



# InTune Winter 2024

A newsletter for members of North by Northwest Region 13

## Heart of the Northwest Nominations Open

It's time once again to nominate a member from your chorus or the region for Region 13's 2024 **Heart of the Northwest Award!** This award was created to honor a member who exemplifies all that is a Sweet Adeline. She believes in the importance of her personal marketing responsibility to present their chorus, the region, and Sweet Adelines International in the best positive way to the general public; serves her chorus and the region to the best of her ability; shows keen interest in Sweet Adelines; and, actively participates in both chorus and regional activities and functions. In addition, she generously donates her time and skills to her chorus and the region, has a positive influence on her chorus and the organization, and willingly shares her knowledge with others without expectations of recognition.



The deadline for submitting nominations is **February 5, 2024.** Members who have been previously nominated but have not won are eligible to be nominated again. Previous Heart of the Northwest award recipients are **ineligible** to be nominated again.

The final decision will be made by the Membership Coordinator and the previous winners of this award. The decision will be finalized prior to contest, and the award will be presented during competition weekend. The award recipient's name will be posted on the regional website after contest, and all nominees will be listed in our *Summer InTune*.

Please download and complete a nomination form from our [website / sairegion13.org/HOTNW](http://sairegion13.org/HOTNW). Be sure to include a picture of the candidate with the form. Contact me at [sasngjs@msn.com](mailto:sasngjs@msn.com) if you have questions.

*Submitted by Sharon Stockstad, Region 13 Membership Coordinator*

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NORTHWEST *Harmony* CHORUS  
PRESENTS  
**Sing** YOUR  
PART **Smart**

FEATURING  
*Charmed*

*Learn tips and tricks to become a “singer driven” chorus.  
For chorus or quartet singers of all skill levels!*

2023 Region 13  
**1<sup>st</sup> Place Quartet**

**Northwest Harmony Chorus** is hosting Sing Your Part Smart, taught by Region 13’s 2023 quartet champions, **Charmed**. This is a great opportunity for Region 13 members to tune up their skills before our upcoming contest in May. The cost is only \$40, which includes lunch, and all proceeds will help defray the quartet expenses.

Please join us on Saturday, February 10 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at Northcrest Community Church, 5602 E. Mill Plain Blvd in Vancouver, WA. To register, visit: [NorthwestHarmony.com/events/sing-your-part-smart](https://NorthwestHarmony.com/events/sing-your-part-smart)  
**Questions? Contact [Karen Graham](#) / 503-310-7316.**

## Region 13 DEI Committee Update

Hello! We hope you all had a warm and wonderful holiday season! This article is to update and provide you with some insight regarding the status of our Region 13 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee and where we are headed in 2024. Our committee of four is in place, and you will be hearing from us very soon. We are looking forward to serving our region in this important role.

The Regional Leadership Team (RLT) has received some concern regarding this new committee and what rules it plans to implement. Please know it is not our desire or plan to impose rules on our regional choruses. We hope to find out where every R13 chapter is on its DEI path and offer suggestions, insights, and viable resources for you to have at your disposal as YOUR chorus discusses and decides what is best for YOU. We hope all of our Region 13 members will grow with us on this Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion journey.

[Submitted by Cherie Letts](#), Region 13 DEI Committee Chair

# Region 13 Convention Update



Hello and Happy New Year to all Region 13 members! Below are a couple of things I wanted to share regarding our upcoming Region 13 Convention on May 16-19 in Spokane.

- Everything you wanted to know about our Region 13 Convention, *Glitter on the River*, is now posted on our website at: [sairegion13.org/2024convention](http://sairegion13.org/2024convention)! Please be sure to check back often for updates.

- Registration for Quartet and Chorus contests opens

February 2. To register, please visit the link above. And if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at [singinkari@gmail.com](mailto:singinkari@gmail.com).

*Submitted by Kari Flint, Convention Communications Coordinator*

## Giving has no borders!



**Oregon Spirit Chorus has had their risers and trailer stolen.**

In the spirit of giving, please consider a donation to one of our Chorus families and help with replacement costs.

To donate, go to [gofund.me/2e2b85b1](https://gofund.me/2e2b85b1) or scan the QR code to the right.



Once in a while a need arises in a Sweet Adelines chorus that necessitates LOTS of support. This became the case three months ago, when the **Oregon Spirit Chorus**, just outside of Salem, OR in Region 12, had their entire trailer—with their risers inside—stolen from a private residence.

