

ARIZONA



**Arizona Division Convention
April 17-19, 2026 • Glendale, Arizona**

Welcome!

Welcome to the 2026 FWD Arizona Division and International Preliminary Convention in Glendale, Arizona!

It is my great pleasure to have you here with us at this incredible gathering of talent and creativity. Whether you're a first-time attendee or a veteran competitor you'll find there are plenty of opportunities to learn, connect, and have good ol' barbershop fun throughout the weekend.

In addition to the chorus and quartet competitions, we have Harmony Platoon convening on Friday at Desert Christian Fellowship, which is always a hoot to witness even if you're not an active "Platoonist" yourself.

This year we have thirteen quartets (at last count) and five choruses to delight our ears on the contest stage, and for the first time EVER, we are having International Prelims here in Arizona! Because of that our whole schedule is turned upside down, holding the Arizona Division Quartet Contest and International Preliminary Quartet Semifinal in the morning, and the Arizona Division Chorus Contest and International Preliminary Chorus and Quartet Final in the evening.

Come early on Saturday afternoon to be a part of our Everyone Welcome Chorus under the direction of Gold Medalist and BHS Hall of Famer, Mark Hale, and stick around for the end of the Saturday Night Final where our Mic Cooler will be an encore performance by our new Arizona Division Quartet Champion. Cap off a great evening at the "Cast Party" Afterglow where you can schmooze and sing tags 'til the wee hours, and you might just win the coveted "Last Ones Standing" award for Arizona2026.

Need a coffee? Someplace easy for lunch? Look no further than the lobby! The Apollo Culinary Club is preparing sandwiches, salads, pastries, and other goodies for sale. We all support Youth in Harmony; let's support Youth in Gastronomy, too!

Many thanks to the Phoenicians for hosting this event. We hope you leave the convention having enjoyed musical excellence, great memories, and making new friends.

Let's make this a fun weekend full of love, and joy, and "Keep the Whole World Singing!"

David Melville

2026 Arizona Convention Chairman
2025 FWD Hall of Fame





Far Western District Arizona Division Convention

April 17-19, 2026 • Glendale, Arizona

Hosted by the Greater Phoenix Chapter



Schedule of Events

All times marked are Arizona Standard Time.

Doors open 30 minutes prior to each event. Your convention badge is required for entry into all events.

FRIDAY 04/17

Harmony Platoon 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm Desert Christian Fellowship

SATURDAY 04/18

Registration & Box Office..... 9:00 am - Noon Apollo Theater, Lobby

Quartet Session 11:00 am - 1:20 pm Apollo Theater

Quartet Feedback 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Building 9 Warmup Rooms 1-6

Registration & Box Office..... 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm Apollo Theater Lobby

Everyone Welcome Chorus 4:15 pm..... Apollo Theater Ready Room

Chorus Session..... 5:00 pm - 6:50 pm..... Apollo Theater

Chorus Feedback 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm Building 9 Warmup Rooms 1-6

Cast Party & Afterglow 8:30 pm Denny's Restaurant

~ LOCATIONS ~

Apollo High School • 8045 N 47th Ave, Glendale

DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix North • 10220 N Metro Pkwy East, Phoenix

Desert Christian Fellowship • 1445 W Northern Ave, Phoenix

Denny's Restaurant • 9030 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix

The use of cell phones or any other device to record during shows and contest sessions is strictly prohibited.

Thank you for your cooperation.

2026 Arizona Convention Committee

Convention Chairman.....	David Melville	Sound Engineer	Jim Ernsberger
FWD President.....	Adam Kaufman	Stage Manager	Sharon Ernsberger
DRCJ	John Burri	Judges Hospitality	John Burri
FWD Events Director	Adam Kaufman	Judges Transportation.....	Shreyas Amin
Arizona Events Coordinator ...	Scott Holcomb	Registration	Cherie Kaufman
FWD Registrar	David Melville	Awards.....	Kenny Rios
FWD Treasurer.....	Wally Smulson	Convention Program.....	David Melville
Host Chapter Coordinators.....	Shreyas Amin, Justin Klemballa, Phil Kraft		David Melville, Parker Rognrud

ENTER

To

WIN

50/50 Raffle

All proceeds benefit Phoenicians Chorus

1 ticket	\$1
5 tickets	\$3
20 tickets	\$10
50 tickets	\$20

Tickets on sale in the Lobby
before the show and at intermission.

