

Young Women in Harmony Program

Excerpted from 4/07 Regional Management Team Handbook & updated 4/09

Mission Statement: *The Young Women in Harmony program reaches out to young women through the American musical art form of barbershop harmony. Its goal is to provide educational and performance opportunities and to offer music educators a means of including the study and performance of barbershop in school music programs.*

Regional YWIH Coordinators are appointed by the Education Coordinator to facilitate youth outreach activities and education. The coordinator's position is mainly administrative. She receives information and suggested activities through the education department at international headquarters. Her focus is to help chapters inform their local school districts of the availability of the Young Women in Harmony materials and to ensure the visibility of the program by organizing representation at state conventions of MENC; the National Association for Music Education and ACDA; the American Choral Directors' Association.

With the inception of the Rising Star Quartet contest, held annually at International Convention, the Young Women in Harmony coordinator's position now includes publicity for this event. The contest is open to female singers 25 and younger. Regional coordinators encourage participation and may organize preliminary contests at regional educational events.

The Young Women in Harmony materials are provided at no charge in an introductory packet to music educators by requesting them from international sales. Assistance with festival planning, teaching at regional weekends, funds for MENC/ACDA booth rentals and general information may be obtained through the director of education.