



2025 SPRING CONVENTION PROGRAM

MAY 2 - 3, 2025
HYATT REGENCY, DFW AIRPORT





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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Welcome...

...to the 2025 Southwestern District Spring Convention! Twice each year, we gather to learn more about this amazing hobby, harmonize together and watch our quartets and choruses enhance their skills through education and competition. This convention promises to be yet another exciting chapter in the history of our District of Champions!

Another fantastic aspect of this convention is the outstanding educational opportunities that are available to us! Four choruses are here for coaching and there are also classes for individuals that will enable us to learn and grow in this incredible art form we call barbershop harmony!

And finally, there are 13 quartets that will be showcasing their talents in an effort to qualify for the International Contest to be held in Denver this summer. We also will be naming a new Senior Quartet Champion and a qualifier for the International Senior Quartet Contest in Pasadena, CA next January.

I want to thank our Director of Events, Tom Burson, Contest & Judging Director Jodi Ceaser, and the rest of the Events Team for their hard work and dedication in making this weekend happen. The entire Board of Directors is committed to ensuring that your barbershop experience is as meaningful and rewarding as possible. We are here to serve you, the membership, and your input is necessary for us to know what you expect. So please be sure to fill out the email survey that you will receive after this weekend. Your feedback is needed and appreciated.

We are fortunate that we have the ability to put aside all the troubles that occupy our daily lives and come together in friendship and fun. So let's all be sure to soak up as much knowledge as possible, sing until the cows come home and cheer on our singers in a spirit of harmony!

Mark Holdeman,
2025 Southwestern District
President





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HOUSE RULES INNOVATION BALLROOM

DON'T:

- smoke or vape
- use flash when photographing
- make recordings of any type
- cause distractions during any performance
- TEXT on your cell phone or mobile device

DO:

- switch off or silence cell phones, beepers, or other mobile devices
- remember that you should be seated and the doors will be closed before each contestant performs and doors will not open until they are finished
- **CHEER WILDLY FOR EACH AND EVERY COMPETITOR!!**

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Copyright law strictly limits the use of audio or video recording devices during any performance. No audio or video recording device, whether or not in use, is permitted in the place of performance without prior permission of the Society. Any persons found in possession of any such device will be required to leave immediately, and the tape, film, or other recording media will be confiscated and any unauthorized recording erased or destroyed.

THURSDAY, MAY 1

District BOD Meeting7:00 PM
Room 1325

FRIDAY, MAY 2

House of Delegates Meeting..... 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Lower Level, Industry Wing, Developers Room

Competitor Briefing3:15 PM
Innovation Ballroom

Registration Opens3:30 PM
Hyatt Lobby

Quartet Semifinals6:00 PM
Innovation Ballroom

Quartet Feedback Sessions 9:30 - 11:30 PM
Lower Level, Leadership and Industry Wings

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Chorus Coaching Rooms Open 8:00 AM

Chorus and Quartet Coaching.... 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Classes Session 1 1:30 - 2:20 PM
All classes on Lower Level, Industry Wing
Developers room – Enhancing Quartet Performance Through Effective Communication - by Caroline Hunt
Wildcatters room – Diving Into Arranging, Part 1 - by Jay Dougherty

Classes Session 2 2:30 - 3:20 PM
All classes on Lower Level, Industry Wing
Developers room – Mindfulness Improvement Mindset, by Ed Howard
Wildcatters room – Diving Into Arranging, Part 2, by Jay Dougherty
Harvesters room – Repertoire Selection, by Patrick McAlexander

Quartet Finals and Chorus Festival4:30 PM
Innovation Ballroom

Keep The Whole World Singing.....8:00 PM
Innovation Ballroom

Hospitality Rooms Suites8:00 PM
Rooms ending in xx25

Quartet Feedback/Coaching..... 8:45 PM - 12:00 AM
Lower Level, Leadership and Industry Wings

Validate parking tickets at the concierge desk!



NO PRINTED SCORE SHEETS!

