

# The Summer Ringers Academy

The William Baker Choral Foundation  
5450 Buena Vista Street #100, Roeland Park, KS 66205 913.488.7524  
Mail@FestivalSingers.org www.ChoralFoundation.org

Friday, May 10, 2024

## INVITING YOU TO JOIN US FOR A SUMMER OF RINGING, LEARNING & FUN

Dear Friends,

I am writing to invite you to be a part of a new initiative from the William Baker Choral Foundation, the 2024 Summer Ringing Academy.

Modeled after our Summer Singers ensembles that have brought participation and inspiration to thousands of singers over the past 35 years, the Summer Ringing Academy will provide an opportunity for musical involvement and performance with handbells. Our summer ensemble will be led by Amy Chinnery-Valmassei, Handbell Director for the St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Lee's Summit and a member of the elite Kansas City Bronze.

**No audition is required for participation in the Summer Ringers Academy.** However, ability to read music is a must. Prior handbell experience is recommended, but not required. Perhaps you are an experienced pianist, instrumentalists or singer with extensive musical experience, but you are new to handbell ringing. The Summer Ringers Academy will provide an opportunity to enter the joy of this wonderful art.

Rehearsals will be 7:00-9:00 PM, Wednesday Evenings in the nave of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 416 SE Grand Avenue in Lee's Summit, MO, beginning Wednesday, June 5. There will be a public concert on Sunday, August 18, 4:00 PM, at the St. Paul's Church.

Please review the attached information and contact us with any questions.

I hope you will register your participation TODAY!

Soli Deo Gloria,

William O. Baker, DMA  
Head of the Choral Foundation

## THE 2024 SUMMER RINGERS ACADEMY FAQ

### *Who is invited to participate in Summer Ringers Academy?*

All adults and mature youth in grades 9-12 are invited to participate. Youth under the age of 16 may participate only if a parent or guardian is present at all times during rehearsals, performances and events involving the young member. The Summer Singers Academy is not recommended for youth under the age of 12.

**There is no audition required for participation**, but music reading ability is a must and handbell experience is recommended.

### *What is the schedule of rehearsals and concert?*

WD	June	05:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 1	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	June	12:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 2	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	June	19:	-----	NO Rehearsal	
WD	June	26:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 3	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	July	03:	-----	NO Rehearsal	
WD	July	10:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 4	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	July	17:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 5	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	July	24:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 6	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	July	31:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 7	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	August	07:	7:00-9:00	Rehearsal 8	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
WD	August	14:	7:00-9:30	"Dress" Rehearsal	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
SU	August	18:	2:00	Concert Preparation	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
			4:00	PERFORMANCE	St. Paul's Episcopal Church

### *Where are rehearsals located?*

All rehearsals and our performance will be at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 416 SE Grand Avenue in Lee's Summit, Missouri. There is free off-street parking on the church property.

### *What is the tuition, and where does the money go?*

Tuition for the 2024 Summer Ringers Academy is \$50, or \$45 if paid before June 5. The tuition helps fund the Choral Foundation, paying staff salaries, promotional mailings and announcements, printed materials and music scores. For the record, tuition payments and concert donations pay only a small portion of these expenses. The balance is made up by generous gifts to the Choral Foundation and the Summer Ringers Academy from individuals and organizations. **Tuition is NOT refundable for any reason**, but may be applied to any future Summer Ringers Academy or Summer Singers if you are unable to participate.

***What is the Choral Foundation?***

The Choral Foundation is a national arts organization founded in Atlanta in 1990. It is best known in Kansas City, where it is now headquartered, as the sponsoring organization for The William Baker Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City, the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, along with the Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library and the Institute for Healthy Singing & Voice Research. In all, the twelve ensembles of the Choral Foundation will register over 600 men, women and youth in the course of the year. The Choral Foundation is a 501-c-3 tax exempt corporation of the State of Kansas, licenced to conduct business in Georgia, Illinois and Missouri. To learn more please visit our website at [www.ChoralFoundation.org](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org) and/or [Guidestar.org/profile/48-1214336](http://Guidestar.org/profile/48-1214336) .

