

**Greater New York/New Jersey
Region 15
Sweet Adelines International
Annual Convention and Competition**



**April 23-26, 2026
Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, NY**

*Wishing all competitors
the best of luck as you take the stage.
Harmony brings us together in a way
nothing else can and reminds us that
we are stronger united. May you sing
with confidence, joy, and the
knowledge that what you share truly
matters.*

With Love, **The Spirit of Syracuse Chorus**

*Good luck 942, Illuminate, Nightshade, and
Recap Quartets!*



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Cover Art designed by the Assisting Chorus, Sirens of Gotham

*Please help us meet our Food and Beverage minimums
by patronizing the concession stand here at the arena.*



Special Guest Faculty Nikki Blackmer

- Full-time vocal instructor and coach
- Lead of Frenzy, *2017 Queens of Harmony*
- Master Director, A Cappella Joy Chorus
2025 Harmony Classic AA Division Champions
- Sweet Adelines International Faculty



2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY • APRIL 23, 2026

4:00 pm	Hotel Check-In	
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Boxed dinners available (pre-paid)	Hilton, Restaurant
6:45 - 7:15 pm	Hand in forms/Return awards	Hilton, Governor B
7:30 pm	Quartet/Chorus Briefing	Hilton, Governor A
** Blue Notes Chorus	immediately at conclusion of briefing	Hilton, Governor A

FRIDAY • APRIL 24, 2026

8:00 am	Dedicated buses for mic testing chorus/quartet ONLY to ESPCC	
8:30 am	ESPCC Facilities Inspection/Sound Check - <i>By Invitation Only</i>	
9:30 am	Buses for quartets (walk-ons)	
9:45 am	Quartet Walk-Ons - <i>By Invitation only</i>	ESPCC
11:00 am - 7:00 pm	Spectator Buses between Hilton and	ESPCC
11:00 am	Registration Desk/Ticket Sales	ESPCC
11:00 am	Boutique (open through contest end)	ESPCC
12:30 pm	Mass Sing (weather permitting only)	Capitol Park
1:30 pm	QUARTET CONTEST BEGINS	ESPCC
4:00 pm	Hotel Check-In	
7:00 - 8:30 pm	Buffet dinner (pre-paid)	Hilton
8:30 + 9:30	Chorus rehearsals (assigned spaces)	

SATURDAY • APRIL 25, 2026

7:00 - 8:30 am	Chorus breakfast buffet as assigned	
9:00-10:30 am	Chorus breakfast buffet as assigned	
11:00 - 5:00 pm	Spectator Buses between Hilton and ESPCC	
11:00 am	Registration Desk/Ticket Sales opens	ESPCC
11:00 am	Boutique (open through contest end)	ESPCC
12:00 pm	CHORUS CONTEST BEGINS	ESPCC
6:30 pm	Banquet and Awards/Show of Champions	Hilton
	6:30 -7:30 pm	Cocktail Hour
	7:30 pm	Buffet Dinner (pre-paid)

SUNDAY • APRIL 26, 2026

10:00 am	Farewell Sing	Hilton Lobby
	Safe travels, everyone, and see you next year.	

2026 INTRODUCTIONS



Hello – and welcome to Greater NY/NJ Region 15's annual Convention and Contest. It's Spring, the birds are singing – and so are WE. And we're happy to be singing for YOU!

This event is an opportunity to share what our choruses and quartets have been working on for months – not solely for the purpose of competition, but to bring ringing chords and beautiful music to our audience.

Everyone who crosses the stage this weekend knows that what we do here (and in our communities) has the potential to change the room, change a mind, or perhaps change a life. We're glad that you will be a part of that experience this weekend, and I encourage you to let the singer(s) know how their performance has touched your heart and mind.

An event as complex as this one does not happen without a lot of hard work. I want to take this opportunity to thank the individuals who make this event a successful one for all involved. Thank you to the many committee members who work diligently to plan and execute the weekend's events; to the Assisting Chorus members who are helping competitors and the public have a successful event experience; to the folks who are here working behind the scenes to engineer and guide the show you are about to see; to the ESPCC staff who are such gracious hosts; and most importantly, thank you to the choruses and quartets - the singers themselves - for their dedication to and love for the barbershop craft. Without them, there would be no music here today.

- You can't sing harmony alone... -

Barbara Wright
Chair, Regional Convention



2026 INTRODUCTIONS



Hello, Region 15!! As we gather here in Albany for our regional convention, whether you're back for another year or singing with us for the first time—your rhythm belongs here! With Spring and all that it brings, let's celebrate this season of warmer temperatures and new growth—not just in nature, but in the many opportunities blossoming within our barbershop world. Kudos to YOU for stepping up, saying “yes” to performing with a quartet or chorus, cheering and supporting from the audience, or trial scoring or judging. May your weekend expand your horizons with excitement, inspiration, and pure barbershop joy!

Once again, I'm grateful for the contributions of such dedicated individuals working behind-the-scenes that make this convention both seamless and special. Heartfelt thanks to **Barbara Wright**, our Regional Convention Chair, and **Jeanne Viscito**, our Competition Coordinator, for their leadership and countless hours of preparation (plus non-stop weekend stamina!) The **Regional Convention Committee** earns our appreciation for their preparations and tireless efforts, as does our assisting chorus, Sirens of Gotham, supported by the Spirit of Syracuse and Hickory Tree Choruses! A big shoutout also goes to our directors, chorus liaisons, music teams and team leaders, as your dedication inspires us and helps us get here! To our families and true barbershop fans, thank you! We couldn't do this without your love and support!

As you enjoy the weekend, know that your **Convention and Regional Management Teams** are continually working to bring you top-quality programming, comfortable accommodations, great faculty, and welcoming venues—all while keeping costs reasonable. It's not too early to mark your calendars to join us for another fantastic weekend at VocalFest, September 18–20, 2026, at the Sheraton in Parsippany, NJ, with **Nikki Blackmer**, a queen of harmony and lead of 2017 quartet champions, Frenzy; and director of A Capella Joy Chorus, the 2025 Harmony Classic AA Division Champions! But for now, enjoy every moment here in Albany—and please reach out if I can help in any way!

