

# The Key-Note



Harmony, Inc.

Official Publication of Harmony, Incorporated  
An International Organization of Women Barbershop Singers

2019-20 • Volume 54 • Number 1



## Hot Pursuit

2019 Harmony Queens

## HARMONY, INC.

Empowering all women  
through education,  
friendship, and singing.

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## President's Message



It's here... the latest issue of the Key-Note! I can't wait to read through its pages and reminisce about our time together in Sandusky. And what an incredible time it was as we gathered together to celebrate 60 years of Harmony, Incorporated!

Congratulations to our Harmony Queens, Hot Pursuit, our International Chorus Champions, A Cappella Showcase, and to all contestants who crossed the stage. The contests were extraordinary and the memories unforgettable!

With your help, we raised over \$12,000 at IC&C through our Harmony 60 fundraising campaign which supports our Youth members and our Harmony. Stronger initiatives. Thank you for your commitment to these programs!

Since our time in Sandusky, we have all experienced some unimaginable changes. Chapters and quartets cannot rehearse, and we're unable to gather at our AC&Cs to celebrate in friendship and song. Our focus has shifted from rehearsals and contests to the health and welfare of ourselves and our families.

Sadly, singing must take a back seat for now. But we will be together again soon. In the meantime, please stay well, my friends.

Together we are HARMONY. STRONGER.

*Donna McKay*  
International President

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# A SAFARI WITH A PARTY

2019 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & CONTESTS  
CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF HARMONY

*By Mary Ann Wert  
Director of Communications*

**A**t our highly attended 2019 International Convention & Contests, we celebrated our 60th Anniversary in grand fashion! From the Opening Ceremonies to the final notes sung, there was lots of cake, ringing chords, and harmony of every kind throughout the Kalahari Resort.

President Donna McKay inspired us with a vision for our organization's future growth and made a plea for donations to support Harmony's efforts to grow and flourish! On our behalf, she thanked our outgoing



*THE LION IS  
DEFINITELY NOT  
SLEEPING TONIGHT  
— 2019  
Harmony Queens  
Hot Pursuit show off  
their sparkly new  
crowns and gold  
medals to the  
Kalahari Resort  
mascot.*

International Board members and duly installed the incoming Board members. She then presented an award to Youth Barbershopper of the Year Samantha Tramack and recognized Chris Hembel, long-time Manual Chair and Convention Registration Manager, with the President's award.

And then we had cake... lots of cake... and singing... and many donations!

Unaccompanied Minors Chorus Director Tiana Sandh led the Minor Chords in an entertaining circus-themed performance of When I See An Elephant Fly. 2018

Chorus Champion Director Renee Tramack led the International Chorus in a powerful Steve Tramack arrangement of I'm Still Standing.

The Parade of Champions featured many active Harmony Queens and honored the anniversaries of past/retired Queen quartets. 2018 Chorus Champions New England Voices in Harmony, our amazing 2018 Queens Aged to Perfection, and the AHQ chorus, which was led by members of 2017 Harmony Queens Charisma, all gave beautiful performances.

Following the quartet finals, Aged to Perfection

*See MAGIC, continued on next page*



**MAGIC**

*continued from previous page*

offered a self-deprecating and very entertaining Q&A as part of their ceremony and were then presented their sparkly permanent crowns by members of their families.

Finally, the scores were tallied, the award winners and medalists were named and our new Harmony Queens, Hot Pursuit, were presented with roses and the beautiful traveling crowns. Their performances were simply stunning, garnering a new all-time high score.

Capping the weekend, Area 5's A Cappella Showcase, directed by Jordan Travis, captured the chorus gold for the fourth time.

**Congratulations to our new Queens and Chorus Champions!**



**FAR LEFT:**  
2019 MEDALIST  
QUARTETS — Harmony  
Queens Hot Pursuit with 2nd-  
place Take 4, 3rd-place Fierce,  
4th-place Swing Theory, and  
5th-place New Q rejoice in  
their shiny, new medals.

**LEFT:**  
Barbershop Harmony  
Society President Dick Powell  
helps retiring Corporate Assis-  
tant D Dyer display the special  
gift International President  
Donna McKay presented her  
to honor her years of service.



**HAVING OUR CAKE AND EATING IT, TOO** — Area 3  
Director Janine Schindler snaffles a couple of slices of  
60th Anniversary cake.

# Harmony Inc.



## #60YearsofHarmony

Say, 'Cheese!'

## In Pursuit of Hot Pizza

So, some have been wondering, what the heck is up with Hot Pursuit and pizza? Well, back when we were just a four-some who wanted to sing together, there was a discussion, or rather, many discussions, about what our name should be. Names are VERY important and we are all quite opinionated women.

Naturally, that meant we could not decide on a name at all.

We tried for weeks. Finally, someone jokingly suggested "Cheese Pizza" ...you know, "because everybody loves cheese pizza." They'll have to love us!

It was one of the first names we all liked and so it stuck for a while. We knew it probably wasn't going to be permanent but, still not being able to agree on a name, we kept it for a bit. In fact, we were introduced to our home choruses as Cheese Pizza.

