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Summer 2025 Language Summer 2025 A newsletter for members of North by Northwest Region 13

Meet our new Associate Member: Anna Esqueda



Your Regional Leadership Team is delighted to announce we have a new Associate Member for 2025 -2026: **Anna Esqueda**.

Anna is a proud member of Coeur d'Alene Chorus, where she has served on the chorus Music Team and Management Team, and is currently the chorus's Marketing Coordinator.

In Anna's words, "I desire

to be useful to the organization and to be involved in something great. I believe I have skills and abilities that could add value to the team and, of course, keep Sweet Adelines thriving!"

Members of the RLT agree! Anna was unanimously approved, and team members look forward to working with her. Anna will serve a one-year term beginning immediately. Her role will be to observe all functions of the RLT, to become aware of the responsibilities of each coordinator, and to potentially select a coordinator to shadow for more in-depth involvement. Welcome, Anna!

Submitted by Sally Ryerson Region 13 Team Leader

2025 Region 13 Area Schools



REGISTRATION IS OPEN! Join us for the 2025 SAI North by Northwest Region 13 Area Schools! Get ready for a full day of harmony, education, and inspiration!

Whether you're a seasoned singer or new to barbershop, these workshops are designed to elevate your skills, energize your passion, and connect you with fellow harmonizers from across the region. Schools are offered geographically, but you can register and attend **any** school you like. At \$25 for the whole day, why limit yourself to just one?

BONUS! On August 22 from 1:00 to 9:00 pm we'll be having a QUARTET WORKSHOP! It will be held at the same location as the Western Washington Area School in Vancouver. This quartet workshop is **open to all** and you DO NOT need to be in a quartet to attend. The bonus Quartet Workshop is \$35 per person.

Register now to attend a workshop! If QR Code shown in the flyer is too small, click the graphic for a larger version. Or, simply <u>click here to register</u>. Questions? Contact our fabulous Area School Chair, **Cindy Morin**, at <u>morinr6@msn.com</u>.

Submitted by Cherie Letts, Region 13 Marketing Coordinator

2025 Region 13 contest results

If you attended last month's Region 13's Convention/Contest, you absolutely came away with a smile on your face and music in your heart! It was wonderful to celebrate our members who reached milestone years with Region 13. Congratulations!

At Friday's quartet contest, the musical quality of the contestants enhanced our smiles and love of music. Thank you and congratulations to Region 13's top five quartets:

1st Place: Voxy – Kadi Holdsworth, Alena Hemingway, Megan Hofkamp, Judy Pozsgay
2nd Place: Rhapsody – Rachel Pack, Julie Hagstrom, Anna Chamberlain, Connie Alward
3rd Place: Rewind – Molly Mylius, Amenda Madden, Melanie Cross, Christy Hedrick
4th Place: Happenstance – Kristine Levy, Tawni Miller, Teri Parente, Karen Brattain
5th Place: Rain Tones – Shay Miller, Megan Talbot, Jackie Cole, Samantha Gorbett

Saturday was a fun-filled day when choruses took the contest stage to share their love of barbershop music with everyone. Thank you to all choruses who shared their talents, and congratulations to the top three Division A and AA Choruses.

Division A Choruses (12-25 singers on stage)

1st Place: Sound Harmony Chorus – Elizabeth Davies, Director

2nd Place: Rolling Hills Chorus – Lucy Heinkel, Director

3rd Place: Acappella Soundsations Chorus – Charles Roegiers, Director

Division AA Choruses (26-50 singers on stage)

1st Place: Voices Northwest Chorus – Charlene O'Connor, Director 2nd Place: Northwest Harmony Chorus – Melanie McGuire, Director 3rd Place: Capital City Sound Chorus – Malauna Gibby, Director

And we all applaud and congratulate the five overall top choruses!

1st Place: A Cappella Joy Chorus – Nikki Blackmer, Director 2nd Place: Voices Northwest Chorus – Charlene O'Conner, Director 3rd Place:S ound Harmony Chorus – Elizabeth Davies, Director

4th Place: Rolling Hills Chorus – Lucy Heinkel, Director

5th Place: Northwest Harmony Chorus – Melanie McGuire, Director

Saturday evening's Afterglow was celebrated with members, choruses, and quartets, each sharing musical performances, dancing, karaoke, and tag singing. SO MUCH FUN!

