

Vol. 13, No 4
October, 2026



Houston Bronze Ensemble
EXPECT EXCELLENCE

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

**Houston Bronze Ensemble
December, 2026
Concert Schedule**

LIGHT A CANDLE

Saturday, December 5, 2026

Time: 7:00 pm

Tomball Methodist Church
1603 Baker Drive
Tomball, TX 77375

Sunday, December 6, 2026

Time: 5:00 pm

Sugar Land Methodist Church
431 Eldridge Rd.
Sugar Land, TX

Friday, December 11, 2026

Time: 7:30 pm

MATCH
3400 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

Houston Bronze Ensemble is currently
scheduling events for 2026 and beyond.

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

Email:

info@houstonbronze.org
event@houstonbronze.org

LIGHT A CANDLE



Guest Artist: Shevon Jacob-Laidlow, vocalist

Light a candle. Light the dark.
Light the world. Light a heart or two.
Light a candle for me. I'll light a candle for you.

Houston Bronze Ensemble's December concert is an annual tradition for many Houstonians, and this year's program, "Light a Candle" - with featured vocalist, SheVon Jacob Laidlow - brings an extra spark of joy and repose. In addition to classic handbell greats such as "Ukrainian Bell Carol," and "Fantasia on Greensleeves," you'll hear inspiring new arrangements of "O Holy Night" and "Sussex Carol" to name a few. SheVon will round out the program with holiday favorites, "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and Mel Torme's "Christmas Song."

Come share in this unforgettable holiday tradition—and let the music light a candle in your heart.



<https://houstonbronze.org>
email: info@houstonbronze.org

[Check out our YouTube Channel](#)
[Check out our Facebook Page](#)

Make your holiday party ✨ Sparkle ✨

Are you hosting a holiday party this season or perhaps a community event or office party? Make your holiday celebrations even more memorable with festive music for every party and event! From classic carols to upbeat seasonal favorites, the right playlist sets the mood, brings people together, and fills the occasion with holiday cheer.

Add something special to your event with Christmas music offered by the **Houston Bronze Celebration Ringers**. This is a small group taken from the ensemble for just such occasions. We arrive with bells for 6-8 players and 3-4 music stands.

Let the music make your celebration sparkle! ✨



Contact us at:

event@houstonbronze.org

Houston Bronze to Perform at Epiphany Service at Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church



If you miss our holiday concerts, you have another opportunity to hear some of our Christmas selections as we will be playing for the Epiphany Service at Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church. Details below:

January 3, 2027 9:00 am

Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church

800 Houston Av.

Houston, Texas 77007

We thank them for all they do for us, providing both rehearsal space and storage.

HBE Supports Handbells in Houston Area and Beyond

Dive into the musical magic of bells with the Houston Bronze Ensemble's workshops, available all year round! Pick your favorite topics from our jam-packed list of classes on our webpage, and if you don't spot what you need, just holler! Here's the cherry on top: we come to you, so no bell-hauling shenanigans required. Best part? It's free, though your generous donations will have us ringing with gratitude. For more information or to book a bell-tastic workshop, pop over to our site.



houstonbronze.org/build-a-bell-workshop



Houston Bronze to Perform at Lights in the Heights.

Lights in the Heights traditionally features a free evening walking route through the Woodland Heights neighborhood with dozens of live musical acts along the way, festive homeowner light displays, and a homeowner light-decorating contest. Check the Woodland Heights Civic Association website for confirmed details. We are excited that we can return to this event. Follow us on Facebook and check our website for more information on where we will be. Coming Soon!!

Ring in the Spirit of Giving



Houston Bronze Celebration Ringers

Earlier this fall, Houston Bronze Ensemble was delighted to donate a performance by the **HBE Celebration Ringers**—a subgroup of HBE ringers—to a silent auction hosted by our wonderful friends at Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church. Proceeds from the auction are helping with the cost of much-needed air-conditioning repairs.

Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church has for many years been an incredibly generous host to HBE, providing us with both rehearsal space and storage space for our very large collection of instruments. We are so grateful for their hospitality and the support they continue to give our ensemble.

We're always looking for ways to give back, so we were thrilled when our donated performance was bid upon! In December, the Celebration Ringers will be ringing at a wedding as we fulfill our auction donation.

We're so happy to have this opportunity to share our music, support our host church, and give back to a community that has given so much to us.

Music is meant to be shared—and we're grateful for every opportunity to share ours!

Houston Bronze Ensemble
Houston's premier handbell ensemble

We will be holding auditions for our 2026-2027 season. We invite you to come and share your talent!

Audition

Contact us to set a date.
We will have openings this fall

<https://houstonbronze.org/audition/>

Audition for Houston Bronze

houstonbronze.org/audition

If you are passionate about bell ringing and wish to connect with like-minded individuals, we invite you to consider auditioning with HBE. We are seeking advanced ringers eager to enhance their skills. Our program will present you with challenges designed to elevate your ringing to new heights. We will collaborate with you to schedule an audition date that accommodates your availability. For more information about the audition process, please visit our website. Should you have any further questions, feel free to email us at info@houstonbronze.org. We look forward to discussing the opportunity for you to join us.

Our Bells Have Returned

Our handbells have returned from some much needed time off at the Texas Bell Ranch. Thank you to Thomas Smith for all your work restoring the bells. They have been cleaned, restored with new parts and then polished. We have been in the process of breaking them in as we prepare for our fall concerts. Our cases were all replaced, as well. A big thank you to those who contributed to our Restore Harmony campaign. We could not have done it with you.



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.



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.



<https://houstonbronze.org>

[Check out our YouTube Channel](#)

[Find our Facebook Page](#)

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