CASH ONLY

Drawing held at end of Show. Must be present to win.



Additional donations are gladly accepted 





In Memoriam

In 2024 we dedicated the Arizona Division Convention in his honor; today we rededicate the 2026 Arizona Division Convention in his memory.

Carl "Doc" Dockendorf, 92, passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by family after living a long, happy, and healthy life on March 31, 2026. He was born on November 10, 1933, in Ashland, Ohio, to Albert and Mabel Dockendorf.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army.

He later earned his degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois and worked for Motorola as an electrical engineer for 33 years. Doc's life passion was barbershop music, which he was involved in for 65 years, first as a singer and later as a director. Through barbershop, he formed many lifelong friendships and found great joy in music.

Doc discovered Barbershop as a teenager in Ohio, browsing through a music store and finding a book of songs arranged for four-part harmony. He enlisted three classmates to form a quartet, known as the Coldfire Four. They adopted the name because they sang in the dark while wearing glowing fluorescent ties and shoelaces.

He met the love of his life, Jacqueline Sue Dockendorf, in Florida. They were married before moving to Arizona in 1965 and shared 61 wonderful years of marriage together. Doc and his wife split their time between the Valley and the White Mountains until 2025, when they moved to Camp Verde, Arizona, where they continued to enjoy Arizona's beautiful scenery and close-knit community.

Doc sang bass with the Phoenicians for 25 years, winning three Gold Medals and one Silver. Additionally, he sang with the Scottsdale, Paradise Valley and High Country choruses, and the East Valley Harmonizers. He judged dozens of BHS contests over 20 years and coached numerous quartets and choruses. He accumulated 15 Person of Note awards and served four years as Division Vice President. He was president of the Greater Phoenix and White Mountains chapters and sang with many quartets including 20 years with the Pine Tones Four.

He is survived by his loving wife, Jacqueline Sue Dockendorf; his daughters, Julie Lalime (Jeff) and Jill Rayburn (Brian); his grandchildren, Sloane Olbricht, Katie Lalime, Nicole Lalime, Kody Rayburn (Kelsie), Mason Rayburn (Zandi), and Jaydyn Rayburn (Jason); and his great-grandchildren, Carson, Layne, and Kyle Rayburn. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Joy Benoit.

Carl "Doc" Dockendorf will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his service to his country, his long and accomplished career, and the joy he brought to others through music. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

In lieu of flowers please consider donations to barbershop.org in Carl's name.

Forever in our hearts.



LOS BORDERSHOP

2025 AZ Division Novice Champs
2026 FWD Quartet Qualifier

BARBERSHOP BEYOND BORDERS

Who we are:

Los Bordershop is the world's first Mexican-American barbershop quartet, bringing the joy of barbershop harmony to audiences in both English and Spanish. Our mission is simple: expand the boundaries of barbershop through bilingual performance and cross-cultural collaboration. We'd love to share our music with your community!

**Seeking Concert
Engagements:
July 22-24, 2026**

**Available for
performances in
Arizona, Nevada, and
California**

- Featured concert set
- Shared bill with local quartets
- Full quartet "variety show"

Contact Information:

Marshall Voit, bass
losbordershop@gmail.com

www.losbordershop.com
@losbordershop





Everyone Welcome Chorus

As the name implies, everyone is welcome to participate as the Mic Testers for the chorus contest. You do NOT need a competitor registration to participate.

Our Arizona 2026 Chorus Director is **MARK HALE**.



Mark has had a distinguished career in the Barbershop Harmony Society, having won quartet gold with his quartet, Michigan Jake, in 2001. He directed the Masters of Harmony to four gold medals and Sound of the Rockies to two medalist finishes, and he is a certified Musicality judge and a widely sought after coach for choruses and quartets alike. In 2025 he was inducted into the Barbershop Harmony Society. In addition, he is known for arranging classics like *You Make Me Feel So Young*, *My Ideal*, and *Always*.

The Phoenicians, with its 80+ year history in the greater Phoenix area and commitment "to be the most entertaining and musically excellent choral organization at the center of a vibrant community in Arizona," is thrilled to have Mark at the helm as they embark on this new chapter in their history.

