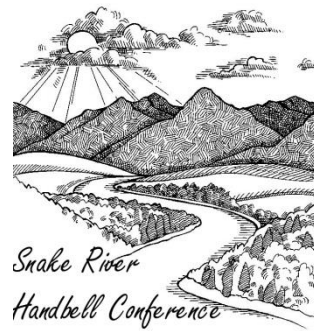


**11th Annual
Snake River Handbell Conference
February 6-7, 2026
Central Gym
1415 6th Street South
(NW corner of 15th Ave South & 6th St South)
Nampa, Idaho**



Clinician: Nicholas Hanson

Come and join many other handbell musicians ringing six great pieces under the direction of Nick Hanson. The pieces are level 2-3 incorporating various music styles, techniques, and seasons. The weekend begins with set-up Friday, February 6 in the late afternoon with the opening rehearsal at 6:30 pm. It continues Saturday beginning at 9:00 am and concludes with a concert for the community at 6:30 pm.

Cost is \$60 per person postmarked on or before December 12, 2025 and \$70 after December 12. This includes all conference activities plus snacks on Saturday. A \$10 discount is offered for 2 or more from the same immediate family. The first family member pays full price; each additional person from the family is \$10 less.



After receiving his BA in Music (with concentration in handbell performance) from Concordia University, Irvine, California, Nick began teaching at The Potomac School in McLean, Virginia, in 2006. At Potomac he teaches private handbell lessons and handbell classes to 4th–12th grade students in six handbell ensembles. He has also been the handbell director at Bush Hill Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, Virginia, for over 15 years.

Nick is a sought-after faculty, clinician, and conductor for workshops and events throughout the world, having served in this role nationally in over 20 states (as well as Washington, DC) and internationally in England, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Singapore. He was the first-ever associate conductor for the elite handbell event, Distinctly Bronze, where he shared the podium with esteemed conductor and composer William Payn in 2015; was co-conductor for the Handbell Musicians of America (HMA) All-Star Choir in 2018; has twice lead HMA's Distinctly Teen ensemble in 2015 and 2023; and was the conductor for Distinctly Bronze East in 2025.

In 2022 The Potomac School recognized Nick with the Bill Cook Excellence in Teaching Award and he was featured in the *Arlington Magazine* article "Teachers We Love" in 2023. He is a published writer in the national handbell magazine *Overtones*, has composed and arranged over 100 pieces of handbell music, and is co-host of the podcast Two Tacos High: A Handbell Podcast.

- **Lunch on Saturday** – There are many fast-food restaurants within a couple of miles of the school. There will be enough time in the schedule for you to grab a bite or bring your own lunch.
- **Driving Directions to Central Gym** – Take I-84 exit 38 and head south toward Nampa on Garrity Boulevard. Turn left at the stop light at 16th Avenue. Go over the railroad tracks (high bridge going over them) and turn right on 6th Street South. In one block the gym will be on your right.

- **Membership in Handbell Musicians of America (HMA)** – You will need to be a member in some manner. Either your organization/church belongs or you have your own membership. To join, go to www.handbellmusicians.org and click the “Join HMA” gold button on the right. One membership covers all ringers from that organization.
- **Concert Dress** – For the concert, please wear whatever you typically wear when you perform.
- **Placement on the Ringing Floor** - This will be determined by the postmark of your registration. First come first served whenever possible. Getting everything to fit is also a consideration. It is most important that your exact length of space needed is properly noted.
- **Showcase Concerts** – There are two opportunities for your choir or ensemble to perform – after lunch on Saturday for all the ringers or during the evening concert. Please fill out the section on page 2 of the registration form.
- **Do we have to ring all the pieces?** No. If you find a piece or two more challenging than you want to tackle, you are welcome to sit and listen to the rehearsal. However, remember that a massed setting is a perfect place to challenge yourselves. Others are playing the same notes so if you miss some of yours, no problem.
- **Do we need to purchase and rehearse the music before coming?** Yes! The purpose is to work together polishing the pieces as one large ensemble. Learn the notes beforehand then make gorgeous music at the conference.

Make plans now to attend the 11th Annual Snake River Handbell Conference!!!

For More Information Please Contact:

Phyllis Tincher
 RingPraise@msn.com
 208-989-2811

This event is sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America, dedicated to uniting people through the musical art of handbell and handchime ringing. www.handbellmusicians.org.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Friday, February 6

4:00 pm Gym open for marking floor
 4:45 pm Registration and set-up begins
 Dinner on your own
 6:30 pm Opening bell and rehearsal
 8:30 pm Time to sleep

12:00 noon Lunch
 1:15 pm Showcase concert
 1:45 pm Rehearsal with Break
 4:30ish Dinner on your own; evening
 showcase concert rehearsals
 6:15 pm In place for concert

Saturday, February 7

8:00 am Gym opens for afternoon
 showcase concert rehearsals
 9:00 am Rehearsal with Break

6:30 pm Concert
 7:30 pm Pack up