[ALL SCORES AVAILABLE ONLINE](#)

**WELCOME TO DALLAS
AND THE
2025 SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
SPRING CONVENTION!
FROM YOUR HOSTS:**



MEET MANNY LOPEZ - BHS AMBASSADOR

BHS Ambassadors are attending District Conventions to build stronger connections across the Society, listen and learn from chapters, share important updates, support district leaders, and grow the Ambassador program for the future.

Meet with Manny in the Cattle Baron's Room.



Best wishes to everyone crossing the stage this contest season. May your time on stage be all you hoped it would be!

- Connie and Lindsay

Northern Lights 
 Southern Charm
Coaching



If you are looking for faculty or coaches for your next educational or coaching event, we would love to help!

www.nlscoaching.com - nlscoaching@gmail.com

QUARTET SEMI-FINALS

Presenter Mike Borts

Quartet.....(contests - see "LEGEND," page 9)

Chapters

Members: tenor, lead, bari, bass

Mic Tester:

Wildfire -- 2023 SAI Region 25 Quartet Champions

Rachel Radcliff, Erin Goeke, Jen Foster, Jen LeClaire



1. Port City Po Boys (5)

Northwest Louisiana

Trey Glass, III, Wendell Glass, Mike Holland, Dick Chilvers

2. Proof of Concept (1,4)

Asheville, NC; Town North Plano, TX; Upstate South Carolina

Meghan McClafferty, Kianna Montanez, Jaylord Lobaton, Nate Lueders

3. Nexus (1)

Lubbock, TX; Frank Thorne

Stacey Schulz, Jenn Garrett, Tina Scarborough, Teresa Batten

4. Rhinestones (1)



Lubbock, TX

Rosetta Springer, Dawn Gutschke, Angee Ledbetter, Nathan Gutschke

5. Fossilized..... (2,3)



Five Towns College, NY; Houston Metro Area, TX; Houston, TX;

San Antonio, TX; Spring, TX; Frank Thorne

Lon Badgett, Steve Black, Paul Santino, David Morris

6. ALL IN (1)



Austin, TX; Town North Plano, TX; Frank Thorne

Michael Litman, Trevor Crawford, Nick Ruiz, Matthew Cassi

7. Family Friendly (1)



Frank Thorne

Abby Workman, Annalyn Workman, Tim Workman, Tanner Workman






8. Opus IV (1)



Dallas Metro, TX; East Texas, TX; San Antonio, TX;

Frank Thorne

Daniel Cooper, Peter Cunningham, Ryan Wisniewski, Brent Suver

9. **Make Your Mark**.....  (1)
 Dallas Metro, TX; Frank Thorne
Jeremy Meeks, Collin Pittman, Craig Rideout, Brad Rogers
10. **Harmonc Flux**.....  (1)
 Town North Plano, TX
Meghan McClafferty, Mitch Larriva, Diane McGuire, Kianna Montanez
11. **Showpiece**.....  (1)
 Dallas Metro, TX; Greater Baton Rouge, LA
Madison Davis, Daniel Zeagler, Geoff Kannenberg, Chip Davis
12. **7th Street**.....  (1)
 Houston Metro Area, TX
Heather Cryer, Drew Prince, Aaron Turner, Travis Gidley
13. **Clutch**.....  (1)
 Dallas Metro, TX
Charlie Lotspeich, Scott Hale, David Webb, Jeff Oxley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SWD PRESIDENTIAL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

***2024 SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR***

QUARTET FINALS ORDER OF APPEARANCE

CONTEST LEGEND - QUARTETS:

- International Preliminaries -----(1)
 Seniors International Preliminaries -----(2)
 SWD Seniors -----(3)
 SWD Next Gen -----(4)
 Eval Only -----(5)

BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS



The **Southwestern District Barbershopper of the Year (SWD BOTY)** is selected annually from among the general membership of the Southwestern District. The award is more than 60-years-old and honors a Society member in good standing of a district chapter, including the Frank Thorne Chapter, who has demonstrated significant and outstanding service to the district for the previous year. The awardee is selected by the former SWD BOTYs still active in the Society, whether in the district or not, and able to vote. The SWD BOTY receives a custom Jacket, Lapel Pin, Plaque, and Traveling Trophy.

