



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA

AREA 3

Directors' Seminar

conducting

the art of directing
a musical performance by way
of visible gestures

Dr. William A. Payn
Guest Clinician/Conducting Track

Kath Wissinger
Square One

Larry Henning
3D - Dig, Delve & Direct

Debbie Henning
Get Ready, Get SET, Go

and more

Directors' Seminar
Friday & Saturday, August 14-15, 2015

Marriott Chesapeake Hotel
725 Woodlake Dr.
Chesapeake, VA 23320

GENERAL INFORMATION

The following information pertains to the Directors Seminar.

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND

- * To energize myself before rehearsals begin
- * To network with other directors/educators
- * To build my skills as a director/educator
- * To work with a master conductor

WHO MAY ATTEND

- * New or experienced handbell directors/educators
- * Prospective New Directors
- * Directors who work with children, youth or adults in a church, community or school setting

WHAT SHOULD I BRING

- * Registrants SHOULD bring their music folder/notebook or tabletop music stand and GLOVES. Registrants are encouraged to bring mallets for the bell range they prefer to play.
- * Bells and padded tables will be furnished.

TRAVELING TO CHESAPEAKE

- * The traffic in this area is always congested especially around rush hour. This year, the Directors Seminar is scheduled to begin in the early afternoon to help you avoid the traffic.

REGISTRATION

- * Registration is now open. Register early!
- * Registrants will be accepted until August 5, 2015.
- * The registrar will acknowledge registration within two weeks of receipt.

NEW THIS YEAR!

FRIDAY AFTERNOON TRACKS

Friday afternoon has been designed as a three (3) hour concentrated session. These tracks have been designed with every type of director in mind. Whether you are a beginning, intermediate or an advanced director leading a church, school or community handbell or handchime choir, there is something for you. You choose one of the following tracks: *Square One* (Beginning Director) - presented by Kath Wissinger; *3D - Dig, Delve & Direct* (Intermediate/Advanced Director) - presented by Larry Henning; *Get Ready, Get SET, Go* (Small Ensemble Track) - presented by Debbie Henning.

CONDUCTING TRACKS

Dr. William Payn, master conductor and guest clinician, will be leading a two hour track (two one hour sessions) on conducting. You will choose the level of conducting that you need - beginning, intermediate or advanced (see track descriptions in this brochure). Each registrant will have an opportunity to work briefly with Bill while directing a demo choir on a piece for that level of conducting. Depending on the number of registrants for the track that you choose, you may have more than one coaching session with Bill.

YOUTH ALL-STAR CHOIR

The first Youth All-Star Choir, under the direction of guest conductor Al Reese, will be happening during the Director Seminar. Auditioned chosen youth in completed 6th through 12th grade will be rehearsing during the event. This choir will also serve as the demo choir for the Beginning Conducting Track. They will be performing a concert for you at the end of the seminar.

CLOSING CONCERT

Virginia Handbell Consort, the premier handbell ensemble in the Hampton Roads area since 1996, and the Youth All-Star Choir will be performing on the closing concert. Before returning home, take time to hear these ensemble in concert. VHC will be the demo choir for the Intermediate & Advanced Conducting Tracks.

FEES

- * Significant discounts are offered for early registrations.
- * **Handbell Musicians Member: \$184 (\$159 if postmarked by June 19, 2015).**
- * **Non-Handbell Musicians of America Member: \$269 (\$244 if postmarked by June 19, 2015). One year membership fee to Handbell Musicians of America included in this option.**
- * \$25 of your registration fee is nonrefundable for cancellations through June 19 2015. **Please note that there are no refunds after June 19, 2015 regardless of reason.**

HOTEL: Marriott Chesapeake Hotel

- * Marriott Chesapeake Hotel - 725 Woodlake Dr., Chesapeake, VA 23320.
- * Reservations must be made on your own by calling 757-523-1500.
- * Special seminar rate is \$109 (plus city tax 8%, VA tax 6% plus \$1 per night city occupancy tax).
- * Reservations should be received by the Hotel by **July 24, 2015**. Reservations received after that date will be accepted on a space and rate available basis. Mention the Handbell Musicians of America Area 3 event to get the preferred rate.
- * Parking is free.
- * Find them on the web at <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfgr-marriott-chesapeake/>.

