



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

Virginia Festival

March 28-29, 2025

Mechanicsville Baptist Church

Mechanicsville, VA

Kathy Ebling Shaw, Guest Conductor

Massed Repertoire

Music must be purchased and learned in advance.

Massed

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Brenda Austin | Jubilate Music JMG1333

3-5 oct. | L3

The Angels and The Shepherds

arr. Jason Krug | Beckenhorst HB612

3-6 oct. | L2+

Carol of the Bells

Alex Guebert | Agape 2929

3-7 oct. | L3

Prayer for Peace

Michael Helman | AGEHR AG36023

3-6 oct. | L3

With a Joyful Heart

Susan Geschke | Agape 2319

3-5 oct. | L2-

Challenge Piece

Hymn To Joy

Kerry Johnston | Beckenhorst HB710 |

3-5 oct. | L3

Tentative Schedule

Friday:

4:00 pm-6:30 pm | Registration & Set-up

6:30 pm-6:45 pm | Opening/Announcements

6:45 pm-7:30 pm | Massed Rehearsal

7:30 pm-7:40 pm | Break

7:40 pm-8:25 pm | Massed Rehearsal

8:25 pm-8:30 pm | Break

8:30 pm-9:00 pm | Challenge Piece Rehearsal

Saturday:

8:30 am - 9:20 am | Massed Rehearsal

9:30 am-10:20 am | Red Classes/Blues Rehearsal

10:30 am-11:20 am | Blues Classes/Red Rehearsal

11:30 am-12:30 pm | Lunch (provided)

12:30 pm- 1:00 pm | Challenge Piece Rehearsal/
Group Activity

1:10 pm - 2:00 pm | Reds Classes/Blue Rehearsal

2:10 pm - 3:00 pm | Massed Rehearsal

3:10 pm - 4:00 pm | Blues Classes/Red Rehearsal

4:10 pm - 4:45 pm | Massed Rehearsal

4:45 pm - 5:00 pm | Break

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm | Festival Concert

Handbell Musicians of America Area 3 supports the copyright laws, and no photocopies of music will be allowed. Unauthorized recording of the sounds and images of the musical performances is a violation of the Copyright Act(17USC~1101).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Why Should I Attend????

- ◆ To ring with other handbell ensembles who love handbell ringing too
- ◆ To make some unforgettable moments
- ◆ To help Area 3 celebrate their 65th Anniversary

Who May Attend

- ◆ This festival is designed for full or partial handbell ensembles as well as individual handbell ringers of high school age and adults.
- ◆ **Handbell ensembles must learn the festival music prior to coming.**

Registration

- ◆ Significant discounts are offered for early registrations.
- ◆ Registration: \$80 (if postmarked /entered online by October 31, 2024)
- ◆ Registration: \$90 (if postmarked/entered online by January 15, 2025)
- ◆ Registration: \$115 (if postmarked/entered online after January 15, 2025)
- ◆ Anniversary Polo Shirt (optional): \$20 (deadline is February 1, 2025)
- ◆ Registration fee includes Saturday lunch.
- ◆ HMA membership is NOT required. If you are currently not a member and would like to join, you will have that option as part of registration. HMA Membership – add \$95 (optional).
- ◆ You have a choice of registering & paying online or registering and paying by check through the mail.
- ◆ **When sending in your registration form, please include only one (1) check from your organization with full payment - partial payments will not be accepted.**
- ◆ **Make your check payable to *Handbell Musicians of America Area 3* and mail to Gail Williams, Registrar - 7903 Glenbrook Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814.**
- ◆ The Registrar will acknowledge registration within two weeks of receipt.

Refund Policy

- ◆ \$ 25 per registrant is nonrefundable when requested prior to January 15, 2025. After that date, there will be no refunds regardless of reason including medical issues and family emergencies.
- ◆ ****ONLINE PROCESSING FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE****

E-mail Information

- ◆ Event Information Packets will be available online at www.area3.handbellmusicians.org and also sent to your provided email address.
- ◆ So that information does not go to your junk mailbox, please add the following email addresses to your contact list: Debbie Henning - chairelect.area3@handbellmusicians.org; Registrar: Gail Williams - gailwilltoo@verizon.net; Event Chair: Sue Atkins - satkins2008@gmail.com

Tables

- ◆ Indicate on the registration form if you are **bringing** your own tables or **renting tables**.
- ◆ If you need to rent tables, the cost is \$10 per 6' table.
- ◆ **Table footage will be based on the number registered and the number of octaves that you are bringing - 2 octave - 21', 3 octave - 24', 4 octave - 30', 5 octave - 36', 6 octave - 42'.**
- ◆ Choirs must bring pads, notebooks or music racks, bells, chimes, mallets, gloves. Table covers and skirts are optional. All equipment must be clearly marked!