To most people, risers wouldn't be important and a trailer wouldn't be a necessity; however, to a large (50+ member) chorus, risers and a way to transport them are vital to having a well-rounded unit sound for a show or community performance. To replace a new set of risers and a (gently used) trailer is about \$30,000! In November, your North by Northwest Region 13 stepped up with *Rise to the Occasion!*, a giving campaign to support our Oregon Spirit Chorus family.

When **Nancy Kurth**, Associate Director of Oregon Spirit and beloved member of Region 13, heard of this campaign, her response was "There just are not enough words to express how proud I am to be a member of Region 13. The love and support Oregon Spirit received following the theft of our risers was overwhelming. **Kathy Scheel** and I are both past Region 13 members and know so many of the singers and leaders. To know they still support us even though we are in a different region, is so heartwarming. Individual members, choruses and leaders have stepped up, giving from their own pockets, sharing our story, and championing our cause. Region 13 truly exhibits what it is to *Harmonize the World*. We love each and every one of these sweet sisters in song."

Region 13 wants to continue this campaign and invites our chapters and members to be part of this effort until the GoFundMe campaign meets its goal. If you are able, please consider a donation (any amount helps) to Oregon Spirit Chorus. It's what being a Sweet Adeline is all about: supporting family! Here is their donation link: [gofund.me/2e2b85b1](https://gofund.me/2e2b85b1). Thank you SO much for your consideration and support.

# Chorus Chatter

## Alaska Sound Celebration Chorus

Winter grabbed hold of Anchorage with a tight fist. A record three-day snowfall of 21" snarled traffic and closed schools, but ASC persevered and participated in holiday festivities with full hearts!

Members who recently returned from SAI Competition in Louisville are still reeling from the excitement of singing with champions from all over the country and the world. What a privilege. Favorite memories expressed by some were: *"chorus unity, loved the energy and excitement while preparing to compete, making inclusion a priority was a lovely treat, seeing the locals get caught up in the atmosphere, reconnecting with former members and friends; and singing alongside the best."*



Although based on Herculean true events, **Chera Boom**, author of the 2024 Fur Rendezvous Melodrama, *WAMCATS of the Wild*, has sworn the antics, skullduggery, mischief, and mayhem unfolding during the US Military's efforts to build a telegraph line connecting Alaska to Washington, DC will leave the audience laughing with glee. Add in a performance by Alaska Sound Celebration and the show promises to be a bright star in a cold, dark Alaskan winter. (Performances run February 22 – March 9, 2024.)

**Submitted by Diana Jordan, Communications Coordinator...on behalf of Kathy Hughes, ASC member**

## Capital City Sound Chorus

Our chorus ended 2023 with an entertaining Christmas show. Eleven Christmas Chorus women performed with the 24 of us in a scripted program, complete with actors and a small set. To supplement ticket sales, we had a silent auction and bake sale. We used to sell boxes of cookies, but this year we erected a 10'x10' canopy to create a "bakery." Inside, decorated tables displayed cookie boxes tied with holiday ribbon, pies, cakes, brownies, and homemade bread.

Our silent auction featured 72 (!) baskets, each with a small easel to the side listing the basket's contents. Baskets were grouped by category. Everyone complimented the great organization and beauty of the displays. Every single basket and bakery item was purchased, and we exceeded last years' ticket sales. With Christmas behind us, we're looking forward to a bright New Year. Several Christmas Chorus women attended our first rehearsal in January. We are also launching "VIP Thursdays," a campaign to attract even more new members.

**Submitted by Judy Craig, Capital City Sound Chorus Secretary**



# more Chorus Chatter

## Coeur d'Alene Chorus

Fall and winter 2023 had our chorus very busy once again! During the last weeks of August, we spent 10 days as the *Sweep Adelines*, cleaning up the North Idaho State Fair. In September we went camping together at Farragut State Park.

In December, we did something different this year for our annual Christmas show: We invited the audience to don ugly Christmas sweaters and sing along with us. It was one of our best shows yet. We spent the month of December caroling at the Coeur d'Alene Resort and other venues, and spreading our Christmas cheer. We are looking forward to a busy spring and another successful year.



