



Handbell Musicians  
O F A M E R I C A

**AREA 2 TWICE TOLLED TALES**

**JUNE 2019**

[www.area2.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area2.handbellmusicians.org)

## From the Chair . . .

I can tell that the festival is getting near; emails are flying, fast and furious.

To those of you who are coming, it promises to be a great festival!

To those of you who are not coming it's not too late! Mail your registration to Gail Posey, 120 S. Main Street, Yardley, PA 19067. We'll even take your registration if you walk in on Thursday. (But bring the registration form filled out, if you do!)

There will be two events to raise funds for our Endowment Fund:

- 1 - I've been conned into having my beard colored for the last day of the festival. There will be options of coloring suggested. The container with the most money will be the winner.
- 2 - There will be a raffle for an El Maestro cajon by Malmark. For \$10, you could go home with a cajon!

For those of you who are not coming, I know some of you have not registered for the festival because you think it's too expensive. Housing and food are not included as in the past. The Board did canvass other Areas and our fees are comparable with those who use conference centers; some are even higher. We know this is an adjustment. We've been able to keep prices low by using colleges and universities. They are looking for yearly income. And let's face it, the last week in June is a popular time. In addition, our Festival is an every other year event. The stringent Child Protection Regulations of the states would have added two and possibly three more expenses to obtain FBI and state police clearances to your Festival expenses if held at an educational location. The Board truly agonized over this decision and we decided it was time to try something new.

Plans are in the works for our summer event in 2020. We have decided to rename our even year event Destination Ring! At this point, I can announce that it will be in Lake George, NY in August 2020. Keep watching the Area 2 web page and Twice Told Tales for more information and details as they become available.

Our Nominating committee is looking for members to serve in our elected offices. They are Chair (2 yrs. as Chair Elect, 2 yrs. as Chair and 2 yrs. as Past Chair.) 6 yrs. in total, Secretary/Registrar (2 yr. term), and Treasurer (also a 2 yr. term). If you are interested, please contact me ASAP!

As this will be my last "From the Chair . . ." I want you all to know that it has been an honor and pleasure to serve Area 2. My many years on the Board have taught me many things. I found skills I never knew I had. Life is going to be boring after my term as Past Chair. Thanks for the many memories.

*Bob Ward*

**Bob Ward**

**The Festival Packet forms and all registration information is available on the Area 2 website. at [www.area2.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area2.handbellmusicians.org).**

## Festival Reminders

**Festival Class Selections are due by June 14!**

**PRACTICE!**

**Order Your Tee-shirts (\$13) or Polo Shirts (\$25) online now!**

**PRACTICE!**

**Make sure you've sent in your name tag/hotel reservation sheet!**

**PRACTICE!**

**Come prepared to learn A LOT and to meet new friends!**

**PRACTICE!**

**If you aren't participating—COME TO THE CONCERT! (5 pm Sunday)**

### **Handbell Registry**

Area 2 is creating a Handbell Registry so we can help newcomers to the Area locate and join a handbell program. While it will first include HMA members, we would also like to include programs who are not members of HMA. We need your help!

If you know of a program near you, please email any information you have to [communications.area2@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:communications.area2@handbellmusicians.org). We will contact the program, get all of their information, and add them to the registry. Our big goal is to eventually be able to include every program within Area 2 in the registry.

In addition to helping newcomers locate a program for participation, we can also communicate Area 2 happenings to everyone. This way all ringers in the area will have the opportunity to participate in Area 2 events.

We hope you will help us with this new project so it can be a big success. Remember, all you have to do is email whatever information you have. We will do the rest!

