

Vol. 12, No. 1  
January, 2025



# Houston Bronze Ensemble

## EXPECT EXCELLENCE

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

### HOUSTON BRONZE ENSEMBLE 2025 CONCERTS

#### LUX AETERNA

Sunday, April 27, 2025 4:00 pm  
Trinity Klein Lutheran Church  
5201 Spring Cypress Rd  
Spring, TX 77379

Friday, May 2, 2025 7:30 pm  
MATCH  
3400 Main Street  
Houston, TX 77002

Sunday, May 4, 2025 4:00 pm  
First United Methodist Church Pearland  
2314 N. Grand Blvd.  
Pearland, TX 77581

#### Holiday Concerts

Friday, December 5, 2025 7:30 pm  
MATCH  
3400 Main Street  
Houston, TX 77002

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently  
scheduling events for 2025 and beyond.

To schedule a concert or music for your holiday party,  
contact us at:

#### Email:

info@houstonbronze.org  
event@houstonbronze.org

www.houstonbronze.org

### Spring Concert 2025

#### LUX AETERNA

Houston Bronze has now begun work on music for our spring concerts. The theme and focus of the music chosen is "Light". We will present this concert in three different venues in three different areas of the city. We hope you will make your plans to join us at one of our concerts. For more information about our concert, check out our website and our Facebook page for the latest updates.

*"Light is an invitation to happiness, and that happiness, when it's done right, is a kind of holiness, palpable and redemptive."* —Mary Oliver



## Thank you!!

Houston Bronze would like to thank those who attended one of our concerts in December. We had two wonderful audiences. We thank you for being there and for the donations made to the ensemble. We truly appreciate each of you. We also would like to thank those who joined us via the live stream from around the country.

You can still watch our Christmas concert on YouTube.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKOwoXhcSLQ&list=PLsVJ-OfznpwGIVUSC7GbwAvfpzBnBRe4T)

[v=HKOwoXhcSLQ&list=PLsVJ-](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKOwoXhcSLQ&list=PLsVJ-OfznpwGIVUSC7GbwAvfpzBnBRe4T)

[OfznpwGIVUSC7GbwAvfpzBnBRe4T](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKOwoXhcSLQ&list=PLsVJ-OfznpwGIVUSC7GbwAvfpzBnBRe4T)



Check out our [YouTube](#) Channel.



# College Ring-In 2025

The Houston Bronze Ensemble awarded four scholarships to College Ring-In 2025. Congratulations to Jaqueline Koo, Caroline Espe, Farrell Brown, and Rachel Wehrle. They attended the event in Lakeland, Florida earlier this month. The event was directed by Kathryn Jurado. You

can see more from them about their experiences out the event on our FB page and on our website. Below is a picture of the group as they rehearse on their first day of the event and a picture of our four scholarship winners taken on concert day.

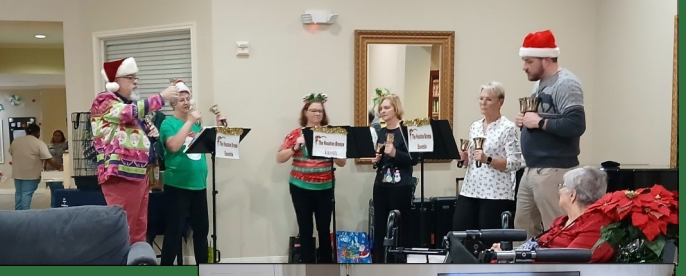
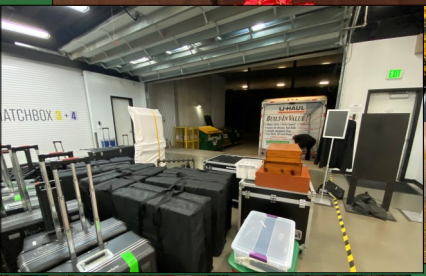


**Our next auditions will be held in May, 2025. If you are considering an audition, we invite you to attend a rehearsal to check us out. We would love to meet you.**

The Houston Bronze Ensemble is an auditioned community group made up of ringers from all over the Houston area. If you are looking to play with a group that enjoys playing challenging music and sharing that passion and music with the Houston community and beyond, Houston Bronze Ensemble is the group for you. We strive for EXCELLENCE in all aspects of our organization. Beyond our compelling musical performances, Houston Bronze Ensemble takes handbell ringing to a standard of excellence that inspires audiences of all ages and backgrounds. If you have the desire to be a part of that, we hope you will consider auditioning to become a member of Houston Bronze. We are looking for additional players to join us.

For more information contact us at [info@houstonbronze.org](mailto:info@houstonbronze.org)

For more information on auditions go to [houstonbronze.org/audition/](https://houstonbronze.org/audition/)



# Christmas 2024



## The Houston Bronze Ensemble

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently scheduling events for 2024 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)  
<http://houstonbronze.org>

Email:  
[info@houstonbronze.org](mailto:info@houstonbronze.org)  
[event@houstonbronze.org](mailto:event@houstonbronze.org)

Houston Bronze Ensemble also loves conducting workshops for handbell organizations throughout the Houston area. We would love to do one for your group. [houstonbronze.org/build-a-bell-workshop/](http://houstonbronze.org/build-a-bell-workshop/)

### DONATE TO HOUSTON BRONZE TODAY!

Houston Bronze Ensemble is a 501 (c)(3) organization. We rely on your donations to continue to maintain and purchase our instruments, purchase music, print programs, truck rental, provide a stipend for our artistic director, and so much more. To make your donation, please go to our website and click the donate button at the top of the page.



[www.houstonbronze.org](http://www.houstonbronze.org)

### THANK YOU!!

Thank you to Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church for providing HBE with rehearsal and storage space for all of our equipment. We are forever grateful to you.



## 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 on 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. Artistic Directors since then have included David VanderMeer, Dolan Bayless, Ben Harris, Ruth Seiwel, James Roberts, Bill Nave, and Sondra Tucker. David York was appointed the artistic director in July 2023.

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 handbell 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.org](http://www.houstonbronze.org) for more information about our group and what we offer. Feel free to contact us at [info@houstonbronze.org](mailto:info@houstonbronze.org) with any questions or requests. We look forward to working with you to provide handbell excellence to meet your needs!