By the time, Hot Pursuit came about, all our family and friends continued to lovingly call us Cheese Pizza. In honor of that glorious name, we chose to make cheese pizza our mascot of sorts. Something that is memorable and silly, something that fits our personalities.

So, here we are...Hot Pursuit, your favorite pizza gals! Because, come on, who doesn't love some pizza!

— By Tessa Walker, Lead

**HARMONY'S FAVORITE PIZZA GALS** — 2019 Harmony Queens Hot Pursuit (Michaela Olson, tenor; Melody Hine, bari; Candra Rice, bass; and Tessa Walker, lead) have a long-standing relationship with everyone's favorite savory pie.



## Meet Hot Pursuit Tenor Michaela Olson

l may be known to some as the short one, or the quiet one, and that is all true, but I'm also a lot more than that.

A little bit of my backstory: I am a third-generation Barbershopper. My grandmother was a Sweet Adeline, and my dad belongs to two Barbershop Harmony Society choruses.

I decided at five years old that I wanted to be a queen... well, I said princess at the time, but the sentiment still stands.

I moved 14 hours from my home in Minnesota to go to college in Cleveland, Tennessee. The question I'm always asked is why did I move so far? My answer is simple: Barbershop. Even so, it took me two years to get involved in a local chorus in Chattanooga — Scenic City Chorus.

Since 2014 (when I joined Scenic City), I have:

- Volunteered at a local Harmony Explosion camp (where I met Tessa and Melody);
- Joined Song of Atlanta (twice);
- Been tenor in two different quartets, Presto! (SAI) and Hot Pursuit;
- Competed in the SAI Rising Star contest twice with Hot Pursuit and won in 2018;
- Attended BHS Harmony University in 2016;
- Been part of the teaching quartet for multiple youth camps;
- Traveled around the United States and even overseas with Hot Pursuit;
- Had the opportunity to be a featured soloist with a local BHS chorus, and;
- Have now realized my dream of becoming a Harmony Queen with some of my best friends.

Outside of Barbershop, I work as an office administrator at a therapist staffing company. I also teach private voice and piano lessons.

I'm currently looking at going back to school to become a licensed aesthetician and become a professional makeup artist.

I'm actively involved in my church. I actively speak out about my passion for adoption and care for birth mothers (women like me who have chosen to place a child in adoption) and have a goal this year of starting a local support group and resource for birth mothers and potential birth mothers.

I have a dog that I absolutely adore who recently turned a year old, and my boyfriend and I will be celebrating our 4-year anniversary this June.

I'm so thankful that we have the opportunity to represent Harmony, Inc. this year. As I said earlier, this has been a dream of mine since I was five years old.

I was so thankful to have both of my parents supporting me in Sandusky – my dad was supposed to be working but surprised me. This was the first time they were able to be at one of my Barbershop events, which made the moment that much more special.

Thank you, Harmony, for welcoming us with open arms. You really are family and home, and we love you so much.



*TOP: Melody, Tessa, and Michaela first met at a Barbershop Harmony Explosion camp.*

*BOTTOM: Michaela's parents surprised her in Sandusky, the first time they had ever attended one of her barbershop events.*



# Meet Hot Pursuit Lead Tessa Walker

It feels very surreal to write this article for you all. It seems like this past November was simultaneously an amazing surprise and a dream I've worked towards for a long time.

I've been singing barbershop since I was 14 years old – as of this year, a full decade ago! I discovered the art form, or hobby, or (really) lifestyle, through a Diva Day Youth Camp that the Song of Atlanta Show Chorus Chapter of Sweet Adelines organized. That day is forever engrained in my memories. I had the most amazing experience singing 4-part harmony and, when I heard Song of Atlanta perform for the first time, I knew that was what I wanted to do for the rest of my life.

I've been a member of Sweet Adelines since 2010, I joined the Barbershop Harmony Society in 2012, and I'm going into my second year with this amazing organization, Harmony, Inc. Barbershop means the world to me and getting youth involved is a passion.

I was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. I've always wanted to be a teacher and loved singing since I can remember. I studied Choral Music Education and just graduated in the Spring of 2019 from Kennesaw State University. I took my first job this fall and have the honor of teaching music to high school students every day. With this first job came a "first

move". I now live in Rockville, Maryland. I love my new home and have enjoyed all the new environments and experiences.

I'm a musical theatre and jazz nut. Throughout my college life, I had amazing opportunities to sing with big bands and direct and be featured in musical theatre shows.

Over my unforgettable decade as a barbershopper, I've been a part of five quartets (female and mixed). I've competed in youth contests, regional contests, district contests, area contests, and international contests.

