



HERE COMES THE SUN



April 12 – 14, 2018

Bulletin #1

Please post and/or distribute to
your members

October 29, 2017

The Convention Steering Committee just made a visit to Phoenix to solidify our plans for competition in April 2018. It's time to get your plans going as well.

- Hostess Chapter is SKYLINE CHORUS!
- Renaissance Phoenix Downtown Hotel will be our headquarters hotel located at 100 North First Street, Phoenix, AZ 85004. All members will stay in this hotel.
www.Renaissancephoenixdowntown.com The rate will be \$149.70 plus 12.57% state and local taxes for standard rooms that have Queen/Queen or a King bed. Visit their website for other information on amenities. There is no self-parking at the hotel. Valet parking rates are \$18 per day with in-and-out privileges. Not all adjacent parking garages allow overnight parking. The closest non-valet parking garage is the Chase Tower Garage located at 201 N. 1st St., Phoenix, 85004 and current rates are \$15 per day without in-and-out privileges.
- There is an inexpensive light rail train that goes from Sky Harbor Airport to a stop across the street from the hotel. The Visitor's Bureau has a partnership with Lyft, but Uber and taxi's are also an option. Details and pricing for all of these options will come in later bulletins.
- The gorgeous Orpheum Theatre will be our performance venue and it's just a short 5-minute walk from the hotel. All competing quartets and choruses will be provided transportation to their competition performance. Competitors are asked to walk back to the hotel from the venue at the end of each contest. There will be handicap transportation available to and from the venue for spectators and any competitors that cannot walk back for a fee, more details to come in later bulletins. Everyone else gets to enjoy the short walk. Check the theatre out at <https://www.phoenixconventioncenter.com/orpheum-theatre> 203 West Adams St
- All rehearsals, warm ups, events and the sales area will be in the Renaissance. NO warm-up space is available at the venue.

- All Event Ticket Costs for Region 8 members is already included in your Fair Share Assessment from the region, so you will not have to pay any additional registration fee for attending competition. You will have to register everyone that is competing. If they are not a member of Region 8, they will need to pay a registration fee. There will also be tickets available for family and friends that want to watch you perform on stage and they will be sold in advance and held for **will call** at the hotel. NO ticket sales will be made at the venue. Remember you will still need to register with SAI and pay your international competition fee for quartet or chorus. AET cost covers all convention costs - judge expenses, labor, sound, lighting, publicity, all ASCAP fees, the Chorus Harmony Fund, etc.
- The Convention Steering Committee is researching **“group air fare” rates on Southwest and United** from all the major cities in our region. Stay tuned and these details will be made available very soon!
- Speaking of travel plans – Our briefing will be at 5pm Thursday night, April 12 – quartets and chorus leaders/directors must attend. We will also have a fabulous class on Friday morning taught by Lori Lyford (Scottsdale Chorus) and possibly a class Sunday morning with our judges. Stay tuned for details. But – plan your travel into Phoenix on Thursday afternoon and out on Sunday afternoon. We are tentatively starting each contest at 12 noon Friday and Saturday.
- If your chorus is not competing, please come to Phoenix and be a spectator – you’ve already paid for your All Event Ticket. See the competition from the other side of the footlights. We’d love to have you in our audience supporting the region. If your chorus decided to not compete – but is having second thoughts about missing all the fun and friendship of our convention weekend – we’d love to have you there and there is room at the hotel. Keep in mind that the travel costs to Phoenix are the only expense the makes this convention different from any other we have. As a Region 8 member, your AET is paid for - you pay for a hotel room at every contest you attend and at approx. \$168.52 (including tax) for a room that will hold 4 – that comes to just over \$42 per person, per night! You have to eat no matter where we travel and Phoenix has multiple restaurants and fast food options within walking distance of the hotel and venue, which are only 2 ½ blocks apart. Don’t let a fear of extra costs keep you from sharing this weekend with your sisters in Region 8!
- With competition being so late this year – registration information will be sent after the first of the year. Plenty of time to perfect your contest sets and get your paperwork prepared. **IMPORTANT DATES and DEADLINES:**
 - SAI mail competition packets (105 days) – December 29, 2017
 - Last day to register with SAI as a quartet and not incur a late fee – January 15, 2018
 - Region 8 forms available on rnr8.org – January 15, 2018
 - SAI Competition Entry Deadline (60 days) – February 12th and 13, 2018
 - Draw for Order of Appearance – February 19, 2018
 - Region 8 AET/Hotel/Info Deadlines – Approximately March 1st, 2018
- Chorus Rehearsals – will be held in the hotel. We will not provide risers for rehearsals. You will have an optional rehearsal Friday night and an assigned rehearsal on Saturday morning – the same as in the past.
- Congratulations to Heather Reimnitz for winning our logo contest. We had many wonderful submissions this year – thanks to all who participated.

- Our judging panel:
 - Sound – Kim Vaughn
 - Music – Jana Gutenson
 - Expression – Marcia Pinvidic, Panel Chair
 - Showmanship – Sue Beck
 - Panel Secretary – Janice McKenna

If you have questions/concerns – feel free to contact your competition contacts:

Kathy Dow, Competition Coordinator, kr_dow@yahoo.com, 970-217-2445

Barb Loudon, Chair of Regional Competition, barb80014@yahoo.com, 303-250-3488