EMAIL INFORMATION

- * Event information packets will be sent to the email address that you provided on your registration form.
- * So that information does not go to your junk mailbox, please enter the following addresses to accept this information:
debbiehen@gmail.com; handbellhog@gmail.com.

MEALS

- * Friday dinner & Saturday breakfast are on your own.
- * A sit down lunch will be served on Saturday and is included in the registration fee.

VENDORS (application form required)

- * HIC and HMA nonprofit vendors will be invited to display and sell handbell music, supplies, equipment and boutique items. The seminar has several "shopping" times built into the schedule.
- * If you would like to be a vendor at the seminar, contact Debbie Henning at debbiehen@gmail.com or 410-848-5482.

ACCESSIBILITY

- * The hotel is handicapped accessible.

SILENT AUCTION

- * In order to reach Area 3's goal of starting new handchime programs in schools through the CHIME Loan Program and the CHIME Grant Program, we are holding Silent Auctions at Area 3 events in order to raise monies for purchasing a 3 octave set of chimes and beginning resource materials for selected schools.
- * We plan to continue this endeavor every year. So, we ask you to bring something to place in the Silent Auction at the monetary value of at least \$30 - CDs, gift certificates, gift basket from your choir, etc. Help us get handchimes into the schools.

MENTORING PROGRAM

- * Area 3 has a mentoring program that provides individuals or groups to welcome you to the Directors Seminar, help you find your way around, advise you on the best classes to attend and just to make your first experience a positive one.
- * Area 3 also has a program that provides individuals or groups to come to your church or rehearsal space to hold workshops for your ringers. There will be a request form in your registration packet which you will receive at the event with more information about our mentoring program.
- * For more information about these programs, contact the Mentor Chair, Ken Bissell at KenBHandbells@aol.com.

Questions ???

Debbie Henning, Coordinator of Events

410-848-5482

debbiehen@gmail.com

Guest Clinicians



William Payn retired in May, 2014 as Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at Bucknell University. Active as a composer since the early 70's, Payn has over 50 published compositions. His works are performed virtually every week in the United States and abroad. He is in constant demand as a handbell clinician and festival conductor throughout the world. Payn has conducted in four national festivals and numerous area festivals, as well as for the international symposium in New Mexico for the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. In 1988, he traveled to Japan, where he served as clinician and guest conductor for the Handbell Ringers of Japan and the ringers at Kwansei Gakuin University. Most recently he has conducted for several major advanced level events including Synergy (New Windsor, Maryland), Virtuoso (Raleigh, North Carolina), Distinctly Bronze East and West (New Bern, North Carolina and Portland, Oregon), Classic Bronze (Edmonton, Canada) and Bronzefest (Akron, Ohio). His annual conducting Masterclasses sponsored by the Handbell Musicians of America have attracted

professional musician from all over the world for many years. Payn received his Bachelor of Music degree from Westminster Choir College and his Doctor of Musical Arts in organ and harpsichord literature from West Virginia University. As a member of the American Choral Directors Association, Payn has served as Pennsylvania state president and as accompanist for the National Children's Honors Choir. Information about him appears in two reference publications: *Contemporary American Composers: A Biographical Dictionary*, and *Who's Who in American Music: Classical*. In retirement, Dr. Payn continues to serve as a frequent guest conductor and clinician, write choral and handbell music, and conduct the Susquehanna Valley Chorale and Orchestra with four major performances each season. Along with his wife, Ruth, Dr. Payn enjoys visiting their children and 7 grandchildren, world travel, and relaxing in the quiet countryside on their organic farm along Penns Creek in rural Central Pennsylvania. The farm, named Walnut Acres, is America's original organic farm with continuous growing of organic crops since 1946.