Yours in Harmony,
Deanna Sargent, Events Coordinator

ASSISTING CHORUS WELCOME

SIRENS OF GOTHAM

From the beginning, Region 15 has left an indelible impression on Sirens of Gotham. From Dolly Power and Eileen Welsh stylishly crashing our rehearsal to let us know we were officially chartered with Sweet Adelines Region 15 to members building a spontaneous human tunnel to welcome us back into the ballroom after our very first regional contest set, we are so grateful to be embraced by this powerhouse region.

Since then, we have made wonderful friends and made joyful music together. We've had the absolute honor of representing Region 15 at Harmony Classic and the International Contest. But what a special privilege it is this time to earn our spot by being your 2025 Chorus Champions!

Sirens of Gotham is excited to share the 2026 Columbus experience with Spirit of Syracuse and Hickory Tree choruses (who have graciously provided staffing assistance during this contest), and with our friends in VOCE and Lucille.

This weekend we find out which quartets will join us in Columbus. We also crown a new Chorus Champion who will begin their journey to Seattle 2027. But most of all, this weekend we come together to unabashedly enjoy and celebrate this amazing hobby we share.

To the medals and the memories, the hugs and the harmony - we toast you all!

To each and every competing ensemble, have fun sharing your unique stories, ring those chords, and wow us with that Fascinating Rhythm!

Cheers!

Teresa & Vicki

On behalf of Sirens of Gotham

Joy • Ambition • Authenticity

ASSISTING CHORUS COMMITTEE

Teresa Heuser and Vicki Tisch	Co-Chairs
Stephanie Ofshinsky	Backstage
Amy Heaton	Boutique
Sarah Christian	Busing
Maria Boland	Front of House/Ushers
Caitlin Guzman	Tickets and Registration
Helen O'Rourke	Pit Crew

2026 REGIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE (RCC)

The RCC welcomes you and wishes you a wonderful weekend full of harmony, friendship, and love.



Barbara Wright
Chair of the Regional
Convention



Jeanne Viscito
Competition Coordinator *
* International Appointment



Lee Popiolek
Convention Assistant



Mary Connelly
Tickets, Registration



Phyllis Capolongo
Housing Manager



Deanna Sargent
Events Coordinator



Evelyn Langenstein
Official Panel Liaison



Meghan Chiumento
Busing



Amy Kemp
Assistant Panel Liaison



Pam Tracy
Regional Program



Gail Van Vlack
Assistant Stage
Manager



Kathy Zubal-Storings
Convention Catering
Services



Paulette Young
Awards Chair



Susan Krystek
Financial Coordintor



Scott Russell
Stage Manager

**Your Regional Management Team
wishes all competitors and audience
members a wonderful weekend of
harmony and friendship!**



**Jenn, Jennifer, Susan, Evelyn, Alexis,
Phyllis, Deanna, Alicia, Harriette, & Deb
[Outgoing & Incoming RMT 2025]**

Calling All Volunteers!

For information on how to get involved
with this fun, creative and impactful
group, talk to any current RMT member.

2026 REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM (RMT)

Team Coordinator Jennifer Hunter
Communications Coordinator Debra Saucke
Directors Coordinator Harriette Walters
Education Coordinator Alicia Caron
Events Coordinator Deanna Sargent
Finance Manager Susan Krystek
Marketing Coordinator Alexis DePersia-Norelli
Membership Coordinator Evelyn Langenstein



Congratulations and Very Best Wishes
to our quartets and choruses representing
Region 15 in Columbus, Ohio
October 26 - October 31, 2026

2026 LONGEVITY AWARDS**Sweet Adelines International Region 15***(Membership is calculated as of December 31, 2025)***65 YEARS**

Hickory Tree Chapter

Joyce Brandt

55 YEARS

Golden Apple Chapter

Sharon Vitkovsky

45 YEARS

City of the Hills Chapter

Flora Beth Cunningham

Greater Nassau Chapter

Blanche Justice

Greater Nassau Chapter

Susan Pedersen

Greater Nassau Chapter

Arlene Oberhofer

Heart of New Jersey Chapter

Jeanne Viscito

Liberty Oak Chapter

Carole Argulewicz

Saratoga Soundtrack Chapter

Nancy Faddegon

40 YEARS

Greater Nassau Chapter

Jane Sterling

Greater Nassau Chapter

Phyllis Capolongo

Liberty Oak Chapter

Helen Kogut

Long Island Sound Chapter

Carol Mason

Spirit of Syracuse Chapter

Kay Crawford

Twin County Chapter

Karen Triola

35 YEARS

Capitaland Chapter

Angela Dourdis

Hickory Tree Chapter

Betty Slocum

Island Hills Chapter

Madeline Nelson

Island Hills Chapter

Toby Selda

Liberty Oak Chapter

Johanna Herudek

Sirens of Gotham Chapter

Teresa Heuser

Spirit of Syracuse Chapter

Evelyn Langenstein

Spirit of Syracuse Chapter

Kathryn Zubal-Storrings

30 YEARS

Chapter-at-Large - Patricia Dunphy - Reached in 2025

Chapter At Large

Mary Jo Tort-Bergeron

Capitaland Chapter

Connie Martin

City of the Hills Chapter

Connie Herzig

Golden Apple Chapter

Carol Bellina

2026 LONGEVITY AWARDS**Sweet Adelines International Region 15***(Membership is calculated as of December 31, 2025)***30 YEARS, Cont.**

Greater Nassau Chapter
 Hickory Tree Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Spirit of Syracuse Chapter
 Spirit of Syracuse Chapter
 Twin County Chapter

Susan Greenfield
 Patricia Visioli
 Zandra Cheong
 Kathleen Greenfield
 Terri Hinds
 Lenore Strakowsky
 Laura Partynski
 Julie Enriquez
 Patricia Costello
 Paulette Young
 Leslie Brown

25 YEARS

Evergreen Chapter
 Harmony Celebration Chapter
 Hickory Tree Chapter
 Island Hills Chapter
 Island Hills Chapter
 Jersey Harmony Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Saratoga Soundtrack Chapter
 Song of the Valley Chapter
 Twin County Chapter

Rosemary Wisniewski
 Kathy Dembek
 Cass Cochran
 Patricia Casella
 Marianne Fulfaro
 Alice Tempel
 Signe Lockwood
 Carol Meaney
 Deborah Poulson
 Robin Stevenson
 Elizabeth LaBarge
 Patricia Novak
 Christine Krowles

20 YEARS

Capitaland Chapter
 Capitaland Chapter
 Evergreen Chapter
 Evergreen Chapter
 Greater Nassau Chapter
 Heart of New Jersey Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Liberty Oak Chapter
 Twin County Chapter

Niki Fillipone
 Christine DeFilippo
 Laura Garrido
 Gail Van Vlack
 Alaina Tutrone
 Audra Nemeth
 Christine Foley
 Loretta Miller
 Brenda Liebling

2026 LONGEVITY AWARDS

Sweet Adelines International Region 15

(Membership is calculated as of December 31, 2025)

15 YEARS

Hickory Tree Chapter
Liberty Oak Chapter
City of the Hills Chapter
Spirit of Syracuse Chapter
Spirit of Syracuse Chapter
Spirit of Syracuse Chapter

Nina Comanto
Melissa Herkalo
Theresa Hait
Cindy Tzetzis
Donna Komrowski
Maggie Williams

Congratulations to all!