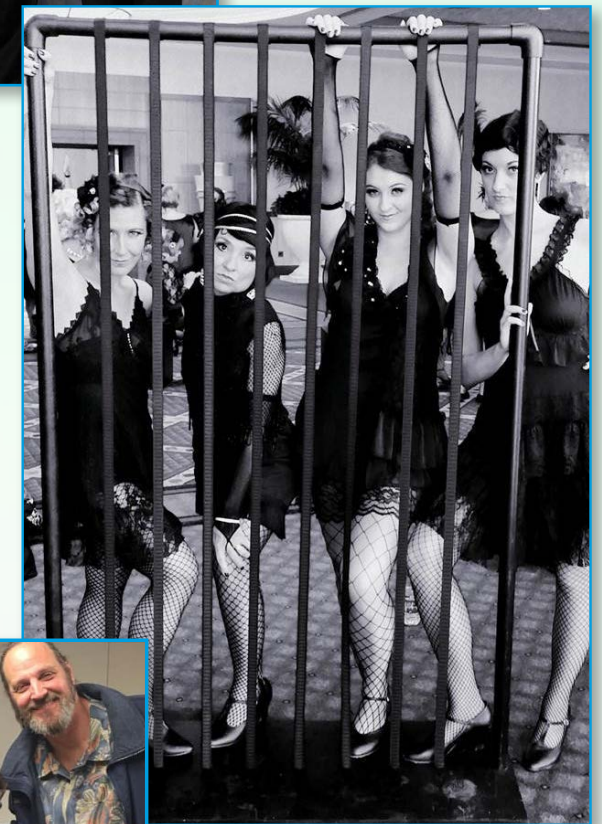
I've been honored to be a part of teaching staff for barbershop youth camps and workshops, as well. Those are my favorite, I must say! I love competition, but youth events are where the future is!

I've worked very hard to improve my barbershop craft and bring the best performance and voice I can to every show, contest, and camp. I'm truly honored and humbled to represent Harmony, Inc. this year and I can't wait to be a part of this truly incredible group of women for years to come.

I've been involved with many different groups, organizations, and events, and I can say with confidence that Harmony, Inc. has something special. Now that I've seen it and been a part of it, I don't ever want to let that go!



*Tessa performs with Serendipity, a mixed quartet who took first place honors in the BHS Dixie District's first mixed voice contest.*



*Song of Atlanta featured Tessa's quartet Boss in their show package, "Chicago", for the 2016 Sweet Adelines International Chorus contest.*



*Tessa and her family grin for the camera.*



## Meet Hot Pursuit Bari

# Melody Hine

**H**ello, Harmony! I just cannot tell you how thrilled I am to finally be a part of this awesome organization.

My parents, Becki and Clay, are both barbershoppers (as were their parents), so I have grown up with barbershop my whole life. I joined Song of Atlanta the day after I turned fourteen (the minimum age at the time), and this was about the age that I became fully obsessed. I went to as many Barbershop Harmony Society and Sweet Adelines International conventions as possible, spent hours looking up multitrack videos on YouTube, and tried only somewhat successfully to get my high school orchestra and chorus friends to sing tags with me.

It has only been in the last couple of years that I joined Harmony, Incorporated, but I can say that I am a very proud member of these three organizations, and I plan to continue to support barbershop harmony through all three for the rest of forever!

I grew up in a couple of different suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia, and I always knew I wanted to be a teacher, but the subject changed yearly. I played viola all throughout middle school and the first half of high school and was involved with Song of Atlanta, but I did not end up join-

ing the school chorus program until my junior year of high school, and that was when I realized what my teaching passion really was.

I graduated in 2015 from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. After that I participated in the Disney College Program for about eight months, working in Epcot and watching the Voices of Liberty perform on my days off, and I worked at Universal Studios/Islands of Adventure for about three months.

Both of these jobs were incredible experiences, but at that point I somewhat hastily moved back to Georgia because I could not bear the thought of doing anything besides teaching for any longer. By some stroke of luck, there were four choral directing positions open in Gwinnett County at the end of July.

I applied for four, interviewed for two, and was selected for one. I am now in my fourth year of teaching chorus at Duluth Middle School, and while there have been some really difficult days, I can absolutely say that this is my dream job. The last few years we have even had a barbershop quartet of middle schoolers perform successfully on our spring chorus concerts, and after this past fall, all of my students are constantly requesting to watch videos of Hot Pursuit.

Since I started being active in barbershop (of

my own volition and not just because I was trapped in the Barber Tots room), I have been in several real quartets and probably even more fake ones; I have competed in countless regional, district, area, and international contests; and I have served as a counselor, teaching quartet member, and clinician at various youth camps.

I am also currently a member of the Sweet Adelines International Published Music and Marketability Committee; I am the Arranging Education Specialist for Region 14; and as of 2019 I am a certified Music judge in the Barbershop Harmony Society. I hope to continue my involvement in all of these ways, but most of all, I hope to keep doing youth camps with Hot Pursuit, because we love being able to bring the youths to the dark side and get them singing barbershop.

It is a huge honor to get to represent Harmony, Inc. this year, and I cannot wait to meet more members and continue to share the love of this incredible hobby. Harmony, Inc. is sure to be a part of my life always and forever!