Composer, director, teacher, ringer - **Kathleen Wissinger** is "all about the bells" - bass and treble. She has led classes and events across the country as well as in Japan and Canada. A longtime advocate for using handbells in schools and for giving all ringers a strong technical foundation, Kath's pedagogical pieces are used in classrooms and rehearsals around the world. She presents Kick Start sessions for the Area 3 CHIME Loan program and regularly mentors new directors. With 80+ pieces already in print, she plans to release some of her own works in a new catalog, "ringTrue Music," through Jeffers in 2015. Kath teaches 5th-8th grade handbell classes at Redeemer Classical School, directs Mosaic Handbell Ensemble and leads "Spectrum" - her church's youth ringing ensemble. She also teaches piano lessons in her home studio.



Larry Henning, Music Director of *Westminster Ringers*, received his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from West Chester State College (now University) in West Chester, PA, and his graduate work in Reading from Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) in Westminster, MD. He is currently a seventh grade teacher at Mt. Airy Middle School. While at a previous elementary school, he established the Carrolltowne Ringers - a children's handbell program for grades third through fifth. Under his direction, they received the National Exemplary School Award from Handbell Musicians of America. He has also directed the Agape Ringers from the Westminster Church of the Brethren and Wesley Carillon from the Westminster United Methodist Church. Larry has been a clinician with Handbell Musicians of America Area 3 for their Bronze Conference Choir, Read & Ring Workshops, discoverRING YOUTH and several Spring Festivals. He has studied conducting under William Payn. Larry and his wife, Debbie, are the co-founders of the Westminster Ringers, Inc.



Debbie Henning has been involved with handbells for over 40 years as both a ringer and a director. She currently rings with *Westminster Ringers* (serving as the managing Director & Treasurer), directs *Accelerando* - the intermediate ensemble of the Westminster Ringers, Inc., owns & runs Harmonic Patterns - which offers music educational programs for young children & private lessons, and is the Director of Music at Gettysburg UMC in Gettysburg, PA where she directs the Chancel Choir, Agape Singers, Memorial Bells of Joy and leads the young children music program. In addition to her musical adventures, Debbie loves to quilt, sew and cross stitch. Debbie has served Handbell Musicians of America (formerly AGEHR) Area 3 as Maryland State Chair, Treasurer, Program Chair for the Spring Festivals and currently serves as Coordinator of Events. Debbie and her husband, Larry are the founding members of the Westminster Ringers, Inc.

Faculty

Kyler Brengle currently directs the adult handbell choir at Westminster United Methodist Church (Maryland), and serves as Assistant Music Director of Westminster Ringers, an auditioned community handbell ensemble. Initially a high school band director, his career path took him places other than music settings but he has remained active in church vocal and handbell choirs throughout his career and now into retirement. Joining the Westminster Ringers in 2006 he has served on their Board of Directors and currently serves as an At-Large Member of the Area 3 Board. His interest in music arranging has resulted in numerous arrangements for the Westminster Ringers and local churches. Additionally, this past year he completed two of the five certification areas offered by HMA, Handbell Techniques and Conducting.

Wayne Hicks is a low bass ringer with the Virginia Handbell Consort. He began ringing handbells in 2001 when he submitted to the Lord's calling and returned to church. Although getting a late start with the instrument, Wayne has made up for it by being selected to Virtuoso 2015, Virtuoso 2013, Area 3 All-Stars 2014, Area 3 All-Stars 2015, and the Distinctly Bronze events since 2012. His music background includes playing trumpet, mellophone, and French horn in all levels of marching bands and symphonic ensembles. Wayne minored in music theory and he enjoyed writing arrangements for his college marching band and basketball band. Wayne's day job is working as a flight test engineer at NASA. He has his pilot license and he is building his own airplane. Wayne lives in Carrollton, VA.

Fran Underwood is the Associate Director of Worship Arts at Clarendon United Methodist Church in Arlington, Virginia where she directs children, youth and adult handbell ensembles and an adult vocal choir. She also teaches a section of handbells at Wakefield School in The Plains. She has been handbell clinician for Church Music Institute at Shenandoah University; the Fellowship-sponsored Kaleidoscope Music Camp in Blackstone, Virginia; and the Greater Washington Suzuki Piano Institute. Fran holds a Master's of Music in Church Music from Shenandoah University. Fran began ringing in 1988 when her sister invited her to attend an Area 3 adult festival where she jumped in with both feet and caught the ringing bug. She is a member of Virginia Bronze, an auditioned, community handbell ensemble based in Alexandria. Fran is currently serving Area 3 as an at-large Board member.

