

Certification Classes

For more details or questions contact:

Diane Barnes at eventschair.area10@handbellmusicians.org

Conducting 1 — Review the basics examines the components of conducting, execution of metrical patterns, and the means by which to communicate all the musical indicators contained in the score in a clear, concise, and understandable manner. Repertoire range: Level 1 to 3. *Pre-requisite: Conducting Experience and submission of conducting video*

Send your conducting video to: TBD

Instructor: **Ellie Hodder** holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from Crane School of Music, an advanced teaching certificate from New York State and Master of Fine Arts Degree with a concentration in composition from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She served as Director of Handbells at First Unitarian Church, Portland for 15 years and is currently serving as Director of Music Ministries at Murry Hills Christian Church. Ellie is founder of the Pacific NW Handbell Directors' Forum and the Pacific NW Youth Handbell Festival. In 2009, Ellie founded the community handbell ensemble, Pacific Ringers. She currently serves on the Area 10 board.

In order to successfully pass this course as part of the certification curriculum, students must be able to:

- Demonstrate correct posture and stance;
- Demonstrate clear cut-offs;
- Demonstrate baton selection and technique;
- Conduct common meter patterns as well as mixed meters (including all common patterns in four, three, two, and 6/8);
- Demonstrate a clear preparatory beat;
- Demonstrate the ability to conduct music beginning on various beats;
- Demonstrate a steady/consistent beat/pulse;
- Demonstrate dynamic changes with the use of the conducting and non-conducting hands;
- Identify basic elements of score study (i.e. form, rhythm, melody);
- Research background of the musical selection and share your interpretation of the same;
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize incorrect or missing notes and various techniques;
- Demonstrate how to conduct musical and stylistic elements (i.e. ritardando, fermata, cuing, legato, and staccato);
- Demonstrate verbal and non-verbal communication skills, including facial expressions, body movement, gestures, eye contact, posture, and tone of voice; and
- Demonstrate the ability to memorize sections of the repertoire.

Required Text & Music (purchase before coming to class)

- *Handbell and Handchime Notation Guide*, AGEHR Music, AG015, 2016/2017
- Behnke, John A., *An Expression of Joy*, AGEHR Publishing AG35300
- Glasgow, Michael J., *Fanfare on "Engelberg"*, AGEHR Publishing AG37011

Be prepared to conduct portions of the two music selections from memory.

Recommended Text

- Phillips, Kenneth H., *Basic Techniques of Conducting*, Oxford University Press, 1997 (Your local community college library may have this text.)

For further information go to: <http://certification.handbellmusicians.org/conducting/> **OR** contact Diane Barnes at eventschair.area10@handbellmusicians.org

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Handbell Techniques 1 — The basics examines basic handbell and handchime ringing and damping techniques, with an emphasis on ergonomic principles and sound production. *Prerequisite: None*

Instructor: **Sheri Roach** has been involved in music her whole life, even starting as a young toddler when she would pull herself up to bounce to the beat of any music she heard. Her current instrumental activities are diverse, feeding her passion for handbells and surrounding her with beautiful music. She directs a handbell choir at one church, rings with a different church's choir, rings annually in Coppers Classic, rings bell tree, rings in a duet (Bellissima), and plays viola in the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra. Teaching handbell techniques is a natural progression for Sheri, who, as a retired public school educator, loves opportunities to teach and share what she has learned with others. She lives with her husband of over thirty years in Fairbanks, Alaska, where she is the Area 10 Alaska State Chair.

In order to successfully pass this course as part of the certification curriculum, students must be able to:

- Distinguish and identify major muscle groups of the hands, arms, legs, and back and explain how these muscle groups work together and separately to move the hands, arms, and legs, and to provide a means for balancing the body as it moves through space;
- Describe handbell and handchime sound production and how it relates to handbell and handchime ringing and damping techniques;
- Demonstrate stance, seat, and stroke;
- Demonstrate shoulder and table damping;
- Demonstrate the ring-hook technique;
- Demonstrate bell/chime changes in one or both hands;
- Demonstrate a bell/chime pass hand-to-hand and ringer-to-ringer; and
- Describe modifications or adaptations of the above with regard to bass handbells and chimes.

Recommended Texts—helpful but not required prior to taking the class. The most helpful and useful reference to keep on hand is the *Healthy Ringing* book by Susan Berry—available from any handbell supply vendor.

- Berry, Susan, *Healthy Ringing: for Handbells and Handchimes*, Handbell Services, either 2000 or 2012 editions are fine
- Conable, Barbara, *What Every Musician Needs to Know about the Body: the Practical Application of Body Mapping to Making Music*, Andover, 2000
- Parsons, Thomas, *Bass Bell Techniques*, From the Top, 2006
- Sue, Larry, *The Bass Ringer's Notebook*, Choraegus Music, either 2007 or 2017 editions are fine
- *Handbell Techniques with Michèle Sharik* (DVD), Above The Line Publishing, 2011

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