

Vol. 8, No. 2
April, 2021



Houston Bronze Ensemble
EXPECT EXCELLENCE

Dedicated to HandBell Excellence
Ensuring the future of handbells for ringers and listeners

HOUSTON BRONZE ENSEMBLE

2021 Concerts and Performances

While we currently have venues and dates scheduled for the spring, please know that because of Covid this can change as we move through the season. Please stay with us and watch our Facebook page and our website for the latest information.

Sunday, May 23, 2021 4:00 PM

Trinity Klein Lutheran Church
5201 Spring Cypress Rd. Spring, TX 77379
Free Live Concert
This concert will be live streamed.

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently scheduling events for 2021 and beyond
To schedule a concert, contact us at:

P.O. Box 541741
Houston, TX 77254
Phone: 1-866-908-RING (7464)



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www.houstonbronze.com

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info@houstonbronze.com
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Check out our [YouTube](#) Channel.

Houston Bronze Ensemble

Bill Nave, Artistic Director

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO!

Trinity Klein Lutheran Church

Guest Artist:

Concordia Lutheran High School
Margaret Harris, Director

5201 Spring Cypress Road Spring, Tx
Date: May 23, 2021 Time: 4:00 pm

Free Concert

**Concert will be
live streamed.**



Photo by [Greg Rakozy](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently preparing for our planned spring concert, "Oh the Places We'll Go!". After months of staying close to home, we are all hoping to be more on the go this spring, even if it is just to get a hair cut or finally make that trip that was cancelled last spring and summer. We hope you will join us in May at Trinity Klein for a LIVE concert. Check out our Facebook page or our website for more information on this. More on the concert can be found on the second page of this newsletter.



A message from our president:

The new signs of life that emerge each spring are always uplifting and refreshing. After Winter Storm Uri, this is especially true this year. It's exciting to walk around the yard and see green leaves sprouting from plants that were devastated by the freezing temperatures. As the weeks go by, it's also becoming obvious that many plants are not going to recover and the landscape of our yards will be significantly changed. The same holds true for our lives as we begin the slow process of recovering from the pandemic. Small signs of the return to "normal" are appearing and yet, we have all suffered losses of various kinds that will forever change our lives. For

Houston Bronze, one of our signs of recovery was the opportunity to work with Concordia Lutheran High School's bell choir as they prepare for their TAPPS competition and spring concert. What a talented group of young people who put the techniques and helpful hints we shared with them into practice immediately. We look forward to hearing them play with us at our May 23rd concert at Trinity Klein. We hope you plan to join us and that our music will uplift and refresh you in your recovery process!



Welcome Concordia Lutheran High School!

We are happy to announce that we have invited some friends to join us on our adventure on May 23, 2021. Our guest artist will be the handbell choir from Concordia Lutheran High School. This ensemble is under the direction of Margaret Harris. She is in her second year with the ensemble, becoming the director in the fall of 2019, before COVID restrictions took effect. At our concert the ensemble will play two pieces by themselves and then we will join them for a selection by Jason Krug written for two ensembles. The music played at this concert will represent various places that you may hope to travel to in the near or distant future. We will also take a moment to celebrate those essential workers who carried us through this difficult year and then to remember those lost and those who continue to struggle. We look forward to seeing you on May 23. If you are unable to attend, the concert will be live streamed. We will post on Facebook and on our website, www.houstonbronze.com more information on how to access the live stream closer to the concert date.

Concordia Lutheran High School

Houston Bronze Ensemble
 Bill Nave, Artistic Director

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO!

Trinity Klein Lutheran Church
 Guest Artist:
Concordia Lutheran High School
 Margaret Harris, Director

5201 Spring Cypress Road Spring, Tx
 Date: May 23, 2021 Time: 4:00 pm

Free Concert Concert will be live streamed.

Photo by Greg Rakozy on Unsplash



Ringers Wanted!

