



**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
SOUTHERN DIVISIONS
CONVENTION**

**MAY 1-2, 2026
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA**

Welcome to Riverside!



On behalf of our team, it's a pleasure to welcome you to this event. As co-chair, alongside David Melville, I want to sincerely thank each of you for being here. Your time, energy, and commitment are what make gatherings like this meaningful and memorable.

I'm especially impressed by the size and strength of the quartet field this year. It's exciting to see such enthusiasm and participation—it speaks volumes about the vitality and passion within our community.

Whether you're here to compete, learn, or simply enjoy the music and camaraderie, we're glad you're

part of it. Sit back, take it all in, and enjoy a fantastic event!

Adam Kaufman

Convention Co-Chairman

FWD President/Events Director

Welcome to the 2026 FWD Southern Divisions and International Preliminary Convention at the fabulous Fox Theatre in Riverside, California!

As co-chair along with Adam Kaufman, 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 a great time throughout the weekend.

Check out the Harmony Platoon, which makes its debut here this weekend, and join us Saturday morning for the Everyone Welcome Chorus under the direction of Alan Gordon. Cap off a great evening at the "Cast Party" afterglow, schmoozing and singing tags 'til the wee hours, and earn the coveted "Last Ones Standing" honors for Riverside26!

Many thanks to the Masters of Harmony 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

Convention Co-Chairman/Registrar

2025 FWD Hall of Fame



Far Western District Southern Divisions Convention

May 1-2, 2026 • Riverside, California

Hosted by the Greater Los Angeles Chapter



Schedule of Events

All times marked are Pacific Daylight Time.

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

FRIDAY 05/01

Harmony Platoon	9:00 am - 11:00 am	Hampton Inn, Common Area
Registration	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Hampton Inn, Conference Room
Quartet Semifinal.....	2:45 pm - 7:30 pm.....	The Box Riverside
Quartet Feedback, <i>not advancing</i> ..	8:00 pm - 10:00 pm.....	Hyatt Place, Judges Suites

SATURDAY 05/02

Registration & Box Office.....	8:30 am - Noon.....	Fox Lobby
Everyone Welcome Chorus	9:05 am.....	Fox Tower Room
Chorus Final.....	10:00 am - 1:15 pm.....	Fox Theatre
<i>Mic Cooler Parade of Quartets</i>	11:55 am - 1:15 pm	Fox Theatre
Chorus Feedback	1:45 pm - 3:55 pm	Fox Warmup Rooms & Hyatt
Box Office.....	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm.....	Fox Lobby
<i>Mic Warmer Parade of Quartets</i> ..	5:00 pm - 5:55 pm	Fox Theatre
Quartet Final	5:00 pm - 8:20 pm.....	Fox Theatre
Encore Performances.....	8:20 pm - 9:10 pm.....	Fox Theatre
Quartet Feedback.....	9:30 pm - 11:30 pm	Fox Warmup Rooms
Cast Party & Afterglow	9:30 pm	Hampton Inn, Common Area

~ LOCATIONS ~

The Box Riverside • 3635 Market Street
Fox Performing Arts Center • 3801 Mission Inn Avenue
Hampton Inn • 3505 Market Street
Hyatt Place • 3500 Market Street

2026 Southern Divisions Convention Committee

Co-Chairmen Adam Kaufman & David Melville	Sound Engineer	Jim Ernsberger
FWD President..... Adam Kaufman	Stage Manager	Sharon Ernsberger
DRCJ	Judges Hospitality	Sandy Myers
Asst. DRCJ..... David Melville	Judges Transportation.....	David Melville
FWD Events Director	Registration	Felix Maza, Jose Ruvalcaba
FWD Registrar	Awards.....	Kenny Rios
FWD Treasurer..... Wally Smulson	Convention Program.....	David Melville
Host Chapter Coordinators.....		Joe D'Amore, Leonard Jensen, Mark Travis



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 Southern Divisions 2026 Chorus Director is **ALAN GORDON**.



Director **Alan Gordon** is a "barbershop brat," having been introduced to the avocation through the involvement of both parents in San Jose, California. With music in the family room almost every night, it wasn't a surprise that he was harmonizing with his sister at age 5. That early start has imbedded in Alan a vocal flexibility that allows for chameleon-like blending through a wide range.

After moving to Southern California, Alan joined the **Masters of Harmony** in 1996, led the chorus in various positions including baritone section leader and assistant director, and won two International quartet championships – **Gotcha!** in 2004 and **Masterpiece** in 2013.

Alan directed the **Verdugo Hills Showtime Chorus** (VHSC) in 2000.

Alan and his wife, Cyndi, live in Fullerton with their daughter, Molly.