# Area 2 2019 Handbell Festival Class Selection

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Your Registration # \_\_\_\_\_

Your Choir Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your email \_\_\_\_\_

Your ringing Division (circle one): Tins Coppers Bronze N/A

Performance Choir (circle one): Classics w/ Harris Dance w/ Ebling Shaw N/A

Each ringer should complete this form. Place a number in front of the class titles you would be interested in taking at the Festival. Use number 1 for your first choice, 2 for your second, etc. There are six class sessions if you are taking part in Divisional ringing and nine if you are attending classes only. If you are participating in a Performance Choir you will have two classes. Please select more choices than the number of classes you will have. Registration must be paid in full before classes will be assigned.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Treble Techniques
- \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Solo/Ensemble Techniques
- \_\_\_\_\_ Basic Treble Techniques
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bass Bell Techniques
- \_\_\_\_\_ Beginning Solo/Ensemble Techniques
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bell Trees 101
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bell Trees 102
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bells and Contemporary Worship
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bring the Notes off the Page
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choosing Repertoire & Concert Programming
- \_\_\_\_\_ DIY – Singing rods
- \_\_\_\_\_ DIY – Tie-dye gloves
- \_\_\_\_\_ Doubling Down with C2 – B3 Choirchimes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Forum on Community Choirs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Forum on Conducting
- \_\_\_\_\_ Making Excellent Rehearsals Happen
- \_\_\_\_\_ Malmark Maintenance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Maori Sticks, Fun with
- \_\_\_\_\_ More with Less - Adapting the music to the Ringers you have
- \_\_\_\_\_ Multimedia as the Backdrop
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plink! Plank! Plunk!
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reading Sessions: Level 1+ to 3-
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reading Sessions: Level 3 -4
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reading Sessions: Oldies but Goodies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rhythm & Ringing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schulmerich Maintenance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Weaving So No One Gets Hurt
- \_\_\_\_\_ Woodshedding – Tins
- \_\_\_\_\_ Woodshedding – Coppers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Working with Beginning & Non-Readers

Completed Class Selection forms should be emailed or post-marked by **June 14, 2019** to [gsposey@verizon.net](mailto:gsposey@verizon.net) or mail to Gail Posey, HMA Area 2 Registrar, 120 S. Main Street, Yardley, PA 19067

# Area 2 2019 Festival Class Descriptions

## **Advanced Treble Techniques**

This class will begin with basic techniques while using four-in-hand as well as variations on traditional four-in-hand. We will also cover options for six-in-hand.

## **Advanced Solo/Ensemble Techniques**

This class will delve into some of the more advanced techniques, taking your solo ringing to the next level. We will learn and practice techniques to help provide a legato ringing style, including multiple bell techniques, displacement of bells, finger damping and traveling 4-in-hand.

## **Basic Treble Techniques**

This class will cover the challenges facing the treble section of the handbell instrument. We will cover basic techniques as well as weaving, shelley and four-in-hand ringing.

## **Bass Bell Techniques**

Ringing on low bass handbells (2s and 3s) requires a very specific approach in regard to physical health, proper ringing technique, the execution of other techniques, assignments and setups. A foundational course, this class will focus primarily on the absolute beginning of bass bell ringing, up to and including assignment ideas for Level 1 and 2 handbell music. Mallets are required! Please bring your own.

## **Beginning Solo/Ensemble Ringing Techniques**

This class will provide an introduction to some beginning techniques useful in solo and small ensemble ringing. In this hands-on class, we will practice weaving, bell switching, bell passing, and bell displacement, all of which are also useful in full choir ringing.

## **Bell Trees 101 & 102**

**101** - In this introduction to bell trees, participants will learn about the equipment required and accessories available for adding bell trees to worship services/performances. Ringers will practice stringing trees and playing some simple music to get the “hang” of this wonderful option.

**102**- Beyond the Basics – This class goes beyond basic bell trees, studying Barb Brocker’s Bell Tree Keyboard setup and practicing some additional techniques including mallet-damping and 2-in-hand malleting. We will look closely at several of her arrangements and discuss learning strategies.

## **Bells and Contemporary Worship**

Join the band! Writing Handbell Arrangements to Enhance Your Contemporary Worship – Have you thought about adding handbells to the praise band? In this collaborative class we will work together to create handbell arrangements that will go with the band. We will first learn how to read a chord chart, then to write our own arrangements. No music writing software necessary!