In Memoriam

Our dearly departed regional friends-in-song,
your memories and melodies will be with us
always. Thank you for the music



Jeannie Allen
Hickory Tree



Elizabeth Eisdorfer
Brooklyn



Barbara Brennan
Evergreen



Barbara Festa
Island Hills



Ginger Knapp Ringdahl
Evergreen



Maureen Finnegan
Island Hills
Heart of Long Island



Carole Naso
Long Island Sound



Lilas Schmidt
Hickory Tree



Olga Thuman
Island Hills

In Memoriam

This inseparable duo personified female power through gentle strength. Their contributions of energy and love for our chorus continued well into their 90s.



**Island Hills Chorus remembers
Gina Bartley and Betty Banach
with love and endless gratitude.**

In Loving Memory



Marge Priddy

Mom....you gave me the gift
of music...and you are in
my heart always because of it.

Love, Jeanne

**Miss Watson
Loves GNC**






May today be the start of something **BIG** for Region 15!
BIG Smiles!
BIG Energy!
BIG SCORES!

From our members to yours, wishing all Region 15 competing Choruses and Quartets
 Luck, Fun and Love this weekend! Show them what Region 15 is all about!








Wishes good luck to all competing
Region 15 Quartets and Choruses



We are so much better
When we make



TOGETHER!



KALEIDOSCOPE

Wishes all the competitors
good luck on stage!

Emily, Katie, Lee and Phyllis



**VOCE QUARTET WISHES A
VILLAINOUS GOOD TIME
TO ALL THE COMPETITORS
THIS YEAR!
MWAHAHAHA!**



To Anthology,
Yellow Brick Road,
Balancing Act
*We wish you
the best of luck.*
The Roomies.



PIC-COLLAGE



Twin County Chorus

To our Region 15 Siblings in Song:
Wishing you a weekend of
FASCINATING RHYTHM
and chords that ring to the rafters!

Adding 5 New Voices to our Rhythm!

We are so proud to have these
singers on the risers:

**Aryn • Cindy
Nadya • Nancy
Sarah**

Good Luck to **SYMPATICO Quartet!**

twincountychorus.com

2026 QUARTET COMPETITION

Introduction: Barbara Wright - Chair, Region 15 Convention Committee,
Member, Spirit of Syracuse Chorus
Emcee: Beth Paul - Bass, VOCE Quartet, Member - Millennium Magic Chorus

Fun Fact: Quartet members are listed in this order: tenor, lead, bari, bass

Mic Testing Quartet: Little Black Dress

Emily Stefanelli, Grace Barreto, Janis Prettitore, Kate Norby

1. **Nightshade** Spirit of Syracuse
Melanie Kiehl, Karla Chun, Cassia Suslik, Alexis Bruening

Notes _____

2. **Variety Pack** CAL (#15), Harmony Celebration, Sirens of Gotham
Heather Collins, Sabrina Doolittle, Elizabeth Harris, Alexis DePersia-Norelli

Notes _____

3. **Kaleidoscope** CAL (#15). Greater Nassau, Saratoga Soundtrack
Emily Aure, Phyllis Capolongo, Katherine Edwards, Lee Gabrilovitch

Notes _____

4. **The Edge** CAL (#15), Capitaland, Greater Nassau, Liberty Oak
Taylor Frederick, Heather Boyea, Jessica Vallee, Kay Weiss

Notes _____

5. **Harmonics** CAL #15, Harmony Celebration, Liberty Oak
Sarah Coffin, Susan Schuman, Georgette Chrystal, Melissa Herkalo

Notes _____

6. **Tag Team** Greater Nassau
Jennifer Esposito, Andrea Macey, Janet Prete, Lori Schnipper-Nastasi

Notes _____

2026 QUARTET COMPETITION

7. **Yellow Brick Road** CAL (#15), Liberty Oak
Diane Duff, Heidi Wilson, Patricia Danner, Shayna Felts Atkinson

Notes _____

8. **Just 4 (Kicks)** Harmony Celebration, Jersey Harmony
Diane Sussuma, Jean Schoenlank, Kat Britt, Beth Fulton

Notes _____

9. **DeGaLS** Greater Nassau, Long Island Sound
Susan Goldstein, Donna Mancuso, Linda Gorniok, Gracie Panousis

Notes _____

25 MINUTE INTERMISSION

**Help us meet our Food and Beverage minimums.
Please patronize the concession stand here at the arena.**

10. **Aligned** Greater Nassau, Jersey Harmony
Joan Margaret Katinas, Rebecca Asher, Amy Cordero, Karen Kumpf

Notes _____

11. **Balancing Act** Liberty Oak
Rebecca Sundt, Mary Walaszek, Jennifer Wiseman, Jan Rubino

Notes _____

12. **Illuminate** Champlain Valley (#1), Merrimack Valley (#1),
Saratoga Soundtrack, Spirit of Syracuse
Rebecca King, Alicia Caron, Jennifer Hunter, Cherie LaDuke

Notes _____

2026 PAGES

Quartet Contest: Libby Horn, Amanda Sky Harris
Chorus Contest: Patricia Danner, Beth Paul

