



**41st Annual
Big Sky Handbell Festival**
April 26-27, 2024 - Helena, MT
Helena High School, 1300 Billings Ave.

OUR CLINICIAN:

SANDRA EITHUN currently leads the handbell programs at Holy Family Conservatory of Music in Manitowoc, Wisconsin and the Valley Troubadours of Appleton. As a phenomenal composer and arranger, Sandra Eithun has over 600 handbell pieces in publication as well as several sacred keyboard books and teaching collections. Her compositions have been featured in concerts by noted groups including The Raleigh Ringers and The Bells on Temple Square in Salt Lake City. (See full biography in this packet.)



DIRECTOR SEMINAR with Sandra Eithun ...

Open to ALL ringers and directors

Friday April 26— 2:00pm - 3:30pm at Covenant United Methodist Church, 2330 E. Broadway

Directions: See Driving Directions, below

COST: \$20 per person, added to registration, or payable on-site)

SCHEDULE ... The Director Seminar will be at Covenant United Methodist Church, 2330 E. Broadway on Friday 4/26, from 2:00 to 3:30pm. Move-in time at Helena High School will be at 4:30 pm Friday 4/26, and our first rehearsal will be at 7:00 pm on Friday. On Saturday 4/27, there will be a full day of rehearsals and a concert at 7:30 pm. The full schedule will be emailed to you later.

MAPS and PARKING ... Helena High School is at 1300 Billings Ave. See Driving Directions, below.

FESTIVAL MUSIC ... Each choir is responsible to purchase and bring their own music. **DO NOT COPY MUSIC!** The music list is included in this email and also posted on the Area 10 website: <http://area10.handbellmusicians.org>. Other than official recordings made by event leaders, all other audio and video recordings constitute an infringement of the U.S. copyright laws.

DIRECTOR NOTES ... have been emailed to directors and also can be accessed on the Area 10 website. Your group will need to know more than what is printed in the music, so share the Director Notes with all ringers, and have them mark any changes in their music. Then, practice what is marked! Prepared ringers will have a much better festival experience, and so will Sandra! Thank you!

CONCERT DRESS ... For the evening concert, please wear your usual performance attire.

CHOIR SOLOS ... If you would like to perform a choir solo at the afternoon mini-concert, please email the details to Lilly Olson at euphoniumfrog@yahoo.com — the title, arranger, full choir or ensemble, and special requests.

VENDORS ... Look forward to our vendors: Heitz Music, Malmark, and Neil Gertner (Ultimate Bell Cases)

LUNCH ... The optional Saturday lunch costs \$12.00 for a sandwich on wheat bread with chips, cookie, pickle spear and soda. Choices: Turkey, Ham, Beef, Veggie, and Gluten-free turkey, wrapped in lettuce.

WHAT TO BRING ... We supply the floor space and chairs; you supply the tables, foam, bells and chimes.

HOTELS ... There are many hotels near Interstate 15 and others within 1-2.5 miles of Helena High School.

REGISTRATION ... Festival Registration Forms are due Friday, March 29.

The Festival Registration Form is a fillable PDF. Download the blank form to your computer. Open it on your computer to enter your information. Email the completed form to nrmatten@gmail.com or print and mail it with your registration payment. Placement on the ringing floor is determined by the email date or the postmark date of a mailed form.

Make checks payable to Big Sky Handbell Musicians, and mail to:
Naomi Matten
1900 Charlotte Ave.
Missoula, MT 59801

CANCELLATION/REFUND Policy

All cancellation requests must be in writing (email is acceptable). Refunds, less the association fee, will be made for cancellation requests received or postmarked by the registration closing date. A different ringer may be substituted, at no additional cost. If a participant cancels after the registration closing date because of a medical issue or a family emergency, a request may be made for a refund of the registration fee only. This request must be in writing and be received no later than the opening of festival. The request will be honored if the festival profit is sufficient to cover all such requests. It excludes any amount paid for lunch, shirts, festival souvenirs, director seminar, and the association fee. All refund checks will be mailed after the festival.

If you have questions, email or phone:
Lilly Olson, Festival Host
euphoniumfrog@yahoo.com
(509) 434-6963

Driving Directions:

...to Helena High School, 1300 Billings Ave., Helena MT

...to the Seminar at Covenant United Methodist Church, 2330 E Broadway St.

Eastbound (from Missoula)

Take Highway 12 into town as it turns to Lyndale Ave

Follow Lyndale as it merges into Montana Ave, heading south. Then ...

... **Continue to the high school** by turning left onto Billings Ave. (Helena HS is on your left.) Turn left onto Roberts. Follow Roberts to the end of the HHS parking lot to enter the lot. Drive back along the parking lot towards the gym (curved dark roof.) Look for Entry #21.

... **Continue to the Seminar** by driving further south on Montana Ave. (about 1 mile further) to East Broadway St. Turn left onto E. Broadway and drive 1.1 miles. Covenant UMC is on your left, and the Emergency Room of St. Peter's Health is on your right.

Southbound (from Great Falls)

From Interstate 15, take exit 192 (towards Capitol)

Turn right onto Prospect Ave. Then...

... **Continue to the high school:**
After about 3/4 mile on Prospect, turn right onto Roberts. After a few blocks, you will see HHS on your left. Follow Roberts to the end of the HHS parking lot to enter the lot. Drive back along the parking lot towards the gym (curved dark roof)
Look for Entry #21.

... **Continue to the Seminar:**
After 1/2 mile on Prospect, turn left on N. Fee St. Continue straight onto 11th Ave. After 1/2 mile, turn right onto California St. and drive another 1/2 mile. Turn left onto E. Broadway St, and Covenant UMC will be on your left. The Emergency Room for St. Peter's Health is on the right.

Northbound (from Butte)

From Interstate 15, take exit 192 (towards Capitol)

Turn left onto Prospect Ave. Then ...

... **Continue to the high school:**
After about 3/4 mile on Prospect, turn right onto Roberts. After a few blocks, you will see HHS on your left. Follow Roberts to the end of the HHS parking lot to enter the lot. Drive back along the parking lot towards the gym (curved dark roof)
Look for Entry #21.

... **Continue to the Seminar:**
After 1/2 mile on Prospect, turn left on N. Fee St. Continue straight onto 11th Ave. After 1/2 mile, turn right onto California St. and drive another 1/2 mile. Turn left onto E. Broadway St, and Covenant UMC will be on your left. The Emergency Room for St. Peter's Health is on the right.