## **Bring the Notes off the Page**

So you’ve learned the notes, yay! This class will focus on the next steps to a beautiful, musical performance. While ringing handbell repertoire in a variety of levels, we will discuss how to bring out and enjoy the musicality with the piece. In addition, we will talk about how directors can prepare their score, and help their ringers play every note musically and how ringers can listen more globally to the entire piece, and not just their two notes.

## **Choosing Repertoire & Concert Programming**

This class will discuss the factors involved in selecting music for your handbell program, including commissioning music for your choir. Ever been to a really exciting handbell concert that had you on the edge of your seat? Then again, ever been to that bell concert that put you to sleep? Come to this class and learn how to put together that handbell concert that will KNOCK THEIR SOCKS OFF!!

## **DIY – Singing rods**

Come make your own singing bell stick. Donation for materials will be taken.

## **DIY – Tie-dye gloves**

Come make your own tie-dye gloves. Donation for materials will be taken.

## **Doubling Down with C2 – B3 Choirchimes**

If you own or hope to own an extended range of Choirchimes, this class is for you! Ensure the life of your instruments by learning more about the science behind their design and use. This session will demonstrate the proper way to ring low chimes as well as incorporate them into a score. Composers are encouraged to attend to learn more about writing for these instruments.

### **Forum on Community Choirs**

Are you part of a Community choir? Thinking of starting one? Bring your questions to this forum and talk with directors of 3 established community choirs (Raleigh Ringers, Detroit Handbell Ensemble and Capital Ringers) about how they started, their organization, and how they created their “identity.”

### **Forum on Conducting**

Are you a new director who got pressed into service and needs help with basic conducting patterns? How about going from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{6}{8}$  or conducting  $\frac{7}{8}$ ? Do you need hints on how to get your ringers to watch you? Bring your questions (and solutions!) to this forum.

### **Making Excellent Rehearsals Happen**

How do you make the most of the precious rehearsal minutes you have with your handbell group? We’ll discuss thorough planning before rehearsal, efficient execution and strong leadership during rehearsal, and casual analysis after rehearsal.

### **Malmark Maintenance**

Come learn how to care for your Malmark bells. Bring any “trouble” bells you may have.

### **Maori Sticks, Fun with**

Learn the traditional game of the Maori people and develop some awesome handbell skills while you are having a blast.

### **More with Less – Adapting the music to the Ringers you have**

This workshop will highlight ways to use the ringers you have (usually fewer than you wish) with the music you want or need to ring. Bring your ideas along, too. We will all discuss and share ideas which work and maybe even some which don’t and why. Bring gloves just in case!

### **Multimedia as the Backdrop**

Using multimedia technology to enhance concert and worship presentations is a great way to create an “experience” for audiences and congregations. The use of still imagery, videos, and special lighting will be shown in video examples. In addition, an overview of the software and equipment available will be presented.

### **Plink! Plank! Plunk!**

In this class you’ll learn and review some of the frequently used handbell techniques and how to “voice” them with your choir or ensemble to achieve a consistent sound.

### **Reading Sessions: Level 1+ to 3-**

### **Reading Sessions: Level 3 -4**

### **Reading Sessions: Oldies but Goodies**

We are often exposed to new music from our handbell music publishers through their promotions and demonstration recordings. In this session we will read through some of the “handbell classics;” fantastic titles that have served us well over the years!

### **Rhythm & Ringing**

Ringing and damping at just the right time is challenging for most ringers, but with a greater understanding of how to count, and a little preparation before rehearsals, improvement is just around the corner.

### **Schulmerich Maintenance**

Come and learn how to care for your Schulmerich bells. Bring and “trouble” bells you may have.

### **Weaving So No One Gets Hurt**

Weaving causing you troubles?? Not sure what weaving is ?? This is the class for you! We will break down weaving to the basic steps and provide you with exercises to take home. We promise, no one will get hurt.

### **Woodshedding – Tins**

### **Woodshedding – Coppers**

These classes are designed to give extra help working out those problem spots for Festival repertoire. Each session will be geared toward the needs of class participants.