2026 QUARTET COMPETITION

13. **Off the Record** Sirens of Gotham

Hilary Berryman, Kara Scharwath, Mika Nagashima, Colleen Christi Willett

Notes _____

14. **After Hours** **OPEN DIVISION** Capitaland

Karen Cashin, Diane Ostrander, Angela Dourdis, Lisa McVey

Notes _____

15. **Anthology** Liberty Oak

Betsy Sunada, Christine Foley, Laura Partynski, Kimberlee Pulaski

Notes _____

16. **942** Spirit of Syracuse

Macenzie Bigness, Kristina Valentino, Catrina Tulowiecki, Katie Sheerin

Notes _____

17. **Sympatico** **OPEN DIVISION** Greater Nassau, Sirens of Gotham, Twin County

Asuka Ichikawa, Carol Buchanan, Christine Surh, Maryann O'Keefe

Notes _____

18. **Recap** Capitaland, Saratoga Soundtrack, Spirit of Syracuse

Helen Bravi, Susan Koppenhaver, Caroline Kruzansky, Kathleen Velasco

Notes _____

The Blue Notes Chorus Recognition

Yellow Brick Road Quartet Swan Song

Award Presentations

Performance by 2026 Champion Quartet

How We Sang Today - directed by Harriette Walters, Director Coordinator



Artistic Leadership Day



**Calling all Directors and
Music Team Members**

Join us and guest faculty **Karen Sweeters**
Master Director & Certified Expression Judge
for a full day of classes, networking,
Q & A sessions, and more!

Saturday, May 30th
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Burnt Hills United Methodist Church
816 NY-50, Burnt Hills, NY 12027

\$65 per chorus for teams up to 10 people
+\$5 per person beyond 10

2026 AWARDS

Announcement of Awards by Panel Chair, Beth Smith
(Award Certificates will be mailed after Contest)

QUARTET CONTEST

- 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
 - 4. _____
 - 5. _____
- Novice Quartet Award _____
- Most Improved Quartet _____

CHORUS CONTEST

Most Improved Chorus _____

SMALL CHORUS AWARDS (Division A)

12-25 Singing Members

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

MID-SIZE CHORUS AWARDS (Division AA)

26-50 Singing Members

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

CHORUS AWARDS

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____

2026 CHORUS COMPETITION

Introduction: Teresa Heuser, Vicki Tisch - Co-Chairs, Assisting Chorus

Emcee: Becky King - Tenor, Illuminate Quartet,

Member - Merrimack Valley Chorus

1. **Island Hills**

Director, Laura Riffaud

Hauppauge, NY

Notes _____

2. **Heart of New Jersey**

Director, Jeanne Elmuccio

Sayreville, NJ

Notes _____

3. **Evergreen**

Director, Garry "Butch" Ashdown

Poughkeepsie, NY

Notes _____

4. **Heart of Long Island**

Director, Melissa Leahy

Sayville, NY

Notes _____

5. **Jersey Harmony**

Director, Kat Britt

Princeton, NJ

Notes _____

6. **City of the Hills**

Director, Theresa Hait

Oneonta, NY

Notes _____

2026 CHORUS COMPETITION

7. **Hickory Tree** **EVALUATION ONLY**
Master Director, Carolyn E. Schmidt Stirling, NJ

Notes _____

8. **Golden Apple** White Plains, NY
Directors, Jeanne Froelich, Sharon Vitkovsky

Notes _____

RISER CHANGE/30 MINUTE INTERMISSION

9. **Spirit of Syracuse** **EVALUATION ONLY**
Master Directors, Alicia Caron, Amanda Sky Harris Syracuse, NY

Notes _____

10. **Saratoga Soundtrack** Saratoga Springs, NY
Director, Jenn Hunter

Notes _____

11. **Long Island Sound** Hampton Bays, NY
Director, Peggy DiSunno

Notes _____

12. **Twin County** Massapequa Park, NY
Director, Christine Krowles

Notes _____

2026 CHORUS COMPETITION

13. **Greater Nassau**

Master Director 700, Harriette Walters

Baldwin, NY

Notes _____

14. **Liberty Oak**

Master Director, Katie Blackwood

Howell, NJ

Notes _____

15. **Harmony Celebration**

Director, Jack Pinto

Ridgewood, NJ

Notes _____

16. **Capitaland**

Director, Susan Koppenhaver

Albany, NY

Notes _____

17. **Sirens of Gotham**

Director, Stephanie Ofshinsky

EVALUATION ONLY

New York, NY

Notes _____

Swan Song - Sirens of Gotham will perform their out-going package while the scores from the Chorus contest are being tabulated, .

Parade of Directors

Certificates presented by Jeanne Viscito, RCC Competition Coordinator

Flowers presented by Paulette Young, RCC Awards Coordinator

How We Sang Today directed by the Director of the Overall Chorus Champion.

2026 JUDGING PANEL

BETH SMITH - Sound and Panel Chair



Beth Smith is a Certified Sound Judge, and currently serves as the Sound Category Specialist (translation: Herder of Cats!). She has been a member of Sweet Adelines for 43 years, and has sung in choruses large and small, as well as many quartets.

In her rare spare time, Beth enjoys playing with fabric and thread, and hopes to do more quilting after contest season ends. She and husband Matt live in Bellevue, Washington, where they occasionally talk judge-speak (Matt is an aerobatics flying judge).

LEA BEVERLEY - Expression



Though a proud native Texan (y'all often slips out), Lea calls Bellevue, Washington home. Formerly self-employed as a corporate tax consultant, she is now joyfully retired from the corporate world.

While living in Alaska, she was invited to a guest night 35+ years ago and immediately got hooked on singing a cappella. She has been a member of 2 Alaska choruses, Pacific Sound and currently Song of Seattle. Lea has been a member of the Sweet Adelines International Judging Program since 2000. She's a Certified Expression Judge and last year began trial scoring in Visual Communication.

Lea is a sought out coach throughout the US, New Zealand & Australia. Coaching brings her a lot of joy and she loves getting a barbershop 'high'.

When not 'doing music', Lea loves spending time on the beach, watching baseball & football and creating crafty projects. Her life became more eventfully delightful in 2020 when her niece and family bought the house next door. The dulcet tones and unlimited energy of 2 adorable girls (7 & 8) bring unrelenting pleasure, lessons in creativity and hugs.