*Tessa sang lead and Melody sang tenor in this earlier quartet named Ballistic! .*



*New Year's Eve with the Hine family, 1995. Clayton and Camden both had less hair then.*



*Melody's secret other weird hobby. Fencing!*





## Meet Hot Pursuit Bass Candra Rice

Hi! I'm Candra and I am the bass of Hot Pursuit. If you had asked me five years ago what I pictured myself doing at this very moment, I definitely wouldn't have guessed I'd be sitting at my computer writing this article...

To say this is a dream come true would be an understatement.

I've been a member of Harmony Inc. since 2013. I got my start in our organization as a charter member of On Q Chorus, from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

During my time in the chorus, I was able to lend my skills as a board member, assistant director, and interim director. I remember sitting excitedly with my chorus mates in Louisville 2014 during the quartet contest, soaking up every minute of my first convention and hoping I'd someday get a chance to be on that stage. How surreal it is to me that my best friends and I will be receiving our permanent crowns in the beautiful Galt House; where it all began!

Growing up, music was a central part of my life. My parents shared a love of music (par-

ticularly classic rock and metal), so I heard everything from Selena to Spyro Gyra to Queensryche. That exposure to different styles is something I've always been grateful for, and has had a tremendous impact on me as a musician.

My parents put me through piano lessons when I was nine years old, and I hated every minute of it, quitting after two years. While my mom was more of a visual artist, being a dancer and actor/playwright her whole life, my dad was a brilliant musician who could play any instrument you gave him. He would often tell me stories about his days playing trumpet in high school marching band.

I wanted to be just like him.

Fast forward to age 12: my dad rented a trumpet to teach me the basics. I joined band and choir soon afterward, and much to my director's delight, switched trumpet for French Horn. I stuck with band and choir through high school, and even studied Horn briefly as a Music Education major at New Mexico State University.

I've dabbled in quite a few different fields since, but I'm currently pursuing a career in the hospitality industry and working towards becoming a certified Singing judge in the Barbershop

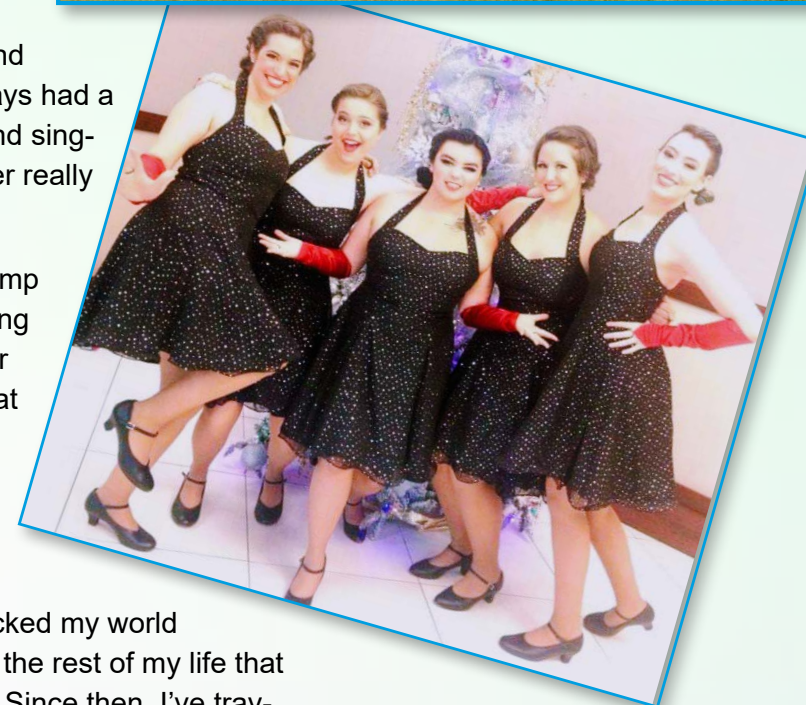
Harmony Society.

I found my home in barbershop as a 14 year old at the New Mexico Youth Harmony Camp. When my sheet music arrived that summer, my mind was blown. I've always had a low singing voice, and singing alto in choir never really felt comfortable.

When I arrived at camp and we started singing together, I remember thinking, "This is what I was meant to do."

The community and acceptance I experienced at that camp completely rocked my world and set a course for the rest of my life that I never saw coming. Since then, I've traveled literally across the world, connected with thousands of amazing musicians, and have made the most beautiful music with my chosen family.

I can't imagine my life any other way.



TOP: Candra played the French Horn in the New Mexico State University Band.

BOTTOM: Candra is a founding member of On Q Chorus from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and fondly remembers her first IC&C in Louisville when On Q won the Silver Division and went on to sing in the International Contest.

