmusicians.org