Volume 3, No. 1

January, 2016



Houston Bronze Ensemble

Calendar of Events

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently scheduling events for 2016 and 2017.

Contact us at: P.O. Box 53886 Houston, TX 77052

Phone: 1-866-908-RING (7464) www.houstonbronze.com

Email:

info@houstonbronze.com eventcoordinator@houstonbronze.com

CALENDAR:

April 24, 2016 4:00 pm **Trinity Klein Lutheran Church**Concert Series

5201 Spring Cypress Rd.

Spring, TX

May 13, 2016 7:30 pm **MATCH**

Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston 3400 Main St. Houston, TX 77002

December 3, 2016 7:30 pm MATCH

Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston 3400 Main St. Houston, TX 77002

April 29, 2017 **MATCH**

Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston 3400 Main St. Houston, TX 77002

Watch for more spring, 2016 concert dates to be posted on Facebook and our

Newsletters will be issued in July, October, January, and April. Newsletters will be issued electronically through emails, on the website (www.houstonbronze.com), and on Facebook. We hope you will enjoy them.

A Season of Dreams!

Houston Bronze Ensemble had a wonderful holiday season in 2015. We performed all over the city of Houston. We made a second appearance with the Spring Branch Boys and Girls Choirs. The students did a fantastic job. It is an honor to be included in a concert with these young vocalists. We performed "Christmas Dreams" at Tomball



United Methodist Church. This was a return performance as well. We always enjoy playing at this church. They are always a wonderful audience. We already look forward to appearing there next Christmas. We also performed at Houston's newest performance venue, MATCH. We look forward to a long relationship with MATCH as we are already planning a concert there in May, 2016 and December, 2016. We performed at Lights in the Heights, the Heritage Society Candlelight Tour, at a memorial service and at a private Christmas party downtown at Union Station. Our "Christmas Dreams" music remained in our folders in January since we had one more performance of selections from our concert for an Epiphany service at Trinity Lutheran Downtown. This is the church where we rehearse each week. We were so happy to have the opportunity to say thank you to this wonderful church that does so very much for us.

HOUSTON BRONZE ENSEMBLE SAYS THANK YOU!!

Generous donations made by two individuals have allowed us to purchase two new instruments for the ensemble. One gift allowed us to purchase a set of Malmark Cymbells. A second gift allowed us to purchase a set of Schulmerich Silver Melody Bells. Houston Bronze is always grateful to our supporters for their gifts. This has been a great year. In addition to the new instruments purchased, we have been able to do the following: send the ensemble to Pinnacle in Dallas, purchase new rolling cases for our

duplicate bells, refurbish our bells, purchase the 7th octave of duplicate baby bells, pay for concert venues and programs, purchase music for concerts, pay for our concerts to be recorded, store our trailer. These are just a few ways we have used the monies given by our donors. We thank you. If you are not yet a supporter of HBE, we encourage you to do so and we hope that those who have given in the past will choose to do so again.



BE A FRIEND OF HOUSTON BRONZE



Attend our concerts



- Bring a friend to a concert
- Join our email list! You will then receive this newsletter in your email. You will also be placed on our list to be notified of future concerts and events. Join us by going to our website.
 - ◆ LIKE us on FACEBOOK.
 - Like Facebook entries and pictures.
 - Share Facebook entries.
 - Check out our website, www.houstonbronze.com
 - Volunteer to help at concerts—handing out programs, selling CD's, etc.
- Shop Amazon Smile and designate Houston Bronze Ensemble Inc as your organization. Amazon will contribute to HBE when you shop!
 - Donate to Houston Bronze Ensemble. All donations, large or small, are welcome!!

A 501(c)(3) Corporation—All donations to HBE are tax deductible.

Contribute to Houston Bronze Ensemble
Contribution Form
Date:
Name:
(As it should appear in our programs and newsletters)
I wish my gift to be anonymous. Please do not list my name in programs or newsletters.
Mailing Address:
City State Zip Code:
Phone Number E-mail Address
Membership (Check New or Renewal and desired level and payment
New Renewal
Benefits of Being a Friend to HBE
♦ Direct mailing of newsletter
◆ Your name listed in HBE programs and newsletter
♦ Advance notice of public concerts
Please send donations to: Houston Bronze Ensemble P.O. Box 53886 Houston, TX 77052
You may can also contact our treasurer at info@houstonbronze.com to make arrangements to contribute via credit card



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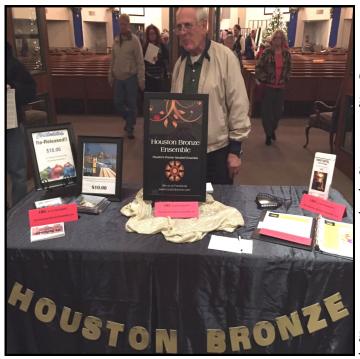






Visit our website:

www.houstonbronze.com



A FRIEND OF HOUSTON BRONZE

If you have attended a Houston Bronze Concert, there is a good chance you have been greeted by a true friend of HBE. Meet Bill Haskett. A retired lifetime educator, Bill still helps with the election process in Katy ISD and announces the home football games of the Katy Tigers. He loves to fish and is ready to go fishing whenever he gets a chance. Bill is the husband of one of our members and he is also an irreplaceable asset to the ensemble. As a volunteer at most of our concerts, he sells tickets and CD's, hands out programs, helps haul bells after the concert to the trailer, and anything else we may need.