Scoring Levels (per song)

A+ 94-100	B+ 74-79	C+ 54-59	D+ 34-39	F 0-19
A 86-93	B 66-73	C 46-53	D 26-33	
A- 80-85	B- 60-65	C- 40-45	D- 20-25	

2026 JUDGING PANEL, continued

TORI POSTMA - Visual Communication



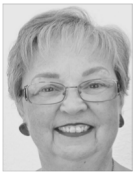
Tori Postma has been an active member of Sweet Adelines International for more than 45 years. Her roles have been many in the organization. She served as musical director of Mountain Jubilee Chorus for 35 years. Under her direction they were consistently in the top 10 internationally, and International medalists twice. She has served at the Regional level and the International level administratively, serving on the International Board, the EDC, the YWIH committee, and as Judge Specialist in the Visual Communication category.

Tori was active on the International Faculty for many years, and taught widely throughout the organization. Still in demand as a coach, she works with many quartets and choruses across the country.

Tori is a certified judge in the Visual Communication category. She also has a history of quartet achievement. Singing baritone, she sang in many quartets, the highest achieving being Rainbow Collection, who stayed in the top ten at the International level for many years, placing as high as 5th.

She is married to Stan, has four grown children and 15 wonderful grandchildren. They live in Salt Lake City Utah, and spend winters in Southern Utah. Being retired, they escort tours for a travel agency, and love meeting people and traveling to new places. Tori's goal is to lift and educate in a positive way, trying to give singers new tools to use in their efforts to be excellent musicians and wonderful entertainers.

JAN MEYER - Music



Jan Meyer is a Certified Music Judge and an Approved Music Arranger. She has been a member of Sweet Adelines International since 1981 and was a member of Heartland Harmony and Capital City choruses, Region 4, for 30 years prior to spending winter months in Florida.


Since 2008 she has been a member of Spirit of the Gulf Chorus, where she serves as a music staff member, emcee team chair, entertainment package creative team chair, and as one of her chorus in-house arrangers.

In Region 9 she is a member of the Education Steering Committee, the regional Music Faculty, and is the Arranger Certification Program Coordinator. She recently served on the International Task Force to update the Music Category and on three committees updating Arranger Certification Program materials. She is looking forward to returning to Region 15!

DIANE BRILZ - Panel Secretary

Diane has had the opportunity to live in many different countries due to her expat life with an international company. Sweet Adelines was a common thread throughout her relocations that provided support, friendships and rewarding experiences. She joined Sweet Adelines in 1997 with the Aberdeen, Scotland City of Roses Chorus. Later she sang with the Chinook Winds Chorus in Calgary, Canada. After relocation to Dallas, she joined the Rich-Tones and had the joy of winning 2 International gold medals in Las Vegas and Nashville.

This is her 15th year serving as a Panel Secretary. It is a position she loves as it provides the opportunity to get to know Sweet Adelines from many regions across this wonderful organization. In addition, it is her honor to serve alongside the most professional and dedicated group of women, our judges.

2026 INTERNATIONAL JUDGING PROGRAM APPLICANT**HANNAH BARTON - Sound**

Hannah Barton is a proud 30+ year member of Sweet Adelines International and a second-generation barbershopper whose love for harmony runs deep. An avid quartetter, she is best known as the baritone of Spritzer Quartet, a seven-time International Top 10 finalist, and is thrilled to be singing again after a seven-year hiatus with the newly formed quartet Dreamland.

Hannah was a proud 20-year member of International Champions North Metro Chorus and currently serves as Director of The Heartland Singers. Also, she is Region 16's Education Coordinator, where she is passionate about mentoring singers and fostering musical growth across the region.

Outside of barbershop, Hannah is an elementary music teacher just outside of Toronto, Canada. Driven by excellence and lifelong learning, she is currently pursuing her next goal as a Sound Judge Applicant, continuing her commitment to strengthening the artistry and integrity of barbershop harmony.

2026 APPROVED CANDIDATE JUDGE**SHERYL NEAL - Music**

Sheryl Neal will be trial scoring as an Approved Candidate Judge in the Music Category. She joined Sweet Adelines in 1984 and has been a chorus and quartet member ever since. She is an Approved Arranger, and absolutely loves arranging.

A snowbird, she sings with Spirit of the Gulf Chorus and Forté Quartet in Region 9 (Florida), and Remedy Quartet in Region 5 (Iowa).

Sheryl is a pianist with many years of experience accompanying vocalists, choirs and instrumentalists. She is excited to be making her first visit to Region 15.

2026 HONORARY REGIONAL AWARDS



Dody O'Brien Most Improved Chorus Award

This award was established in March 2006 in Memory of Dody O'Brien's years of dedicated service. She embodied a spirit of unfaltering trust in our organization's ability to inspire members to achieve goals of improved success through harmony.



Renee Craig Performance Award

This award was established in March 2007 by The Harmony Celebration Chorus to honor Renee Craig's accomplishments in both Region 15 and Sweet Adelines International. It was designed to recognize that, although the goal is always musical excellence, it is the performance that creates the magic. This award is given for the highest combined scores in Expression and Visual Communication.



Harriette Walters Leadership Award

The Region 15 Management Team (RMT) established this award in 2010 to recognize the qualities that International Faculty Member and Greater Nassau Chorus Master Director 700 Harriette Walters demonstrates in every aspect of her Sweet Adelines life. Here are some of the qualities the RMT weighs in the selection: trustworthiness, discipline, ability to identify great ideas, willingness to motivate and inspire, and dedication to ongoing growth. Applications are accepted annually for this award through December 15, and they should be submitted to the region 15 Team Coordinator.

Audience Choice/ Bravo Award

The Audience Choice/Bravo Award was discontinued by Sweet Adelines International and cannot be presented on the contest stage. It has been reinstated by Greater NY/NJ Region 15 and will be presented during the Regional Awards presentation following the competition.

Region 15 sponsors the chorus award and Monkey Wrench Quartet sponsors the quartet award. Both awards are for open division competitors only and will be chosen by audience ballots if two or more quartets/choruses are competing. To be eligible for this award a quartet or chorus must achieve a score of C or better.

For more information regarding these awards please visit www.sairegion15.org and search for Open Division Awards.

Regional Most Improved Quartet Award

Eligibility for this award is open to any quartet that has no more than one new member. No minimum score is required. Quartets performing For Evaluation Only or in the Open Division are not eligible for this award. Quartets must have competed the previous year. There is no limit on the number of times a quartet can win this award.