As contest weekend ended, we hope you drove home with a smile on your face and music in your heart. Thank you, NxNW Region 13 members! What an amazing weekend!

Submitted by <u>Patty Martin</u>, Region 13 Events Coordinator

In Memoriam

We sincerely apologize for the omission of the "In Memoriam" slide from the Thursday Night Kickoff and the video from the Region 13's Convention weekend in May. This was an unintended oversight, and we deeply regret any distress it may have caused anyone. We are all human and make mistakes, and we appreciate your understanding and grace in this matter. While it may be late, this tribute comes from our hearts.

Submitted by Diana Jordan, Region 13 Membership Coordinator

North by Northwest Region 13

2024-2025 In Memoriam

As we reflect on the incredible contributions of these three remarkable individuals, their legacy through music continues to resonate deeply within us.



Nancy Kurth June, 2024



Beth Garske July, 2024



Sarah Ingstad December, 2024

2025 LONGEVITY AWARDS

These Sweet Adelines are celebrating 5 to 65 years of longevity, and we want to honor them all.

Region 13 had 114 members celebrating longevity this year! We congratulate YOU!

5 Years

Barbara Bach
Terri Beach
Valerie Bridges
Lisa Cleveland
Karen Fejta
Joanna Hill
Jana Hirst
Beth McBride
Denise Michaelsen
Sarah Sinclair
Katryn Winter

10 Years Libby Chapman

Michelle Clark Corey Colburn Ginny Coles Liesl Davenport-Wheeler Sandra Fan Shonté Goold Amanda Hacking Sue Hickman Cherie Letts KayLee Marcy Laurel Miles Andren Moyer Bonnie Parenteau Jo Ripley Sue Shoaf Betti Shook Karlee Smith Lorisa Watkins Jessi White Joann Wiszmann

15 Years

Mary Barrett
Judy Craig
Elizabeth Davies
Michelle DeFreece
Janet Donahue
Sharon Falger
Carol Fogle

15 Years cont.

Anne Fraser Judy Golo Carrie Jaecksch Kelli Johnson Heidi Kilbourn Frances Lunder Joan Matuska Karrie May Shauna McDaniel Andrea McDonald Nancy Noel-Pearce Janelle Peck Nancy Rabel Georgina Rice Sharon Thomas Cec Waddell Mary Whale

20 Years

Alice Allen
Susan Bradley
Lisa Carpenter
Linette Finstad
Lucy Heinkel
Kathy Hughes
Yvonne Johnson
Jamie Miller
Jo Sahli

25 Years

Rita Armstrong
Luanne Berline
Kathy Brown
Pat Canfield
Julie Dennis
Nancy Eaton
Debbie Edmiston
Kay Gouwens
Susan Pisek
Melodee Risi
Susan Scott
Jean Snyder
Daniela Stiles
Mary Thomas
Carol Ward

30 Years

Jody Allen
Janice Crawley
Lynn Dominick
Melinda Griffith
Erin Hartley
Elizabeth Keller
Michelle Kirkpatrick
Janice Lindgren
Melissa Pope
Marcy Roeder
Betsy Sleeper
Sandra Smith

35 Years

Barbara Burg
Bianca Dixon
Carol Drew
Patty Hale
Frances Heller
Sandy Hesson
Cheryl Isaacs
Lisa Martin
Paula Roberts

40 Years

Laura Chase Dee Okerlund

45 Years

Sandra Smith-Norton
Jane Weber



2025 LONGEVITY AWARDS But wait! There's more! Here are our 50+ Year Members!



50 Years MerVon Badesheim Capital City Sound



50 Years Debbie Haller Voices Northwest



50 Years Janet Klepper Five Valley



50 Years Judy O'Brien RiversEdge



55 Years Diane Hollifield Capital City Sound



55 Years Jan McKee Jet Cities



55 Years Marlene Lienau Five Valley



65 Years **Bonnie Willis** Pacific Sound



Bonnie Willis 1960-2025

Chorus Anniversaries

30 Years
Grand Olympics
35 Years
Pacific Sound
Bridger Mountain Harmony
45 Years
Rolling Hills
55 Years
Capital City Sound
60 Years
Fairbanks Frontier
Olympia

STARBURST AWARD

The Region 13 Starburst Award is presented each year to the chorus achieving the greatest percentage increase in membership beginning February 1, 2024 through January 31, 2025.