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

- **The Story of the Rose (Heart of My Heart)**
- **Sweet and Lovely (That's What You Are to Me)**

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

Panel of Judges

Administrative

Panel Chair - Brett Foster - RMD

ADM - Marcus Nielsen - FWD

Musicality

John Burri - FWD

Dan Wessler - FWD

Performance

Dane Chevassus - EVG

Theresa Weatherbee - FWD

Singing

Chris Hébert - FWD

DC Nash - SHD

~ CANDIDATES ~

ADM - David Murphree - SHD

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

Southern Divisions Quartet Contest

May 1, 2026 • Riverside, California

Presenter: David Melville

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

MT. Harmony Platoon Champs

1. Four A Limited Time

Dallas Halvorson, Michael Keleshian, John Yokoyama, Antwun Puckett
Las Vegas, Westminster, Frank Thorne (D,SE,Y)

2. Clear-Cut

Matt Bohy, Daniel Martin, Jesse Davidson, Alex Lambert
Greater Los Angeles, Westminster (IP,D,SW)

3. The Fun Guys

Arturo Lagunes Flores, Enrique Ortega, Keegan Clifford, Steve Fuller
Westminster (IP,D,SW,N)

4. Speakeasy

Matthew Gray, Ted Allen, Peter Trist, Brian Philbin
Lake Forest, Westminster (IP,D,SE)

5. Double Date

Michaela Slamka-Johnston, Blair Brown, Nathan Johnston, Ravi Raghuram
Westminster, Marietta, GA (IP,D,SW)

6. The Cords

Nathan Brown, Adam Haggart, Chase Butler, William Sullivan
Denver CO, Nashville TN, Wasatch Front UT, Frank Thorne (IP)

7. Tune In!

Joseph Hopkin, Ruben Viray, Kurtis Harrold, Alex Baskin
Las Vegas, Frank Thorne (D,SE)

8. 113 9th Street

Bayindir Citak, Eli Costello, Sean Clark, Mark Travis
Greater Los Angeles, Irvine, Redondo Beach, Westminster (D,SW)

9. Hodgepodge

Ethan Frahm, Jeff Albright, Antwun Puckett, Jean-Paul DeChambeau
Barbary Coast, California Delta, Las Vegas, Palo Alto-Mouthain View, Westminster, Denver Mile High CO, Nashville TN (IP,D,SE)

10. SoloVoce

Kim Alley, Tracey Sandberg, Jennifer French, Marina Hayden
Frank Thorne (IP,D,SE)

11. High Spirits

Rebecca Smith, Jesse Davidson, Sarah Shapiro, Yasu Ichikawa
Greater Los Angeles, Lake Forest, Westminster (D,SE)

12. Charmed

Lisa Bolender, Nilene Thompson-Finn, Melanie Jewell, Connie Mitchell
La Jolla, Frank Thorne (SP,D,DS,SE,SR,N)

13. Highway 39

Mallory Otto, Richard Otto, Tony Hope, John Saylor
Brea, Westminster (D,SE)

14. Valkyries

Grace Lueck, Emma Castillo, Kayla Quilantang, Sarah Saavedra
Frank Thorne (D,SE,N)

~ INTERMISSION ~

15. The South Bay Curve

Damian Curran, Dan Ullfig, David Taylor, John Saffery
South Bay (D,DS,SW,SR)

16. Common Thread

Joshua Landin, Ty Jones, Ryan Oliver, Richard Tran
Barbary Coast, California Delta (IP,D)

17. California Kings

Alex Carlson, Lucas Der Mugrdechian, O.J. de la Osa, Chase Ferrante
Westminster (IP,D,SE)

18. Fermata Nowhere

Andrea Martinez Gonzalez, Benjamin Ziek, Sean Chasworth, David Kilpatrick
San Fernando Valley (IP,D,SW,N)

19. High Stakes

Andrew Lehto, Cam Espino, Ruben Viray, Jason Hill
Las Vegas, Frank Thorne (IP,D,SE)

20. The Seventh Variety

Jacob Gonzalez, Michael Keleshian, Emil Pichardo, Ross Valentine
Westminster (IP)

21. Ready Willing & Mabel

Kim Vaughn, Caroline McLean-Neushul, Pete Neushul, Jim Campbell
South Bay, Frank Thorne (D,SW)

22. High Point

Zachary Simpson, Quintan Craig, Nick Morganella, Johnny DiGiorgio
Frank Thorne (IP,D,SW,N)

23. Critical Chords

Ernie Reyes, David Feiner, Adam Marangakis, Nate Reed
Lake Forest, Westminster (D,SW)

24. 4 Man Platoon

Jim Myers, Adam Kaufman, Sean Clark, Keith Troxler
Central Arizona, Greater Los Angeles, Greater Phoenix, Mesa, Oswego NY, South Bay (IP,SP,D,DS,SW,SR)

25. Matching Socks

Jeromy McMahon, Jeff Albright, Kurtis Harrold, Alex Baskin
Greater Phoenix, Las Vegas, Westminster, Frank Thorne (IP,D,SW)

26. Tone Alley

Kim Alley, Lorna Alley, Malachi Alley, Paul Alley
Frank Thorne (D,SW,N)

27. Balancing Act

Shelley Anderson, Alice Burgé, Cathy Gansen, Tom Fazekas
La Jolla, San Diego (D,DS,SE,SR)

28. Bravo!

Paul DeWeese, Seth Freed, Mike Regal, Charles Carothers
Fullerton, Greater Los Angeles, La Jolla (D,SW)

~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

Quartets not advancing to the final round will have the opportunity to perform on Saturday on the Fox Theatre stage.