As of 2024, medals for this award are being sponsored by our 2023 Most Improved Quartet, **Repeat Offenders** (Laura Packer, Sabrina Doolittle, Kiara Contreras, and Alexis DePersia-Norelli). They designed a beautiful medal secured by a polka dot ribbon commemorating the costumes they wore when they won this award. The medals will be awarded along with the traditional traveling plaque supplied by the region. Repeat Offenders' generous sponsorship will fund the Most Improved Quartet Award medals for many years to come. Alexis shared: "We decided to do this because we have always thought of this award as the pinnacle of regional quartet achievement. As Sweet Ads, we talk so much about how contest is a chance to get feedback on our own personal growth, and no award embodies that more for us than Most Improved Quartet. The winners of this award deserve to sport medals showing off their hard work."

Your Region 15 Family thanks you, Repeat Offenders!



Good luck to all competitors!

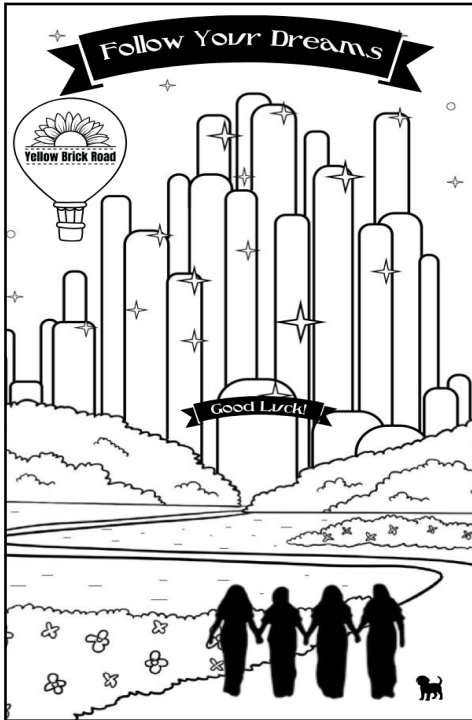


Special thanks to our
GUEST DIRECTOR,



Jeannie Froelich!

GOLDEN APPLE CHORUS



Evergreen
Sweet Adelines International

**Strong roots. New voices.
Growing together in harmony!**

Evergreen Chorus is proud to take the stage with our sister choruses at the 2026 Sweet Adelines Region 15 Contest.

Welcome our new members!
Andrea Bremer and **Tiffany Fitzgerald**



WE WILL GO THE DISTANCE

We travel to sing together
We'll travel to sing for you.



Break a Lip!



“May your rhythm be fascinating, your chords lock tight,
and your music leave the audience smiling!”

The Edge Quartet

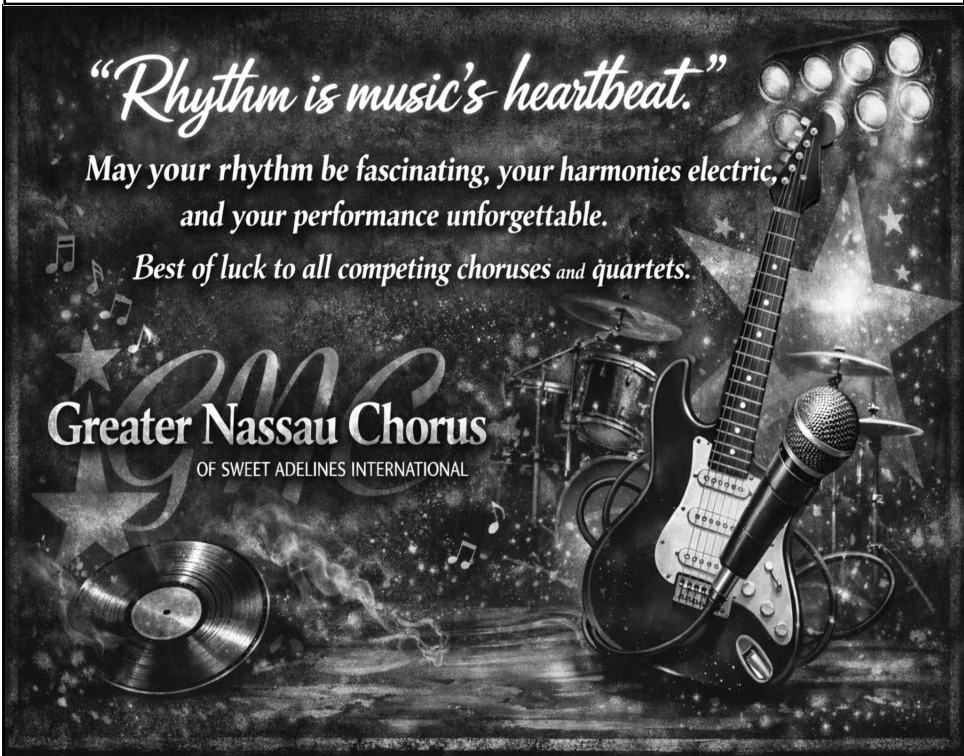
♪Heather ♪ Kay ♪ Jess ♪Taylor ♪

“Rhythm is music’s heartbeat.”

*May your rhythm be fascinating, your harmonies electric,
and your performance unforgettable.*

Best of luck to all competing choruses and quartets.

Greater Nassau Chorus
OF SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL





Wishing all Region 15 Competitors a Hotsy-Totsy Performance and a Weekend of Quivers!

Jan Eubine
Performance Coordinator
(908) 510-2315
mzabeene@optonline.net



Rebecca Sundt- Tener; Mary Walaszek- Lead;
Jennifer Wiseman- Earl; Jan Eubine- Bass

Fascinating Rhythms got us on the go!

