



Handbell Musicians
O F A M E R I C A



2018 Bring It! Ring It! Unpublished Music Reading Session

The Unpublished Music Reading Session will be offered on Friday evening (June 29, 2018) at 9:30pm.

The Unpublished Music Reading Session is an excellent opportunity for any composer or arranger to hear their unpublished manuscript sightread by a group of handbell enthusiasts who are kind, constructive, and excited about new handbell music. As a special opportunity this year, we have arranged for dynamic and eminent composers Larry Sue and Tim Waugh to attend and offer verbal or written feedback to you if you wish.

Registration is open for anyone wishing to share their original composition or arrangement for handbells and/or handchimes that has not been published.

Anyone may ring in the demonstration choirs or listen in the gallery and need not register in advance. Space at the table to ring in the demonstration choirs will be first come, first served. Multiple sets of handbells and handchimes will be available. Mallets will be provided. Please bring music folders and gloves if you intend to ring.

Composers and arrangers wishing to submit a piece, *MUST*** register by June 15th.** Depending on the number of people registering to submit music, registrants may be permitted to bring a second piece to be rung. Composers and arrangers registering will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis with the number of registrants accepted being at the facilitator's discretion.

To register to submit a piece, complete the Unpublished Music Reading Session Registration Form and email it with your intent to ring to the Area 8 Past Chair, Patrick Gagnon (pastchair.area8@handbellmusicians.org) by June 15th, 2018.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?

A: Anyone may come to ring or listen, with no registration in advance.

As for who may register to present a piece, anyone who has something they have written or arranged! (Please include permission to arrange clearances on all copies of arrangements of non-public domain pieces.) You don't have to be previously published, write at a certain level, in a certain style, or for a certain number of octaves or ringers.

Q: HOW EXACTLY DO YOU DEFINE "UNPUBLISHED"?

A: If your piece is in print with a publisher or self-published for sale, it is *NOT* eligible. If your piece is under contract with a publisher, it is *NOT* eligible. If, however, you have submitted your piece for publication and are awaiting a response or had it rejected at the time of the Unpublished Music Reading Session, you are welcome to present it. If you have not submitted your piece anywhere for publication consideration, it is of course welcome as well!

Q: DO I HAVE TO HAVE THE MUSIC PRINTED ON A COMPUTER?

A: Not at all. If you still write by hand, you are welcome. Just remember that legibility often helps ensure success, especially in a sightreading setting.

Q: HOW DO I SUBMIT MY MANUSCRIPTS?

A: Each composer/arranger is responsible for bringing copies of his/her own pieces. Please make these copies at home and bring them with you; it saves the hassle and expense of finding a copy center at or around the hotel. Bring a copy for yourself (or a guest director, see below) and at least 28 additional copies of each piece, and ***PLEASE HAVE THEM HOLE PUNCHED WITH THE TITLE AND COMPOSER/ARRANGER'S NAME ON EACH PAGE*** Even if your piece is for a smaller number of octaves, at least 28 copies are requested so that even those not ringing may follow along in the score. (While it is not required, having the music run on 11×17 paper and folded in half like a traditional bell folio will be far more manageable than a bunch of single-sided copies.)

Q: I'M NOT A CONDUCTOR, MAY I STILL BRING MY WORK?

A: Of course! If you are a composer/arranger but not a director, we will be happy to conduct the piece for you, or you may bring a friend along to do so.

Q: HOW LONG CAN THE PIECE BE? MAY I WORK ON IT AT ALL?

A: Since time is always a factor, each piece will be given no more than 10 minutes (including setup time). You may use the time as you wish, should you desire to work through a tricky spot or experiment with a different technique somewhere. Remember, everyone is sightreading, so the piece is unlikely to be "performance ready" during this session. In fairness to other composers, please do not monopolize the session or push the envelope with your time. And if your piece is short and you are happy with it, feel free to end your time early; this will allow us to get through more music.

Q: DO I HAVE TO BE THERE TO HAVE MY PIECE RUNG?

A: Absolutely. Pieces will not be rung with composers/arrangers in absentia. All composers and arrangers are asked to attend the entirety the session: leaving after your piece is done is inconsiderate.

Q: MAY I COMPOSE A PIECE WITH EXTRA INSTRUMENTS?

A: Of course you may. You just won't be able to hear those parts unless you provide the instruments and the players.

Q: WHAT IF THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY PIECES TO GET THROUGH?

A: We simply may not get through everything. However, since composers and arrangers must register in advance on a first-come, first-served basis, the cut-off point will be fair. Every registrant is subject to the “as time permits” clause. If, for example, 20 composers register, it is unlikely that all of those composers will be able to present their pieces.

Q: WHAT IF SOMEONE IS LATE, OR DOESN'T SHOW UP?

A: The session will begin at 9:30 pm. ANY registrant who is not present at the start of the session will be moved to the end of the list. When his or her work comes up in rotation, it will simply be skipped and returned to at the end, time permitting. To keep things fair and objective, no exceptions will be made, so please don't make us even enact this clause! (Bring your baton, gloves, etc. to the concert on Friday night so you are not caught without them at the last minute.)

THANK YOU in advance to all of the composers, arrangers, ringers, spectators, equipment suppliers and coordinators whose hard work will be represented at the Unpublished Music Reading Session. The registration is detailed and the rules are firm, but this will help us maximize our time together, giving us the opportunity to get through even more wonderful creations!