



2023 Pacific Shores Region 12 Convention and Competition

Bulletin #1

Message from the Region 12 Events Coordinator Mary Mamer

It's that time of year to start thinking about our annual convention and competition. YES, it will be in person this year and we are back at the Nugget. The Competition Coordinator team (Joanna Davis, along with her assistants, Donna Prochazka and Kim Machek) and I, met with the staff at the Nugget on November 29th to review our program. There are many exciting changes to look forward to. The stage, lighting, and sound system are all new and we will have support of technicians throughout the weekend. We will have new wall size LED screens to view the performances from all angles of the ballroom. LED will provide clearer pictures with brighter colors. The lobby area has been remodeled and 4 self-serve check in/out stations have been installed. Please review this bulletin carefully for more changes that will improve our experience.

The RCSC (Regional Convention Steering Committee) has two new members. Patti Wright resigned this year as the housing coordinator. She served in this capacity for many years and did an excellent job. Many thanks go to her for her work. Taking her place will be Amy Fleming, Director of High Desert Harmony Chorus. See her section of the bulletin for updates on housing. We also have a new Boutique Coordinator. Kristin Skold moved on to a Regional Management Team position. Taking her place is Connie Ludwig from DVC chorus who has taken on this role. Welcome and thank you to both of you for your willingness to step in and share your talents. You can see all the members of the RCSC Committee on the Region 12 Website under RCSC Committee. We are still looking for members to take on the Quartet Stroll and the job of the Facilities Manager. If you are interested, please contact me. marymamer1976@gmail.com.

All Events Badge prices will remain the same, \$90.00 per person for the whole weekend. More information will be available in the next bulletin regarding meal planning, rehearsal rooms, the Dash N Dine, JumboTron ads and so much more.

We've decided not to have a Thursday night event this year. For the past few years, it has not been well attended. Those members who need to be there on Thursday are involved in the Briefing and walk through. Quartets want to take this time to prepare for the Quartet Competition on Friday. Although we understand this may disappoint some of you, it didn't seem reasonable to host an event that isn't well attended. This can certainly be reconsidered in the future.

The last section of the Bulletin is from our Competition Coordinator, Joanna Davis. This is a **must read** and because it is lengthy, I put it at the end. I don't want you to miss other detailed information.

Start making your plans now to be in Sparks at the Nugget for the 2023 Convention and Competition, May 4th -7th. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Message from Website Liason Debi Gordon

All convention forms can be found on the R12 website: www.sairegion12.org under "Convention 2023". Forms will be added/updated as they become available. Contact webmaster@sairegion12.org if questions. Forms will be updated as the need arises.

Message from the Official Panel Liason Dana Gervais

Hello Region 12! It's so exciting to have regional competition back in person for 2023! I'm looking forward to hosting a panel once again and what a panel we have lined up as you can see below. We all know Jana of course and her fantastic music education she provided us when she was here. Dale is celebrating her and The Richtones' International win in Phoenix so I can't wait to hug her! And I think Lisa and Becki will be experiencing Region 12 for the first time in the pit. They are in for quite a show! No trial judges have reached out to me but we are a popular Region to visit so you never know! The official panel and categories include:

Sound - Dale Syverson
Music - Jana Gutenson - PANEL CHAIR
Expression - Lisa Hunszinger
Visual Communication - Becki Hine

Dana Gervais, OPL

Message from Assistance Chorus Coordinator Mary Dean Heil, Diablo Vista Chorus

Diablo Vista Chorus is excited to host this year's contest in Reno May 4-7. We know everyone did their best divided last year and our regional and convention teams did the best that we were all able to do - but this year? We are BACK ALTOGETHER AGAIN!! It will certainly be a wonderful time of in person reconnecting, hearing quartets and choruses live, being able to participate singing live and joining in the tunnel of love for our competitors. The Assistance chorus team includes

Ads Chair - Don and Karrie Shively
After glow - Cindy Sharp
Charms - Janett Peace
Registration Chair - Suzanne Olsen
Sales table - Carol Walsh
Traffic Pattern - Karrie Shively and a yet to be named person.
Ushers - Debi Thomas
VIP seating - Julie Harrelson, Jan Wesdorf and Nancy Blom

It will be a weekend of pure joy and happiness as we celebrate each other through our love of music and song. We look forward to being there to assist each of you to help make this contest one to remember.