**Submitted by Kari Flint, Marketing Coordinator**

## Grand Olympics Chorus

**Grand Olympics Chorus** is honored and humbled to have performed at the Port Angeles Coast Guard Station on Veterans Day, and December has been filled with holiday cheer. Our chorus gave 12 performances in 15 days, including a half-dozen performances for senior and long-term care communities. We are delighted to have had two quartets from our chorus, **Live Wire** and **Grace Notes**, debut their performances during our holiday sing-outs. We ended 2023 on a high note...and a low note...as well as lead and baritone notes! Our hearts are full.



We are excited to welcome four new members in 2024! We're all jumping in to prepare for our upcoming show, *The Grand Olympics Chorus presents: A Grand Musical Adventure*, on April 20. We are expanding the competition package that earned us the 2023 Audience Choice Award at regionals, and we've invited a few special guests, including two local high school choruses to join us. If you're on the Olympic Peninsula in April, we'd love to see your smiling face at our extravaganza.

We look forward to seeing all of you at contest in the spring.

**Submitted by Sherrie Ransom, Grand Olympics Chorus**

# more Chorus Chatter

## Harmony Northwest Chorus

Harmony Northwest Chorus had many performances during the fall and holiday season: an event hosted by Kamp Korey, a place for medically challenged children; our fall concert in September; and a rewarding performance honoring our veterans at the Bellingham VFW.

We had several opportunities for community outreach at local retirement and memory care residences, and hosted our Holiday Harmony Concert in December. The season proved extra entertaining for the chorus. Some fun elements included our emcee delighting (shocking?!?) audiences and chorus members by throwing miniature marshmallows up over the audience during the singing of “A Marshmallow World.”



Quartets comprised of chorus members sang serious holiday songs, plus more whimsical ones. For example, one about the Scandinavian traditional holiday dish of lutefisk, sung to the tune of “O Christmas Tree” ...while dressed in female Viking attire! Another had Alvin—of the famous chipmunks trio—acting up. Even our chorus holiday party was fun. Some members wore inflatable reindeer antlers, while other members won prizes for tossing inflatable rings onto these antlers. “We definitely like to have fun,” chortled Director Cheryl Isaacs.

The chorus is now practicing love songs for February, with special touches for a Leap Day performance.

*Submitted by Kim Kimmy and and Cheryl Isaacs*

## Helena Xpress Chorus

We had a productive 2023! Several guests visited and have now been welcomed as members, we hosted our annual teen talent search, led Girl Scout Harmony Day for the local troops, and had a busy Christmas season. Phew!

As we start 2024, we’ve already welcomed FOUR new members, and are in preparation mode for our big show on April 20, entitled *Life in the Xpress Lane - Celebrating 50 Years of Harmony in the Helena Community!* Can you believe it? We are planning a great show in collaboration with previous talent search winners, local school choirs, and other local performers. As part of the show, *(continued on next page)*



# more Chorus Chatter

(Helena Xpress: continued from previous page) we would like to invite all former members and our greater Sweet Adelines community to join us in our closing song, "True Colors." [Please visit our website for more information.](#) We are planning an open-mic Afterglow following the show, and any/all are welcome to share your talents.

This is not all on our plate! We also have convention to prepare for, as well as a big collaborative show in June with several other area choruses. Here's to a spectacular 2024 for all members of Region 13!

*Submitted by Phronsie Howell, Marketing co-Chair*

## Jet Cities Chorus

Brrr...! Our chorus has been keeping our hearts warm with music this chilly winter. We were delighted to welcome back our director, **Rachel Pack**, from her maternity leave. She always brings the sunshine to our faces.

We got TWO new members in October, **Ellie Derocher** (tenor), and **Colleen Minion** (lead). Hooray! In November, we did a joint auction with the Harmony Kings, our local mixed chorus with the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS). The auction was a smashing success!



We had 20 different guests come sing with us for our guest program that ran November and December. We had a few holiday singouts that led up to our big winter show. The chorus transformed into gnomes complete with long beards and pointy hats! It was so good to meet the new guests, many of them former members. Several of those guests have recently auditioned (and passed!) and we're so excited they decided to stick with us after the holidays as we gear up for the contest season.

In February, we are looking forward to our first overnight retreat since 2020, where we will get to spend time again with the wonderful **Paula Davis**.

*Submitted by Michelle Smith, Communications Manager*

## Northwest Harmony Chorus

**Northwest Harmony Chorus** has had a bustling fall and winter, gradually returning to a sense of "normalcy." Our annual *Sip and Sing* event at a local winery drew a fantastic turnout, allowing us to share our music with a broader audience.

