

# Contestant Briefing

Tuesday, April 21

## Zoom Information

Time: Apr 21, 2026 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82814175186?pwd=nldnutarGu6HBlitVY7E854Caafx1g.1>

Meeting ID: 828 1417 5186

Passcode: 737113



There will be a **mandatory** In-Person briefing on Thursday, April 23. This online briefing is being provided in advance of contest as it contains important information including traffic patterns, technical rehearsal details, venue maps, contest specifics, and more.

### Acronyms

- Spokane Convention Center (SCC)
- The Davenport Grand Hotel (Grand)
- Competition Coordinator (CC)

# Region 13 Official Judging Panel



**Sound**  
Joan Boutilier



**Music**  
Corinna Garriock



**Expression**  
Kerri Mauney



**Visual Communications & Panel Chair**  
Becky Hine



**Panel Secretary**  
Therese Antonini

# Traffic Pattern

Here is a [video](#) walkthrough of the traffic pattern.



- The Thursday briefing will be held in Ballroom 100 in the SCC.
- Use the skybridge from the 2nd floor of the Grand to the SCC.



**Thursday, April 23, 2026**

**4:00pm - 5:30pm**

**Spokane Convention Center, Ballroom 100**

- **3:45pm:** Volunteers for the Mic Tester Chorus and Mic Tester Quartet should arrive at Ballroom 100.
- **4:00pm:** At the instruction of the Panel Chair, the Mic Tester Chorus will perform How We Sang Today. Testing will begin with the large chorus, then mid-size, then small.
- Directors who so desire, may silently and unobtrusively observe the sound onstage during the mic tester chorus time.
- After this, stage crew will reset the stage for the quartet competition and the quartet mic testing will begin.

**Thursday, April 23, 2026**

**3:30pm - 4:00pm Form Collection**

**5:30pm - 7:00pm Contestant Briefing**

**Spokane Convention Center, Ballroom 100**

- Quartets and Choruses will confirm song order, contact info, drop off competing member forms, and open division cue sheets.
- Competitors are required to submit **two** copies of the following forms:
  - List of Competing Members (completed and signed)
  - Open Division Cue Sheets
- Starting **~5:30pm** following the Mic Tester Chorus, the CC will begin the competitor briefing to go over important contest related information.
- Quartets have the opportunity to walk on the stage in the order of appearance. Quartets may start a song, take a bow, start their second song, take a bow, and leave the stage.

- The approved traffic pattern can be found [here](#).
  - Both Quartet and Chorus contests begin at 11:30am.
  - Please review the schedule to determine your check-in and onstage times.
  - Quartets may have one person walk the pattern with them.
  - Although effort is made to keep contest running on time, significant variation from posted times will be communicated to contestant points of contact **via Text**.
- International Division: 12 minutes between contestants.
- Open Division:
  - Quartets – 14 minutes between contestants.
  - Choruses – 15 minutes between contestants.
  - The performance should follow the plan outlined on the cue sheets, including whether
  - performances are starting and ending with TALKING or SINGING.
  - Deviation from the plan in the cue sheets will result in disqualification.
  - If an Open Division contestant is disqualified, they will still receive a scoresheet, but the levels will be removed.

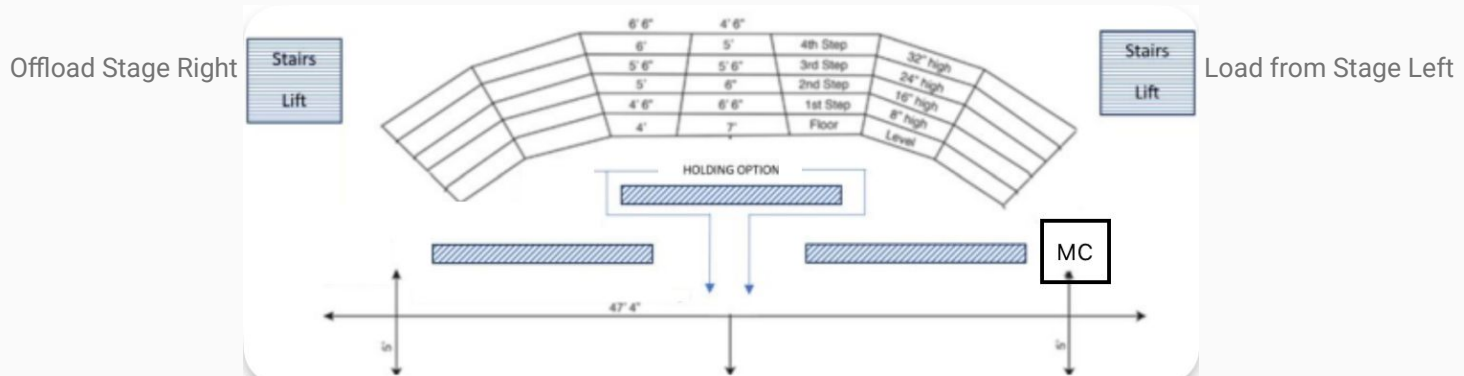
- Quartet Photos will be in Grand Meeting Room 11 on the 2nd floor right across from the Check-In table. Please complete your photo orders online.
- Warm Up rooms will have cough drops, tissues and water stations.
- Contestants have 10 minutes from when the last member enters the room.
- The venue does not have a clear bag policy.
- Purses / personal items in Ziploc bags should be deposited by contestants in **large carry bags** at the bag collection point in the traffic pattern. While the contestant is on stage, a volunteer will move these to the bag pickup point. *You are responsible for providing your own carry bags and Ziplocs.*
- To reduce bottlenecks when going off stage, please collect the carry bags from the bag pickup location and wait until you are outside the Service Hallway to distribute the items.

