

**10th Annual
Snake River Handbell Conference
February 7-8, 2025
Central Gym
1415 6th Street South
(NW corner of 15th Ave South & 6th St South)
Nampa, Idaho**



Clinician: Brenda Austin

Come and join many other handbell musicians ringing six great pieces under the direction of Brenda Austin. The pieces are level 2-3 incorporating various music styles, techniques, and seasons. The weekend begins with set-up Friday, February 7 in the late afternoon with the opening rehearsal at 6:30 pm. It continues Saturday beginning at 9:00 am and concludes with a concert for the community at 6:30 pm.

Cost is \$60 per person postmarked on or before December 13, 2024 and \$70 after December 13. This includes all conference activities plus snacks on Saturday. A \$10 discount is offered for 2 or more from the same immediate family. The first family member pays full price; each additional person from the family is \$10 less.



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, PN. Additionally, she has served First United Methodist Church 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. She studied with Craig Arnold, Steve Zegree and Eph Ehly. 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.

- **Lunch on Saturday** – There are many fast food restaurants within a couple of miles of the school. There will be enough time in the schedule for you to grab a bite or bring your own lunch.
- **Driving Directions to Central Gym** – Take I-84 exit 38 and head south toward Nampa on Garrity Boulevard. Turn left at the stop light at 16th Avenue. Go over the railroad tracks (high bridge going over them) and turn right on 6th Street South. In one block the gym will be on your right.

- **Membership in Handbell Musicians of America (HMA)** – You will need to be a member in some manner. Either your organization/church belongs or you have your own membership. To join, go to www.handbellmusicians.org and click the “Join HMA” gold button on the right. One membership is good for all ringers from that organization.
- **Concert Dress** – For the concert, please wear whatever you typically wear when you perform.
- **Placement on the Ringing Floor** - This will be determined by the postmark of your registration. First come first served whenever possible. Getting everything to fit is also a consideration. It is most important that your exact length of space needed is properly noted.
- **Showcase Concerts** – There are two opportunities for your choir or ensemble to perform – after lunch on Saturday for all the ringers or during the evening concert. Please fill out the section on page 2 of the registration form.
- **Do we have to ring all the pieces?** No. If you find a piece or two more challenging than you want to tackle, you are welcome to sit and listen to the rehearsal. However, remember that a massed setting is a perfect place to challenge yourselves. Others are playing the same notes so if you miss some of yours, no problem.
- **Do we need to purchase and rehearse the music before coming?** Yes! The purpose is to work together polishing the pieces as one large ensemble. Learn the notes beforehand then make gorgeous music at the conference.

Make plans now to attend the 10th Annual Snake River Handbell Conference!!!

For More Information Please Contact:

Phyllis Tincher
 RingPraise@msn.com
 208-989-2811

This event is sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America, dedicated to uniting people through the musical art of handbell and handchime ringing. www.handbellmusicians.org.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Friday, February 7

4:00 pm Gym open for marking floor
 4:45 pm Registration and set-up begins
 Dinner on your own
 6:30 pm Opening bell and rehearsal
 8:30 pm Time to sleep

12:00 noon Lunch
 1:15 pm Showcase concert
 1:45 pm Rehearsal with Break
 4:30ish Dinner on your own; evening
 showcase concert rehearsals

6:15 pm In place for concert

Saturday, February 8

8:00 am Gym opens for afternoon
 showcase concert rehearsals
 9:00 am Rehearsal with Break

6:30 pm Concert
 7:30 pm Pack up