### **Working with Beginning & Non-Readers**



## Learn to Ring

# Back to Bells Workshop

By Aura Hill

Back to Bells Workshop on Saturday, Feb. 23, is an opportunity for handbell choir members, directors and wannabes to learn the art of handbell ringing, brush up on techniques or improve an existing handbell program.

The free five-hour workshop is provided by Handbell

glorious musical element to worship, providing an intergenerational activity and making opportunities for lay members to participate with the worship team. Also, handbells are accessible to all levels of musicians – even those with no prior musical experience.

“For the purposes of this workshop, those registered



In March:

“A wonderful back to bells workshop yesterday”

- Jeff Clouser







# ENDORSEMENT? YES, YOU SHOULD!!

Do you run a great handbell event? Is it endorsed by Handbell Musicians of America? Why the bell not?

## What *IS* endorsement?

Simply put, an endorsed event has the official thumbs up from Handbell Musicians of America (HMA). Any individual or organization belonging to HMA can submit an endorsement request for an educational handbell event. Workshops, festivals, reading sessions, seminars, and conferences are all classified as educational in nature. While the event must be presented by an HMA member, one does not necessarily need to be a member to attend the event.

Endorsement should not be confused with sponsorship. A *sponsored* event is an official event presented by HMA Area leadership - the biennial Area 2 Festival Conference, for example! Only HMA members can attend sponsored events.

## Why should my event apply for endorsement?

Endorsement gives you the marketing and advertising power of the HMA national office. You can have your event listed on the national website as well as in the Overtones publication. For an area wide event, you can also request data for members in your target area so that you can contact or advertise to your target demographic directly. HMA will also cover ASCAP and mechanical licensing fees for your endorsed event. Legally, this is something you should already be attending to yourself!

Endorsement also gives you the structured legitimacy of our national organization. By joining your event with the larger HMA community, you contribute your fellowship to the musical art of handbell ringing. We are a small community when compared to the choral, orchestral, or band world, but we are strong and vibrant because of the dedication and enthusiasm of members.

## How do I apply for endorsement?

Forms for endorsement application are available on the national website, [www.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.handbellmusicians.org). There is a convenient search function at the bottom of the home page to assist your navigation if you're having trouble locating the forms. Completed forms are reviewed and approved by the Chair of Area 2 before they are passed on to the national office. You can also e-mail Vickie Iverson at the national office, [viverson@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:viverson@handbellmusicians.org), with any endorsement specific questions.

Happy ringing!





# WHEN IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE?

Understanding the Changes in HMA Membership Renewal, by Jean Coniber

You have probably read or heard about the new membership renewal changes. The highlights of the change are that:

- 1 - On October 1, 2019 all memberships will be reset to expire on March 1, 2020, unless members have chosen an earlier date of either November 1, 2019 or January 1, 2020; and
- 2 - Regardless of which renewal date is chosen, benefits of membership will continue to be available until March 1, 2020.

The main reason for the change is to concentrate the renewal effort to a shorter time period. If your membership has ever lapsed for a month while paperwork was in process, you've probably gotten a reminder email from me in addition to reminders from the national HMA staff. Rather than do that every month, the change will let us concentrate our renewal reminders during just a few months of HMA's fiscal year.

The new schedule also lets the national and area boards do our budget planning with more information up front, knowing how much income there will be from membership for the year.

But what's in it for you, the members? Well, of course what's good for the organization is also good for the individual members. And for me, and other members like me who would have renewed in the fall of 2019, we get several extra months of membership (until March 2020). It gives me (and I suppose about half of us) extra money in the calendar year of 2019 to spend on music or equipment.

For members who already had renewal dates around the spring time, it won't make much difference. There are some members, though, who renew in the summer, who may feel like they are losing some months of membership. Those members will still renew just once in 2020, but they will need to renew in an earlier month than they are used to. Once this change is made, we'll all continue to renew once a year, on the new schedule.

