

Winter Workshop
UMass Campus Center, Amherst, MA

January 31- February 1, 2020

The Area 1 Winter Workshop will once again be held at UMass Amherst, but the format will be slightly different.

Last year we had a ringing track called “Distinctly New England” with Karen James as the clinician and a workshop track offering a variety of learning experiences with a variety of clinicians.

According to the evaluations, the new ringing track was very well received, and many of those in the workshop track indicated that they might be interested in trying something like that if the music weren’t as difficult.

We listened to your comments and this year we are once again offering “Distinctly New England” with Griff Gall as the clinician. This will be an intense ringing experience working with a well known Area 1 director on challenging music (levels 3-5) with emphasis on musicality. Ringing beyond your typical church choir, ringing in a multiple choir ensemble.

The second ringing track, “Beyond Basics – Before Bronze” will review basic ringing and conducting techniques with an emphasis on musicality. For director’s who don’t usually ring, this is an opportunity to see things from the ringer’s viewpoint. For everyone this is a chance to experience 2 different teaching styles. For ringers, if you always ring the same position, this is a chance to ring in a different position (or perhaps 2 positions on registration). The clinicians for “Beyond Basics – Before Bronze” will be Karen Leonard and Jane Nolan.

Both tracks will begin rehearsing Friday evening after dinner, so there will **not** be a ‘Saturday only’ option at registration this year. Both of these ringing opportunities will allow you to select your ringing preference at registration and you will receive your assigned ringing position in early January. This will allow **you** an opportunity to purchase your music and look at it ahead of time. “Distinctly New England” will play 3 pieces, and the “Beyond Basics-Before Bronze” track will ring 2 pieces.

Once again we ask people to bring gently used music they no longer ring to share with other choirs who would appreciate having some new music they might not be able to afford on their own. We will offer two opportunities to ring this music in a repertoire reading setting to see if you could use it with your choir. We plan to have a few other classes open to all participants for your enjoyment and a break from the ringing.

There will be a performance at 3:15 Saturday afternoon when both choirs will play. If anyone would like to perform a solo or small ensemble for the concert, please indicate that on your registration.

The cost for this event will remain the same as the last few years.

Early bird registration will be \$185, and after December 22nd, the cost will be \$205. We encourage you to register early for the best chance of getting your favorite ringing position. People registering after the early bird deadline will be assigned to whatever positions are still open.

The hotel has reserved a block of rooms for us. **Individuals should contact the hotel directly BEFORE January 3, 2020** to secure their reservation using the **code HDS20C**. The rate for the rooms is \$145. After January 3rd the rate and availability are no longer guaranteed.

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