With a 21.05% increase, we congratulate this year's winner of the Starburst Award:

Inland Harmony Chapter

Honorable Mentions:
Harmony Northwest 20%
Jet Cities 20.59%



Heart of the Northwest Award

Congratulations to **Diane Hollifield**, Region 13's Heart of the Northwest (HOTNW) recipient! Diane, a **Capital City Sound Chorus** core member since 1970, has mentored hundreds of new members over the span of 55 years. She greets guests, and helps them make lasting connections with the director and members. She has competed at every chorus contest and attended international contest five times.

Currently, Diane is our Management Team Assistant Events Coordinator, mentor, historian, and caroling scheduler. Previously, she was president for five terms, coordinated our 25th anniversary show, and sang lead in three registered quartets.



Diane is responsible for recruiting and supporting new members and has befriended many youth members. When our chorus almost lost its charter due to a limited number of members, she was instrumental in bringing in new people to maintain our charter.

At age 87, Diane is a fully involved chorus member with near-perfect attendance. Since 1970, she has been on the Management Team or Board of Directors almost every year, and has worked on most chorus committees or been chairperson. She has organized chorus events and performances for 55 years and participated in every director search. She often hosts sectionals, out of town guests, quartets, and regional faculty in her home.

Diane helps plan, organize, and set up about eight to ten events per year, including all-day coaching and lunch, installation of officers, and our chorus' day of caroling and Christmas party. She's a born helper who requires no accolades. When everything goes smoothly, Diane is happy. She can make decisions and do her share of physical labor, too, even at 87!

One example of Diane's dedication to our chorus was in September 2024. Our chorus had been invited to participate in the Meridian Arts Day event, held outside in a popular Boise area park. We had a call time of 9:30am and performed in the bandshell. Diane was there early to help set up! We then ran an all-day interactive booth, teaching tags to community members. Diane stayed late singing with community members, encouraging them to try different parts, and inviting them to sing with us for the holiday season. After a short break, we were off to the Warhawk Air Museum to sing for a private party celebrating a Marine's 100th birthday. At age 87, Diane participated the entire day. We were short on leads, so Diane changed her plans and made sure she was there.

continued: Diane Hollifield

The Idaho Press recently ran a front-page article about our chorus. As part of this article, they interviewed Diane and our youngest member, a 12-year-old girl whom Diane has mentored. In fact, for this girl's recent birthday, Diane helped arrange a gift of her very own pitch pipe. This is just one of many examples of how Diane connects with and inspires all members of our chorus. She embodies the spirit of Sweet Adelines with her warmth, welcoming attitude, and the way she mentors and nurtures guests and new members. She always strives to improve and is open to change!

Diane has sometimes shared stories of "how the organization was 50 years ago," or "how she and her quartet costumed themselves for the stage." A favorite story was how she and other members got stuck in an elevator at contest and had to be rescued by (wait for it!) some good-looking firemen! Diane embodies the continuity of our chorus, and does more than is asked. She fully supports both of our annual fundraisers, bakes at home for our bake sale, generously stores items, transports them to location, and works on wrapping all of the baskets for our Silent Auction. If something is happening in chorus, chances are Diane will be there!

Sweet Adelines is built and thrives on the backs of small choruses. Without them, we wouldn't be what we are today. This entire organization relies on members like Diane, the ones behind the scenes, the ones encouraging us all to be better, the ones in small choruses who give their all to ensure their one small chorus is brilliant and successful. Diane is a true leader, loving, generous, full of joy and love from her heart to others. She does this through dedication and song. She inspires us all to be the best we can be, and she truly embodies what it means to be a Sweet Adeline.

Submitted by Gail Straker, Capital City Sound Chorus



Sweet Adelines official songs

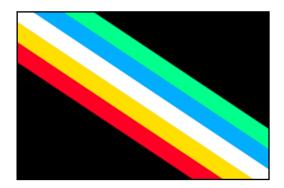
Did you find yourself stumbling along at our Kickoff when it came time to sing together? You weren't alone!