If you have any questions about the process, please contact me at [membership.area2@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:membership.area2@handbellmusicians.org).



## A note from your Communications Coordinator:

Area 2 sends an e-newsletter to our members each time a new Twice Tolloed Tales has been published or when there is important news that we want you to receive. If you do not receive our e-newsletters, you will need to log onto your national HMA member account to subscribe.

- Go to the national website: [handbellmusicians.org](http://handbellmusicians.org)
- In the black bar across the top of the screen, click on “login”
- Enter your login name and password
- Once you are logged in, on the right side of the screen, there is a drop down menu that says: “What would you like to do?”
- Click on this drop down menu, then click on “subscribe to e-newsletters”
- The screen says: “please choose your email subscription”  
You may select more than one subscription.
- The first option is for the national “e-notes” (These come from National HMA, and are very informative)
- Then there are options for Area 5, 3, 7, 6, 9, and 4
- Next, there is another national option for event notes (This is different from the e-notes listed above; we suggest that you subscribe to this also)
- Next, you will see the option for Area 2. Be sure that the Area 2 option is selected!
- Once all of your subscription selections are “checked”, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the blue “subscribe” box.

You should now be all set to receive the selected e-newsletters in the future.

Happy Reading!

Sarah

# Read Your Email!

### → Please Forward and Share!

Attention Directors – don’t forget to forward all Area 2 emails and Twice Tolloed Tale issues to your ringers. As members of your choir, they are also members of Area 2. Help keep them in the Area 2 loop and encourage them to be active participants in their handbell community.



**NOW is the time** to get your chime lending application in for the fall. If it is received soon enough, it can be acted on and you could know by conference whether or not you get to borrow chimes. Why borrow chimes? Perhaps you want to start a new program with youth. Perhaps you want to enhance your bells. Perhaps you want a different experience. Whatever your reason, get your application in now as there are only five sets for loans. The application can be found on the website, [www.area2.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area2.handbellmusicians.org). Fill out the application, include all components and get back to me, Cynthia Reineke, via email [1052turtle@gmail.com](mailto:1052turtle@gmail.com) (quickest and best way), or by snail mail to: 1 Gilligan Road East Greenbush, NY 12061.



HANDMADE HANDBELL JEWELRY

WEAR HANDBELLS IN STYLE

Handbell earrings in many designs and colors

MELODICTREASURES.ETSY.COM

The advertisement features three images of handbell earrings: a pair of gold bells with black cords, a pair of teal bells with silver hooks, and a pair of purple bells with gold hooks. The text is centered on a white background with a dark green footer.



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## New Members

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### New Jersey

Thaddeus Goratowski  
Peter Kubo  
Nelson Ortega  
Leann Ostrow  
Caitlin VanEck  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
Washington Township, NJ 07676

Diane Seeman  
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

### New York

Jennifer Murray  
Mastic, NY 11950

John Jurgensen  
First U. Methodist  
Oneonta, NY 13820

Kelly Roller  
Honey UCC  
Honeoye, NY 14471

Helen Hamel  
St. Stephen's Episcopal  
Delmar, NY 12054

Julia Falkenburg  
Global Bronze Productions  
New York, NY 10025

### Ontario

### Pennsylvania

Beverly Parella  
Lincoln Park Comm UMC  
Reading, PA 19607

Marilyn Hines  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Margaret Montgomery  
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Robert Frey  
CrossPoint U. Methodist  
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Nancy Snyder  
Fairliss Hills, PA 19030

Debra Poling  
Middletown, PA 17056

Cynthia Pock  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Patrice Kidd  
St. John's Lutheran  
Nazareth, PA 18064

Betsy Diebolt  
Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran  
Mohnton, PA 19540

Kaye Miller  
Lebanon, PA 17042

Karen Reitnauer  
Claysville U. Presbyterian  
Claysville, PA 15323

Jenifer Eyre  
Grace Presbyterian in Jenkintown  
Glenside, PA 19038

**Welcome!**  
**(and maybe Welcome Back!)**

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## Area 2 Board Members 2017–2019

