

## **Benefits of Membership**

### **What is Sweet Adelines International?**

Sweet Adelines International is a highly respected 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 one of the world's largest singing organizations for women.

The international membership of nearly 27,000 women, all singing in English, includes choruses in most of the fifty United States, as well as in Australia, Canada, England, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Scotland, Sweden and the Netherlands. There are also prospective choruses in Denmark, Greece and United Arab Emirates.

The barbershop style of four-part, a cappella harmony lends itself to songs from any era - today's ballads, popular show tunes, even jazz. Sweet Adelines have performed their unique style of music in a number of popular venues from professional sports stadiums, Olympic ceremonies, with major symphonies, and even on national television shows.

### **Benefits of membership**

As a member, the organization becomes yours. The programs are planned by members for members. You'll discover that the opportunities available through Sweet Adelines International are almost unlimited.

Membership of Sweet Adelines International provides superb, unmatched vocal education; affiliation with this almost 27,000-strong international women's organization; the support and knowledge such an organization has to offer; discounts on products and music arrangements; special music arrangements only available to members; subscription to the Pitch Pipe and other regular publications; and the "intangibles" such as increased self-esteem, friendship and emotional support.

### **Education**

The main purpose of Sweet Adelines International is education of members in the art of singing four-part harmony, barbershop style. If you want to improve your singing abilities and learn a cappella harmony barbershop style, Sweet Adelines International offers the most comprehensive, quality education available anywhere in the world.

The International Education Symposium (IES) is the ultimate educational experience for singers. It is a fantastic, awe-inspiring annual event, to which members get reduced registration rates.

Some of the subjects you can learn include:

- Singing
- Choreography
- Stage direction
- Costuming
- Stage Makeup
- Judging
- Teaching (faculty)
- Faculty
- Director's Certification
- Leadership
- Chorus Management
- Arranging
- Personal Growth & Leadership

### **Competitions**

Hone your musical and performance skills at regional and international competitions. As a member you are entitled to participate in competitions, at regional and international levels. Judges give detailed feedback on performances, which can be used as a learning tool to improve performance of the individual as well as the group. Competitions represent exciting opportunities to travel, perform and learn.

Thousands of members assemble annually for the highlight of the Sweet Adelines year: the International Convention. Convention is held in the last quarter of each year at a popular destination site carefully selected several years in advance.

Barbershop harmony lovers from all over the world gather to listen to the best quartets and choruses from each region, as they compete for international championships. It is an awe-inspiring experience and one you will never forget!

### **Discounts**

Members get discounts on International Sales including sheet music, CDs, videos, books, brochures and merchandise; International Convention registrations; special musical arrangements and the International Education Symposium.

### **Publications**

Each member gets a subscription to *The Pitch Pipe*, plus various other relevant newsletters. Included you will find articles, information, news, stories, letters and pictures – in fact, anything and everything to do with fun, friendship and harmony.

### **Arrangements**

Members have access to an exclusive library of outstanding, up-to-date arrangements by internationally recognized arrangers at discounted prices. Members also have the option of contacting the arrangers directly with specific requests on arrangements. This resource is totally unique to members of Sweet Adelines International.

### **Affiliation**

As a member of Sweet Adelines International, you benefit from the prestigious affiliation with this worldwide organization. And when audiences watch you perform they know they are about to experience a quality performance from these Sweet Adelines singers. As one Director says, "When you are a member of a Sweet Adelines International chorus, others know you have the benefit of that education. They have high expectations for what they know they are going to see, hear and experience. There is prestige in knowing you are a link in that impressive chain. There is pride in being able to tell others that you are a member of such a wonderful organization."

### **Not For Profit**

You have the knowledge that you are ensuring the preservation and promotion of barbershop four-part harmony. Sweet Adelines is a non-profit organization, which supports educational programs in schools and colleges through their Young Women in Harmony program. The organization also raises funds for the Young Singers Foundation, which offers music scholarships and grants.

### **Intangibles**

There are some elements of membership, which come as a result of the education and the experience. Some of these are almost intangible, such as the emotional and personal growth, increased self-confidence and improved interpersonal skills. Learning all of those "extras", such as poise, composure, and esteem building is Priceless!

**Just for the fun of it!**

We all need time for pleasure and relaxation. As a member you'll discover fun social activities, an enlarged circle of friends, and community service projects that benefit your hometown.

**Harmonize The World**

Sweet Adelines is a hobby that brings fun, friendship and harmony into your life!