Tentative Schedule

Friday, August 14

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM: Registration Opens

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Beginning Directors Track, Intermediate/Advanced Track, Small Ensemble Track

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Dinner (on your own)

6:15 PM - 6:30 PM: Welcome, Opening & Announcements

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM: General Session: *What Every Conductor Needs To Do Before the Rehearsal Begins*

7:45 PM - 8:45 PM: Advanced Conducting Track or Classes

8:45 PM - 9:30 PM: Networking & Shopping

Saturday, August 15

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM: Networking & Shopping

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM: General Session - *Repertoire Reading*

9:45 AM-10:45 AM: Beginning Conducting Track or Classes

11:00 AM-12:00 PM: Intermediate Conducting Track or Classes

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch provided

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: Advanced Conducting Track or Classes

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM: Beginning Conducting Track or Classes

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM: Intermediate Conducting Track or Classes

4:40 PM - 5:00 PM: Concert & Closing

Track Descriptions

Friday Afternoon

3D - Dig, Delve and Direct - Intermediate/Advanced Directors Track

Larry Henning

One, two, come play on cue. Three, four, analyze each score. Five, six, hope the rhythm clicks. Seven, eight, ring the music great. Nine, ten, rehearse it again. Eleven, twelve, dig and delve. This pre-seminar workshop is tailored for directors of intermediate and advanced ensembles. Directors will have opportunities to discuss choosing repertoire, assigning bells, improving techniques, ringing complex rhythms with unusual meters.

Get Ready, Get SET, Go - Small Ensemble Track

Debbie Henning

Are your volunteer bell choir members dwindling? Are several of your members going south for the winter? How can you play quality music for worship or concert with less than 11 ringers? This track will concentrate on answering those questions. Topics covered will include techniques for multiple bells (shelley, four-in-hand (several different ways), weaving), techniques & notations for 1 to 6 ringers (solo, duet, trio, quartet, quintet), and score study for converting a 3 octave piece to less than 11 ringers. For this hand-on class, **bring your gloves**.

Square One - Beginning Director's Track

Kath Wissinger

New to bells? New to directing? Either way, we will cover a large swath of what it takes to confidently lead a handbell group and give them a strong foundation in ringing, music reading and performance skills. Selecting appropriate repertoire, assigning parts, teaching basic skills and notation, presenting a new piece to your ringers in a way that makes sense to them, planning a season of music - we'll cover all this and more (bring your questions!) in our 3 hours together.

Friday Night & Saturday Afternoon

Conducting – Advanced Level

Bill Payn

This track is designed for those directors who have many years of experience or those directors whose choir rings level 4 and above repertoire. All attendees will have a hands-on learning experience while conducting repertoire with musical complexities and mixed meters. Attendees will be able to practice what is taught while conducting the demo choir.

Saturday Morning & Saturday Afternoon

Conducting - Beginning Level

Bill Payn

This track is designed for those directors who are new to conducting or who have very little experience. All attendees will have a hands-on learning experience of basic conducting gestures using a beginning (level 1 or level 2) piece of repertoire. Attendees will be able to practice the basic conducting gestures while conducting the demo choir.

Conducting – Intermediate Level

Bill Payn

This track is designed for those directors who have some conducting experience or those directors whose choir rings Level 2 or Level 3 repertoire. All attendees will have a hands-on learning experience while learning the independence of hands, dynamics & rhythmic nuance using an intermediate (level 2+ or level 3) piece of repertoire. Attendees will be able to practice what is taught while conducting the demo choir.

