



Madison Area Concert Handbells

# Messenger

Spring  
2018

## Starting a new era with *Ringin' in the 20s!*

Madison Area Concert Handbells (MACH) is thrilled to present our Spring 2018 concerts entitled *Ringin' in the 20s!* With two decades behind us, MACH is embarking on an exciting journey into a new era, our twenties. For that reason, it seemed only appropriate to program a concert of music from the 20s! We hope you'll join us this May for some familiar melodies, works you've never heard before, and even a world premiere!

Our program opens with familiar tunes from the American 1920s, including Kevin McChesney's mammoth arrangement of *Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue*, as well as *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, and *Singin' in the Rain*. We'll also present a lesser-known work from this era by Soviet composer Dmitri Shostakovich, who satirized the extravagant excesses of the Western Roaring 20s in his 1930 ballet "The Golden Age." Arranged by William Griffin, the *Polka* from this work is a grotesque re-imagination of the jolly dance music we all know and love. I'm excited to join the ensemble for a set of ragtime pieces by George Hamilton Green, a xylophone superstar of the 1920s, adapted for handbells with xylophone soloist.

## Ringin' in the 20s!

Friday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m.

We wanted to explore a more creative interpretation of our concert's theme, "music from the 20s," by programming music by young composers *in their twenties*. To this end, we are excited to present the world premiere of UW Madison student and former MACH ringer John Rottier's original composition entitled *Portcullis*. This side of the program also contains a 2005 work by a 22-year old Matthew Prins, who has since reached handbell stardom, and a small ensemble piece by a 20-something composer who made quite the mark on the Viennese music scene, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. We close our program with a handbell medley of hits from the 1920s, Dan R. Edwards' *Clappers and Flappers*, featuring a guest percussionist and a surprise or two!

Please join us, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at First Congregational Church, and May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Christ Presbyterian Church in Madison.

Nick Bonaccio  
Music Director



## Ringer Update

Doug Grovergrys returns to MACH after a nine-year hiatus. He originally started playing chimes and then bells in middle school, with musical guidance from his piano teacher mother. He also has played euphonium and bagpipes over the years. Currently, he and his wife keep busy raising two daughters bilingually, a dog, a fish, four chickens, and a hive of bees. When not getting his workout from swinging big bells, he can be found playing ultimate frisbee or basketball. Doug works at UW Health Sports Rehab as a physical therapist.

Doug joined us early in the semester to fill in for Karen Paschke. Karen is a long-timer ringer with MACH who fell on the ice this winter and broke her wrist. Karen will be part of the Spring concerts but in a limited capacity to accommodate her lovely cast.



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Are you an experienced ringer?  
We need you!

Does playing challenging and enjoyable music with a fun-loving group whet your appetite? To arrange an audition, contact us at [pres@madisonhandbells.org](mailto:pres@madisonhandbells.org) or by phone at 608-620-1997.

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## Your Support is Appreciated



*Thank you for your support!*

MACH has grown throughout the years by offering seasonal concerts, educational workshops, and festivals in the community, region, and state. Although our ringers volunteer hundreds of hours of rehearsal and performance time, there are many costs associated with producing concerts and events. Some of these include music, performance space, concert advertising, postage and printing, compensation for guest artists, technical assistance, and artistic staff expenses.

Whether you are a long-time supporter or new friend, we invite you to consider helping us continue to make a positive impact on the artistic and cultural life in our community by making a generous financial contribution. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, your contribution to MACH is fully tax-deductible as your individual tax situation allows. Please mail your gift to:

Madison Area Concert Handbells  
P. O. Box 44056  
Madison, WI, 53744-4056

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**Experience the uniquely beautiful music of one of America's finest handbell choirs!**

# MADISON AREA CONCERT HANDBELLS

NICK BONACCIO, DIRECTOR, PRESENTS

# RINGING IN THE 20'S

Friday, May 18, 7:00 pm

First Congregational UCC  
1609 University Ave., Madison, WI

Saturday, May 19, 7:00 pm

Christ Presbyterian Church  
944 E. Gorham St., Madison, WI

### Advance tickets:

Adults \$12 | Seniors/Students \$9 | Groups 10+ \$10  
608-620-1997 or [www.madisonhandbells.org](http://www.madisonhandbells.org)

### Tickets at door:

Adults \$15 | Seniors/Students \$12

### Tickets also available at:

Cool Beans Coffee Café, WardBradt Music,  
Metzler's Market Hilldale and Orange Tree Imports



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[www.madisonhandbells.org](http://www.madisonhandbells.org)

## How to Contact Us:

Madison Area Concert Handbells  
PO Box 44056  
Madison, WI 53744-4056  
608-620-1997  
info@madisonhandbells.org

## Ringling in the 20s!

**Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**  
First Congregational Church  
1609 University Ave, Madison, WI

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Christ Presbyterian Church  
944 E Gorham St, Madison, WI

### Advance:

Adult \$12; Student (16 & under) / Senior \$9

### At the door:

Adult \$15; Student (16 & under) / Senior \$12

Group tickets available; info at  
[madisonhandbells.org/performances-workshops/](http://madisonhandbells.org/performances-workshops/)

Address Service Requested

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## Searching for Ringers

Calling all ringers! MACH is in need of ringers for our 2018-2019 season. Please consider auditioning for the group. You can set up an audition by emailing [pres@madisonhandbells.org](mailto:pres@madisonhandbells.org).

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## How to get concert tickets

Tickets will be available in advance in late April Orange Tree Imports, Ward-Brodt Music, Metcalfe's Sentry-Hilldale and Cool Beans Coffee Café, or by ordering online at <http://madisonhandbells.org/performances-workshops/>

Tickets are also available at the door.

## Online Newsletter and Volunteer Opportunities

Printing and mailing newsletters is one of our largest expenses each concert season. We would LOVE to be able to send your newsletter by email instead! If you would like to receive an electronic copy of future newsletters, please email [info@madisonhandbells.org](mailto:info@madisonhandbells.org)

Also, we're always looking for volunteers to help with things like concert support (handing out programs and taking tickets), fundraising, grant writing, etc. If you can help us out, let us know!