



PIECES OF 8 - OCTOBER 2016

Greetings!

Hello fall!! This year is FLYING by! And International Competition is upon us. Can't wait to cheer and support our THREE representatives this year! You go, girls!

Remember...if your chorus has a show that you'd like to add to the regional calendar, a show committee member or a board/team member must complete a [Chapter Date Clearance Form](#) (also found on the website under "Extras" and "Forms") and submit it to the Region 8 Team Coordinator, Jill Harward. Her info is on the form on where to send it.

Lots of information, as always! Enjoy!!

Heather Reimnitz
Communications Coordinator
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Upcoming Events

September 2016 - No events

October 2016

7-8	Rocky Mountain District (BHS) Fall Convention Little American Hotel & Resort, Cheyenne, WY
8 1:30p & 4:00p	Skyline Chorus - International Dress Rehearsal Lone Tree Arts Center, Denver, CO
15 2:00p	Nebraska Pride Chorus Fall Show Ella Missing Center, Arapahoe, NE
15 7:30p	Nebraska Pride Chorus Fall Show Merryman Performance Center, Kearney, NE
16 2:00p	Nebraska Pride Chorus Fall Show North Platte High School, North Platte, NE
16 3:00p	Windsong Chorus Fall Show Sterling Middle School, Sterling, CO
17-22	SAI International Convention MGM Grand Garden Arena, Las Vegas, NV
29 5:30p	Velvet Hills Chorus Show "A Harvest of Harmony" The Retired Enlisted Assoc., Colorado Springs, CO

November 2016

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Good Luck in Vegas!!

Region 8 will be represented by THREE groups at the International Competition in October in Las Vegas!!!

We wish Ruby Blue Quartet, Skyline Chorus, and Mountain Jubilee Chorus the BEST of luck! How lucky are we that we will have such great representation?!?!

Be sure to watch the webcast if you're not able to go and be there to cheer in person!

Stage times (Pacific Standard Time):

Ruby Blue
Wed. 10/19 - 6:07pm

Skyline
Thurs. 10/20 - 1:29pm

5 7:30p	Montana Sapphire Chorus Show Evangelical United Methodist Church, Billings, MT
19 3:00p	Del-Rose Chorus Show Delta Christian Church, Delta, CO

Mountain Jubilee
Thurs. 10/20 - 4:42pm

Why did we choose Phoenix for contest?

As many of you know from attending contest this year, we have selected to go to Phoenix, AZ for our 2018 contest. With this decision, there have been many questions as to WHY we chose that location. Below are the main reasons, with the first one being the primary one!

1. We wanted to provide parity for all members in the region related to the cost of attending Regional contest. Most of our contest venues and hotels in the last 15+ years have been located on the Front Range of Colorado so those of us who live there have much lower travel costs every year than those who live in the rest of the region. Everyone will have similar travel expenses in 2018 because we will all travel to Phoenix.

2. The beautiful Orpheum Theater and Renaissance Marriott in Phoenix are the regular contest site year over year for Region 21. Region 21 includes great choruses like Scottsdale and Harborlites and we value their opinion!

3. The contract we have negotiated with the Marriott includes no food and beverage minimum and no rental charges for the rehearsal/meeting spaces making this a very fiscally sound deal for the region.

The Event Coordinator on the Regional Management Team, in conjunction with the Convention Steering Committee, constantly research new locations for contest. They keep in mind how vastly spread this region is, and it is hard to find venues/locations that fit Sweet Adelines International's requirements.

In an article below, the requirements are explained so that YOU can keep an eye out for venues and ask the Event Coordinator to research it further.

Region 8 Party in Las Vegas!

Mountain Jubilee and Skyline Choruses are hosting a party at International Competition in Las Vegas!

Saturday, October 22nd
MGM Conference Center Room #309
8:00pm - 11:00pm

Food! Cash Bar! Dancing! Singing!

8:00pm to 9:00pm is for Region 8 members only...special and fun things will happen just for us the first hour!

See the [flyer](#) for more info!

Contest Bulletins

Below are the published convention bulletins for the 2017 contest. These are also available on the [Convention Page](#) on the website.

[Bulletin #1](#) - 8/5/16

Learning Tracks of "One Song At A Time" are up!

The learning tracks for the new regional song, "One Song At A Time" are up on the Members Only section of the regional website.

- Log In
- Hover over "Music" in top black menu bar
- Hover over "Learning Tracks"
- Select "One Song At A Time"

If you do not have access to the Members Only section of our regional website...NOW is the time to sign up!

On the main page of the website, scroll down to see the "Members Login" on the left-hand side. Click on the "Create an account" link and submit the form. Give the admin some time to activate your account before logging in.

ONLY OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE REGION WILL BE GRANTED ACCESS TO THIS SECTION.

Let Heather Reimnitz know if you have any questions.

Quartet Competition Update - regarding

Have a story to

singing in multiple quartets

From Sweet Adelines International . . .