Recap Illuminate Kaleidoscope



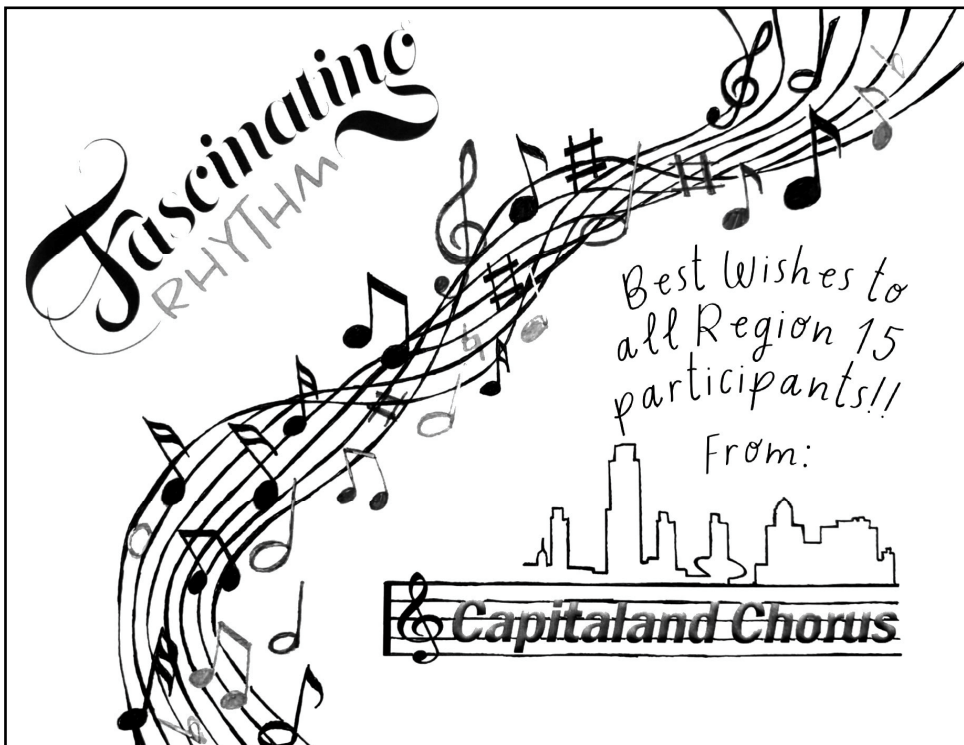
BEST WISHES TO ALL COMPETITORS



We are sending our **Best Wishes!** to all our fellow singers this weekend for an awesome experience, both onstage and off!




also, you should **HiPe Us** so we can sing for you and come hang out :)



Thank You

Region 15

for 35 years of |

trusting us to help you

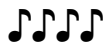
sound & look

SOOO good!

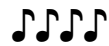
Chris Slacke &

John Bell

(Your Regional Convention A/V Team)




Shout-outs



- ♪ TO OUR LOC NEWBIE "CLASS OF 2025"- Have the best time at your FIRST Regional Contest, We Love You All, BALANCING ACT QUARTET
- ♪ So proud to be a member of Heart of New Jersey Chorus! Love, Jeanne V
- ♪ With love and respect to Jeanne Elmuccio --- A great friend, director, arranger and mentor -- JPV
- ♪ Melissa Leahy - Wishing you luck in your first Region 15 Competition with GNC Your HOLI Friends are so proud of you! Break a lip!
- ♪ Amazing job to the beautiful Heart of Long Island Chorus from your director, Missy!
- ♪ Way to go Newbies! From your director, Jenn
- ♪ Marianne Savage - Wishing you luck in your first Region 15 Competition with GNC, Your HOLI Friends are so proud of you! Break a lip!
- ♪ To all the new members of Spirit of Syracuse Chorus at their first Regional! Have fun!!!! From Debbie Saucke
- ♪ HELLO - Melissa Leahy: Thank you Missy for all your hard work in getting us here!!! LOVE - HOLI
- ♪ Happy Singing to the bari section of LOC from Jen, Wendy, and Lacy
- ♪ Get ready for fun, LOC Roomies! Let's DO THIS!
- ♪ To Jan, Mary, and Rebecca--I love singing with you and BA so much! Your bari, Jen
- ♪ Best wishes to my Jersey Harmony sisters from Judy
- ♪ Good Luck resonant IHC basses! Toby & Deb



 Parade of Champion Quartets Inclusive of Region 16 Quartet Champs – Members of Region 15 since 2014					
1966	Tic-Tac-Tones	1988	Promises, Promises!	2005	Escape
1967	Petti-Chords	1989	Promises, Promises!		All the Rage (R16)
1968	Parfaits	1990	City Lights	2006	Escape
1969	Fireflies	1991	Starstruck		All the Rage (R16)
1970	Priorities	1992	Starstruck	2007	Escape
1971	Penna-Fores	1993	Madison Avenue	2008	a.k.a.
1972	Sugar Cones	1994	Madison Avenue		Tetra (R16)
1973	Neat Arrangement	1995	Summer Windsong	2009	a.k.a.
1974	New Dimension		Fanfare! (R16)	2010	Escape
1975	Song Peddlers	1996	Summer Windsong	2011	a.k.a.
1976	Chord Poppers		Fanfare! (R16)	2012	East Coast Style
1977	Strawberry Sunshine	1997	Follies	2013	Drive!
1978	Sound Express	1998	Follies		One Track Mind (R16)
1979	Chord Poppers	1999	Debut!	2014	Foreign Exchange
1980	Ladybugs	2000	Debut!	2015	One Track Mind
	The Sound Relations (R16)		InJoy (R16)	2016	Drive!
1981	Wintergreen	2001	Xclamation!	2017	Harmony
1982	Ladybugs		InJoy (R16)	2018	Just 4 (Kicks)
1983	Wintergreen	2002	Millenium	2019	Harmony
1984	Manhattan Rendezvous		InJoy (R16)	2022	Illuminate
1985	City Lights	2003	Moondance	2023	Illuminate
1986	City Lights	2004	Debut!	2024	Yellow Brick Road
1987	Promises, Promises!		All the Rage (R16)	2025	Yellow Brick Road