The songs he has selected for the Everyone Welcome Chorus are:

- **Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie**
- **Sweet and Lovely (That's What You Are to Me)**

There will be an all-chorus practice on Saturday afternoon before the chorus contest. See the convention program/schedule for time and location.

Panel of Judges

Administrative

Panel Chair - Randy Renzi - SWD

ADM - Mike Thompson - SWD

Musicality

Jake Bavarsky - JAD
Evan Boeghhold - JAD

Performance

Mo Field - ONT
Mike Louque - CSD

Singing

Matt Fellows - FWD
Rik Johnson - CSD

~ CANDIDATES ~

ADM - Marcus Neilsen - FWD

Determining Relative Rank

Music

Music is defined as the song and arrangement, as performed. The Music Category judges the arranger's skill and the performer's musicianship in bringing the mood or story of the song to life, and the suitability of the material to the barbershop style.

Performance

These judges evaluate how effectively a performer brings the song to life. They judge the entertainment value of the performance — the art of the performance.

Singing

In the Singing Category, artistic singing in the barbershop style is judged — listening holistically for ringing in-tune voices that use a free, beautiful and rich vocal quality, which is wonderfully unified and vocally expressive.

Each judge may award up to 100 points per song.

Read more about each category in-depth at barbershop.org/contests

Definition of the Barbershop Style

Barbershop harmony is a style of unaccompanied vocal music characterized by consonant four-part chords for every melody note in a primarily homorhythmic (the same word sounds at the same time) texture. The melody is consistently sung by the lead (second tenor), with the tenor (first tenor) harmonizing above the melody, the bass singing the lowest harmonizing notes, and the baritone completing the chord. Occasional brief passages may be sung by fewer than four voice parts.

Barbershop music features songs with understandable lyrics and easily singable melodies, whose tones clearly define a tonal center and imply major and minor chords and barbershop (dominant and secondary dominant) seventh chords that often resolve around the circle of fifths, while also making use of other resolutions. Barbershop music also features a balanced and symmetrical form, and a standard meter. The basic song and its harmonization are embellished by the arranger to

provide appropriate support of the song's theme and to close the song effectively. Barbershop singers adjust pitches to achieve perfectly tuned chords (instead of tempered tuning like the piano) in just intonation while remaining true to the established tonal center. Artistic singing in the barbershop style exhibits a fullness or expansion of sound, precise intonation, a high degree of vocal skill, and a high level of unity and consistency within the ensemble. Ideally, these elements are natural, not manufactured, and free from apparent effort.

The performance of barbershop music uses appropriate musical and visual methods to convey the theme of the song and provide the audience with an emotionally satisfying and entertaining experience. Barbershop singers traditionally do not hold sheet music. The musical and visual delivery is from the heart, believable, and sensitive to the song and its arrangement throughout. The most stylistic performance artistically melds together the musical and visual aspects to create and sustain the illusions suggested by the music.

Barbershop can be performed in quartets as well as choirs, and can be found all over the world in male, female, and mixed ensembles.

Notice of Filming & Photography

When you enter and attend a Far Western District ("FWD") event or program, you enter an area where photography, audio, and video recording may occur. By entering the event premises, you consent to interview(s), photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for news, web casts, streaming, promotional purposes, telecasts, advertising, inclusion on websites, social media, or any other purpose by FWD and its affiliates and representatives. Images, photos and/or videos may be used to promote similar FWD events in the future, highlight the event and exhibit the programs events of FWD. You release FWD, its officers and employees, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, or publication and use of interviews, photographs, computer images, video and/or or sound recordings. By entering the event premises, you waive all rights you may have to any claims for payment or royalties in connection with any use, exhibition, streaming, web casting, televising, or other publication of these materials, regardless of the purpose or sponsoring of such use, exhibiting, broadcasting, web casting, or other publication irrespective of whether a fee for admission or sponsorship is charged. You also waive any right to inspect or approve any photo, video, or audio recording taken by FWD or the person or entity designated to do so by FWD. You have been fully informed of your consent, waiver of liability, and release before entering the event.



The use of cell phones or any other device to record during shows and contest sessions is strictly prohibited.

Thank you for your cooperation.

