



# Community Ensemble Festival

**March 7, 2025**

**Roland E Powell Convention Center  
Ocean City MD**

**Brenda Austin, Guest Conductor**

## Massed Repertoire

*Music must be purchased and learned in advance.*

*Farandole*  
arr. William Griffin  
Beckenhorst HB228  
5-7 oct | L5

*Pat-a-pan*  
arr. Fred Gramann  
AGEHR AG57012J  
5-7 oct. | L3+

*Nocturnal Fantasy*  
Emily Li  
Choristers Guild CGB731  
3-6 oct. | L4+

*Duke, Glenn & Woody*  
arr. Alan Reese  
From the Top 20672  
4-6 oct. | L3

*Intermezzo from Carmen Act IV*  
arr. Kevin McChesney  
Jeffers JHS9632  
3-7 oct. | L4

## Tentative Schedule

Friday:

9:00 am–10:00 am | Registration/Set-up

10:00 am–12:00 pm | Rehearsal

12:00 pm–1:00 pm | Lunch (provided)

1:00 pm–2:15 pm | Rehearsal

2:15 pm–2:30 pm | Break

2:30 pm–4:00 pm | Rehearsal

4:00 pm–6:30 pm | Dinner (on your own)

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

6:45 pm–7:15 pm |  
Community Ensemble Concert

7:15 pm–7:30 pm | Break

7:30 pm–9:30 pm | Festival Massed Rehearsal  
(if staying for the Ocean City Festival)

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 community ensemble ringers 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 Community or Professional Handbell Ensembles and/or individuals from a Community or Professional Handbell Ensemble.
- ◆ **Community Ensembles must learn the festival music prior to coming.**

## Registration

- ◆ Significant discounts are offered for early registrations and if the full or partial ensemble or individuals are staying for the Ocean City Festival.
- ◆ Community Ensemble Festival: \$60 (if postmarked /entered online by October 31, 2024)
- ◆ Community Ensemble Festival: \$70 (if postmarked/entered online by January 15, 2025)
- ◆ Community Ensemble Festival: \$95 (if postmarked/entered online after January 15, 2025)
- ◆ Registration fee includes the anniversary shirt (concert shirt) and 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 non-refundable 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](http://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](mailto:chairelect.area3@handbellmusicians.org); Registrar: Gail Williams - [gailwilltoo@verizon.net](mailto:gailwilltoo@verizon.net)

## Tables

- ◆ Indicate on the registration form if you are bringing your own tables or using those provided and the table footage that you need.
- ◆ 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

- ◆ Lunch is included in the registration fee.
- ◆ You will have a choice of the following boxed lunch: ham and cheddar, turkey and provolone, roast beef and swiss or grilled seasonal vegetables. The lunch also includes a bag of chips, fresh fruit, a cookie 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 OCEAN CITY FESTIVAL's final concert (NOT the Community Ensemble Festival 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**.

### **Concert Attire**

- ◆ Concert attire will include: black gloves, anniversary polo shirt, black pants or black skirt.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Extra polo shirt can be pre-ordered by February 1, 2025 for \$20.

### **Ocean City Festival**

- ◆ The Community Ensemble Festival and the Ocean City Festival are two different events within the weekend.
- ◆ Community or Professional Ensembles are encouraged to stay for the entire weekend at a discounted rate for the Ocean City Festival - \$15.
- ◆ If your ensemble or part of your ensemble will be staying for the Ocean City Festival, you will also need to register them on the Ocean City Festival Registration Form offered online or by mail.

### **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!



## **About the Clinician - Brenda Austin**



Brenda Austin is in demand nationally as a conductor and clinician because of her dynamic and energetic approach to connecting musicians through handbells. In 2019, Brenda joined the team at Hope Publishing Company in Carol Stream, IL as Editor. In 2023, she was named Music Director for Embellish handbell ensemble. Before joining Embellish, she served as the Artistic Director for the Detroit Handbell Ensemble since 2016. Under her baton, DHE was honored to open the Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar in 2018 and be the featured concert for HMA's AREA 2 2019 Festival in Lancaster, PA. Additionally, she has served First UMC in Eaton Rapids, MI, as Director of Music since 2003. She is also active in the community directing Children's musical theatre.

Brenda graduated with degrees in Vocal Performance from Western Michigan University and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Missouri – Kansas City.

Brenda is sought after as a handbell clinician throughout the year and has been the conductor and clinician at numerous festivals and workshops including HMA National Seminar, and many of the Areas' festivals. Additionally, she has had more than 90 titles published for handbells and sacred choral since 2015.

For more information about Brenda, please visit her website at [www.BrendaEAustin.com](http://www.BrendaEAustin.com)

OFFICE USE ONLY: Postmark date: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. # \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



## MAIL IN REGISTRATION FORM 2025 Community Ensemble Festival

Please fill out one form for each choir / ensemble 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):

Ensemble (# in group \_\_\_\_\_)

Individual Ringer

How many octaves of bells will you bring? \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL RINGER (pick one):

Staying for the Ocean City Festival? Yes No

Need a Ringing Spot \_\_\_\_\_

My group will perform a solo? Yes No

Ringing with a Registered Choir \_\_\_\_\_

Bringing my own bells \_\_\_\_\_

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

BRINGING tables? Yes No Linear footage needed \_\_\_\_\_

NEED tables? Yes No How many 6' tables do you need? \_\_\_\_\_

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 Community Ensemble 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 \$60 = \$ _____
Ringer or Director	by 1/15	_____ X \$70 = \$ _____
Ringer or Director	after 1/15	_____ X \$95 = \$ _____
Handbell Musicians of America Membership (optional)		\$95 = \$ _____
Additional 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.**

**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](mailto: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, visit:

<https://www.ticketsignup.io/TicketEvent/CommunityEnsembleFestival>



Name	Ham & Cheddar	Turkey & Provolone	Roast Beef & Swiss	Grilled Vegetables	Men's OR Women's Shirt	Size
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						
9.						
10.						
11.						
12.						
13.						
14.						
15.						
16.						
17.						
18.						
19.						
Total						