You can remedy that for next year by clicking <u>HERE</u> to find sheet music, learning tracks and instructional videos for each of SAI's organizational songs: *Come On And SING!*, *The Voice Of Harmony*, and *How We Sang Today*. And an added bonus: They are FREE! Plus, you can share the music with family members and friends, too!

Culture of Belonging

Hello from your Culture of Belonging Committee (COB)!

July is Disability Pride Month, an annual observance that celebrates people with disabilities, commemorates the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and promotes disability culture and visibility.



Observed every July, Disability Pride Month recognizes

the importance of the ADA, which was signed into law on July 26, 1990 (Disability Independence Day). It highlights disability culture, history, and community pride. This month challenges the harmful idea that people with disabilities need to conform to norms to live meaningful lives. Their lives are just as full, valuable, and worthy of respect—no more, no less.

Disability Pride Month is a time to recognize the history, achievements, experiences, and struggles of people with disabilities. It affirms that disability is a natural and valuable part of human diversity—not a deficit or condition to be fixed.

More than one in four adults in the United States—over 70 million people—have a disability. This month calls on everyone to promote inclusion and ensure people with disabilities are accepted exactly as they are, without conditions.

Submitted by Cherie Letts, Culture of Belonging Chair



Heading to Columbus in October?

<u>Click here</u> to be taken to an online copy of the most recent *PitchPipe* magazine. You can learn everything you need to know about Columbus, plus check the results of this year's regional contests.

Chorus Chatter

A Cappella Joy Chorus



What an amazing time we had in Spokane! It was such a joy to reconnect with friends, cheer each other on, and share the stage with so many talented performers. The energy, love, and harmony that filled the weekend reminded us of the power of music and community in Region 13.

AJoy is beyond honored to have earned the opportunity to represent Region 13 at the 2026 International Convention in Columbus, OH. The journey ahead will be exciting, and we are deeply grateful for the support, inspiration, and camaraderie we've experienced from all of you along the way.

Sending good vibes to Alaska Sound Celebration, Jet Cities, and Spirit of Spokane choruses, as well as Rewind, Voxy, SoloVoce, PrimeTime, and Rhapsody quartets. Your performances were powerful and inspiring, and we're proud to be part of such a vibrant, talented region.

Submitted by Amanda Wiley, A Cappella Joy Chorus

Acapella Soundsations Chorus



Acapella Soundsations Chorus is going places! For the very first time in the 53-year history of Acapella Soundsations Chorus (formerly Kitsap Pines Chorus), we won a medal at the Region 13 Regional Convention!

Our members were thrilled to receive 3rd place medals in Division A competition, and we came in 6th overall, up from 7th

place last year. Under the direction of **Chuck Rogiers**, our chorus has a growth mindset and is ready to take on challenges. Chuck is such an inspiration and always encourages us to take the next step towards excellence!

Submitted by Margie Gabe Acapella Soundsations Chorus

Coeur d'Alene Chorus



Coeur d'Alene Chorus was really looking forward to this year's regional competition after winning the Audience Choice Award last year. Unfortunately, COVID made another appearance, and we had to sing masked. Nevertheless, we persisted!

In June, we had a table at the 2025 Kootenai County Pride in the Park and had a wonderful time supporting the LGBTQ+ community. We also installed new officers with Midge Marcy-Brennan as our new Team Leader!

We are gearing up for our fair fundraiser in August, where we keep the fairgrounds neat and free of garbage. We call ourselves "Sweep Adelines." And for a small chorus, we still somehow manage to fill 30 shifts for all 10 days of the fair.

In September, Elizabeth Davies will be coming to coach us. We're also having a member-ship drive featuring approximately 15 weeks of classes geared toward teaching guests (and current members) tips for singing barbershop-style music. At the end of the membership drive, guests will have the opportunity to sing in our Christmas show. Then it will be time to don our Victorian costumes for our annual caroling at the Coeur d'Alene resort! Whew!

Submitted by Anna Esqueda, *Marketing Coordinator*

Inland Harmony Chorus



Inland Harmony Chorus

had the pleasure of performing at the Moscow Farmers Market in north central Idaho on June 7. The setlist included our open division competition package, a few of our pop repertoire songs, and performances by two of our member VLQs.