# CONGRATULATIONS, 2019 Quartet Medalists

2nd Place **Take 4**



3rd Place **Fierce**



4th Place **Swing Theory**



5th Place **New Q**





**Mystic Chicks**  
*Bella Nova Chorus*  
Rachael Storey • Erin Cassidy-Whong • Jerri White • Debbie Smith



**enJOY!**  
*ScotianAires Chorus*  
Judy Robichaud • Jennifer Cleveland • Sue Kember • Jane Fritz



**Rogue**  
*Bella Nova Chorus*  
Johanna Horn • Amanda Cornaglia • Kris Adams • Annie Ermlick



**Tonic**  
*ScotianAires Chorus*  
Mary Gareau • Marion Fraser-Pritchard • Cathy Hunter • Adele Merritt



**Generations**  
*A Cappella Showcase*  
Emily Travis • Elizabeth Williams • Amy Patterson • Sarah Patterson



**It's About Time** • *Area 4 Associates*  
Terrie Williams • Nancy Beyer • Vicki Powers • Chris Falk



**Something Good**  
*Atlanta Harmony Celebration*  
Sarai Velasquez Alarcon • Ellen Messer • Elie Alexander • Meg Westover



**Mach 4**  
*Crystal Chords*  
 • Brooke Robinson  
 • Becky LaBella  
 • Chris Dunbar  
 • Michelle Dunne

**Resolution**  
*Lake Ridge Legacy & Associate*  
 Rilea Lombardy • Tina Lowe • Shanno Wilson • Eileen Smotzer

**Balancing Act** • *Northern Blend & Associates*  
 Tracey Larder • Aileen Carney • Stacy Hugman-Frenette • Cathy Speirs



**Kismet** • *Sounds of the Seacoast & New England Voices in Harmony*  
 Wendi-Lee Bailey • Susan Prescott • Elizabeth LeClair • Debbie Bartol



**Fierce**  
*Bluegrass Harmony & St. Louis Vocal Project*  
 Kelly Peterson • Susan Ives  
 • Joy Suellentrop  
 • Kris Wheaton



**Elixir** • *Area 5 Associates*  
 Patricia Cassidy • Mary Allin • Judi Johnston  
 • Su Buehler Canning



**New Q** • *New England Voices in Harmony & Women of Note*  
 Linda Noble • Kathleen Macdonald • Samantha Tramack • Renee Tramack



**Lip Service**  
*Northern Blend Chorus*  
 Cait Schadock • Jodi Castello  
 • Mary Ann Wert • Taralee Lashway



**Monarch**  
Bluegrass Harmony  
Allison Thompson • Myranda Hyer • Kathy  
McDaniel • Cathy Muse

**Skyfall**  
A Cappella Showcase &  
Toronto Accolades  
Voula Coronios • Liz  
Travis • Wendy Arnold •  
Susanne Hasulo



**Kentucky Blend**  
Bluegrass Harmony  
Chie Ozaki • Valinda Petri  
• Michelle Evans • Margie  
Dimond

**FLASHPOINT** • A Cappella Showcase  
Kelly Thomas • Janine Williams • Jen McLeod • Sandy McCreary



**ZEST**  
Crystal Chords & Harmony Falls  
Karla Terry • Brooke Robinson • Ann Wilcox • Jessica Rhodes



**Swing Theory** • Area 5 Associates  
Amy Rose • Jennifer Cooke • Amelia Charnock • Mo Field



**Vivace**  
Crystal Chords, Northern Blend  
& Associates  
Donna McKay • Amy DePerna • Kari  
Zelson Robertson • Jessica Nasto



**Sweet Life**  
Sounds of the Seacoast  
Samantha Wiggin \* Andrea Bossie • Wendy McCoolle • Shirley Dion

**Upscale**  
Barre-Tones, Inc.  
April Knight \* Carolynn O'Donnell • Trecia Pallman-Hamilton • Carol Hollenbeck

**Take 4 • St. Louis Vocal Project**  
Melissa Van Housen • Chacey Rembecki \* Kristin Drummond-Mance • Wendy Spilker



**Hot Pursuit • Area 6 Associates**  
Michaela Olson • Tessa Walker • Melody Hine • Candra Rice



**Impromptu**  
Area 4 Associates  
Dana Carter • Christine Pirot • Cindy Carter • Jennifer Davis



**High Five • A Cappella Showcase & Associates**  
Denise Keleher • Karen Holser • Julie Rushton • Julia McGregor



**Ring True • Lake Ridge Legacy Chorus**  
Jennifer Anderson • Melisa Judware • Kelly Ramey • Chris Hurd-Clem



**Bluebird • A Cappella Showcase**  
Stephanie Fournier • Amy Chop • Dani Williams • Jennifer Haines

# Congratulations, Harmony Falls!



Karen Trotter eagerly reaches for the Jeanne O'Connor Director Award.

2019 Silver Division winner is **Harmony Falls Chorus**, an **Area 3 chorus** from **Trumansburg, New York**, directed by Karen Trotter.

**First place** recognition brings the chance to enter the International Chorus Contest on Friday.



SISTERS OF SOUND, Area 6, Clermont, Florida, directed by Tiana Sandh, earned second place.



SKYWAY CONNECTION, Area 5, Hamilton, Ontario, directed by Andrea Binnington, placed third.