Meals

- ◆ There are plenty of restaurants near the two hotels for dinner.
- ◆ Both hotels offer a complimentary breakfast if you stay at one of the suggested hotels.
- ◆ Lunch on Saturday IS included in the registration fee. Lunch will be catered by Chick-fil-a. You will have a choice of a chicken sandwich or 10 chicken nuggets along with a bag of chips, a cookie and a bottle of water OR a market salad or a Cobb salad and a bottle of water.

Individuals without a choir

- ◆ An opportunity will be provided for directors or individuals who wish to ring in the festival by filling vacancies offered by other choirs, on an available basis, or by bringing bells and pads.
- ◆ Individuals will ring the same repertoire as the massed choirs and participate in the festival concert.
- ◆ If you are a director with vacant positions, please indicate the positions available on the Registration Form.

Solo Performance Opportunity - NEW THIS YEAR!

- ◆ Ensembles will be given the opportunity to perform a solo of their choice during the final concert.
- ◆ This opportunity is limited to the first five (5) ensembles that register.
- ◆ If your ensemble is interested in performing, please check the box on the registration form.
- ◆ The title, composer and arranger will be due by **January 31, 2025**.

Silent Auction

- ◆ In order to further Area 3's goal of promoting handbell ringing, we are holding Silent Auctions at Area 3 events in order to raise monies for events such as Blast Off to Bells. So, we ask you to bring something to place in the Silent Auction at the monetary value of at least \$30 - CDs, gift certificates, a gift basket from your choir, sealed food items, etc. Please let Debbie Henning know prior to the festival what you are bringing. Your donation will help Area 3 be a leader in handbells into the future!

Used Music Exchange - NEW THIS YEAR!

- ◆ Are your filing cabinets full and need to be cleaned out? Do you have repertoire that your ensemble will not be playing? We will be providing a table for you to put your music for others to preview and take.
- ◆ Any music leftover after the event can be reclaimed by the owner or it will be recycled.

Classes

- ◆ Registrants will have the opportunity of taking several classes during the event - Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon.
- ◆ The Class Pre-Registration Packet will be emailed to you after you register for this festival.

Lodging

- ◆ There is not an official festival hotel. Here are some suggestions:
- ◆ **Hampton Inn & Suites (Richmond/Mechanicsville)**
7433 Bell Creek Rd., Mechanicsville, VA 23111
804-559-0559
- ◆ **Holiday Inn Express (Richmond/Mechanicsville)**
7441 Bell Creek Rd., Mechanicsville, VA 23111
804-559-0022

Photography Policy

- ◆ By registering for an Area 3 event, you give permission to use pictures from the event on the Area 3 website, in the Area Historian's Photo Album, and in future publications. Individuals will NOT be identified or pictured in potentially embarrassing situations. Parents who do NOT wish to have their minor child(ren) included in pictures must complete the Area 3 Photography Form for Minors and return it with their registration. This form is available below.

Anniversary Polo Shirt

- ◆ In celebration of the 65th Anniversary of HMA Area 3, an anniversary polo shirt has been designed.
- ◆ The Port Authority Lightweight Classic Pique Polo features: 4.4 oz, 60/40 cotton/polyester pique, flat-knit collar and cuffs, three-button placket with dyed-to-match buttons and side vents. The anniversary logo is embroidered on the shirt. Sizes range from Men's XS-6XL and Women's XS-6XL.
- ◆ Polo shirt must be pre-ordered by February 1, 2025 for \$20.

About the Clinician - Kathy Ebling Shaw



Kathleen Ebling Shaw is well known as a handbell clinician. She has conducted sessions for the International Handbell Symposia in Japan, England, Korea, Australia and the US and for the Handbell Musicians of America both on the local and national levels. Other engagements have included sessions for the American Guild of Organists; various State music conferences; Choristers Guild; Presbyterian Association of Musicians Conferences; Lutheridge Music & Worship Week and the St. Olaf Church Music Conference.

Mrs. Shaw serves as Vice President of Malmark Bells, Inc. She recently retired as the Conductor of the Westminster Concert Bell Choir and member of the Performance Studies Department at Westminster Choir College of Rider University. For 33 years, she taught classes in handbell training and conducted the handbell choirs. A graduate of the college, she is also the recipient of an Alumni Merit Award from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in recognition of her dedication to the art of handbell ringing and her enthusiasm and accomplishments in the classroom as well as the concert hall.

