

Sweet Adelines International is a worldwide organization of women singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education and performances. This independent, nonprofit music education association has nearly 25,000 members worldwide with more than 1,200 registered quartets and 600 choruses.

It is one of the world's largest singing organizations for women with chapters in Australia, Canada, England, Finland, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Scotland, Sweden, the Netherlands, and most of the 50 United States.

Motto: Harmonize The World

Founding: July 13, 1945 Tulsa, Oklahoma

Governed by an elected board of directors; administered by a 28-person professional staff in Tulsa that administers: a quarterly magazine, digital mastering of audio and video productions, music publishing services, with hundreds of barbershop arrangements in print, distribution of cassettes, compact discs and videotapes for entertainment and education, convention planning for meetings attended by 8,000 to 10,000 people annually, international sales, an educationally focused inventory of products and materials, education programs such as Directors Certification Program, Arrangers Program, Faculty Program and Judging Program; contests in quartet and chorus singing at regional and international levels, international champions named in chorus, quartet, and young women aged 25 and under divisions at International Convention each Fall and at the International Education Symposium each July.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- International Education Symposium - three days of total immersion in the barbershop art form attended by more than 1,500 singers annually (one track of study created for young singers and their teachers and coaches)
- The Young Women in Harmony program offers to music educators a means of including the study and performance of barbershop harmony in school music programs.
- Festivals and school presentations are organized by regions or choruses.



GREAT LAKES CHORUS ~ STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN
Border Lakes Region 2 Champions 2009
Competing in Sweet Adelines International Seattle 2010



**SWEET ADELINES
INTERNATIONAL**

OFFICIAL CHARITY

The Young Singers Foundation has been the official charity of Sweet Adelines International since 1992. Its purpose is to enrich the lives of young people by supporting vocal music programs and education through its grant program. It offers scholarships for vocal music students and grants for Young Women in Harmony and community vocal music activities.

Charitable and Community Activities

Sweet Adelines choruses regularly entertain at civic events and charitable functions. Proceeds from performances are often shared with scholarship funds, health care and social services programs, and the arts and humanities.

WHAT IS BARBERSHOP HARMONY?

Four-part, unaccompanied, close-harmony singing, with melody in the second voice, called the lead. Sung in the range between A below middle C, and C above middle C.

Tenor is a harmony part sung consistently above the lead. Although tenor is the highest voice in barbershop harmony, it should not be confused with the soprano of conventional singing groups. The tenor should have a light, sweet, pure tone that will complement but not overpower the lead voice.

Baritone covers approximately the same range as lead. The baritone harmony notes cross the lead notes; sometimes sung below and sometimes above.

Bass singers should have a rich, mellow voice and be able to sing the E flat below middle C easily. Bass should not be confused with the alto of conventional groups.