

**Erik Roffelsen 2022 Barbershopper of the Year**



**September Birthdays**

- 3: Bill Burt
- 9: Erik Roffelsen
- 14: Sid Peterson

Activity	Sept. 10, 2023
Physical Warm-ups	
Vocal Warm-ups	
Perform Song	My Romance (Eb)
Run throughs	Can't Buy Me Love (G)
Breaks	
Run throughs	Your Song (F#)
Break	
Run throughs	Contest set- both songs back-to-back (F#, G)
Other	Raffle and Keep the Whole World Singing (Eb)

## Erik Roffelsen 2022 Barbershopper of the Year

Hello all,

Chorus Contest

The draw came out Friday (9/8). West Towns is **singing second** on Saturday, 9/23. **We start our “pattern” at 11:57 AM and our onstage performance time is 12:31 PM.**

I have **requested** a rehearsal time of 10:30-11 AM.

The entire schedule has been bumped back 30 minutes, so the polecat qualifications are now scheduled 9-11 AM. I’m asking those doing that to go right at 9 AM so they can still join us for our 10:30 rehearsal.

Those of you in the senior chorus will start your pattern at 11:31 AM and perform at 12:05 PM. You will be offstage at 12:15 and will need to find us as we will already be in the pattern at that point.

Thank you for a great turnout on Tuesday night and for your focused work. I have heard requests from several of you to do “run throughs” of the set, but I was hesitant to do so until we were more solid on our choreography. I learned a long time ago that it’s not good to rehearse mistakes over and over again because guess what happens when you perform??? You get the idea.

After Tuesday, I feel like we are ready to do those “run throughs,” so here is the plan for this coming Monday:

- Physical warm-ups
- Vocal warm-ups
- Perform “My Romance” just for a change of pace
- 30 minutes running Can’t Buy Me Love
- Business break and comfort break

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- 30 minutes running Your Song
- Another comfort break
- 20 minutes running the set (Your Song is first and Can't Buy Me Love is second)

It would be a *good idea to bring the shoes that you are planning to wear at contest* so you can practice moving around in them. They will feel different than your gym shoes.

Here are some vocal notes from Tuesday.

Your Song: all voice parts, please double check your notes in ms. 99-102. Also, double check when we are 1 vs 3 and when we are singing as 4 voices ("we are West Towns").

Can't Buy Me Love: tenors, baris, and basses, please practice the shadow vowel cut off on beat 3 in m. 54. This gives you 3 beats of rest to turn your focus to the "Beatles" for "all you need is love."

Basses, please continue reading. To everyone else, you can stop reading here.

I'll see you all on Monday!

Basses:

Your Song: ideally you will sing everything with a forward tone with your larynx at the height it is when you speak. BUT, if that doesn't happen in 3 weeks, please make sure you are bright and forward when your part is "exposed" like ms. 16-17 ("I don't"), ms. 33-34 ("I know"), ms. 37-38 ("my gift"), and ms. 127-129 ("my world")

Please double check that you are singing the correct notes in m. 22 ("where") and in m. 54.

Please double check that you are singing the correct notes and rhythm in ms. 113

Can't Buy Me Love: our softs in this song need to be "screaming softs" as Joe Cerutti called them. Also, places where you are "exposed" need to be bright and forward: ms. 14-15 "I tell you true"; ms. 26-27 "and only you"; and m. 46 "I'll shout it"

Thanks, guys!

Carrie

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West Towns	District Contest Prep
BHS Membership up-to-date	If you pay monthly, make sure your Sept. payment is in If you pay annually, double check your membership expiration date. If in doubt, call BHS in plenty of time
Register for Illinois district convention	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/illinois-district-of-the-barbershop-harmony-society-fall-convention-2023-tickets-680547003407">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/illinois-district-of-the-barbershop-harmony-society-fall-convention-2023-tickets-680547003407</a>
Costume Complete	Black dress pants (not tux) Black dress shoes (not patent leather tux shoes) Black socks 1 of the following: Dark Purple shirt with matching tie Light Purple shirt with matching tie White shirt with the specific purple tie, matching others Gray shirt with matching tie (Zach sent the link last week)
Music Ready	Know your strengths and areas of concern. If there are measures of either song that you are iffy on, then either go over them until you are no longer iffy, or utilize your 60/40 plan. Don't forget to have fun!
SP (Choreography) Ready	Summaries were sent out on 8/17 Repeat it until you can execute it comfortably Don't forget to have fun!
Lodging	Double Tree is sold out. Contact Bill Burt if you still need lodging.

