



Handbell Musicians
O F A M E R I C A

| Area 1

Massachusetts Spring Ring

(formerly the Merrimack Valley English Handbell Festival)

December 10, 2011

Dear Handbell Director,

You and your choir(s) are invited to participate in the Massachusetts Spring Ring (formerly the Merrimack Valley English Handbell Festival) to be held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 in the gymnasium of Tewksbury Memorial High School in Tewksbury, MA.

Invitations are being sent to groups throughout Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire and beyond! Although the facilities allow space for many choirs to participate, we were near maximum capacity last year. An early registration will ensure your participation and a good location on the ringing floor.

The highlight of the Festival will be the presentation of a concert, which will be open to the public. Your choir will have the opportunity to participate in "massed ringing" when all choirs will play simultaneously under the direction of one conductor. In addition, if you would like, your choir or ensemble (1-6 ringers) may also perform a solo piece of music. Solo selections are limited to five minutes (including set up and applause) so that many groups may have this opportunity. Please note that solos will be assigned by date of receipt of the registration form and last minute additions will only be permitted as space in the program allows.

The massed selections are listed below. Please purchase sufficient copies for your ringers and rehearse the music thoroughly ahead of time. Our rehearsal time together is limited and is intended for developing an ensemble performance, rather than learning the music.

**Please note – The Guild strictly adheres to copyright laws.
NO PHOTOCOPIES of any published music will be allowed.**

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" - arr. Cathy Moglebust - CGB362 L4
<http://handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?piece=10460>

"Prelude on Thaxted" - Michael Helman - AG36045 L3
<http://handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?Piece=14153>

"Three Sketches" - Cynthia Dobrinski - MHP2351 L3
<http://www.handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?Piece=11200>

We are also planning a Tins (formerly known as Youth) Division again this year.

"Laudare" - Kathleen Wissinger - CGB599 – L1+

<http://www.handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?Piece=12976>

The schedule for the Festival will be as follows:

2:00 – 3:00 individual choir setup and rehearsals as scheduled
3:00 – 4:30 massed rehearsal – **Copper** Division in gym
4:30 – 5:00 individual choir rehearsals as scheduled
5:00 – 5:30 massed rehearsal – **Tins** Division in gym
5:00 – 6:00 supper and fellowship (bag supper) – **Copper** in cafeteria
5:30 – 6:00 individual choir rehearsals as scheduled
5:30 – 6:30 supper and fellowship (bag supper) – **Tins** in cafeteria
6:00 – 6:30 final massed rehearsal – **Copper** in gym
7:00 – 8:30 concert in gym
8:30 – tear down and refreshments in cafeteria

Registration cost is \$7.50 per ringer (you may list multiple choirs on a single form), which covers performance royalties, guest musicians, massed conductors, and insurance liability coverage. Participants typically bring a bag supper and share fellowship time together before the final rehearsal. Following the concert they enjoy refreshments with the audience, which are supplied by the participant groups. The program is sponsored by the Handbell Musicians of America.

If you would like to be part of this exciting event, **please fill out the enclosed registration form and return it to David Wurth by March 1, 2012.** Please give this opportunity serious consideration as you plan your calendar of events for the spring.

All questions about registrations can be sent to David Wurth at maspringring@gmail.com

Please mail your completed registration, and check or money order made out to **AGEHR AREA I, INC**, to:

David Wurth, Registrar MSR
79 Proctor St
Salem, Massachusetts 01970

I look forward to seeing you in March,

Gail Granum, Massachusetts Chair
Handbell Musicians of America, Area 1

MASSACHUSETTS SPRING RING 2012

REGISTRATION FORM

Tewksbury Memorial High School

Patrick Gagnon, Music Director

March 24, 2012

Your Name _____ The Guild Membership # _____

Mailing Address _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone _____

Name of Church/School _____

Address _____

Coppers Choir Name _____ # of ringers _____ Youth? Y / N

Director's Name _____

Tins Choir Name _____ # of ringers _____ Youth? Y / N

Director's Name _____

Total number of ringers registering _____ @ \$7.50 per ringer = \$ _____

We are bringing _____ linear feet of tables. Please be accurate in your space request. If your space needs change due to a change in the number of ringers, you MUST notify us.

We would like to perform in the final concert:

Title _____

Composer _____

Performers (choir name, soloist, ensemble) _____

For multiple groups, please list additional requests on the back of this form.

----- To avoid duplication, the musical selection(s) will be confirmed by the registrar via e-mail. -----

We have room for # _____ orphan ringers at the following position(s): _____

I am an orphan ringer and am willing to ring the following position(s): _____

Please make checks payable to *AGEHR Area I, Inc.*

Please print out and complete this form
and return via "snail mail"

WITH PAYMENT by March 1, 2012 to:

David Wurth
Registrar MSR
79 Proctor St
Salem, Ma 01970

Questions? Email David Wurth maspringring@gmail.com