Houston Bronze Ensemble AUDITIONS

Auditions For Fall 2021 Season

Houston Bronze is looking for some additional bell ringers to join us for the Fall 2021 Season. The tentative date for auditions is May 25, 2021 at Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church. We are looking for people who share our passion for ringing bells and our desire to share this passion with others. We hope you will consider joining us for the upcoming season. We ask that you share this with anyone you may think be interested. For more information, please check out our website at <https://www.houstonbronze.com/become-a-member-of-houston-bronze---audition.html>



Build a Bell Workshop

<http://houstonbronze.com/build-a-bell-workshop.html>



BUILD A BELL WORKSHOP

<http://houstonbronze.com/build-a-bell-workshop.html>

Comments from past workshops:

- Great skills training with knowledgeable and kind teachers.
- Working out of comfort zone, that's a good thing
- Learned proper malleting techniques.
- Liked dividing the techniques into sections.
- Enjoyed work on dynamics.
- I better understand malleting and thumb damping.
- I feel more confident.
- Wasn't long enough
- Liked the individual attention.
- Friendly, knowledgeable, positive approach.



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Cindy Robinson



We would like to send our very best wishes to Cindy Robinson who after 20 ringing seasons will be retiring and departing Houston. Her plans are to do a lot of traveling. She has been an important member of our ensemble. She is not only a fantastic and reliable ringer but she has served

on committees, volunteered for gigs, and generally helped in all ways. We send with her our very best wishes. Houston Bronze is truly a better organization and ensemble because of your contributions. She will be missed!



You will be missed!!



Due to Covid restrictions, it has been decided to not hold our Summer Ring program this summer. It is our sincere hope that by summer, 2022, we can return to hosting this event. It has become one of our favorites.

The Houston Bronze Ensemble

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently scheduling events for 2021 and beyond. If you are interested in hosting the entire ensemble or perhaps just a small group for a full concert, party or wedding, please get in touch with us at:

P.O. Box 541741
Houston, TX 77254

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 group. <http://houstonbronze.com/build-a-bell-workshop.html>



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About the Houston Bronze Ensemble

The Houston Bronze Ensemble is a professional, auditioned, handbell ensemble made up of musicians from the greater Houston area. Known as Houston's premier handbell choir, the ensemble performs regular concerts in the winter and spring as well as at community events, regional and national handbell events, weddings, and private parties. In 2014 HBE had the honor of performing with the Houston Symphony. The group plays a wide variety of musical genres, always with the goal of EXCELLENCE.

Founded in 1988, Houston Bronze Ensemble was started as an avenue for Houston area handbell directors to have a place to ring. A lunchtime meeting with Jeff Weiss, Christine Anderson and Hart Morris in attendance and with only a napkin to write the names of those who might be interested is what started it all. The rest, as they say, is history. In the fall of 1988, Hart Morris became the first director of Houston Bronze. After Hart moved to Tennessee, the ensemble rang under the direction of Margaret R. Tucker. In the 1995 season, the group rang ensemble style with various ringers, including G.W. Shepherd, Andrew Bowen, and David VanderMeer, directing the ensemble. Conductors since then have included David VanderMeer, Dolan Bayless, Ben Harris, Ruth Seiwel and James Roberts. Bill Nave was appointed the artistic director in August, 2014.

Houston Bronze recognizes the importance of investing in the future of handbell ringing. We offer a variety of educational opportunities designed to meet the unique needs of churches and schools who wish to build or improve their handbell program. Workshops designed to meet the specific needs of a choir, mini concerts, and petting zoos are a sample of what we provide to the Houston area handbell community. Houston Bronze also offers scholarships to students wishing to attend College Ring-In, an event sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America.

Whether it is through a concert, playing at your wedding, party, private or community event, conducting a workshop for your ensemble, or presenting an educational program for your school, we would love to share our art with you! Please look at our website, www.houstonbronze.com for more information about our group and what we offer. Feel free to contact us at info@houstonbronze.com with any questions or requests. We look forward to working with you to provide handbell excellence to meet your needs!



Thank you to Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church for providing us with rehearsal space and storage space. We are forever grateful to you.



Thank you!

Houston Bronze Ensemble would like to thank our contributors for their donations during this past year. In the past you have helped us to send our director to a national handbell event, purchase new music and equipment, offer scholarships to students to attend College Ring-In, and so much more. It is because of you that we are able to continue to bring you our dedication to

EXCELLENCE.

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- Check out our website, www.houstonbronze.com
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- Shop [Amazon Smile](#) and designate Houston Bronze Ensemble Inc. as your organization. Amazon will contribute to HBE when you shop!
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Benefits of Being a Friend of HBE

- Direct mailing of newsletter
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You may also contact our treasurer at info@houstonbronze.com to make arrangements to contribute via credit card.

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