

# NOTES FROM MASSACHUSETTS



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Greetings from your Area1 Massachusetts State Chair.

With mixed feelings I leave the schedule of the beautiful Advent and Christmas season behind, and plunge into the new year, planning for Lent, Easter, Spring Ring, and Festival Conference2019. So many opportunities for great handbell ringing.

First on my list is to attend the Area1 Winter Workshop at UMass Amherst on February 1-2. I always look forward to connecting with other handbell ringers and directors, and learning new information about our art. This is well worth attending, no moving from building to building, and held Friday night/Saturday. Some people only attend on Saturday. I do hope to see many of you there.

A next special handbell ringing event is **MA Spring Ring on Saturday, April 6**. We will be celebrating the 33 year of this spring handbell gathering. Are you and your choir preparing for this? It is not too late to plan to attend. The repertoire is exciting, and the daily schedule has changed to accommodate choirs that have to travel a distance. This one day event is great for getting your bell choir to experience massed ringing with other handbell enthusiasts. Even if you only have a few ringers, they can ring either the treble staff or bass clef, and feel part of the massed group. Registration should be open by the time you read this. Make sure to put this in on your 2019 calendar.



## Massachusetts Spring Ring APRIL 6, 2019

Date: April 6, 2019  
Location: Tewksbury Memorial High School 320 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury MA.  
Clinician: Dan Moore  
Early set up: 10:AM  
Massed rehearsal and solo rehearsals: 11:00-2:30  
Concert open to public: 3:00 PM

More information and registration is on the Area1 website. Go to <http://area1.handbellmusicians.org> and click on Spring Ring.

For unanswered questions, contact: Susan Lee at [ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org) or Karen Leonard at [WCUMICKEL@aol.com](mailto:WCUMICKEL@aol.com)

Other MA Spring Ring planning committee members are Ed Henderson, Diane Burke, and Abby Schoppe.

## MA Spring Ring Repertoire is also Festival/Conference'19 music MASSED

1. Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace (Kevin McChesney) MJHS9296
2. Inception (Jason Krug) MLC202020L 3-5 octaves, MLC202021L 2-3 octaves Lorenz publishing

## COPPERS

1. Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (Cathy Moklebust) MCO977488 Concordia Publishing

## TINS

1. Andante Maestoso (Kevin McChesney) Full Score MBEHB180, MBEHB180A Handbell Score, MBEHB180B instrumental score Beckenhorst Press

I encourage you to read all of the articles in this current issue of Fundamental Tone, see what is happening in the world of handbell ringing, participate in as many events as you can, and continue to check the Handbell Musicians of America web site, [handbellmusicians.org](http://handbellmusicians.org), as well as our Area1 website.

We are here to help you, and I would love to hear about your handbell program, large or small. Won't you please send me an email at [ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org).

Happy New Year, and Happy Ringing!  
Sue

## News from Back Bay Ringers

Back Bay Ringers had an exciting holiday season, performing for wonderful audiences at five venues, both new and old. We were welcomed by the First Congregational Church in Stoughton, MA, for the first time, and enjoyed another sold out performance at the beautiful Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport. Thank you to all who supported us during the busy holiday season by joining us for one of our holiday concerts.

This January we welcomed two new musicians to our ensemble, bringing our roster to 18 dedicated and talented handbell musicians. We are beginning preparations for some exciting concerts and events planned to help us celebrate our fifteenth anniversary! This season's repertoire is truly a collection of BBR favorites. Our spring season is also a time for BBR to give back to our community, and this year we are partnering with Brian Clements, editor of the collection "Bullets Into Bells," to raise money for *Stop Handgun Violence*, a Massachusetts-based non-profit working to end the senseless gun violence in our world today.

Please visit our website, [www.backbayringers.org](http://www.backbayringers.org) to learn more information about our upcoming concert series, the annual Boston Handbell Festival, and our Choirchime donation program that supports handbell music education in Boston area schools.