

Fourteenth Western Pennsylvania Handbell Festival

Frequently Asked Questions

WHY SHOULD I BRING MY CHOIR TO A HANDBELL FESTIVAL?

Coming to a handbell festival is a wonderful way to play with other handbell musicians, work with **Ron Bellamy**, our Handbell Clinician, and learn more about the music and techniques that enhance our ability to create wonderful handbell experiences for both ringers and listeners. Plus, you will have lots of fun!

WHY SHOULD I REGISTER MY CHOIR FOR THE WPA HANDBELL FESTIVAL BY JANUARY 31, 2014?

You should register early to take advantage of the \$85/choir Early-Bird discounted Registration Fee (a \$15 savings) and to ensure that your choir is able to attend the 2013 WPA Festival. Space in RMU's John Jay Center Gymnasium is limited; last year's registration was close to the gym's capacity. You don't want to miss out! We will accept registrations until the March deadline, as long as we have space available.

WHAT IF MY WHOLE CHOIR CANNOT COME?

You can register for the festival as a partial choir or as an individual (\$15 per person). If attending as a partial choir, let our Festival Registrar, Cynthia Donahoe, know the number of feet required by your group on the ringing floor. Additionally, let Cynthia know if you will have unassigned bell positions during the festival; these may be filled by those registering as individuals or by members of the Three Rivers Ringers. Individuals may pool together and register as a partial choir or opt to be assigned a spot with another choir.

WILL WE NEED TO BRING TABLES AND PADS?

Once again, we are offering to provide tables **free of charge** to those groups opting not to transport their own tables. Just indicate the total number of feet needed on the WPA Registration Form. Please request only the amount of table length needed to accommodate your ringers. If your needs should change subsequent to Registration, please contact Cynthia Donahoe, WPA Festival Registrar. **You will need to provide your own pads and table covers.**

ARE THERE HOTELS CLOSE TO THE FESTIVAL VENUE?

Robert Morris University is located near the Pittsburgh International Airport so there are many options! Those closest to the university are:

- Yorktown Inn **Formerly known as the Holiday Inn Pgh. Airport**
8256 University Boulevard
Moon Township, PA 15108 412-262-3600
This hotel is owned by RMU.
- DoubleTree by Hilton, Pittsburgh Airport 8402 University Boulevard
Coraopolis, PA 15108 412-329-1400
- Hampton Inn, Pittsburgh Airport
8514 University Boulevard Coraopolis, PA 15108 412-264-0020

WILL THERE BE FOOD PROVIDED?

Lunch will be available for purchase at RMU's Food Court or Romo's café, both conveniently located in the Nicholson Center. Both dining options offer a wide selection. The Food Court is the larger dining area and has multiple food stations serving items such as pizza, sandwiches, salads and crepes! This year we are also offering the option for individuals and/or groups to bring a packed lunch. Those doing so may dine in either of the dining areas in the Nicholson Center or, if the weather is nice, at tables located on the Nicholson Center's patio. In addition, the RMU Marching Band will have snacks and beverages available for purchase at a stand adjacent to the ringing floor both in the morning and afternoon.

WILL THERE BE A HANDBELL COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE AVAILABLE AT THE FESTIVAL?

Brian Blackall, Regional Independent Sales Representative for Schulmerich Bells, will be attending the WPA Handbell Festival again this year! Brian will be available for consultation and repair of Schulmerich handbells and MelodyChimes. Additionally, Brian has offered to run Schulmerich Handbell Maintenance Clinic open to directors during one of the massed rehearsals.