**2019 CHAMPION CHORUS**  
**A Cappella Showcase**

Area 5 • Milton, Ontario  
Director - Jordan Travis



**2019 SILVER**  
**MEDALIST CHORUS**  
**Northern Blend**

Area 3  
Watertown, New York  
Director - Katie Taylor





3rd PLACE MEDALIST  
**Sounds of the Seacoast**  
Area 2  
Newington, New Hampshire  
Director - Wendy McCoolle



4th PLACE MEDALIST  
**Village Vocal Chords**  
Area 4  
Metro Chicago, Illinois  
Director - Jeanne O'Connor



5th PLACE MEDALIST  
**Atlanta Harmony Celebration**  
Area 6  
Buford, Georgia  
Director - Kathy Stone

**Women of Note Area 2**  
Hudson, Massachusetts,  
Director - Ray Johnson



**Capital Chordettes, Inc. Area 5**  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Director - Denis Laflamme



**Unaccompanied Minors Area 6**  
Clermont, Florida  
Director - Tiana Sandh

**Harmony Falls Area 3**  
Trumansburg, New York  
Director - Karen Trotter

**Shades of Harmony Area 5**  
London, Ontario  
Director - Anne-Marie Campbell



**Nickel City Sound Area 5**  
Sudbury, Ontario  
Directors - Jennifer Huss & Martha Walli

**Bluegrass Harmony Area 4**  
Louisville, Kentucky  
Director - Kris Wheaton



**Harmony Magic Area 4**  
Central Indiana  
Director - Janet Foster



**ScotianAires Area 1**  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
Director - Sue Kember



**Rochester Rhapsody Area 3**  
Rochester, New York  
Director - Sue Melvin

**Bella Nova Area 3**  
Ashburn, Virginia  
Director - Richard Lewellen



**Covered Bridge Harmony Area 3**  
Greencastle, Indiana  
Director - Sara Stone



**The Thousand Islanders Area 5**  
Brockville, Ontario  
Director - Stuart MacMartin



**Niagara Frontier Chord Authority Area 3**  
East Aurora, New York  
Directors - Ron Mason and Sue Trenchard



**Rhythm of New Hampshire Show Chorus**  
Area 2  
Derry, New Hampshire  
Director - Jessie Caynon Oslan



**Lake Ridge Legacy Chorus**  
Area 4  
Elyria, Ohio  
Director - David Smotzer



**Sugartones Chorus**  
Area 5  
Alliston, Ontario  
Director - Jan-Ake Westin



**Liberty Belles Chorus Area 3**  
Lansdale, Pennsylvania  
Director - Anne Bureau



**Crystal Chords Area 3**  
Horseheads, New York  
Director - Bill & Donna McKay



**Barre-Tones, Inc. Area 2**  
Barre, Vermont  
Director - Carol Hollenbeck



## Chasing the dream wins a **GOLD MEDAL** for A Cappella Showcase



A Cappella Showcase was ecstatic to become the Harmony, Incorporated 2019 International Chorus Champions. But even more exciting for us was achieving some of our BIG goals which led to our highest score ever, and one of the highest HI scores of all time.

So what makes a champion? For ACS, it is not focussing on the competition, but focussing on what makes us better singers, musicians, and performers, both individually and as a chorus. We have incredibly dedicated members who constantly crave opportunities for personal and collective growth, as well as leaders who assess and celebrate our improvements and successes, while continu-

ally discovering further opportunities for development.

This year, the music itself was also a strong motivator and inspired us. We actually had selected another uptune and were in the process of getting the rights to it. In the meantime, we decided that it would be fun to bring back one of our amazing uptunes from five years ago for our spring show.

Once we made the announcement of bringing back the older uptune, the chorus said, “We can’t wait to compete with that one

*We’d achieve more if we chase the dream rather than the competition.*

*~ Simon Sinek*

again.” The chorus in essence made the decision!

As for the ballad, Jordan had heard The Rich-Tones perform On My Own and was totally taken by it. He shared the music with us, and instantly, the chorus fell in love with the beautiful piece. Singing great music and wanting to honour it properly definitely influenced our desire to perform at our very best.

In addition, our chorus is blessed to have amazing leadership in our Artistic Director Jordan Travis, our Assistant Director, Amy

Patterson, and our Performance Team Coordinator, Liz Travis. They inspire us every week and work tirelessly to help us grow. We also worked with AMAZING coaches including Steve and Renee Tramack, Cindy Hansen, and David McEachern. All of them encourage, inspire, and show us how we can be our very best.

In 2019, we focused on our dream: to continually improve and bring our very best to the stage. We are incredibly honoured and proud to be your 2019 Harmony Incorporated International Chorus Champions.

— By Wilva Tasker,  
Proud Member of A Cappella Showcase

# 2019 Award Recipients



**G. Ruth Geils Memorial Award  
Lake Ridge Legacy Chorus**



**Jerry Dunlop Memorial Award  
Director Kris Wheaton  
Bluegrass Harmony**



**L.A.B.B.S. Trophy  
Bella Nova Chorus**



**Montreal City Voices Tait Trophy  
Atlanta Harmony Celebration!**



**Image of Harmony  
Life's a Pitch**



**Skidge Heath Memorial Award  
Director Jordan Travis  
A Cappella Showcase**



**Accord Award  
Sweet Life**



**MacIntosh Award  
Bluegrass Harmony**



**Findlay Plaque  
Resolution**





# 2019 Award Recipients

## President's Award Chris Hembel



Donna McKay presented the President's Award, an engraved acrylic plaque, to Chris Hembel at the Opening Ceremony.