Under the direction of Mrs. Shaw, The Westminster Concert Bell Choir made its Carnegie Hall debut in December 2001 as the first American handbell ensemble to perform there. She also conducted the group on Lifetime Television, QVC, NBC's TODAY Show, New Jersey Network, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, NPR and NBC's nationally televised Lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree with Josh Groban. She traveled with the Westminster Concert Bell Choir during a critically acclaimed 15-city North American "A Royal Christmas" tour, performing with Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Charlotte Church and the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra. She has also produced eight recordings with the choir.

Area 3 Photography Policy for Minors Form

By registering for an Area 3 event, you give permission to use pictures from the event on the Area 3 website, in the Area 3 Historian's Photo Album and in publicity materials in the future. Individuals will not be identified or pictured in potentially embarrassing situations. Parents who do NOT wish to have their minor child(ren) included in pictures must complete the following form and return it with their registration. DENIAL OF CONSENT FOR MINOR(S)\I do NOT give permission for pictures of my child(ren) to be used on the Area 3 website, in the Area 3 Historian's Photo Album and in publicity materials in the future.

Name(s) of Child(ren): _____

Signed: _____
(Parent of Guardian)

Name of Child(ren) Director: _____

Name of Organization/Church: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY: Postmark date: _____ Reg. # _____ Check #: _____ Amount: _____



MAIL IN REGISTRATION FORM 2024 Virginia Festival

Please fill out one form for each handbell choir attending the Festival. You may make additional copies of this form as needed. Enter the director's name, organization, and choir's name, city and state as they should appear in the program booklet.

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Secondary Phone #: _____

Email address: _____

(Email address is to receive important information about the festival. Your email will not be shared with others.)

Director's Name: _____

Organization: _____

Choir's Name: _____ City, State: _____

Information:

I am registering for (check all that apply):

Choir / Ensemble (# in group _____)

Individual Ringer

Our choir will ring the Challenge Piece

INDIVIDUAL RINGER (pick one):

My group will perform a solo? Yes No

Need a Ringing Spot? Yes No

How many octaves of bells will you bring? _____

Ringing with a Registered Choir? Yes No

Bringing my own bells? Yes No

Are you attending for the first time? Yes No

Would you like to have a mentor for the festival? Yes No

Are you willing to be a mentor for the festival? Yes No

Table Requirements (you are responsible for your own bell pads)

BRINGING tables? Yes No Linear footage needed _____

RENTING tables? Yes No How many 6' tables do you need to rent? _____

Does your choir change positions for each piece of music? Yes No

If special accommodations are required for any ringers, please include that information below. Be specific, so we can meet those needs appropriately: _____

If you have any vacant positions available for Individual Ringers, please list: _____

REGISTRATION FORM - 2025 Virginia Festival (continued)

Persons registering for an Area 3 Festival who have served as Chair of Area 3, are serving on the current Area 3 Board or State Chair or are on the event staff for THIS festival, do NOT pay the festival registration fee.

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

1. _____ 2. _____

Please note if special physical or food accommodations are needed for any ringer.
Be specific so that we can meet these needs appropriately.

Registration Fees (per ringer/director)

Ringer or Director	by 10/31	_____ x \$80 = \$	_____
Ringer or Director	by 1/15	_____ x \$90 = \$	_____
Ringer or Director	after 1/15	_____ x \$115 = \$	_____
Renting Tables		_____ x \$10 = \$	_____
Handbell Musicians of America Membership (optional)		\$95 = \$	_____
Anniversary Polo Shirts		_____ x \$20 = \$	_____
Total Registration			\$ _____

\$25 of your registration fee per ringer is nonrefundable for cancellations thru January 15, 2025
Please note that there are no refunds after January 15, 2025 for any reason (including family emergencies and medical issues). TicketSignUp fees are NOT refundable.

Anniversary Polo Shirt

Men: _____ XS _____ S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2X _____ 3X _____ 4X _____ 5x _____ 6x
 Women: _____ XS _____ S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2X _____ 3X _____ 4X _____ 5x _____ 6x

Saturday Lunch

_____ Chicken Sandwich _____ 10 Chicken Nuggets _____ Market Salad _____ Cobb Salad

PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF YOUR COMPLETED FORM(S) FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Write one check payable to: *Handbell Musicians of America Area 3*

Mail the original, completed form(s) with full payment to:

Gail Williams - 7903 Glenbrook Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814 | gailwilltoo@verizon.net

Online Registration Information AND Payment (One Registration per Choir)

We will be using TicketSignUp for online registration and payments. If you use TicketSignUp, you must pay through TicketSignUp. You will be paying the processing fees per cart, not per person - the higher the price of the cart, the LOWER the processing fee. If you need a refund, the processing fee is NOT refundable. If you need to mail a check, please use this paper form and mail to our registrar.

To register online,
<https://www.ticketsignup.io/TicketEvent/VirginiaFestival>