



# AREA 3 CONVENTION & CONTESTS

May 2-4, 2025

EAST SYRACUSE, NY



Area 3's Area Convention and Contest Team (ACCT)  
and Host Chapter, Niagara Frontier Chord Authority,

welcomes you to

**“Lights, Camera, Action!”**

This 1st mailing provides chapters and associates with important information.  
Please read fully for details:

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More details will follow in the 2nd mailing in early April.

Questions? Please email ACCT Chair Janine Schindler at [acctchair@area3harmonyinc.org](mailto:acctchair@area3harmonyinc.org)

## HOTEL INFORMATION

### AC&C 2025 Housing

There is one hotel this year. Reservations will be made individually (like IC&C). The link to place your reservations will be sent via email from the Corporate HQ on March 15, 2025.

**Contest Hotel:** DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse  
6301 State Route 298, East Syracuse, NY 13057

**Room Rate:** \$173 plus applicable taxes (single/double/triple/quad)  
All beds are double/double. Room Captain must provide the names of **ALL** members staying in the room at the time of registration.

**Check In/Out:** Check-in – 4 pm, Check out – 11 am

**Amenities:** Parking on-site at the hotel is FREE. There is an on-site restaurant and excellent amenities such as an indoor swimming pool, fitness room, and complimentary high speed internet access. There are some retail and food services nearby as well.

**Fair Share Assessment:** The Area Council voted to enact the Fair Share Assessment (like IC&C). All Area 3, Harmony, Inc. members must stay at the AC&C contracted hotel. It will be important when you make your reservations that you include **ALL** members' names on your reservation. Those not staying at the contracted hotel will be assessed the equivalent of one night's stay, which is \$173 plus applicable taxes.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### AC&C 2025 Registration/All Events Pass (AEP)

**Contest Site:** DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse

All Harmony, Inc. members must purchase either a performing or non-performing AEP. **AEPs are transferable, but not refundable.** All choruses/associates must complete the registration form whether or not you are competing.

**Registration Instructions:** Registration forms must include:

- Members and guest names in alphabetical order
- Correct spelling (as names will be used for the AEP badges)
- Appropriate AEP price selected

Please complete and return an email copy of the registration form (as a Microsoft Word file) no later than **March 20, 2025**, to [parliamentarian@harmonyinc.org](mailto:parliamentarian@harmonyinc.org).

Please send your registration form and check made payable to Area 3 Harmony, Inc. to **Michelle Buckenmeyer, 59 Autumn Chapel Way, Rochester, NY 14624**, no later than **March 20, 2025**.

Receipt order of AEP/registration form determines the priority of MoonGlow seating.

### AEP and Event Costs

- Full AEP for AC&C 2025 - **\$140**
- Non-Performing AEP - **\$115**
- Youth AEP - **\$119 (cost covered by Harmony, Inc.)**
- General Admission Contest Tickets - **\$20 each (available at the door)**
- Guest dinners - **\$50 each**

AEP prices include Judges Equalization Fee from Harmony, Inc. and include the Banquet and Moonglow

# CONTEST INFORMATION

## AC&C 2025 General Contest Information

It's time for all chorus and quartet contestants to submit Contest Entry Forms (CEF). Please complete either [HAR-061](#) (quartet) or [HAR-063](#) (chorus) found on the Harmony, Inc. website in the Members Only section.

Contestant CEF must be submitted no later than **March 3, 2025** in order to be a part of the initial draw for the Order of Appearance for either the Quartet or Chorus Contest. If you miss this date, a late fee will be assessed, and you will sing first in the applicable contest. In order to compete, your late entry must be submitted no later than **April 2, 2025**.

### Judging Panel

<b>Panel Chair</b>	Patricia Cassidy
<b>Administrative Judge</b>	Linda Briggs
<b>Musicality</b>	Kathy Greason and Andrew Carolan
<b>Performance</b>	Tracey Beatty and Fatima Whelan
<b>Singing</b>	Amy Patterson and Rik Johnson
<b>Practice Panel</b>	Rachel McIntyre (ADM) and Susan Ives (SING)

**Chorus Info:** We are hoping that we will be able to assign each chorus their own rehearsal room Saturday morning. Chorus Photos will be taken on the stage following the chorus' performance.