Class Descriptions

Basic Bass Bells From Me To You

Wayne Hicks

This class is for three types of directors – those who are new to bass bells; those who are incorporating bass bells into the choir for the first time; or those who just want a knock off a little rust. Emphasis will be placed on YOU learning the accepted techniques for handling and ringing the bass bells so that YOU can go back to your choirs and teach the techniques to your novice bass ringers and converts. Discussions and hands-on demonstrations will focus on YOU learning proper lifting techniques, body placement, and ringing styles; malleting, plucking, and marting (!); weaving; and avoiding injuries. We will also touch upon how to assign bass bells between ringers. **Bring your gloves!**

Bass Bells Kicked Up A Notch

Wayne Hicks

This class is for directors with larger bass bell sets who want to get more out of their maturing, more capable bass bell ringers. Discussions and hands-on demonstrations will focus on augmenting compositions with additional bass bell notes, advanced bass bell assigning schemes, and table geography (bell placement and order) to make it all happen successfully. We will also touch upon strategies of assigning bass bells to battery and treble ringers when you want to do more (ring) with less (ringers). **Bring your pencils, bring your gloves.**

Beyond the Prelude: Creative Use of Bells in Worship

Fran Underwood

Are you relegated to the prelude or offertory only? This class covers the many other uses for handbells and handchimes in worship. Topics will include use with liturgy and hymns.

Change Ringing

Debbie Henning

Change Ringing is the art of ringing a set of tuned bells in a series of mathematical patterns called "changes". It differs from many other forms of campanology (such as carillon ringing) in that no attempt is made to produce a conventional melody. In this class you will learn the fundamental principles of change ringing and have a chance to try it yourself. **Bring your gloves.**

Mallet Mania

Larry Henning

Directors will practice using the techniques associated with using mallets. The class will focus on choosing mallets, recognizing notation, using appropriate mallet grip and stroke, striking bells on the table and bells suspended with a mallet, sticking strategies with certain rhythms or when playing multiple bells, implementing dynamics on bells with mallets, blending mallets across the choir, changing from mallets to ringing, and mallet rolls.

Mastering Mixed Meter

Kath Wissinger

So much great music in the bell world includes some kind of mixed meter. We will explore, explain and practice how to prepare for, count, ring, teach and direct mixed meter music. It's easier than you might think, and, as you will find out, it's "all in the family!"

Musicality Class

Larry Henning

Handbell directors desire to lead their ringing ensemble to musical and meaningful performances. Achieving that goal can be challenging at times. What sets a great musical experience apart from one that is merely a pretty sound or a bunch of notes played quickly? As directors we need to consider what a piece of music is saying and to teach our ringers how to make that emotional connection with our audience. Musicality starts with correct technique, but goes beyond them with the nuances of our interpretation. Let's begin the journey to musicality and the ability to touch someone's soul with the gift of music.

Repertoire Reading

Bill Payn

Come and work on your sight reading skills as we "plow" through some new music. You might find a fantastic piece you'll want to ring with your choir. **Bring your gloves, notebook binder and mallets.**

Class Descriptions (continued)

Score Study for Effective Rehearsals and Inspiring Performance

Kyler Brengle

(Beginning/Intermediate session)

As a director, score study is *your* rehearsal before *the* rehearsal and all decisions about how to teach and direct each piece spin out of score study. Through a mix of presentation and group discussion, this class will cover the basics; selecting music appropriate for your group, identifying the basic elements of the piece, bell assignments, anticipating the tough spots, planning and practicing your conducting, and taking *your* choir to the next level.

Score Study for Effective Rehearsals and Inspiring Performance

Kyler Brengle

(Advanced session)

As a director, score study is *your* rehearsal before *the* rehearsal and all decisions about how to teach and direct each piece spin out of score study. Through a mix of presentation and group discussion, this class will cover making sense of what lies beyond the notes, the importance of internal rhythm, working your way through compound and mixed meter conducting challenges, taking *your* choir to the next level and more. Bring your questions and experience with score study to enrich the class for all.

Techniques for Bells

Kath Wissinger

Sure you know how to mart and thumb damp (or maybe you don't!), but what about all the other cool things you can do with bells to alter their sounds? And how best to teach them to your ringers? We'll explore all these variables and see how to make your bells really sing!

