

LET'S GET ACQUAINTED

SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL

Education and Entertainment:
Celebrating Our Past, Molding Our Future

Do you like to sing?

If singing an exciting variety of choral music arranged in four-part harmony, with friends, sounds appealing to you, get acquainted with Sweet Adelines International!

What is barbershop harmony?

In simple terms, barbershop harmony is vocal harmony produced by four parts: lead, tenor, baritone and bass. It is different from any other kind of choral or group singing.

Finding the right part for your voice is the initial step. Any woman of average singing ability, with or without vocal training, will find a part that fits her range.

- **LEAD** is the melody and is 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 compliment 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.

What is SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL?

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 is the world's largest singing organization for women. "Harmonize the World" is the organization's motto.

What do members do?

Each member belongs to a chorus.

The chorus is the workshop where members receive training in barbershop harmony while experiencing the joy of singing. Groups of four singers, one from each voice part, may voluntarily form quartets.



Each chorus enriches its community.

A chorus provides an outlet for community service for its members. Choruses perform at civic events and charitable functions, present shows and promote harmony and friendship among women.

The Sweet Adelines International organization offers education and certification in choral directing, music arranging, judging and teaching while providing opportunities to develop administrative and leadership skills.

Through the Young Women in Harmony Program, Sweet Adeline members share the joy of singing and performing with young women of junior-high through college age in association with school music educators.

International Convention

Thousands of members assemble annually for the highlight of the Sweet Adelines' year: the international convention.

Several days of harmony, fun, education classes and competitions combine to make an unforgettable event. Regional champions representing Sweet Adelines International choruses and quartets from around the world compete in the international championships.

Why did women organize to sing barbershop harmony?

It was inevitable! For many years people believed that barbershop harmony was best suited to men's voices. Not so! Barbershop harmony is interesting, poignantly sweet and versatile, with colorful and fascinating costuming and theatrical possibilities.

How did it all begin?

In the summer of 1945, World War II was nearly over and the world was looking ahead to brighter days. One of the things Americans held dearest was music.

In Tulsa, Oklahoma, women wanted to sing that "chord-ringing, fun-filled music": barbershop harmony! These women took a bold step into, a new age by organizing the first chapter of "Sweet Adelines in America."

By the close of 1945, Tulsa's Atomaton Chapter ("We have an atom of energy to start with.") had 85 members.

Where are the choruses now?

By 1947 interest in forming a nationwide organization was so strong that the Tulsa chapter made plans for a national convention. The response was overwhelming.

From that moment on, the organization that is now known as Sweet Adelines International has grown by leaps and bounds.

Today the international membership of nearly 26,000 women, all singing in English, includes choruses all over the United States as well as in Australia, Canada, England, Finland, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Scotland, Sweden, the Netherlands and Wales.

Who can be a member?

You can!

You don't need musical training. Chorus members represent a wide variety of occupations and walks of life. The joy of singing is their bond.

If you like to sing, want to have fun while making new friends, and seek opportunities for personal growth, you may want to investigate a Sweet Adelines International chorus.

Visit a chorus today.

Chorus name: _____

Contact: _____

Rehearsal Location: _____



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