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Here is the list of this year's Christmas songs.

### Act One

*Red indicates a new song.*

- *A Holiday Road of Carols*
- Jingle Bells (Yuletide Favorites)
- The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting)
- *What Can You Get a Wookiee for Christmas*
- Winter Wonderland Hokey Pokey
- *When A Child is Born*
- **VLQ: O Christmas Tree**
- 12 Days of Christmas

### Act Two

- *Opener: O Little Town of Bethlehem (K. Keller)*
- Mary Did You Know
- Joy to the World
- **VLQ: While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks**
- *Still, Still, Still (K. Keller)*
- Silent Night (Clancy V1)/Peace Peace
- Adeste Fideles (Raycroft)

**Christmas Show:** Title TBD

Saturday Dec. 9 **8 AM – Tech Rehearsal**

(break for lunch on your own before the show)

Saturday Dec. 9 **1:00 PM – Call Time**

Saturday Dec. 9 **2:30 PM – Show Time**

Sunday, Dec. 10 **1:00 PM – Call time**

**2:30 PM – Show Time**

Huizenga Auditorium

Capacity 599

School will provide risers and a choir shell

Timothy Christian Schools

188 W. Butterfield Road

Elmhurst, IL 60126

**Costume:** *Black shoes, black socks, black pants (not tuxedo pants), official white/ light purple/ dark purple/ or gray shirts – each with specific matching ties.*

**Pricing TBD**

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## West Towns Chorus

Chicagoland West Suburban chapter  
P.O. Box 1005  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
Phone: (630) 201-5544  
www.WestTowns.org  
Email: info@westtowns.org

Visit us on our website: www.WestTowns.org

### 2023 Board

President Jim Brown  
Music VP Bill Burt  
Development & Membership VP Tony Emerson  
Program VP Frank Glas  
Marketing VP Zach Gibson  
Treasurer Tony Tumea  
Secretary Bob Nicodem  
Member-at-Large Don Davia  
Past President Ron Welch

### Email

Board@WestTowns.org  
Sunshine Care Person Don Davia  
Librarian Daniel Melvin  
Uniform Eric Roffelsen  
Historian Joe Tomecek

Rehearsals are every Monday at  
Horizon & on Zoom unless otherwise noted

### 2023

9/4 Monday **NO Rehearsal** – Labor Day  
9/5 Tuesday **Makeup Rehearsal**  
9/22-23 District Convention—plan on at least Friday & Sat.  
9/30 National Anthem Chicago Steel  
Call Time **5:30 pm**  
10/7 Christmas Blitz 9 am – noon  
11/12 2PM Downers Grove Library – call 1 PM  
12/9 Christmas Tech Rehearsal – 8:00 AM  
12/9 Christmas Show – 2:30 PM  
12/10 Christmas Show – 2:30 PM  
2/16/2024 7PM Naperville Library Valentines

The Music Team usually meets the second Thursday of each month 7:00 PM, at Horizon or using ZOOM. Board meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month 7:00 PM at Bob Nicodem's house or Horizon

### Music Team

**Director:** Carrie Marcotte  
**Asst-directors:** Mark Betczynski & Joe Tomecek  
Music VP: Bill Burt

### Section Leaders

•Bass: Jim B.  
•Baritone: Mark & Joe  
•Lead: Mark Servos  
•Tenor: Trenton Ferro, Sid Peterson

### Email

MusicTeam@WestTowns.org

Join Zoom Meeting Topic: WTC rehearsal: Time: Mondays 07:00 PM Central Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81780296722?pwd=dTJHd2V5WWhYOHAydVhQQkVxUjJSdz09>

Meeting ID: 817 8029 6722 Passcode: 213478 One tap mobile: 1 312 626 6799,,81780296722#,,,,\*213478#(Chicago)

Dial by your location 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 817 8029 6722 Passcode: 213478