[Click here to see past BOTY recipients.](#)

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Justin Ross Todd Randy



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TICKETS



DATE
SATURDAY, JUNE 7
2 SHOWS!

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HOUSTON, TX 77204



FEATURED QUARTET

2024 FALL CONVENTION JUDGING PANEL

Panel Chair

Chris Buechler - MAD

Administrative Judge

Mike Ott - SWD

Musicality

Anthony
Bartholomew
SWD

Jay Dougherty
CSD

Performance

Mike Louque
CSD

Kevin Duncel
SWD

Singing

James Estes
LOL

Matt Fellows
FWD

Candidate Judges

Administrative Judge

Brett Randolph-CSD, Terry Reynolds - MAD

Musicality

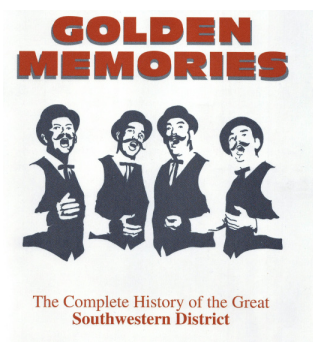
Jake Bavarsky - JAD, Maggie McAlexander - MAD

Performance

Tim Milbrandt - LOL

Singing

B Rauch - JAD



SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT GOLDEN MEMORIES

The Southwestern District's 75-year history is rich with harmony and this book shows a large portion of it!

[Click here to take a look at the origins of the District of Champions and the beginnings of the Barbershop Harmony Society.](#)

DETERMINING RELATIVE RANK

•Musicality

Music is defined as the song and arrangement, as performed. The Musicality Category judges the arranger's skill and the performer's musicianship in bringing the mood or the story of the song to life, and the sustainability of the material to the Barbershop style.

•Performance

These judges evaluate how effectively a performer brings the song to life. They judge the entertainment value of the performance - the art of the performance.

•Singing

In the Singing Category, artistic singing in the Barbershop style is judged - listening holistically for ringing in-tune voices that use a free, beautiful and rich vocal quality, which is wonderfully unified and vocally expressive.

Each judge may award up to 100 points per category, per song.



Brazos Valley Acappella
says "GOOD LUCK!" to
all Southwestern District
competitors!

CHORUS FESTIVAL AND QUARTET FINALS

Presenter Manny Lopez
BHS Ambassador

Mic Tester

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

CHORUS FESTIVAL

River Cities Jubilee Chorus Shreveport, LA
Dr. Ross Smith

A Cappella Texas Austin, TX
Jacob Bankston

Goodtimes Chorus Arlington, TX
Ed Howard II

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keep
The Whole World
Singing!

See you at the
2025 SWD Fall Convention
October 3 & 4,
Right here in the DFW Airport Hyatt Regency!

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT EVENTS TEAM

Convention Chairman *Tom Burson*
Hotel and Venue Chairman *Gary Hannah*
Registration Chairman *Chris Stancil*
Treasurer *Dwayne Cooper*
Marketing and PR Director *Rocky Willett*
Contest & Judging Director *Jodi Ceaser*
Judging Services Coordinators. *Mike Thompson*
Randy Rensi
Competitor Services Chairman *Jodi Ceaser*
Sound and Light Chairman *Ron Rehus*
Stage Manager *Tom Burson*



2025 International Denver – June 29–July 6 ▲

Come to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado next summer and harmonize just a stone's throw from some of the continent's best outdoor activities. barbershop.org/events



2025 - HARMONY UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT

Harmony University 2025 is in Denver, Colorado, at the University of Denver from July 27 - August 3 and offers the opportunity to hone musical, vocal, performance, director, arranging, teaching, and coaching skills. Attendees can earn Graduate or CEU credits, and professional development hours.

Scan the QR code on the next page for the registration form and for more specific information about HU and what will be offered in 2025.

The SWD Scholarship to attend HU includes:

- instruction
- food (3 meals a day and ice cream each night)
- room
- activities
- shows
- TBD shuttle pickup to/from Denver airport to University of Denver.
- Scholarships do not cover individual transportation to/from Denver, Colorado.*

Applications are reviewed and will be awarded to applicants prior to the closing of registration. If you are a scholarship recipient for 2025, the SWD VP of Music & SWD Treasurer will be communicating with HU staff so that your registration can be completed with the scholarship applied.

