

THE TEN NEW MUSICIANS FOR THE 2026 BAY VIEW WEEK OF HANDBELLS



Janet Allured

Janet was a long-time member of the Wesleyan Bell Choir of Lake Charles under the direction of her father, Donald Allured. After many years with the Bayou Bell Choir directed by her brother, Bruce Allured, she joined Ozark Bronze in Fayetteville, Arkansas.



Susie Amos

Susie began ringing handbells in 6th grade at Plymouth Congregational Church in Lawrence, Kansas. She was selected for the all-star choir at the 2024 HMA National Seminar in Hartford, CT, and has been a member of the New England Ringers since 2018.



David Anderson

Originally from Littleton, MA, David has been ringing since 3rd grade. He rang under Jill Mahr with St. Olaf Handbell Choir in Northfield, MN, and later moved to the Bay Area (CA), joining Velocity Handbell Ensemble under Christian Guebert in 2022. He entered the “national” bronze stage with DB West in 2024 and 2025, as well as Zenith in 2025.



Samantha Beschta

Starting handbells in her teens, Samantha has over thirty years of ringing experience. She is the Assistant Director for *Chime In! Music with a Mission* based in Bethlehem, CT. Samantha has been a member of the New England Ringers under Cheryl Townsend for the past four years and has attended Classic Bronze in Canada, National Seminars and Pinnacle.



Richard Crusinberry

Richard’s twenty-plus years of bronze-level ringing began with Bell-issimo, an auditioned community choir in Lincoln, NE, which performs annually with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra. Upon relocating to Iowa he became a member of Des Moines Concert Handbells under the direction of Patrick Gagnon, Julie Murphy and Beth Ann Edwards.

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Derek Hakes

Ringling since the age of thirteen, Derek has thirty-three years of bronze-level experience to his credit. Previously a conductor of several accomplished handbell ensembles, he is now a full-time special education teacher pursuing a doctorate in Organizational Leadership and Christian Ministries. He has nearly 300 pieces in print or soon to be.



David Smetak

David has been a member of the Chancel Ringers of Downers Grove First United Methodist Church in Downers Grove, IL under the direction of Pattie Barnes since March 2010. A bass specialist, he rang with the choir in a concert for the 2018 HMA seminar in Grand Rapids, MI.



Jialin "Ja" Stocker

Ja began ringing handbells in 2003 with the Handbell Carolers in Southern California. After a few years of ringing with Kemp Smeal, she became a member of Chicago Bronze under Andrea Handley from 2017 to 2018, and has been ringing with LA Bronze since 2022 under the direction of Lynn Atkins.



Cheryl Townsend

Ringling bronze-level repertoire since 2009, Cheryl began ringing with the New England Ringers based in Oxford, MA in 2014 before becoming the director in May of 2023. She founded and directs the Faith Ringers at Union Congregational Church in Groton, MA.



Amelia Wiggins

Amelia began ringing in 1998 and has rung with the United Ringers under Debra LeBrun (2004-2008), the Merrimack Valley Ringers under Karen Leonard (2021), and has been ringing with the New England Ringers under Cheryl Townsend for the past four years. She was selected to ring in Virtuoso (2024), the National Seminar All Star Choir (2024), and Zenith (2025).