"I can't think of anyone more deserving than this person," said President McKay. "She has dedicated hundreds and hundreds of volunteer hours to Harmony, Incorporated.

"Almost immediately after she joined Harmony, she took on her first volunteer position, which she still holds today. In addition to that, she

serves on the team that made this whole convention a reality! She has been our Convention Registration Manager for eight years and our amazing Manual Chair for 15 years!

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm honored to present the 2019 President's Award to Chris Hembel."



## Judith Waite Memorial Music Scholarship

The 2019 recipient of the Judith Waite \$1000 Scholarship is Margie Christ, a music student seeking a Bachelor of Music degree, with a concentration on Violin Performance. Margie has been playing violin for sixteen years and is currently working towards her graduation recital performance in April. She wishes to express her gratitude for being the recipient of this award as it has made her final year of her undergraduate degree much easier! Margie's mother, Heather Christ, sings with the Sea Belles in Area 1.

2020 is the final year for the Judith Waite Scholarship Award. If you or a family member is interested in applying you have until May 1, 2020 to submit form HAR-042, found in the Members Only section of our website.

Congratulations once again to Margie Christ!



## Audience Entertainment Choice Award

### High Five

Denise Keleher, Karen Hosler, Julie Rushton,  
Julia McGregor singing Dress With Pockets

# 2019 Award Recipients

## Sandi White International Membership Award

The Sandi White International Membership Award is presented by the *Women of Note* chapter, and is awarded to the chapter that attains the highest percentage growth during the previous membership year. (The membership year is defined as additions/deletions postmarked by March 15th.)

The 2019 recipient of the Sandi White International Membership Award, with a growth percentage of 45.5%, is Area 6's *Unaccompanied Minors* of Clermont, Florida.



The 2019 Sandi White International Membership Increase Award winners are *Unaccompanied Minors*.



## Image of Harmony Service Award

2019s honoree is *Life's a Pitch*, from Area 2's *Women of Note*. The *Image of Harmony Award* recognizes those quartets who not only sing together, but also work together. They go beyond what is expected of them in combined and individual ways to serve *Harmony, Inc.*, their Area, their Chapter, and their community. The award is sponsored by our 1997 *Harmony Queens, Images*.

# 2020 International Board of Directors

- International President**  
– Donna McKay
- Vice President Convention & Con-  
tests** – Linda Brehaut
- Vice President Education**  
– Kelly Thomas
- Vice President Finance**  
– Donna Clarkson
- Director of Business Services**  
– Jan DeVecchio
- Director of Communications**  
– Mary Ann Wert
- Director of Membership**  
– Kim Meechan
- Director of Music Programs**  
– Katie Taylor
- Area 1 Director**  
– Linda McMaster
- Area 2 Director**  
– Julie Schwingbeck
- Area 3 Director**  
– Janine Schindler
- Area 4 Director**  
– Betty Gunterman
- Area 5 Director**  
– Nancy Flagel
- Area 6 Director**  
– Gaye LaCasce



## 2020 Assistants & Advisors

- Convention Manager**  
– Allison Thompson
- Convention Contest/  
Stage Manager** – Linda Hilko
- Convention Volunteer Manager**  
– Anne Leinen
- Convention On-Site Manager**  
– Carolyn Pellow
- Convention Registration  
Manager** – Chris Hembel
- Convention Team Assistant**  
– Dorothy Webster



- Corporate Assistant**  
– Kelly Peterson
- Finance Assistant**  
– Judi Johnston
- Acting Immediate Past President**  
– Jeanne O'Connor
- Parliamentarian** – Debbie Parmerter
- Editor, The Key-Note**  
– Roxanne Powell
- Manual Chair** – Chris Hembel
- New Chapter Development  
Coordinator** – Bev Jackson
- Chorus Director Development  
Coordinator** – Anne Bureau
- Music Coordinator**  
– Taralee Lashway
- Public Relations Coordinator**  
– Robyn Matula

- Directors First Program Coordinator**  
– Jennifer Bratis
- Education Event Coordinator**  
– Anne Colt
- Equality & Diversity Committee Chair**  
– Kim Meechan
- Quartet Development Coordinator**  
– Debi Stoll
- Copyright & Licensing Coordinator**  
– Erin Cassidy
- Social Media Coordinator**  
– Anita Prather Harvell
- Web Site Manager**  
– Tanya Reid
- Youth Programs Coordinator**  
– Kristin Gunasekera
- Nominating Committee Chair**  
– Marie Ross

*For Harmony Youth,*  
**2020**  
 is the  
**Year**  
 of **Social**  
**D i s t a n c i n g**



**2019 MINOR CHORDS** — Unaccompanied Minors Chorus Director Tiana Sandh led the 2019 Minor Chords in an entertaining circus-themed performance of *When I See An Elephant Fly* at the International Convention and Contests.