LOCAL EATS

Top Rated Dining Options

- **Mario's Place** (0.2 mi): Located across the street, offering high-end Italian cuisine and an extensive wine list.
- **Duane's Prime Steaks & Seafood** (0.1 mi): A top-rated, upscale steakhouse located within the historic Mission Inn.
- **ProAbition** (0.1 mi): A popular spot for craft cocktails, whiskey, and American comfort food.
- **Mission Inn Restaurant** (0.2 mi): Offers contemporary American food with romantic outdoor seating on the Spanish Patio.
- **Le Chat Noir** (0.2 mi): French cuisine known for a refined atmosphere.
- **Heroes Restaurant & Brewery** (0.4 mi): Casual brewery with a large menu, known for generous portions.
- **Las Campanas** (0.2 mi): Situated in the Mission Inn, featuring authentic Mexican food in a garden setting.

Quick Bites & Casual Near the Venue

- **Palenque Kitchen** (0.1 mi): Casual Mexican dining on Main Street.
- **Estrella Cantina Lounge** (0.1 mi): Casual Mexican options and drinks near the theater.
- **The State** (0.1 mi): Known for American fare.

It is highly recommended to make reservations, especially on show nights, as these restaurants fill quickly.

Riverside Food Lab

Riverside Food Lab is a food hall offering plant-based burgers, loads of vegan options, waffles, coffee, pizza, beer, wine, tacos, and more! Located next door to the Fox and the Box, it's "as handy as a pocket on a shirt". Eateries include:

Baba's Hot Chicken • Bricks and Birch Pizza • Fred's Red Tacos • Fufus Mideast Grill • Maxi Sushi & Cocktails • Pengu Juice Co • Soho Ramen • Shrimp Shack • Smash Papas



FOOD LAB

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 Final

Southern Divisions Chorus Contest

May 2, 2026 • Riverside, California

Presenter: Dallas Halvorson

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

MT. Everyone Welcome Chorus

Directed by Alan Gordon

1. Pacific Coast Harmony

Directed by Janet Hammer

La Jolla (P,D,SE,AAA)

2. The Music Men

Directed by David Garstang

Palomar Pacific (D,SE,A)

3. SoCal Mix

Directed by Yasu Ichikawa

Lake Forest (P,D,SE,AAA)

4. L.A. South Towns Chorus

Directed by Caroline McLean-Neushul

L.A. South Towns (D,SW,AA)

5. Central Coast Chordsmen

Directed by Dr. Sean J Abel

Santa Maria (D,SW,A)

6. Temecula Wine Valley Harmonizers

Directed by Samuel Irvin

Temecula (D,SE,A)

7. Orange Empire Chorus

Directed by Tom Nichols

Fullerton (P,D,SE,AA)

8. Valley Harmony Singers

Directed by Sean Chasworth

San Fernando Valley (D,SW,A)

9. Silver Statesmen

Directed by Kyler Wilcock

Las Vegas (P,D,SE,A)

10. Coastliners

Directed by Pete Neushul

South Bay (D,SW,AA)

11. Vocal Mixology
Directed by Phil Ordaz
Brea (P,D,SE,AAA)

~ INTERMISSION ~

Parade of Quartets

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~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~





Barbershop can change lives, and you can help.



SUPPORT YOUTH in HARMONY

Far Western District
International Preliminary Quartet Final
May 2, 2026 • Riverside, California

Presenter: Adam Kaufman

Parade of Quartets

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~ INTERMISSION ~

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~ INTERMISSION ~

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Awards

Encore Performances

Southeast Division Chorus Champion

Southwest Division Chorus Champion

Announce Senior and Novice Champions

Qualifier/Champion #4

Qualifier/Champion #3

Qualifier/ Champion #2

Qualifier/ Champion #1

Keep the Whole World Singing



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

Cast Party & Afterglow

Following the Quartet Final

Hampton Inn

Common Area

Bring your own food and beverage
Tap beer is also available for purchase

Division Chorus Contest Results

Southeast Division

Southwest Division

Most Improved Chorus:
Plateau A Champion:
Plateau AA Champion:
Plateau AAA Champion:
Division Chorus Champion:

International Prelim Chorus Results

Representing the FWD at Minneapolis 2027

International Qualifier #4:
International Qualifier #3:
International Qualifier #2:
International Qualifier #1:

Division Quartet Contest Results

Southeast Division

Southwest Division

Novice Quartet Champion:
Senior Quartet Champion:
Division Quartet Champion:

International Prelim Quartet Results

Representing the FWD at St. Louis 2026

International Qualifier #4:
International Qualifier #3:
International Qualifier #2:
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