*(continued on next page)*

# more Chorus Chatter

(Northwest Harmony: continued from previous page) We were delighted to welcome many new faces to our Christmas chorus. Our new assistant director, **Amy**, had her first public directing experience and did us proud. It was a pleasure to have some members of **Harmony of the Gorge Chorus** join us, and we look forward to their return! A standout moment was our *Friends and Family* night, a way to thank the church where we rehearse, extending invitations to the local community and even the neighboring firefighters.

We continue to expand our chorus, welcoming new members over the summer and initiating growth strategies inspired by Paul Ellinger's *Big Idea* sessions, while under the guidance of our exceptional house coach, **Rob Roman**, we're dedicated to enhancing our musical skills, always leaving our rehearsals with him on a high note.

Looking ahead, on February 10, we're excited to announce the return of **Sing Your Part Smart**, featuring Region 13's **Charmed Quartet** as faculty. Join us for another enriching musical experience! See page 2 for all the details!

*Submitted by Karen Graham, Team Leader*

## Pride of Portland Chorus

During the Sweet Adelines International Chorus Finals in early November, we couldn't resist becoming part of the watch party associated with the SAI Micro Contest. We submitted a photo of our gathering with the theme *All Eyes and Ears* and were selected as a finalist. While we didn't win the prize, we had fun participating!



We are grateful for continuing opportunities to perform, and the holiday season inspired us to come together. We appeared at Woodburn United Methodist Church for their *Third Sunday* performance series, performed at the Grotto again this year, and the Kaiser Retirees Luncheon in Clackamas. We love community performances!

We had a great response with our Holiday Season Chorus, inviting guests to participate in performances, and keeping some as new members. The highlight of the holiday season was our *Season of Harmony Show*. What a joy it was to share the stage with **PDX Voices Mixed Chorus**, **Vocal Summit Men's Chorus**, and **Mugshot** and **Happenstance** quartets. Barbershop harmony is thriving here in the Northwest! We're excited for new challenges 2024 brings, for Regional Contest, and for International Competition in Kansas City. See you there!

*Submitted by Gretta Young, Communications Coordinator with contributions from Linette Finstad and Kathy Mussett*



# more Chorus Chatter

## Rolling Hills Chorus

We have been busy these last few months. In August, we hosted a Region 13 Area School taught by **Julie Hagstrom** and **LouAnn Hommel**.

On October 14 at Pasco's Fall Fest, we hosted a children's bean bag toss booth and provided prizes. The following week, we held our annual show whose theme was *Remember When*. The **Stateline Barber-shop Quartet**, chorus quartets **Rolling Tones** and **Tag Team**, and our chorus all performed.

In November, we had an all-day coaching session with **Jana Gutenson**. At the opening ceremony of our Special Olympics Games, we sang "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," with everyone joining in. One member thought the audience was the most enthusiastic one we had sung for in a long time!

December was filled with holiday performances: Christmas songs at the Pasco Winter Fest, the National Anthem for the Tri-City Americans Hockey game, and on December 14 we presented our Christmas show at the Rosalind Franklin Elementary school, as guests of their music department. The highlight was singing "Feliz Navidad" with the school's chorus. Afterwards, the chorus had a Christmas party, and shared snacks that were enjoyed by all!

*Submitted by Gretchen Lange, Rolling Hills Chorus Communications*



## Song of Seattle Chorus

Last April, we hosted our first *Spring Fling Show*, which allowed our chapter and regional quartets to prepare for regional competition. It was such a success that we are preparing to again host this free, full-house event on April 13, 2024 at the Carco Theatre in Renton, WA. This is our spin on the traditional Friends and Family Show most chapters plan for in their annual events. An opportunity for up to ten quartets from western Washington and Oregon may perform their competition sets, receive comments from SAI Expression Judge **Lea Beverley**, and receive a video recording of their performance for their final convention preparations.



We replicate the convention experience in condensed form via extensive planning and professional know-how from our entire chapter including: receiving a grant from the Renton Municipal Arts Commission; securing the venue and SAI reviewer; establishing a show management team *(continued on next page)*

*(Song of Seattle: continued from previous page)* to handle Green Room attendants, staging, and overall show flow; a quartet coordinator to solicit quartets and communicate program expectations and requirements to support their success; coordinators for the photographer and videographer, and marketing via social media and community publications.

While we are a small and mighty chorus, we look forward to seeing many of our regional members onstage and in the audience to support and ensure the greatest experience for all the performers!