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Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### Chairman

Bob Ward  
[RJWardNY@optonline.net](mailto:RJWardNY@optonline.net)  
99 Sunny Brook Circle  
Highland, NY 12528  
H-845-691-2124  
C-845-258-7322

#### Chair-Elect

Elizabeth Nowik  
[eliznowik@gmail.com](mailto:eliznowik@gmail.com)  
29 North Gaston Avenue  
Raritan, NJ 08869  
C-908-675-0447

#### Treasurer

Pat Dedert  
[pat.dedert@gmail.com](mailto:pat.dedert@gmail.com)  
800 Atkinson Circle  
Hillsborough NJ 08844  
H-908-371-9464  
C-908-910-0095

#### Secretary

Gail Posey  
[gsposey@verizon.net](mailto:gsposey@verizon.net)  
120 S. Main Street  
Yardley, PA 19067  
H-215-493-2940  
C-215-280-5737

#### Past Chair

Chris Braden  
[bradencl@aol.com](mailto:bradencl@aol.com)  
328 Queens Court  
Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
H-201-447-2751  
C-201-248-0717

### APPOINTED POSITIONS

#### Membership

Jean Coniber  
[jconiber@frontiernet.net](mailto:jconiber@frontiernet.net)  
135 Brightwoods Lane  
Rochester NY 14623  
H-585-292-5139

#### Education Chair/Historian

Cynthia Reineke  
[1052turtle@gmail.com](mailto:1052turtle@gmail.com)  
75 Old Red Mill Road  
Rensselaer, NY 12144  
C-518-368-6514

#### Workshops and Mentoring

Risë Kagan –Erickson  
[bellkagan@gmail.com](mailto:bellkagan@gmail.com)  
501 Stockham Avenue  
Morrisville, PA 19067  
C- 865-274-1206

#### Communications Coordinator

Sarah Hazel  
[Shazel2@outlook.com](mailto:Shazel2@outlook.com)  
542 High Street  
Phoenixville, PA 19460  
C-484-716-3892

#### Special Group Liaison

Joyce Klinck  
[pjclinck@comcast.net](mailto:pjclinck@comcast.net)  
380 Selby Place  
Blue Bell, PA 19422

#### Romania Liaison

Richard Pinkerton  
[rich@spchurch.org](mailto:rich@spchurch.org)  
799 Washington Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
H-412-841-3937

#### Webmaster

Bob Reineke  
[brineakey@yahoo.com](mailto:brineakey@yahoo.com)  
75 Old Red Mill Road  
Rensselaer, NY 12144  
C-518-256-8944

#### Newsletter Editor

Kathie Bittenbender  
[rbittenben@verizon.net](mailto:rbittenben@verizon.net)  
292 Founders Way  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050  
H-717-697-6257

Next TTT deadline is  
**August 15, 2018**

[www.area2.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area2.handbellmusicians.org)

## HMA Area 2 BELLETIN BOARD

### **Festival Conference 2019**

Nick Hanson, Director

June 28-30, 2019

Lancaster County Conference Center  
Lancaster, PA

Registration info:

[Area2handbellmusicians.org](http://Area2handbellmusicians.org)

### **2019 Young Ringers Festival**

Stevie Berryman, Director

June 28-30, 2019

Lancaster County Conference Center  
Lancaster, PA

Registration info:

[Area2handbellmusicians.org](http://Area2handbellmusicians.org)

### **National Seminar 2019 in St. Louis, MO**

July 16-20, 2019

Registration info found at:  
[www.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.handbellmusicians.org)



Do you have events, or pictures of your events, to share?  
We have room in most TTT's to put something in!  
We'd love to hear from you! Email me: RBitten-  
ben@verizon.net. I expect pictures from the Area 2 Festival  
to fill some pages in the next issue.  
Happy summer everyone!

H.M.A. AREA 2  
Twice Told Tales Editor  
292 Founders Way  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

**See you at Festival!?**

**We need your email address!!**