

MEET...



TOUR

TEACH

PERFORM

WE ARE A CHICAGO-BASED HANDBELL ENSEMBLE THAT OFFERS HIGH-ENERGY, SPELL-BINDING AND EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCES OF MUSIC INCLUDING CLASSICAL FAVORITES, JAZZ, MARCHES, SACRED SONGS, FOLK TUNES AND ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS.

Since our founding in 1992, we've played over 300 concerts across North America, Puerto Rico, and England. We enjoy an on-going collaboration with local pianist/composer Joel Raney and have performed with jazz trumpeter Orbert Davis of the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic, the Elmhurst Symphony, Spirito!, Young Naperville Singers, the Rockford Symphony, the North Shore Choral Society, the Illinois Brass Band, the Elgin Choral Union, the West Suburban Symphony, and the West Towns Chorus. Our sixteen musicians have a collective ringing experience of over 430 years and perform on 76 bronze Malmark handbells and 73 Malmark Choirchimes®. Our 20th Anniversary Season (2012-2013) saw the release of our first DVD, *Splash of Gold*, which was recorded live in-concert. It also saw our first performance with the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra and the world premiere of our first commissioned piece, *Expedition*, composed by Joel Raney.

We are known for beautifully orchestrated presentations of entertaining and varied music, and listeners are entranced by our energy, precision and musicality. Unlike an orchestra, where a single instrument or section shapes a melody, multiple ringers share the melody in this uniquely collaborative and highly visual musical form.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Our founder and director is David L. Weck, an editor at Hope Publishing Company in Carol Stream, IL, where he is solely responsible for creating and developing the company's handbell catalog. Mr. Weck serves as a guest conductor at handbell events all over the United States and Canada, as well as Puerto Rico, Japan and Hong Kong.

RECORDINGS & VIDEO

We have nine CD recordings for sale offering holiday favorites, concert repertoire and hymns. In 2012, we released our first DVD, *Splash of Gold*, which was recorded live in-concert.

TEACHERS AND LEADERS

We have been featured as performers and teachers for events such as the Fellowship of American Baptist Musicians Conference for Church Musicians in Green Lake, WI, and local, regional and national gatherings of the Handbell Musicians of America. In addition, many of us serve in leadership roles at the local and national levels of that organization.

MISSION

- To inspire audiences through the art of handbell ringing
- To challenge ourselves to reach higher standards of musical accomplishment
- To encourage handbell directors and ringers through our leadership and teaching
- To foster a warm, caring community of friends

David L. Weck, Director

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