(continued on next page)

Inland Harmony Chorus (continued)

Audiences loved our barbershoppin' cowgirl emcees and their trusty steeds!

This is a popular performance opportunity that we enjoy participating in whenever we can. The Moscow Farmers Market is one of the best in Idaho and it allows us to do outreach to new audiences in a fun, family-friendly outdoor environment.

Submitted by Hayley Noble, Inland Harmony Chorus

Jet Cities Chorus

Jet Cities Chorus was over the moon to introduce our new uptune and sing our swan song set at Regional Contest this year. Thirteen of our members were first-timers at contest with us, and we could not be prouder to represent Region 13 at International this October.

We've had a busy few months. We had coaching with Shawn Mondragon in March, coaching



with Lea Beverly in April, and look forward to spending the day with Judy Pozsgay in August.

We had our Pi Day Show in March and really enjoyed singing with the Todd Beamer High School Choir. Our usual Sweetie Pie Social event had to be moved forward by a month, so we gave it a new name—Sweetie Pi!— and a theme celebrating women in STEM.

The chorus had the honor of singing the national anthem at Emerald Downs before their horse races and will sing it again for our local baseball team, the Tacoma Rainiers, in August. And we've welcomed five new members (!) onto the risers since our last InTune: Erin McBride (lead), Janet Luft Mobus (lead), Carol Jones (baritone), Kim O'Toole (Lead), and Connie Alward (lead).

Submitted by Michelle Smith, Communications Manager

Olympia Chorus

It was 1965 — pleated skirts, knee highs, loafers — and the very first harmonies sung by the Olympia Chorus. Now, six decades later, we're celebrating the music, memories, friendships, and the many voices that have shaped our journey.

Join us for a "space-tacular" 60th Anniversary Show!

* Date: August 14, 2025

* **Time:** 7:30 PM

* Location: Capital High School Performing Arts Center, Olympia, WA

* Admission: FREE and open to the public

Come and be part of this special evening. We'd love to walk down memory lane and celebrate with you!

Submitted by Sally Ryerson,Olympia Chorus





In February, two POP groups spread some barbershop love. They started at two retirement communities and entertained the residents, which included one former Pride of Portland member who sang along with us on "How We Sang Today." Later our intrepid groups headed to downtown Portland, where we did Valentine caroling at

several businesses and on the street. Then in March, we had a fabulous coaching session with **Kat Erickson**. (continued on next page)



(Pride of Portland — continued from last page) On May 4, we had the wonderful and unique experience of singing the ethereal women's chorus in the last movement of Gustav Holz's "The Planets" with the Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra. We were joined by singers from Columbia River, Northwest Harmony, PDX Voices choruses, and a few other singer friends and demonstrated barbershop harmony to audience members by performing before and after the concert. May 31 saw us back downtown to sing the "National Anthem" for the Northwest Bleeding Disorders Walk. This was part of our weekend retreat with lain Haukka, who taught us the art of compassionate communication and Blair Brown, with whom we learned to raise our level of emotional performance. More performances are scheduled for this summer. POP Chorus is ready to sing!

Submitted by Gretta Young,
POP Communications

Rivers Edge Chorus

We had such fun at competition...and our score made it even better! We moved up from 10th to 7th place after many years of aiming for it and finally scored above 500 points! Thank you to our director, **Bianca Dixon**, for guiding us to there!

In late fall and spring, we had some fantastic coaching sessions. Each



coach's main focus was to enhance our unit sound. Jay Krumbholz, a local coach from the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) who sings with Lilac City Voices Chorus, coached us in the music category, fine tuning, and singing each arrangement well. Don Rose, also from BHS, coached us to be more confident singers at an individual level. Charlene O'Connor fine-tuned the entire package and helped us learn to sing with realistic expression, with a sound that is "nice and light, easy and bright" and always with a "smarkle." What we learned was applied it to our contest songs – and BAM!

This summer, we have many performances planned, learning three new songs, maybe more, and honing our skills to hopefully increase our competition scores. We will also be hosting some fundraising events and celebrate with a chorus picnic in August.