With the inception of the Open Division at the regional level in 2014, members have been exploring new and exciting ways to participate in their regional contest. As a result of many requests from competitors, the Judge Specialists and the Education Direction Committee have developed a new policy to allow members to fulfill their desire to compete in more than one quartet.

The policy states that "A member may now compete in up to two different quartets during the same regional contest, as long as they are in different competition divisions (e.g., one quartet in the International Division and one in the Open Division). No more than two members per quartet may compete in the second quartet in the same regional contest."

How do we choose a contest venue anyway?

Submitted By: Sue McCormick, Event Coordinator

Hi! My name is Sue McCormick and I am the Region 8 Event Coordinator. Part of my responsibilities in this role includes conducting an annual Regional contest. Each region is required by Sweet Adelines International (SAI) to hold a contest every year. SAI would like each region to be contracting with venues and hotels 3-5 years out in the future. I am working on a site for our 2020 Regional competition right now! That means that the assumptions we use today to negotiate contracts will hopefully still be true when we arrive at that future competition. There's some educated guessing going on in this process!

To help us in this endeavor, SAI provides through its website, "Guidelines for Regional Convention", everything you'll ever need to know about putting on a Sweet Adelines competition! Here's the link to the document. It can also be found on the SAI website. From their home page go to Resources/Document Center/Regional Events/Guidelines for Regional Convention.

<http://sweetadelines.com/ImgUL/files/GRCCComplete.pdf>

SAI has developed these guidelines based on years of experience with what works for our art form and what will provide the competitor with the best possible experience.

For our discussion today, we will be looking at Section D, Contest Preparations-Site Selection and Inspection and Appendix III, Forms/Instructions/Diagrams. Please take a few minutes and review this section if you'd like more detail. I'll highlight some of the specifications we find most challenging as we search our vast region for new contest venues.

First we'll discuss the theater. The most important questions to ask about a venue we are considering are the size of the stage and the size of the orchestra pit/judges pit. SAI has very specific requirements for the size of the stage proscenium. The proscenium of a theater stage is the solid wall structure to the sides of the stage that frames the stage. It can be square or arched. Because we use the large risers during our competition we must have a proscenium opening of at least 50 ft. 4 in. We often find lovely theaters that meet our other requirements but that have a proscenium opening of 45 ft. or less. They unfortunately can't be considered further. If you have a venue in mind, this is the first

share with the Region??

Did your quartet or chorus have a fun, entertaining, educational event? Put together a small story with pictures (if possible) and we'll get it in the "Pieces of 8". The entire region would LOVE to read about what fun you're having!

Send stories & pictures to Heather Reimnitz, Comm. Coordinator, at hreim6@gmail.com.

Reminders!

Keep your contact info with SAI updated!

In order to make sure you receive communications from SAI and Region 8, please keep your contact info updated with SAI.

Log In to the Members Only area on the [SAI site](#) and update.

Ask Heather Reimnitz if you have questions!

Are you signed up for the Members Only part of the website??

We utilize the "Members Only" section of the Region 8 website to post contact info, RMT minutes, updates from SAI, etc.

Sign up by creating an account on the website. If you are a CURRENT member, you will be given access.

RMT Members

Team Coordinator
Jill Harward

Communication Coord.
Heather Reimnitz

Directors' Coordinator
Judy Vidal

measurement you need to determine.

Then we must have an orchestra pit that can handle three 6' or 8' tables with at least two side by side with chairs and it must be at the theater floor level (some orchestra pits only go all the way down or all the way up to the stage level- neither work for our needs). Then we must be able to have 10' from the end of the stage to the judges sitting at the tables, and no less! That can be an issue as many orchestra pits now have solid walls around the outside and don't have the 10' depth inside it that we need.

Diagrams for both the proscenium stage opening measurement and the orchestra pit specifications are found in Appendix III under Diagrams.

After we've located a promising venue, we then turn our attention to housing. The Guidelines also has a section about hotels and restaurants. Some things we look for:

1. A restaurant in the headquarters hotel
2. If more than one hotel is needed then hotels should be within walking distance or other accommodation. ***
3. Hotel(s) located a reasonable distance from the competition venue.
4. Reasonable sleeping room rates, rehearsal room rental charges, and food & beverage minimum requirements.
5. Adequate rehearsal room spaces both in size and number.

After we find promising venues and accompanying hotel(s) we begin the contract negotiation process with both. It is important to negotiate the best possible deal for the Region and its members. We work to keep costs down and room rates reasonable in all of our contract negotiations. A tall order today as costs continue to rise.

That's a little peak in to the world of competition site selection! If you have any questions about anything I've mentioned please feel free to email me at suedenm@comcast.net.

*** In Cheyenne for 2017 the two hotels are not within walking distance of each other; however the city of Cheyenne is providing us 3-4 trolleys that hold 25 people each to bring people back and forth between the two hotels. This will satisfy the SAI requirement!

Education Coordinator
Marilyn Cox

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Sue McCormick

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**Rocky Mountain Region 8
Sweet Adelines International**

Heather Reimnitz
Region 8 Communications Coordinator

<http://rnr8.org>