Mary Dean Heil
Assistance Chorus Coordinator

Message From Boutique Coordinator Connie Ludwig

The search for vendors for the Boutique 2023 has begun! I'm hoping to attract as many vendors as we had in 2019 and before. In 2020 we had 12 vendors signed up, even with the COVID pandemic looming on the horizon. But before that, Region 12 normally had 25 vendors each year. Let's AIM HIGH and rejuvenate the convention boutique.

We've enjoyed vendors who sell purses, jewelry, clothing, decorated apparel, accessories, makeup, hairpieces, lanyards, and things women love to shop for. We also enjoy books, pillows, needlework, snacks, hand cream, linens, woven goods, and decorated plates.

I have written to over 30 past vendors from 2018, 2019, and 2020, many of whom come back year after year! We are hoping Lady Jayne will return with part pins, chains, and crystal surrounds for our medals. And I have a few additional possibilities for new vendors.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in participating in our Boutique 2023, please contact me cjludwig5696@gmail.com.

Message from Housing Coordinator Amy Fleming

I'm sure we are all starting to look forward to our time to FINALLY be back at the Nugget Casino Resort in May. We continue to work with the resort to refine our procedures to make our time there run as smoothly as possible. Detailed information about housing will be available on the website in January and through your Chorus Housing Chair. In the meantime, a few things to keep in mind:

- There will be a slight increase to the base room and suite rates.
- Plan early if you will need a wheelchair or motorized cart. Information about reservations for this will be distributed in the next bulletin.
- The easiest way to handle the bill is for one person to settle with the hotel and for roommates to pay that person directly. The hotel can manage splits, but it is a tedious and very lengthy process.
- Rooms will be available to us in both towers. Suites are in both the Resort and Casino Towers. If you have a preference as to which tower you want to be housed, request this when making your reservation.
- All rooms in both towers now have a small fridge and a Keurig coffee maker. Only two K-cups are provided each day so you may want to bring additional cups with your own favorite flavor.
- There are NO microwaves in the rooms.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi, local calls, bottled water (2 per day), airport shuttle, atrium pool, fitness center, and self-parking are available.
- There is currently NO valet parking available but vehicles may be left in the valet area for 30 minutes to allow time to get checked in and drop luggage. Vehicles must then be moved to the surface lot or garage. Handicap parking is adjacent to the valet area.
- Self check-in kiosks are now available to help speed up the check-in process so be prepared to work with that technology and try to get questions answered in advance as it's likely less human help will be available.
- Reservations link for Sweet Adelines 2023
<http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=3740335&hotelID=96145>
Toll free number: 800.648.1177
Group code: GSADL23
Reservation Deadline is April 1, 2023

See you all SOON!

Amy Fleming - Convention Housing Coordinator
(775) 240-0507
amy.r.fleming@gmail.com

Message from Competition Coordinator Joanna Davis

Live from Sparks Nevada – it's REGION 12 COMPETITION!

Yes, that's right! After 3 long years, Region 12 competition will be held in-person again at the Nugget Casino and Resort in Sparks, Nevada! I am very excited to be your Competition Coordinator for this event.

The Competition Coordinator team has changed, somewhat, from our last live event in 2019. I am taking the reins again as Competition Coordinator, a job that I held from 2013 to 2016 and Donna Prochazka, who was Competition Coordinator since 2017, is stepping back to be my assistant this year and formally retire from the team in 2024. Kim Machek will become part of the Competition Coordinator team this year – be nice to her as we hope she will want to continue in 2024!

If you remember contest from 2019, it will be very similar with a notable change. Our long-time Videographer, Tom Estes, has retired. The entire Competition Coordinator team, as well as many others who served on the Regional Convention Steering Committee (RCSC) during his tenure as Videographer, are very appreciative of the years of service he provided.

That being said, there is a team from the RCSC who is in the process of looking for a new Videographer. If you know of anyone who might fit the bill, please forward their name and contact information to me at 1983mjdavis@gmail.com. The [Request for Proposal](#) for our new Videographer is on the [Regional website](#) under [Convention 2023](#).

The information provided below is to help you make plans if you are considering competing in next year's contest. It's the latest information that we currently have, but things are fluid at this time of year, so be on the lookout for future bulletins and communications!!

I and my team are really looking forward to being with you all again! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me!