International Quartet Champions



1957	Cracker Jills	1992	City Lights	2005	The Buzz
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 Parade of Champion Choruses Inclusive of Region 16 Chorus Champs - Members of Region 15 since 2014					
1966	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	1988	Hickory Tree Ann Minihane, Director	2005	Hickory Tree Carolyn Schmidt, Director
1967	Island Hills George Avener, Director	1989	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2006	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1968	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	1990	Island Hills Scott Brannon, Director		Spirit of Syracuse (R16) Nancy Feld, Director
1969	Island Hills George Avener, Director	1991	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director	2007	Hickory Tree Carolyn Schmidt, Director
1970	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	1992	Suburban Sound Alice Lesniak, Director	2008	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1971	Island Hills George Avener, Director	1993	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2009	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
1972	Valley Forge Jan Touring, Director	1994	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director	2010	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1973	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	1995	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2011	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
1974	Valley Forge Jan Touring, Director	1996	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director	2012	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1975	Ramapo Valley Millie Delude, Director		Capitaland (R16) Kathy Mendenhall, Director	2013	Liberty Oak Katie Blackwood, Director
1976	Ramapo Valley Millie Delude, Director	1997	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2014	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1977	Island Hills George Avener, Director		Spirit of Syracuse (R16) Nancy Feld, Director	2015	Liberty Oak Katie Blackwood, Director
1978	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	1998	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director	2016	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1979	Staten Island Betty Keating, Director	1999	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2017	Liberty Oak Katie Blackwood & Marilyn Block, Directors
1980	Island Hills Estelle Grau, Director		Capitaland (R16) Kathy Mendenhall, Director	2018	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1981	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2000	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director	2019	Liberty Oak Katie Blackwood, Director
1982	Hickory Tree Janie Pedersen, Director	2001	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2022	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1983	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2002	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director	2023	Spirit of Syracuse Kay Crawford, Director
1984	Hickory Tree Janie Pedersen, Director		Capitaland (R16) Kathy Mendenhall, Director	2024	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
1985	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director	2003	Hickory Tree Carolyn Schmidt, Director	2025	Sirens of Gotham Anna Chelak, Director
1986	Hickory Tree Ann Minihane, Director	2004	Ramapo Valley Renee Cfaig, Director		
1987	Suburban Sound Sonny Steffan, Director		Capitaland (R16) Kathy Mendenhall, Director		



International Chorus Champions



1978	Island Hills SAI Chorus Champions Estelle Grau	1979 1986 1990	Ramapo Valley SAI Chorus Champions Renee Craig	2019	Sirens of Gotham Harmony Classic Mira Taferner, Kari Francis
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Parade of Champion Choruses			
Division A (Small)		Division AA (Midsize)	
1999	Metro Rhythm Jo Lund, Director	1999	Evergreen Carole Argulewicz, Director
2000	Metro Rhythm Jo Lund, Director	2000	Evergreen Carole Argulewicz, Director
2001	Metro Rhythm Jo Lund, Director	2001	Evergreen Carole Argulewicz, Director
2002	Liberty Oak Kathy Feher, Director		Capitaland (R16) Kathy Mendenhall, Director
2003	Metro Rhythm Jo Lund, Director	2002	Evergreen Carole Argulewicz, Director
2004	Metro Rhythm Jo Lund, Director		Capitaland (R16) Kathy Mendenhall, Director
2005	Metro Rhythm Jo Lund, Director	2003	Evergreen Carole Argulewicz, Director
2006	Golden Apple Anastasio Rossi, Director	2004	Ramapo Valley Renee Craig, Director
2007	Metro Rhythm Daniel Chemosky, Director	2005	Millstone Valley Jack Pinto, Director
	Carusel Harmony (R16) Debra Sauke, Director	2006	Ramapo Valley Renee Craig, Director
2008	Long Island Sound Peggy DiSunno, Director	2007	Liberty Oak Katie Blackwood, Director
2009	Jersey Harmony Rich Gray, Director		Capitaland (R16) Kathy Mendenhall, Director
	Saratoga Soundtrack (R16) Nancy Faddegon, Director	2008	Liberty Oak Katie Blackwood, Director
2010	Jersey Harmony Rich Gray, Director	2009	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
2011	Jersey Harmony Rich Gray, Director	2010	Hickory Tree Carolyn Schmidt, Director
	Saratoga Soundtrack (R16) Nancy Faddegon, Director	2011	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
2012	Long Island Sound Peggy DiSunno, Director	2012	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
2013	Long Island Sound Peggy DiSunno, Director		Saratoga Soundtrack (R16) Nancy Faddegon, Director
2014	Saratoga Soundtrack (R16) Nancy Faddegon, Director	2013	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
2015	Sirens of Gotham Sarah Clay, Director	2014	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
2016	Evergreen Carole Argulewicz, Director	2015	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
2017	Sirens of Gotham Directors, Sarah Clay & Stephanie Ofshinsky	2016	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
2018	Sirens of Gotham Stephanie Ofshinsky, Director	2017	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
2019	Saratoga Soundtrack Jennifer Hunter, Director	2018	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
2022	Sirens of Gotham Under their own direction	2019	Harmony Celebration Scott Brannon, Director
2023	Capitaland Chorus Susan Koppenhaver, Director	2022	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
2024	Hickory Tree Carolyn Schmidt, Director	2023	Spirit of Syracuse Kay Crawford, Director
2025	Hickory Tree Carolyn Schmidt, Director	2024	Greater Nassau Harriette Walters, Director
		2025	Sirens of Gotham Anna Chelak, Director

Please visit our **VENDORS** in the Lobby

- ◆ **EO in Stitches:** High-Quality Handcrafted items made with love and lots of laughter! -- Etsy: @eoinstitches
- ◆ **Isn't It Sweet:** Handmade chocolates, assorted candies and baked nuts -- Website: isntitsweet.com
- ◆ **Izzys Bows And More:** Hairbows & Headbands -- TikTok: @izzysbowsandmorellc
- ◆ **Mary Kay by Krina:** Skincare and cosmetics - Instagram: @krinacozart
- ◆ **Sirens of Gotham:** Basket raffle, convention merch and other goodies -- Instagram: @sirensogotham
- ◆ **Spirit of Syracuse:** Take a chance, win a prize! -- YouTube: @SpiritofSyracuse
- ◆ **The Mathias Makeover:** Handmade aromatherapy body, mind, and home care products -- Instagram: @The_mathias_makeover
- ◆ **The Thoughtful Gardner:** 100% soy candles in jars and wooden bowls -- Instagram: @thoughtfulgardner
- ◆ ... and More!





Follow Us!
@sairegion15



sairegion15.org





Fascinating Chords & Unforgettable Rhythms bring once in a lifetime experiences!



We wish all of the Greater NY/NJ Region #15 competitors an amazing weekend of Rhythm & Chords!



Have an incredible convention weekend!



Region 15, we celebrate your individuality, artistry, and dynamic expression as they come together to create performances that are as unique as they are unforgettable.



We also celebrate all our chapter quartets taking to various stages this contest season!

Off The Record



Sympatico



Rampage



Variety Pack



Ashlyn's New Q

Ella & The Fellas

The Percolators

Brunch Buddies

One Stop Shop