***What if I can't pay tuition?***

The By-Laws and Core Values of the Choral Foundation (read them at [www.ChoralFoundation.org](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org)) direct that no one will ever be denied the benefits of the Choral Foundation based on ability to pay. Full tuition assistance, partial tuition assistance and extended tuition payment arrangements are available upon request. We rely on an honor system and ask that singers make application **ONLY** in case of genuine need.

***I would love to participate, but my family will be away on vacation and I might miss a rehearsal.***

The Summer Ringers Academy is, obviously, a "summer" program. We realize that summer is the vacation season and that most members will miss a rehearsal. We ask that every member do their very best to be present for all rehearsals possible and that, to the extent of their ability.

***What do participants wear for concerts?***

All persons are asked to wear all-black for the performances. For men this means black long-sleeve shirt, black trousers, black bow tie, black socks and black shoes. For women this means black dress 3/4 length, or black blouse and black slacks.

**ALL MEMBERS are asked to refrain from fragrances at ANY rehearsal or concert.**

**More Questions?** Call the Choral Foundation Home Office at 913-488-7524, or email [Mail@FestivalSingers.org](mailto:Mail@FestivalSingers.org) Information about the Summer Ringers Academy, and registration materials can be found at [www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow)

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY GREAT MUSIC  
FEEL FREE TO COPY AND DISTRIBUTE THIS INFORMATION FAR AND WIDE

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING  
THE SUMMER RINGERS ACADEMY!**

# The Summer Ringers Academy

A Program of The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, Kansas 66205 Office: 913-488-7524

E-mail: [Mail@FestivalSingers.org](mailto:Mail@FestivalSingers.org) Internet: [www.ChoralFoundation.org](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org)

## FIRST SEASON REGISTRATION - 2024

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Do you presently ring with a local community or church bell ensemble? Yes No

If so, please list the name(s) of the choir(s) and the director(s):

Ensemble \_\_\_\_\_ Conductor \_\_\_\_\_

Ensemble \_\_\_\_\_ Conductor \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any events between June 5 & August 18 that you know now you must miss?

If so, please CIRCLE the dates here:

June 05      June 12      June 26      July 10      July 17      July 24

July 31      August 7      August 14      August 18 (concert)

Your signature is a commitment to participate in the 2024 Summer Ringers Academy. If possible, please include your check with this registration. If necessary, however, you may pay tuition at the first rehearsal or apply for tuition assistance. Though unexpected the Choral Foundation reserves the right to change announced repertoire, musical partners or staff if such becomes necessary for any reason.

Signature/Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: **Summer Ringers Academy** and mail it to:

The William Baker Choral Foundation, 5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 tuition enclosed (\$45 before June 5)

\_\_\_\_\_ Pay at First Rehearsal      \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition Assistance Information Requested

\*\*\* Prefer to use your credit card? Please register online at [www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow) \*\*\*

# Summer Ringers Academy

AMY CHINNERY-VALMASSEI, Music Director & Conductor

## OUR FIRST SUMMER OF HANDBELL RINGING

Rehearsals Wednesday Evenings, 7:00-9:00, beginning June 5  
Concert Sunday, August 28  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 416 SE Grand Avenue  
Lee's Summit, Missouri

Tuition Only \$50 (\$45 if paid before June 5, 2024)

Confidential Tuition Assistance Available In Cases of Need

### **NO AUDITION REQUIRED**

Music Reading Ability a Must  
Handbell Experience Recommended

**Adults & Mature Youth 16 & Older**

Call 913-488-7524 or e-mail [Mail@FestivalSingers.org](mailto:Mail@FestivalSingers.org)

*Register online at [www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow](http://www.ChoralFoundation.org/registernow)*

The Summer Ringers Academy is an ensemble of The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.