In harmony,

Joanna Davis
Competition Coordinator, Region 12
Email: 1983mjdavis@gmail.com
Home Phone: (408) 227-7461
Cell Phone: (408) 550-5980

Please Read the [Competition Handbook](#)

When and Where is the Contest?

Region 12's next convention and competition will be held on May 4-7, 2023 at the Nugget Casino and Resort located at 1100 Nugget Ave Sparks, NV 89431. The Nugget Ballroom will be the room where the actual contest is held.

How Do I Register My Group for Contest

When IHQ opens registration for Region 12, the Region will notify all choruses and quartets in the Region. The notification will contain links to the chorus and quartet competitor pages on the IHQ website, which will link to all resources and forms, including the entry form. **Note: You must first log in as a member before attempting to access these pages.**

These links will also be located on [Region 12's website](#), under [Convention 2023](#) (you do not need to log in as a member to access) and they will also be in the next bulletin.

What are the Dates and Deadlines for Registering

01/20/2023	Competition Packets are available
03/06/2023	Quartet Entry Deadline (\$100 fee)
03/21/2023	Quartet Late Entry Deadline (\$200 additional fee)
03/07/2023	Chorus Entry Deadline (\$150 fee)
03/22/2023	Chorus Late Entry Deadline (\$250 additional fee)
03/13/2023	Drawing for Order of Appearance
05/05/2023	Quartet Contest
05/06/2023	Chorus Contest

What's a Division?

A Chorus or Quartet may choose to compete in one of three divisions. The following describes each division:

1. Evaluation Only
 - Must be performed onstage during a live event
 - Sing two competition songs or medleys
 - Performance should be not less than three minutes and not more than seven minutes in length
 - Will only receive written scores sheets with level scores only
 - Not eligible for medals or placement
 - Not eligible for Audience Choice Award
2. Open Division
 - Must be performed onstage during a live event

- Sing one competition song or medley and at least one other song or medley
 - Performance should not exceed ten minutes in length
 - The performance should be presented in an entertainment package with emcee material
 - The package will be evaluated with comments written using the following criteria: Musicality, Unity, Planning, Creativity, and Audience Connection
 - Not eligible for medals or placement
 - Eligible for Audience Choice Award
3. International Division
- Must be performed onstage during a live event
 - Sing two competition songs or medleys
 - Performance should not be less than three minutes and not more than seven minutes in length
 - Will receive written score sheets with number scores
 - Not eligible for Audience Choice Award

Is There Any Other Way to Perform for Evaluation or Open Division?

Yes, a chorus or quartet may choose to submit a performance for Evaluation Only or Open Division package by video. Those choosing this option are required to pay the usual competition entry fee. The official panel evaluates the recordings prior to each regional competition.

Things to note:

- Submitting a video recording does not fulfill the requirement of choruses to compete every three years in order to maintain their charter
- The chorus or quartet will not be eligible for any prizes or awards
- The chorus or quartet submitting a video recording may not perform on the regional contest state for evaluation or placement in the same year

See **Section VI: Video Evaluation Guidelines** the [Competition Handbook](#) for more information.

How Does International Decide the Order of Appearance

The Competition Department at IHQ will conduct the drawing for Order of Appearance on 03/13/2023. For complete details on how the draw occurs, review the [Competition Handbook](#). Here are the basic rules:

- For each contest session the Evaluation Only registrations are separated and drawn first.
- All other registrations are drawn randomly after that.

- Any contestant that indicated on their registration form that they wish to perform first will be handled separately and inserted in the beginning of their chosen division.
- Once the draw has occurred, any late entry will be placed at the beginning of their division after contestants who opted to sing first.

The Order of Appearance will be sent to the Region and posted on Sweet Adelines website. The Region will post the Preliminary Order of appearance shortly after it is received. The Final Order of Appearance, that will include any corrections and late entries, will be posted approximately 15 days later.

What is the Schedule for the Weekend?

The following schedule is preliminary and will likely change after the final Order of Appearance has been published. So please read all future bulletins and communications!

Thursday, May 4

- Quartet & Chorus Check-in/Meet & Greet - 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
- Quartet & Chorus Combined Briefing - 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Quartet & Chorus Traffic Pattern Walk-Thru - 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Friday, May 5

- Sound Check Chorus Warm-up - 8:45 am – 9:00 am
- Official Inspection/Chorus Sound Check - 9:00 am
- Official Inspection/Quartet Sound Check - Immediately following Chorus Sound Check
- Quartet Walk-Ons - 10:30 am
- Quartet Competition - 1:30 pm

Saturday, May 6

- Chorus Competition - 12:30 pm

What Will the Stage Look Like?