**Quartet Info:** Please note that the Quartet Contest time is tentative (Friday 1:00 pm). We may have to start earlier depending on the number of quartets that might be competing. We will not know this until all entry forms have been submitted. Please consider coming Thursday night if possible, so you can enjoy contest day without being rushed! There are no classrooms or warm-up areas, so you will need a space to get ready in.

### Harmony Welcomes Mixed Quartets!

We're happy to again announce that Area 3 has opened its arms to include mixed quartets registered with the Mixed Barbershop Harmony Association (MBHA) at our AC&C.

For details on how to register with MBHA visit [www.mixedbarbershop.org](http://www.mixedbarbershop.org). Once you are registered with MBHA and your dues are up to date, please complete the Quartet Contest Entry Form ([HAR-061](#)) by March 3rd. All contestants must purchase an All Events Pass.

If you have any questions regarding either the chorus or quartet contest, please contact ACJC Erin Cassidy at [a3jc@harmonyinc.org](mailto:a3jc@harmonyinc.org).

## CONTEST INFORMATION

**NOTE:** Due to trying to keep the cost of the AEP reasonable and the increasing cost to print a program, there will again be an electronic program this year and program ad information will be provided in the second mailing. A one-page contest performance order sheet will be available at the door for each contest.

### **Volunteers**

We need lots of help over the weekend to put on a successful AC&C. Please consider volunteering for a job on contest weekend.

You do not need to login to sign up, just click the link and sign-up! Thank you!

Sign up Link: [Area 3 AC&C Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

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## CONTEST STAGE INFORMATION

For **choruses**, the risers will be six 6 ft, 4-step risers with back rails and will be placed on the floor of the ballroom. **Quartets** will be standing on the floor.

Please be aware that there will be NO CONTEST STAGE or stage curtain. Contestants will **enter stage left and exit stage right**. Each chorus package starts when the director signals the emcee for the introduction. Quartet packages begin when the emcee introduces each quartet.

### Tentative Contest Weekend Schedule

*(final schedule will be published at a later date)*

DATE	TIME	SCHEDULE	ROOM/FACILITY	
Friday, May 2nd	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer	
	10:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Hospitality	Champlain Room	
	10:30 PM – 11:00 PM	Area Quarus Rehearsal	Adams Basin	
	11:00 PM – 11:30 PM	Contestant Judges Briefing	Grand Ballroom	
	11:30 PM – 12:15 PM	Quartet on-stage viewing	Grand Ballroom	
	1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Quartet Contest: Area Quarus, Awards, 1 <sup>st</sup> place sings	Grand Ballroom	
	6:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Evaluations	TBA	
	Saturday, May 3rd	8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Hospitality	Champlain Room
		8:15 AM – 9:00 AM	Chorus on-stage viewing (no singing)	Grand Ballroom
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM		Area Chorus Rehearsal	Grand Ballroom	
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM		Family Chorus Rehearsal	Grand Ballroom	
10:00 AM -10:30 AM		Associates Chorus Rehearsal	Grand Ballroom	
10:00 AM - Contest		Chorus assigned rooms available	TBA	
10:00 AM – Noon		Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer	
Noon – 2:45 PM		Chorus Contest: Associates Chorus, Family Chorus, Area Chorus, Awards, 1 <sup>st</sup> place sings	Grand Ballroom	
3:15 PM – 5:30 PM		Chorus Evaluations	TBA	
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM		Cocktails / Dinner	Grand Ballroom	
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	MoonGlow	Grand Ballroom		
Sunday, May 4th	9:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Education / Craft Classes	TBA	
	9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Hospitality	Champlain Room	

## AREA CHORUS/ QUARUS/FAMILY/ASSOCIATE CHORUS INFO

### Area 3 Chorus

Katie Taylor is leading our 2025 Area 3 Chorus in song at this year's AC&C, as the director from Northern Blend Chorus, our 2024 Area 3 first place Chorus Champions and 2024 International Chorus Champions. The song selected is "Stand By Me," arranged by Steve Delehanty.