THE WESTMINSTER CHORUS AND THE MASTERS OF HARMONY PRESENT:

FORGED

in *Gold* A LEGACY OF HARMONY

FEATURING:

THE WESTMINSTER CHORUS
FIVE TIME CHORUS CHAMPIONS

THE MASTERS OF HARMONY
NINE TIME CHORUS CHAMPIONS

MICHIGAN JAKE
2001 QUARTET CHAMPIONS



MAY 16TH - 3PM

LA MIRADA THEATER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

14900 La Mirada Boulevard La Mirada, CA 90638

SCAN FOR
TICKETS



OR GO TO:

<https://cart.lamiradatheatre.com/overview/3826>



The Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, dba Masters of Harmony, is supported, in part, by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Department of Arts and Culture.

Far Western District

International Preliminary Quartet Semifinal

Arizona Division Quartet Contest

April 18, 2026 • Glendale, Arizona

Presenter: Adam Kaufman

IP=Int'l Prelim, SP=Int'l Senior Prelim, D=District Qual, DS=District Senior Qual, SS=District SuperSenior, AZ=Division, S=Division Senior, N=Division Novice, HS=High School Quartet

1. Golden Helm Quartet

Alex Stepanyan, Brody Kelly, Noah Lawrence, Aden Corral
Cicero Prep Academy (HS)

2. Distinguished Gents

Nate Pribil, Jeromy McMahon, Parker Rogrud, Chaz Chesser
Greater Los Angeles, Greater Phoenix, Salt River Valley, Town North Plano TX, Westminster

3. Midwest Connection

Grant Fox, Curt Struyk, Brion Grant, Bill Shaw, Jr.
Sun Cities (D, DS, AZ, SR, SS)

4. Cut for time

Gene Brandwein, Bryan Thompson, Howard Donley, Jay Breen
Central Arizona (SP, D, AZ, SR, SS)

5. Yes Dear

Melanie Esquivias, Caitlin Klemballa, R.J. Esquivias, Justin Klemballa
Greater Phoenix, Frank Thorne (IP)

6. Euphonix

Janey Pulzello, Nathan Crawford, Ken Hammer, Curt McLees
Central Arizona, Greater Phoenix, Maricopa County, Westminster (D,AZ)

7. Unfinished Business

Riley Dewitt-Rickards, Nate Pribil, Elaine Abigail, Brandon Wang
Golden Gate, Greater Phoenix, La Jolla (D, AZ)

~ Intermission ~

8. Resonance

Jay Nelsestuen, Mark Iozia, Lucas Snyder, Adam Levandowski
Tucson (D, AZ, N)

9. ShaKlacky

Shawn York, David Rakita, Pat Claypool, Justin Miller
Westminster, Portland, OR, Frank Thorne (D)

10. Capiche

Cookie Bickerstaff, Kent Pyper, Chris Pomasi, Flounder Fox
Salt River Valley (D, AZ)

11. Rhapsody

Keith Olson, Larry Halvorson, Brent Graham, Steve McDonald
Salt River Valley, California Delta, St Croix Valley MN, Frank Thorne (SP, D, DS, AZ, SR)

12. The Associates

Sprout, Tinker, Shorty, Mulligan
Salt River Valley (D, AZ)

13. Banana Bread

R.J. Esquivias, Jay Nelsestuen, Chaz Chesser, Marshall Voit
Phoenix, Tucson, Frank Thorne (D, AZ)





LOCAL EATS

Top Restaurants Near Apollo High School

- **Apollo Culinary Club:** Homemade sandwiches, salads, coffee, muffins, danish, and other items served in the theater lobby! --Menu on next page.
- **Bobby Q (BBQ):** Popular spot known for high-quality BBQ and a fine-dining-meets-casual atmosphere.
- **Cornish Pasty Co.:** Highly rated for unique, hearty pasties. Located in downtown Glendale.
- **Romanelli's Italian Deli:** Authentic Italian sandwiches and market items.
- **Pho Thuan Thanh:** Known for authentic Vietnamese noodle soups.
- **Popo's Fiesta Del Sol:** Casual, authentic Mexican food near 59th Ave.
- **Pad Thai Cafe:** Highly-rated Thai cuisine located nearby on 51st Ave.
- **The Spicery in Our 1895 Home:** Unique, charming lunch spot in downtown Glendale.
- **Ric's On 95th:** A family-friendly sports bar with a wide menu of wings and burgers, located nearby.