What Every Conductor Needs To Do Before the Rehearsal Begins

Bill Payn

The members of your bell choir are about to arrive. Your rehearsal plan is ready, but are you the conductor ready? Exercises for getting your body ready to conduct, baton or no baton, proper way to hold a baton and exercises on the basic patterns will be discussed. This class is a good starting point or review for all conductors. **Bring your baton or pencil with you.**

Design Your Schedule - keep this copy for your records

Choose your Friday Track and record below. Choose your Conducting Track and record below. Each Conducting Track has two sessions - please attend both - Session 2 is a continuation of Session 1. Choose your additional class and record below. Transfer your choices to the registration form.

Friday 1:00 PM: _____

Friday 6:30 PM : What Every Conductor Needs To Do Before the Rehearsal Begins

Friday 7:45 PM: _____

Saturday 8:30 AM: Repertoire Reading

Saturday 9:45 AM: _____

Saturday 11:00 AM: _____

Saturday 1:00 PM: _____

Saturday 2:15 PM: _____

Saturday 3:30 PM: _____

Registration Form 2015 - Area 3 Directors' Seminar

August 14-15, 2015

Marriott Chesapeake Hotel
Chesapeake, VA

Please complete one form (both sides) for each person attending the Seminar

Make as many copies of this form as needed.

Register by sending the completed form with check payable to Handbell Musicians of America Area 3:
Debbie Henning, DS Registrar – 737 Holland Lane, Westminster, MD 21158

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ OTHER PHONE _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ GUILD MEMBERSHIP # _____

Your email address is very helpful in sending out your confirmation and other information. It will not be shared with anyone.

Persons registering for an Area 3 Event who have served as Chair of Area 3, are serving on the current Area 3 Board, State Chairs and/or serving as faculty for THIS event, do NOT pay the registration fee.

Please list the names of any persons in your group who are in this category.

1. _____ 2. _____

Handbell Musicians Member: (\$184 / \$159 postmark by 6/19/15) \$ _____

Non-Guild Member (\$269 / Discount: \$244 postmarked by 6/19/15) \$ _____

Total Amount enclosed \$ _____

\$25 of your registration fee is nonrefundable for cancellations through 6/19/15.

***Please note that there will be no refunds after June 19, 2015 regardless of the reason.**

Please check all that apply:

_____ I am a first-time attendee. _____ I would like to have a mentor assigned to me.

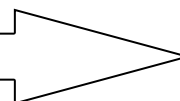
_____ I am willing to mentor a first-time attendee at the seminar.

_____ I have special physical or dietary needs. Please explain: _____

By participating in this event, I hereby certify and acknowledge that photographs, recordings and/or video may be taken during this event and that these images, interviews, or recordings may be used by the Handbell Musicians of America Area 3 or its assignees in publications, promotional materials, and/or website as approved by the Area 3 Board of Directors.

Signature _____

Over please



Name: _____

Track & Class Pre-Registration

Circle or highlight the tracks or classes that you would like to take per session.

| Friday | Salon A & B | Salon C | Salon D | Riverside |
|---------|--|----------------------|--|-----------|
| 6:30 PM | What Every Conductor Needs To Do Before the Rehearsal Begins | | | |
| 7:45 PM | Conducting - Advanced Level Session I | Techniques for Bells | Score Study for Effective Rehearsals and Inspiring Performance | |
| 8:45 PM | Networking/Shopping | | | |

| Saturday | Salon A & B | Salon C | Salon D | Riverside |
|----------|--|-----------------------|--|---|
| 8:30 AM | | Repertoire Reading | | |
| 9:45 AM | Beyond the Prelude: Creative Use of Bells in Worship | Mastering Mixed Meter | Score Study for Effective Rehearsals and Inspiring Performance | Conducting - Beginning Level Session I |
| 11:00 AM | Beyond the Prelude: Creative Use of Bells in Worship | Mastering Mixed Meter | Mallet Mania | Conducting - Intermediate Level Session I |
| 12:00 PM | | | | |
| 1:00 PM | | Musicality Class | Basic Bass Bells From Me To You | Conducting - Advanced Level Session II |
| 2:15 PM | | Musicality Class | Bass Bells Kicked Up A Notch | Conducting - Beginning Level Session II |
| 3:30 PM | | Techniques for Bells | Change Ringing | Conducting - Intermediate Level Session I |
| 4:30 PM | Concert/Closing | | | |