SWD offers Half or Full Scholarships to attend Harmony University, with preference given to first-time attendees. These scholarships are need-based and cover room, board, and tuition. However a **\$50 service fee** must be paid by the applicant to create and schedule your classes in the SCHED app/website. If you receive a scholarship, you'll get an email with further instructions on how to register.

If you are a Director, Assistant Director, Musical/ Visual Leader, Arranger or a Music Educator, note that there are specific tracks (classes) that align with your field that are the recommended courses from the Deans for your discipline.

SWD members who are also on HU Faculty include Allen Otto, Peter Cunningham, and Anthony Bartholomew. Don't hesitate to reach out to your fellow district members for any advice and recommendations on HU and creating a high-quality experience.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact your SWD VP of Music & Performance, Dan Rohovit, for any questions or recommendations.

dir-mp@swd.org

**SWD HU SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY
MIDNIGHT MAY 10.**

[Click For Harmony U Info](#)

[Click for the SWD Scholarship form](#)

[For past
Southwestern District
Quartet Champions,
click here.](#)

[For past Southwestern District
Chorus Champions, click here.](#)

[Click here to get your
SWD 75th Anniversary swag from
Custom Quartet Stuff!](#)



Music & Performance Opportunities from SWD!

Standing Ovation Program - Free to all chapters!

Trained & experienced professionals ready to help!

- Staging, blocking and choreography
- Image and Costuming
- Tech & Show logistics
- Creating entertaining & engaging show sets
- Guidance & Feedback leading up to shows
- Script Writing

Contact the SWD VP Music & Performance to set a visit from one of our SOP representatives to attend your chapter show. Just provide two tickets, and receive a comprehensive overview on the audience experience or one of the categories above!

SWD Coaching Guild

A network of support for choruses to receive coaching from individuals who live within the district at no cost to the chapter. Coaching is available to all chapters with basic travel expenses paid by the district. Guild Coaches work with choruses to improve and expand their musical knowledge and performance abilities. Coaching sessions are available year-round!

For more details on these programs, contact

Dan Rohovit,

SWD Music and Performance Director

dir-mp@swd.org

NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

When you enter and attend a Southwestern District ("SWD") event or program, you enter an area where photography, audio, and video recording may occur. By entering the event premises, you consent to interview(s), photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for news, web casts, streaming, promotional purposes, telecasts, advertising, inclusion on websites, social media, or any other purpose by SWD and its affiliates and representatives. Images, photos and/or videos may be used to promote similar SWD events in the future, highlight the event and exhibit the programs events of SWD.

You release SWD, its officers and employees, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, or publication and use of interviews, photographs, computer images, video and/or or sound recordings. By entering the event premises, you waive all rights you may have to any claims for payment or royalties in connection with any use, exhibition, streaming, web casting, televising, or other publication of these materials, regardless of the purpose or sponsoring of such use, exhibiting, broadcasting, web casting, or other publication irrespective of whether a fee for admission or sponsorship is charged. You also waive any right to inspect or approve any photo, video, or audio recording taken by SWD or the person or entity designated to do so by SWD. You have been fully informed of your consent, waiver of liability, and release before entering the event.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION LIVESTREAMS

[Click here to catch
the FREE Convention Livestream
on the SWD Facebook page!](#)

We rely on your support to offset expenses and keep our SWD Convention Livestreams going.

[Please click here to make a donation.](#)

Thank you for your generosity!



2025

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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	dir-mpr@swd.org	
Music & Performance	Dan Rohovit	Town North Plano
	dir-mp@swd.org	

**BEST OF
LUCK**

to all

**SWD
COMPETITORS**

from

INNSIDER INNOVATION



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**ALL COMPETITORS
AT THE
SWD CONTEST**

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VocalMajority.com

SAVE THE DATES

FOR OUR 2025

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR!

December 4, 5, and 7, 2025

Eisemann Center in Richardson, Texas

Tickets on Sale October 1, 2025



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