The stage is 60' wide by 36' deep by 32" high. It is built of sixty-seven 4'x8' carpeted platforms supplied by the Nugget Hotel and Casino. The stage will be surrounded with rails for safety and black pipe and drape. On stage left, there will be a 4' wide, ADA compliant, ramp that will be used for all competitors to enter and exit the stage. On stage right, there will be a set of stairs with handrails which will only be used with permission from the Competition Coordinator. Only certain people will be granted permission to use these stairs (e.g.; dual chorus members who need to exit quickly to change costumes).

For the quartet contest, there will be five folding sections that will form a backdrop for the quartet (same as in the past several years). Two sections will be on stage right and

two sections will be on stage left and there will be a middle section. This set up will allow quartets to enter either from stage right or from the center.

For the chorus contest, there will be nine sets of 6' 3-step risers with the 6' back step. The middle riser section will be inverted. The outer most tips of the risers will be 12' from the edge of the stage. The measurement from the edge of the stage to the middle of the first riser row will be approximately 20'. A off-white choral shell will be placed behind the risers.

Additional black pipe and drape will be used to make entrances and hide the backstage area.

The stage will not have a curtain.

For a visual picture of what was described above, see the [Stage Diagram](#) on the [Regional website](#) under [Convention 2023](#).

What about Lights and Sound?

Quality theatrical sound and lighting will be provided.

For the quartet contest, two small diaphragm cardioid condenser microphones will be positioned as directed by IHQ in a document called Microphone and Sound System Guidelines.

If approved by the Panel Chair, there will be stage monitors.

Chorus microphones will be flown overhead.

Lighting will come from a truss hanging above the stage. There will be lights between the risers and the shell so that all chorus members are equally lighted. The Audio/Visual technicians will adhere to the requirements set by IHQ in the document called Regional Lighting Standards.

For Open Division Competitors, you can use up to three microphones; center stage microphone, stage-right microphone, and/or stage-left microphone. We will set these microphones up as you have indicated on the Open Division Cue Sheet, which is due to me 30 days prior to contest.

Depending on the number of attendees at the event, it is possible that there will be speakers half-way to the back of the ballroom to amplify the sound coming from the stage. These speakers must not interfere with the Judges, who are to hear only unamplified sound. The Panel Chair has the final say during the Official Inspection whether these speakers will be used or not.

Will the Audience be Able to See Us?

As in past years, there will be two large Jumbotron screens positioned at either side of the stage. The audience, wherever they are seated, will have a wonderful close-up view!!

Do We Have to Worry About Copyright Clearance?

Yes, it is up to the competitors to obtain the appropriate licenses for their songs. IHQ is responsible for administering the copyright policies and procedures. There are 2 documents on IHQ website that can provide more information on Copyrights: 1) [Copyright Matters](#); and 2) [Copyright and Licensing](#). If you have questions regarding copyright policies and procedures, please contact Music Services at: music@sweetadelines.com.

Can We Sing a Song with Parody Lyrics?

Yes, but you must get permission from the owner of the copyright holder(s) and get clearance from IHQ. See documents on Copyright listed above. You must also submit your parody lyrics for approval. See the links at the bottom of this section regarding the Song Assessment Tool. Note: You will need to submit the parody lyrics and the email that you receive from IHQ approving the parody lyrics to me along with the Song Information Form prior to contest.

Can My Friends and Family at Home See Us Perform?

Absolutely!!! Our webcast team will be set to provide a top-notch live broadcast from Sparks, Nevada directly to your loved one's most favorite video device! More details to come in future bulletins – so be on the lookout!

Will Photographs Be Taken?

Yes! Our photographer for this contest is Jon Read. Jon has been our photographer in the past and we are looking forward to seeing his wonderful pictures again. He will take all quartet photos at the beginning of the pattern in a quartet photo room. Chorus photos will be taken on stage at the end of the chorus' performance. More information will be sent to competitors after the Final Order of Appearance has been published.

Will Video Recordings Be Made Available to the Competitor?