**W**e were all looking forward to our ACCs, but the risk of traveling and meeting in large groups isn't worth it. I hope you are all finding other ways to sing and enjoy music, as well as ways to continue to interact with your Harmony, Inc. community. We have to take precautions so that we can protect vulnerable people. It is a community effort. Stay home and stay safe, so we can sing together in November!

Communities around the world have turned to music during the coronavirus crisis. From YouTube parodies to apartment block sing a longs, it can

help maintain a sense of community. With constraints on our movements and general way of life becoming more and more restricted, we are feeling a loss of control. In being confined to our homes, we are missing our normal social support from friends and family, and our freedom to control our day to day lives.

Social distancing and geographical isolation do not have to result in social isolation. In the face of uncertainty, music is a social balm for soothing anxiety, enhancing community connections and acting in defiance of a threat to community spirit.

We are all excited to be invited to compete at ICC this year. We hope that many youth quartets take advantage of the opportunity to sing on the International Stage. While we can't currently rehearse in groups, there are ways to take your rehearsals online. Following is a blog from Chorus Connection that gives ideas on how to do just that: [Virtual Learning: Taking Your Choir Rehearsals Online.](#)

Whatever your situation, I hope you're staying safe, taking appropriate precautions, and staying connected.

— By Kristin Gunasekera, Youth Coordinator

# Parade of Champions



Association of Harmony Queens Chorus



Spot On • 2013



LiveWire • 2015



Aged to Perfection • 2018



For Heaven's Sake • 1996



New England Voices in Harmony • 2018



Taken 4 Granite • 2016



Change of Heart • 1999



**2018 HARMONY QUEENS**

**Aged to Perfection**  
 receive their permanent crowns

In the traditional on-stage ceremony — always an emotional one — 2018 Harmony Queens Aged to Perfection exchanged their traveling crowns for permanent tiaras. Each member of the quartet was crowned by the people in her life whom she wished to recognize as most supportive of and significant in her, and the quartet’s achievement.

LEFT: Kathy Pomer, Elie Pomer, Alexa Beall, and Gaye LaCasce show off their new glass hats.

Sparkle on, Aged to Perfection!

**Future IC&C Dates and Locations**

- 2020** Galt House, Louisville, KY      **November 4-8**
- 2021** Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA      **November 3-7**
- 2022** Turning Stone Resort, Verona, NY      **November 2-6**

**Harmony Queens Travel Fund**

What is the Harmony Queens Travel Fund? So glad you asked!

The Harmony Queens Travel Fund consists of money raised each year by the Association of Harmony Queens at the annual Parade of Champions at IC&C. This money is raised for your benefit and we hope you will take advantage of this fund. Your chapter is eligible for up to \$2,000 US towards travel and accommodation expenses when you hire a Harmony Queens quartet to appear on your show. Each Area is eligible for up to \$500 US towards expenses of a Queen’s quartet serving on the staff at your Area Education event or AC&C.

Please check out the Harmony, Inc. website for details at [www.harmonyinc.org](http://www.harmonyinc.org) or contact:

**Travel Fund Chairman Judi Johnston**  
**qtf@harmonyinc.org**  
**705-835-3402**

Eileen Valade is honored as a 60 year Charter Member of Harmony, Inc. at a wine and cheese party in the home of Barbara Ann MacIntosh.



## With grateful thanks . . .

At our 2019 IC&C, Harmony, inc. celebrated our 60th year as an organization and recognized those 60 year charter members who were in attendance.

One charter member who was unable to attend was Eileen Valade who received her gift at the annual Wine & Cheese party held at the home of Barbara Ann MacIntosh.

Congratulations also to Pat Longchamp and Corinne Bissonette who attended, and to Joan Flynn who was unable to attend IC&C. Many thanks to these ladies and others who started the organization that we all love today.

— By Diane Zanetti



BEV JACKSON



LAUREN LINDEMAN

## SERVICE AWARDS 2019

Two stars among many:  
Jackson and  
Lindeman honored for  
decades of service to  
Harmony, Inc.

Harmony, Inc., being a volunteer-led organization, relies on its amazing members to care for and guide us through all types of events and in a variety of ways. Two such wonderful women were honored during the Opening Ceremonies at the 2019 IC&C.

President Donna McKay honored **Bev Jackson** (who was unable to attend IC&C) and **Lauren Lindeman** for their many decades of service. In recognition of 30 years of service to Harmony, Donna presented Bev with an engraved mantle clock.

For her 35 years of service, Donna announced that a donation to the charity of her choice was made to honor Lauren. She chose Pits for Patriots.

Harmony, Inc. is so very grateful to these two dedicated women and we say thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

— By Mary Ann Wert, Director Communications



2019 IC&C Chorus Champions  
**A Cappella Showcase**  
*beam with delight at the realization that their dream is fulfilled. Congratulations, ladies!*

*We will all remember fondly our time together in Sandusky . . . and look forward to seeing you all again, in November at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky!*