**Submitted by Alycen Farrell, Song of Seattle Marketing Manager**

## Spirit of Spokane Chorus

Two Region 13 chapters, **Spirit of Spokane** and **Coeur d'Alene**, partnered in a successful joint fundraiser. We made decorative wall hangings and stand-alone Christmas trees, which were created with vintage jewelry. We still have some available if you are interested! We sold the trees at our Fall Show, which had a fun script called *Music Town Finds its Voice*, written by **LouAnn Hommel**. We also honored **Mike Elliott** for his 30 years as our director.

As we prepare for our upcoming 2024 Convention, we are looking forward to a coaching with **Beth Smith**. We will be holding a fundraiser on February 12, and encourage our community to Take Your Sweetheart to Breakfast. It's never a dull moment around here!

**Submitted by Kari Flint, Communications Coordinator**



## Quartet Corner

### Charmed Quartet

Happy New Year Region 13 family!

Fall 2023 was certainly eventful for **Charmed Quartet**. In September, we performed at Sequim's *Juan de Fuca Harmony Chorus Show* and paired it with a retreat at an Airbnb in Dungeness. Later, we enjoyed great coaching with **Beth Smith** and **Sandy Marron** in preparation for International Contest. *(continued on next page)*



# more Quartet Corner

*(Charmed Quartet continued from previous page)*

And then in mid-October, we performed our competition songs at **Spirit of Spokane's Friends and Family Show**.

We flew to Louisville on a Sunday and checked into our beautiful hotel suite overlooking the river. Monday morning, however, LouAnn went into the hospital for six days, and thus we regrettably had to withdraw from competition. Thankfully, LouAnn flew home without incident. She recently had surgery; all went well and LouAnn is now home recovering.

In November, we were able to perform at **Spirit of Spokane's** show. We are especially looking forward to coaching the **Helena Xpress Singers** in June, honoring our remaining quartet commitments. This said, we have decided to no longer be an active quartet. The long distance between us has been more difficult than we expected. Rehearsals and performances across Washington (the long way!) have taken their toll. We remain good friends (Julie and LouAnn really enjoy coaching together!), and we look forward to tagging with everyone in Spokane this spring.

Thanks to all for the well wishes, prayers, and encouragement during this time, especially to our choruses: **Spirit of Spokane, Voices Northwest, Song of Seattle, Jet Cities, and Grand Olympics.**

**Submitted by Charmed Quartet:** LouAnn, Julie, Anna and Connie

## High Hopes Quartet

Since getting together in summer 2023, **High Hopes** has learned so much from fellow quartets in the region. We are so excited to be singing together and have loved singing at senior living centers, honoring veterans at **Lisa's** elementary school assembly, and at our very first Christmas performances with our **RiversEdge Chorus!** We are eager to keep growing and learning together.

Speaking of growing together, this quartet is becoming a quintet (of sorts). Our tenor, **Sam**, will be welcoming a baby girl—a future Sweet Adeline maybe?—at the end of January 2024 (maybe before you even read this)! We can't wait to have this little addition at our rehearsals!

We would like to extend gratitude to our many coaches who have listened and provided guidance; we couldn't do this without you! We have high hopes to bring you many more wonderful performances this coming year.

**High Hopes Quartet:** Sam, Lisa, Teesha, and Karen



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# more Quartet Corner

## Touchstone Quartet

Our quartet is still wearing our **Second Place Diamond Division** medals as often as we can. After all, it matches our red, black, and white costumes perfectly! Medals do indeed make the best jewelry.



One of Touchstone's favorite holiday performances was on the Argosy Christmas Ship that cruises around Lake Washington. Hanging out with Santa, singing to delighted little faces, and making new friends in our audiences is what it's all about. Then there's the unseen audience gathered around a bonfire at the on-shore park who hears the performance broadcast from the ship, and this adds yet another dimension to the day!

January brings us back to earth with all that we individually do to keep our love affair with barbershop going. Touchstone wishes all of you many delighted and delightful audiences throughout 2024!

**Touchstone Quartet:** Robin, Debra, Syd and Paula



The next **InTune** for members of North by Northwest Region 13 will be published in July 2024.

For questions or comments, please contact Sue Middleton, [suemiddleton@gmail.com](mailto:suemiddleton@gmail.com)

or Carol Drew, [caroladrew@aol.com](mailto:caroladrew@aol.com)

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