The answer is yes, but since we have not yet selected our new Videographer, there are some details for the RCSC to work out. Keep a look out for our future communications for more information!

I Use a Mobility Device, Can I Still Perform?

Absolutely, you can perform! Whether you wish to take your mobility device on stage with you or park it close to the bottom of the ramp or something in between, the

Competition Coordinator team will work with you to make sure you get your moment in the spotlight.

At a later date, we'll ask for more detail about people who will need to use mobility devices! Also, the hotel will rent scooters, wheelchairs, or other devices – look for another article in this bulletin or the next one from the Housing Chair regarding how to rent a mobility device!

I Sing in More Than 1 Chorus, Can I Perform with All My Choruses?

Yes, the Competition Coordinator team will work with all Dual Chorus members to make sure they can change their costumes and get back into the pattern in time to take the stage with their alternate chorus(es). There will be a Dual Member Changing area just off stage on stage-right. Most dual members will find that they have plenty of time to get off stage, change, and get back into the pattern. Occasionally, there will be some very quick turn arounds and we'll work with you to make it happen.

After the Final Order of Appearance has been published, an email will be sent out to Team Leaders and Directors asking if they have any dual members and which choruses they dual with. So if you are a competing dual member, let your team leaders and directors know – make their job easy!

Are There Any Rules from International That I Should Know?

All the rules for competing can be found in the [Competition Handbook](#). All competitors are encouraged to read this document prior to registering to compete. Below are just a few highlights:

- The 3 year competition requirement for choruses is currently suspended. In its place is a temporary policy stating that all choruses must compete either in 2022 or 2023 regionals. For 2022, video submissions were allowed to fulfill that competition requirement. There is no such stipulation for the 2023 competition season. *This means that if a chorus did not compete in 2022 regionals, they must either compete in 2023 regionals or request a presidential waiver through their region's Education Coordinator.* For questions regarding this process, please send an email to competition@sweetadelines.com
- All songs that are sung in any Sweet Adelines International contest must have received an "Admissible" rating prior to its performance. Parody lyrics must also be approved. The original arrangement of the song must be admissible before the parody lyrics can be approved.

For more information on song assessment, following the links below (you must sign in as a member before accessing these pages):

- [Song Assessment Tool](#)
- [View Song Assessment: A Closer Look video series](#)
- [SAT Member Resource](#)
- [Song Evaluation Database](#)
- [Know Before You Go to the SED](#)
- [View the Song Assessment Tool Questions](#)
- [Fill Out the Song Assessment Tool Form](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Important: In the Song Assessment Database, if your song has been rated admissible, check for “**Yes: Caution**” or “**Yes: Note**”. If the song has either one of these notations, click the link in the next column and read the notes added by the Song Assessment Committee.

Further questions can be directed to: songassessment@sweetadelines.com

- Quartets planning on competing in the 2023 Quartet Contest must register with IHQ by **January 15, 2023**
- In order to compete in Region 12, at least three members of the quartet must be members of a chorus in Region 12 or a Region 12 Chapter-at-Large member.
- A member may now compete in up to two different quartets during the same regional contest as long as they are in different competition divisions (e.g., one quartet is in the International Division and one quartet is in the Open Division). No more than two members per quartet may compete in the second quartet in the same regional contest.
- In the Open Division, only the four members of the quartet or the chorus director and performing members of the chorus may appear on stage. If, in the opinion of the Official Judging Panel, the presence of a non-singing member is a distraction and/or detracts from the musical performance; a penalty may result.
- Competitors may **not** change from Open Division to International Division or Evaluation Only, or vice versa, after the Final Order of Appearance

The registration packet that will be available in January and other bulletins and memos will have additional information on rules and procedures, so please read those documents thoroughly!

Can We Post Our Performance On-line After Contest?

In previous years, IHQ has given its permission to post your performance only after you have been adjudicated. Last year, because we held a video contest, that meant you could not post your performance until weeks after you performed. We currently do not have any updated guidance from IHQ on this issue, so the assumption will be that you will be able to post your performance after the awards ceremony of the contest session. Refer to future bulletins and memos for any change to this guidance.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Here are links to some very useful pages on the Sweet Adelines International website (you may need to be logged in as a member to be able to get to these pages):

- [Regional Contest Resources for Choruses](#)
- [Regional Contest Resources for Quartets](#)
- [Song Assessment Tool](#)
- [Competition Handbook](#)