He has even been asked to "break into" another member's home to bring something left behind. About the only thing that prevents Bill from being with us at concerts is if the Katy Tigers are involved in a football game. Besides helping at our concerts, he is present at the end of many of our rehearsals and helps put the bells away and/or load the trailer for our next event. We are so very grateful to Bill for his help and support of our ensemble.

HOUSTON BRONZE PRESENTS "CLASSICS"

Houston Bronze has begun preparation for their Spring concerts for 2016.

A classic is an outstanding example of a particular style or something that is of lasting worth or timeless quality. It may denote a particular quality in art, architecture, literature, music, etc. Something that is classic serves as the model or standard for others to follow.

Our spring concert will present several different genres of classics played on handbells. HBE will present selections of "classic" original handbell compositions--some new and some old. They each set a standard and exhibit a quality for others to follow. We will also perform classic hymn selections, classic rock, classic jazz, and classic movie and television tunes. There is sure to be something that you will enjoy. There will be several surprises with some unusual instruments and special guests! We hope that you will begin to make your plans to join us for the fun!!

A third date is in discussion. Watch Facebook and our website for more information



Welcome to Matt Hawley and Kathy Beaird

Houston Bronze welcomes two new members. Matt Hawley and Kathy Beaird will be joining us this Spring.

Sharing the art of handbell ringing.



Matt actually joined us for parts of our Christmas season in 2015. Because of other commitments, he wasn't able to become a fulltime member until now. We appreciated his willingness to help us during December. Matt graduated from Trinity University with a B.S. in Computer Science and is in the middle of his second year of teaching high school mathematics in Humble I.S.D. He started ringing as a sixth grader with his church and has not stopped, adding percussion, flute, vocal, and piano skills to his musical stockpile throughout his journey. Matt enjoys combining his knowledge and passion for music with his experiences in mathematics, computer science and springboard diving.



Kathy is a native Aggie and USAF brat who is very active in her International School Bangkok alumni group. Most of her childhood was spent on the beautiful beaches of Ft Walton Beach/Destin, FL prior to her family living in exotic Thailand for two years. She began ringing handbells in 1989 and is a long time member of Celebration Ringers at Memorial Drive UMC, where she also sings in the Chancel Choir. After 21 years as a Special Education professional Kathy now works as a pet sitter in the Clear Lake area and is the human mom to pups Gracie Lou Freebush, Bodie, Bridget, and Pickles.

The Houston Bronze Ensemble, Inc

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently scheduling events for 2016 and beyond. If you are interested in hosting the entire ensemble or perhaps just a small ensemble for a full concert, party or wedding, please get in touch with us at:

P.O. Box 53886 Houston, TX 77052

Phone: 1-866-908-RING (7464) www.houstonbronze.com

Email:
info@houstonbronze.com
eventcoordinator@houstonbronze.com

Houston Bronze Ensemble also loves conducting workshops for handbell organizations throughout the Houston area. We would love to do one for your ensemble.

About The Houston Bronze Ensemble

The Houston Bronze Ensemble, Houston's premier handbell ensemble, is a professional, auditioned, handbell ensemble made up of musicians from the greater Houston area. Houston Bronze was founded in the fall of 1988 by Hart Morris, formerly the Director of Music Ministries at Grace Presbyterian Church in Houston. After Hart moved to Memphis, Tennessee, the ensemble rang under the musical direction of arranger and composer Margaret (Maggi) R. Tucker until 1994. During the 1995 season, the group rang ensemble style with various ringers, including G.W. 'Dub' Shepherd, Andrew Bowen and David Vander-Meer, directing the ensemble. Conductors since then have included David VanderMeer (Fall 1996—Spring 2001), Dolan Bayless (Fall 2001—January 2006), Ben Harris (Fall 2006—July 2010), Ruth Seiwell (Fall 2010—June 2012), and James Roberts (Fall 2012-May 2014). Bill Nave was appointed the artistic director in August 2014. The ensemble celebrated its 25th Anniversary year in 2014. That day, May 3, 2014, was designated as HOUSTON BRONZE ENSEMBLE DAY in the City of Houston by Mayor Annise Parker. We look forward to creating another 25 years of memories. In December 2014, The Houston Bronze Ensemble was honored with an invitation to perform with The Houston Symphony as a part of their Family Concert Series. Most recently, July 2015, the ensemble performed at Pinnacle 2015 held in Dallas, TX.

Thank you!!

If you are a contributor to HBE and your name has been omitted or your listing is

inaccurate, please let us know so we can correct our records.

As of December 2015

Contributors

Thanks to the generosity of many individuals and corporations over the years, Houston Bronze Ensemble has been able to purchase a variety of equipment, participate in handbell events, and present concerts in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Florida, Nevada, and Tennessee. The equipment purchased through donated funds includes 7 octaves of **Schulmerich** handbells, a 4 octave duplicate set of **Schulmerich** handbells, 6 octaves of **Malmark** handchimes, **Port-a-Bell** cases, tables, pads, mallets, stand lights, assorted musical instruments, and a trailer in which to haul our equipment. Thanks to the very generous donations of two wonderful people, we have added a set of **Schulmerich** Silver Melody Bells and a set of **Malmark** Cymbells to our list of equipment. Donations also help to purchase music, print programs, rent concert venues and so much more. Continued generosity from sponsors allows the ensemble to expand our musical horizons and bring varied sounds to our concerts. This generosity also allows the Houston Bronze Ensemble to present concerts in new and varied venues and to bring handbells to people unfamiliar with the art and music of handbells.

The Houston Bronze Ensemble, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.

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