



April 2 – 4, 2020

## Bulletin #1

Please post and/or distribute to  
your members

We are excited to go to **Rapid City, SD** - <https://www.visitrapidcity.com/> - for our Regional Contest, Apr 2-4, 2020. It is a beautiful and charming resort area with many parks, monuments, wineries and outdoor activities – so you can bring the family! Rapid City is a leisurely drive on good roads with minimal traffic and great scenery! It also has a regional airport with direct flights from Denver and SLC. **Black Hills Showcase Chorus** will be our Assistance Chapter.

The Convention Steering Committee meets several times during the year to plan and then carry out our Regional Conventions. We hope that all the Choruses and Quartets in Region 8 will choose to compete in Rapid City. For our planning purposes, we'd like the leadership of each Chorus to contact us by December 15, 2019, so that we know your intentions for contest in 2020. \*\*Please send your response to [barb80014@yahoo.com](mailto:barb80014@yahoo.com) Thanks!

The competition venue is at the **Rushmore Plaza Civic Center Performing Arts Center**. <https://www.gotmine.com/> Tickets will be available on-line or at the door for our guests and concessions will be made available on both days in the lobby.

Our hotel is the **Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center**.

[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.42048.html?iata=00171880&ssob=BLBWI0004G&cid=BLBWI0004G:google:gmb:42048](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.42048.html?iata=00171880&ssob=BLBWI0004G&cid=BLBWI0004G:google:gmb:42048)

Everyone will be housed at this location and it is where the Quartet Photos, Chorus Rehearsals, Sales Area, Region 8 Awards Dinner (new this year) the Show of Champions and Afterglow will take place! They also have a wonderful full-service restaurant and an indoor water park, with 6 free passes included with your room!

The nightly rate is **\$125.99 (includes all taxes and fees)** for a standard Queen/Queen or King and an additional \$30 for a limited number of small king suites, if desired and available.

The Region 8 **Events Coordinator**, along with the **Convention Steering Committee (CSC)**, negotiates the best rates it can for all the hotels we contract with, years in advance of our

Regional Contest. **Region 8 depends on and needs your support!** The Region must meet a minimum number of room reservations for the weekend, so please make all your room reservations thru your chorus or our Housing Coordinator and NOT independently on-line.

The cost of your All Events Ticket (AET), which is included in your Regional dues, has remained the same for several years because of these negotiations too! Hotel rates have risen dramatically over the years and our hotel rates are based on the inclusion of many amenities we use during contest weekend. It includes spaces for our Sales Area, chorus rehearsal rooms, chorus meals, the SOC and Afterglow, as well as a transportation subsidy to the venue. Hotels also require a Food and Beverage minimum from us, so to help cover this expense, there will be a **(NEW this year) Regional Awards Dinner**, at the hotel just before the SOC on Saturday. All our Regional Awards will be presented during this dinner, rather than during the SOC. It will be a time for us to come together to celebrate our great Region, all the award winners and the competition. While this dinner is not mandatory, we hope that everyone will make plans to **support Region 8** and attend this special dinner. More specific information regarding the time, cost, menu and special incentives, will be shared closer to contest and advance reservations and payment is required.

Contest registration for Quartets and Choruses will begin in late December for the SAI forms and in early 2020 for Region 8 – see schedule/deadlines below.

- SAI competition info available (R8 forwards) (105 days) - December 20, 2020
- Last day to register as a quartet with SAI to avoid penalty – January 15, 2020
- Region 8 Forms posted – About January 1, 2020
- SAI Entry Deadline (60 days) – February 3 (quartets) and 4 (choruses), 2020
- Region 8 AET/Hotel/Info Deadlines – February 7, 2020
- Draw for order of appearance – February 10, 2020

Remember, **we'd like the leadership of each Chorus to contact us by December 15, 2019 so that we know your intentions for contest in 2020. \*\*Please send your response to [barb80014@yahoo.com](mailto:barb80014@yahoo.com)**

Kathy Dow, Competition Coordinator, [kr\\_dow@yahoo.com](mailto:kr_dow@yahoo.com), 970-217-2445

Barb Loudon, Chair of Regional Competition, [barb80014@yahoo.com](mailto:barb80014@yahoo.com), 303-250-3488