Top Restaurants Near DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix North

- **Dos Arboles Restaurant & Cantina:** Located inside the hotel, serving Mexican food, breakfast, and featuring a bar with happy hour.
- **Texas Roadhouse:** Known for steaks and American fare, just 0.1 miles away.
- **LongHorn Steakhouse:** Steakhouse dining 0.1 miles from the hotel.
- **Olive Garden Italian Restaurant:** Italian dining option located 0.2 miles away.
- **First Watch:** A popular spot for breakfast, brunch, and healthy lunch options, located 0.4 miles away.
- **Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen:** Seafood restaurant located 0.6 miles away.
- **Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers:** Fast food chicken, 0.4 miles.
- **Foley Ranch:** American bar and dining options.
- **Lemon Restaurant:** A Mediterranean lounge in North Phoenix.

Apollo Hospitality



Apollo Culinary Club

~ MENU ~

Available in the lobby. Cash and Venmo accepted.

Drinks

Soda, Coffee, Hot/Cold Tea, Water, maybe lemonade

Pastries

Muffins, Brownies, Danishes, Cookies

Salads

Pasta, Garden, Ceasar

Food

Panini's, Quesadilla's, Pizza, Bagels

Snacks

Trail mix, popcorn, chips

PACIFIC HARMONY BRIGADE

Do you love to quartet?

- Do you love barbershop conventions...
... but wish you were doing more singing and less watching?
- Do you like to sing tags...
but wish you all knew and were singing
whole songs?
- Would you like to sing with
Newfangled Four?

the
Newfangled
Four



Come to **Pacific Harmony Brigade!**

Learn 12 great songs and sing and compete
in quartets with lots of other great singers.

Learn more at PacificHarmonyBrigade.org

Far Western District
International Preliminary Chorus & Quartet Final
Arizona Division Chorus Contest

April 18, 2026 · Glendale, Arizona

Presenter: David Melville

P=Int'l Prelim, D=District Qual, AZ=Division, A/AA/AAA=Plateau

MT. Everyone Welcome Chorus

Directed by Mark Hale

1. Yes Dear (Quartet)

Melanie Esquivias, Caitlin Klemballa, R.J. Esquivias, Justin Klemballa
Greater Phoenix, Frank Thorne (P)

2. Tucson Sunshine Chorus

Directed by Jay Nelsestuen

Tucson (D, AZ, A)

3. A Cappella Syndicate

Directed by Gary Steinkamp & Brent Graham

Salt River Valley (P, D, AZ, AAA)

4. Southwest Vocal Alliance

Directed by Danny Ryan

Maricopa County (P, D, AZ, AAA)

5. Desert Aires

Directed by Cary Burns

Sun Cities (P, S, D, AZ, AA)

6. Phoenixians

Directed by Mark Hale

Greater Phoenix (P, D, AZ, AAA)

Mic Cooler

2026 Arizona Division Quartet Champion

Announcements

Keep the Whole World Singing



Barbershop can change lives, and you can help.



SUPPORT YOUTH in HARMONY



Rather than having a handful of crowded
hospitality rooms we are closing the
convention with a

Cast Party & Afterglow

Following the Chorus Contest

Denny's Restaurant

9030 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix

Food, Beer, and Mimosas
available for purchase

Division Chorus Contest Results

Arizona Division

Most Improved Chorus:

Plateau A Champion:

Plateau AA Champion:

Plateau AAA Champion:

Division Chorus Champion:

International Prelim Chorus Results

Representing the FWD at St. Louis 2026

International Qualifier #3:

International Qualifier #2:

International Qualifier #1:

Division Quartet Contest Results

Arizona Division

Novice Quartet Champion:

Senior Quartet Champion:

Division Quartet Champion:

International Prelim Quartet Results

Representing the FWD at St. Louis 2026

International Qualifier #1:

Scan or Tap for Scoring Summaries





Pan Pacific Convention

The 2026 Far Western District Fall Convention &

**Pan Pacific Harmony
& Far Western District
Fall Convention**

**Honolulu, Hawai'i
October 6-11, 2026.**



panpac2026.org