The Area Chorus is made up of four singers from each chapter. If you are able to be in the Area 3 Chorus, PLEASE be certain to do your part by LEARNING the song. The rehearsal is Saturday morning at AC&C and the performance is Saturday afternoon after the last chorus competes. Remember that all Area 3 Associate members are also invited to sing in the Area 3 Chorus! Janine Schindler, Area 3 ACCT Chair will send each chorus and associate the music and trax.

### Area 3 Quarus

Our Area 3 Quarus Director for 2025 is Sue Melvin, Rochester Rhapsody Director, and the song the Quarus will be singing is, "Kickin' It Up a Notch", an original composition by Nancy Faddegon. [Click here](#) for a preview of this fun tune. Sheet music and learning trax will be available to registered quartets. If one or more of your quartet mates are unable to participate in this year's Quarus, you still can! (It's not mandatory that all four of you are there.)

Once you decide that you can learn this song and will be with us for the Friday morning rehearsal and the Friday evening performance, please contact Debbie Durfey, Area 3 Quartet Promotions Coordinator at [quartets@area3harmony.org](mailto:quartets@area3harmony.org) for music and trax.

### Area 3 Family Chorus

This is an invitation to all Area 3 singers who fall within the FAMILY category to please participate in our Family Chorus at AC&C 2025! This year's director is Alexa Beal, 2018 Queen from Aged to Perfection. The song she has chosen is "Fun in Just One Lifetime" arranged by Joe Liles. We certainly don't want to miss anyone who is eligible to enjoy this experience and encourage all members who have a mother, mother-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, aunt, cousin, associate member and/or affiliate male family member that sing in Area 3 – to please join us! It is a very enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Please indicate your interest in participating by emailing Janine Schindler, Area 3 ACCT Chair at: [acctchair@area3harmony.org](mailto:acctchair@area3harmony.org), and she will send you the music and trax. The rehearsal will be Saturday morning with a performance after the chorus contest.

### Area 3 Associate Chorus

This new chorus started in 2023 and is for our Associates. Due to the low expected attendance of Associate members at this time, this chorus's status is TBD. Once members have officially registered, we will decide whether this chorus can convene.

## HOSTESS CHAPTER

# AC&C 2025 Host Chapter Niagara Frontier Chord Authority *presents*

## “Lights, Camera, Action”



The winner is...Niagara Frontier Chord Authority as the Host Chorus for the 2025 Area 3 AC&C. Step into the light with us as we present the theme Lights, Camera, Action: A Night at the Oscars! Have fun picking a movie that was nominated or won an Oscar and dress as characters from the movie. Your chorus can all dress as the same character or pick various characters from the movie. Or you can let your creativity shine as you come dressed as someone simply attending the Oscars, paparazzi, or even the Oscar statue itself!!! We can't wait to see where this star-studded event takes you!



## BANQUET AND MOONGLOW

### Banquet and MoonGlow

- The Banquet will be buffet style
- The menu will be provided in the 2nd mailing

For the MoonGlow, other than the normal pre-determined awards being presented, only the following will be part of our Saturday evening annual Area 3 AC&C MoonGlow program:

- [ALL Choruses](#) -- will perform one song (unless an exemption is requested)
- [ALL Area 3 Current Quartet Medalists](#) -- will perform one song
- [ALL Area 3 Queen quartets and/or International Chorus Champions](#) -- will perform one song (unless they do not wish to do so)
- [Judges](#) -- will perform one song (unless they elect not to do so)

### COVID Protocols

There are no *requirements* for vaccine or masking. We will reinstate on an event-by-event basis, if the federal or state guidelines change for that location.

## CHECKLIST

### Due Dates:

- March 3: Contest Entry Form**
- March 15: Link sent to make individual Hotel Reservations**
- March 20: Registration Form**
- April 2: Late entry Contest Entry Form**
- Anytime: Volunteer Sign Up**
- Anytime: Request Area Chorus, Quarus & Family Chorus Music**

More details will follow in the 2nd mailing in early April. Questions? Please email ACCT Chair Janine Schindler at: [acctchair@area3harmony.org](mailto:acctchair@area3harmony.org).