## Dual Member Costume Change

- We have a space backstage with a mirror for you to use for your costume change. There will be no backstage costume storage prior to contest.
- Bring all costume pieces for your second (or third!) ensemble in a clearly labeled bag **with you through the traffic pattern**. Use the dual-member changing room coat rack and floor space to store your costume(s) between performances.
- Dual members are not to wait in the changing room for their chorus.
- We ask that dual singers change quickly and join their next competing group in the pattern or back at the hotel. If a quick change is needed, you may have someone waiting for you in the changing room.
- Once contest is over on Saturday, the building is locked up until Monday. So please, take your costumes, props, and other devices with you immediately after your performance on Saturday.
- More information can be found on this Convention Website [page](#).

# Stage Layout

- The backstage holding area in the Service Hallway is a silent zone.
- You will be held in this area prior to loading the stage and may hear the contestant ahead of you performing.
- There will be pipe and drape as you climb the stairs or use the lift onto the stage, but there is no curtain on the stage itself.
- Stage setup for Quartet contest will have three staggered panels that provide a screen from behind which members of each quartet may enter. Entrance can be from either side, or from one side of the panel furthest to the back.



## Chorus Stage Entrance / Onstage

- House lights will be dimmed as the chorus enters and exits the stage.
- All chorus contestants will use seven-riser inverted [setup](#).
- Choruses (and Quartets) will load from STAGE LEFT.
- After the chorus is loaded, the chorus director will look towards stage left to nod to indicate that the chorus is ready.
- After the CC receives your nod, and confirmation that the panel is ready, the MC lectern will be lit as the MC introduces you.
- The chorus intro is “We are ready for contestant #\_.” The announcement for choruses includes competitor number, location, director and finally the chorus name.  
Example: “We are ready for contestant # 1. From Little Town, WA, under the direction of Tammy Talbot, Singing Sensations Chorus!”
- On completing your last song, all chorus members will move into your “photo pose”. Please listen for cues from the photographer (Janna) as she takes your picture.
- After that, please safely exit STAGE RIGHT. Volunteers will direct you to the purse drop area and guide directors/team leaders to the webcast table.

# Mobility Accommodations

- Please communicate all necessary contestant mobility accommodations to the Competition Coordinator by Wednesday, April 15.
- Contestants requiring mobility accommodations (wheelchairs, scooters, canes) will need someone to be with them during the pattern.
- There are two single-person capacity lifts on either side of the stage for loading and unloading.
- If the mobility device is not going to remain on stage during the performance, it will need to be moved by a chorus member/assistant, to the off-stage area via the service hallway behind the stage.
- Riser chairs/stools will **not** be stored backstage ahead of contest. These must be brought with the contestant through the pattern.
- The set-up of riser chairs is permitted in advance of the chorus loading the stage. Riser chairs must be removed immediately after the performance from both the stage and the traffic pattern.
- Scooters should lead the chorus in the traffic pattern. Scooters that are not going onstage will need to be moved by chorus members to the offstage service hallway, to be collected when leaving the stage.

- This year there will be **no backstage prop storage** prior to or after contest.
- Contestants are required to bring all props with them through the traffic pattern.
- All props must be removed from the SCC immediately after your performance.
- Once the doors are locked, we have no way to get back in the building until Monday morning.

# Novice Quartets

- We have 2 novice quartets
  - Contestant #9 - Frequency
  - Contestant #18 - Perfect Fourth
- An escort will accompany you through the traffic pattern.
- They will contact you ahead of time.

## Region 13 Contagious Illness Policy

- Please familiarize yourself with the new Region 13 policy regarding Health, Safety and Hazard Response.
- The policy can be found on the Competitor Information page of the 2026 Convention website.
- It is also linked [here](#).

## Awards Announcements

- Once the quartet contest is over, the MC will invite quartets to gather and line up in the Service Hallway on STAGE LEFT, in order of appearance for the Parade of Quartets. When your quartet's name is called, you will come on stage and then have one member stand on each step of the risers.
- Following the chorus contest, the MC will invite Directors, Team Leaders/Presidents to lineup in the Service Hallway on STAGE LEFT.
- All presenters will line up in the Service Hallway on STAGE RIGHT in order of presentation of awards.
- Please refer to the [approved traffic pattern](#) for the awards sequence.

## Scoresheet and packet pickup

- Your score sheets and packet will be available on a table on STAGE LEFT near the back wall of the ballroom at the conclusion of each contest.
- Only a quartet member or the chorus president or director may pick up the packet unless written authorization is submitted.
- This year there will be no flash drive of your performance. A link to the digital download of your contest performance will be emailed to the address that was provided during your R13 registration.

**NEW for 2026:**

A link to your performance will be provided by email at no charge. Please indicate the email address where it should be sent.

Email performance link to: \*

## Leftover medals

- If you receive more medals than you have singers on stage, please return extras to Sonia (or the Convention Team) anytime at this convention.
- If you have chorus medals from past contests that you wish to give back to the region, we will gratefully accept them. Please bring them in a sealed envelope or Ziploc bag to hand over to Sonia.
- Note: there should be no engraving or marking on them.



# Questions?

Please email your Region 13 Competition Coordinator

Sonia Rebello: [pettukola@gmail.com](mailto:pettukola@gmail.com)

Contact number at contest: 361-737-2116