Submitted by Carrie Webbenhurst, *Marketing Chair*

Spirit of Spokane Chorus

The **Spirit of Spokane Chorus** is busy preparing for our journey to International Contest. After two Christmas show performances of *Love in Every Language: Portraits of Celebrations Around the World,* in collaboration with Coeur d'Alene Chorus in December, we took the rest of the month off.

In January, we worked hard on our contest songs in preparation for coaching with Anne Downton in February. We took advantage of the timing, squeezed in a Panda Express Fundraiser for Friday night coaching and had great sessions with Anne on Friday and Saturday, creating some beautiful music.



Despite wearing masks during our performance at Regional Contest, we were happy with our performance in Spokane. Our chorus is looking forward to working with Caitlin Castelino in July, as we further polish our contest set, and continue to work together on the road to Ohio. Our theme is **One Breath, One Voice, One Dream**.

Submitted by Kari Flint, Communications Chair



Heading to SAI Convention in Columbus, Ohio in October?

Once your travel is booked, please email me (cherie.letts@gmail.com) your last name, ticket number and confirmation code.

Alaska Airlines has given us a 7% discount off published fares for travel from any city in our Region to Columbus, Ohio. Travel must be between October 17th and October 28th, 2025.

You book your own travel.
Our Discount Code is: ECMO092.
Note the code is: ECM then the letter "O"
then a number "O" 92.
To use, go online to <u>alaskaair.com</u> and input the
Discount Code when searching for flights.

Review of the travel restrictions and baggage allowances prior to booking is advised

Quartet Corner

High Hopes Quartet

High Hopes Quartet is having a joyful, music-filled year! We've performed at our RiversEdge Chorus Friends & Family Night, a milestone birthday celebration, and a local P.E.O. gathering. Singing with our chorus at senior living communities always brings smiles and sweet memories—to residents and to us.

We had a blast singing tags and soaking up the barbershop spirit at Region 13 contest. Now, we're keeping that energy

alive by teaching tags to our chorus for more "Barbershop Harmony Time!"

A true highlight of our year has been singing the National Anthem at two local professional sports events—Spokane Indians Baseball in May and Velocity Soccer on Flag Day in June. That experience was especially meaningful for us, as our baritone Teesha's grandfather, Will Earhart, was selected by President Woodrow Wilson to lead the committee—including John Philip Sousa—that standardized The Star-Spangled Banner melody, which became our national anthem.

We love spreading harmony wherever we go and can't wait to share more music, friendship and good times ahead!

Submitted by Karen Russell
High Hopes Quartet

Quartets! Are you attending the Quartet Workshop? Register now!

On August 22 from 1:00 to 9:00 pm we'll be having a QUARTET WORKSHOP the same weekend and location in Vancouver, prior to the Western Washington Area School. This quartet workshop is **open to all** and you DO NOT need to be in a quartet to attend. The Quartet Workshop is \$35 per person.

Register now to attend! If QR Code on the right is too small, simply <u>click</u> <u>here to register.</u> Questions? Contact our fabulous Area School Chair, <u>Cindy Morin</u>, at <u>morinr6@msn.com</u>.

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The next **InTune** for members of North by Northwest Region 13 will be published in January 2026.

For questions or comments, please contact Sue Middleton, suemiddleton@gmail.com

or Carol Drew, caroladrew@aol.com

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Check us out on the web: sairegion13.org

more Quartet Corner

Rhapsody Quartet



Rhapsody Quartet is proud to have placed 2nd at our Regional contest in May. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the music, friendship, and laughter we've shared.

As much as we've loved singing together, we've decided to retire as a quartet, and it's time to bid a fond farewell. What a ride it's been! This decision comes with a mix of emotions — joy for all we've experienced and a touch of sadness as we say goodbye to this chapter of our musical adventures.

We are deeply grateful for the support we've received from our families, friends, coaches, and the entire Region 13 community. You've been with us every step of the way, clapping, encouraging, and celebrating our journey.

Though we're stepping away from the stage as Rhapsody Quartet, we are all excited to compete in Columbus in October as members (and director!) of Jet Cities Chorus. We treasure the time we've had together, and the friendships we've made.

Thank you for the love, laughter, and music.

In harmony, Rachel, Julie, Anna & Connie Rhapsody Quartet