

# *What We Ask of You*

We are extremely grateful to all of the people who have provided us with the opportunities to become one of the outstanding ensembles in the country. But, like most non-profit organizations, we hope to gain new supporters.

We would like to invite you to become a Friend of East Texas Handbell Ensemble and make it possible for us to reach more people through the gift of music.

Please consider the following contributor levels and indicate which one you can commit to and mail your check made payable to East Texas Handbell Ensemble, 3307 Pebblebrook Drive, Tyler, Texas 75707. Because ETHE has a 501(c)(3) designation, all of your gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

We will be listing all of our “Friends” in our concert programs this season and your gift will insure that you will receive all of our informational mailings.

- Friend (up to \$49)
- Supporter (\$50 - \$99)
- Benefactor (\$100 - \$249)
- Patron (\$250 - \$499)
- Sponsor (\$500 - \$999)
- Director’s Circle (\$1000 and up)

Please know that all donations to East Texas Handbell Ensemble go directly towards funding our performances and purchasing our music and equipment.

And, to return our gratitude to the communities that support us, ETHE produces and performs, along with several other fine area musicians, in our annual “Christmas Magic” concert. This event is free to the community and is held in Caldwell Auditorium the first Saturday of December every year. “Christmas Magic” has become a holiday tradition over the past several years and draws attendees from all across East Texas and surrounding areas.

East Texas Handbell Ensemble  
3307 Pebblebrook Drive  
Tyler, Texas 75707



*Handbell Ringing  
Like You’ve Never  
Heard Before...*

## Who We Are

The East Texas Handbell Ensemble is a professional handbell group that was formed in 1994 by Arnold Sherman with the idea to provide area ringers an opportunity to ring handbell music they might otherwise not be exposed to in their own church choirs.

Since 1994, the group has grown and matured into a finely tuned ensemble that not only has members from the Tyler area, but also includes several ringers within a 140 mile radius of its home base.

Dedicated to advancing the art of English Handbell ringing, the group performs on 4 1/2 octaves of Malmark and 1 octave of Schulmerich bells, 7 octaves of Malmark Choirchimes. Incorporating various percussive, brass, string and woodwind instruments into its performances creates the group's unique and dynamic style of musical interpretation.

Equally at home ringing both sacred and secular repertoire, ETHE has dedicated a large share of its' programming to American music, ringing everything from spirituals and folk hymns to ragtime, movie and show tunes.

ETHE has performed numerous concerts throughout the greater East Texas area and Texas, as well as other venues stretching from Pennsylvania to California, Illinois to Tennessee. In demand for Area and National Handbell Musician of America events, ETHE has performed in opening and showcase concerts and has also served as faculty for HMA endorsed events.

In addition to concertizing, the group has done demonstration recordings for Hope Publishing, Red River Music, Alfred Publishing Company, Beckenhorst Press and Concordia Publishing House and also has recorded and released a Christmas music CD, Café Noel.

## What We Do

In addition to concertizing and recording, East Texas Handbell Ensemble also hosts two handbell events every year.

*SpringRing* is a one-day ringing festival designed to bring beginning and intermediate ringers together in a rehearsal setting. Two divisions are offered: Division I music is Handbell Musicians of America Level 2, suitable for the novice choir; Division II is HMA Level 3/3+, perfect for the intermediate choir. A guest clinician leads the event along with Mr. Sherman.

Each participating choir selects a division to ring with, and all choirs prepare Massed Ringing selections together. All bell choirs present the day's repertoire in a mini-concert at the conclusion of the festival. This event is held in the spring of each year.

*Discovering* is a one-day workshop designed to help beginning and intermediate ringers improve their skills. Full bell choirs and individual ringers are encouraged to attend. The members of East Texas Handbell Ensemble are the faculty and provide instruction in beginning ringing, advanced ringing, techniques, small ensemble ringing and much more.

Read-and-Ring sessions are held to provide the opportunity to sight-read selected pieces, with a special session led by Mr. Sherman introducing the music selected for the next SpringRing. This event is held in the fall of each year.

Both of these events are endorsed by the Handbell Musicians of America, the national organization devoted to uniting people through the musical art of handbell and handchime ringing.



## Our Director

Arnold Sherman, founder of East Texas Handbell Ensemble, lives in Tyler, Texas, is a freelance composer and co-founder of Red River Music. He serves as the Director

of Music and the Arts at Pollard United Methodist Church in Tyler. His undergraduate work in music education was done at Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland, and Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

A clinician and guest conductor, he has led choral and handbell workshops, festivals, and reading sessions throughout the United States, Canada, England, Japan and the Bahamas. Arnold teaches the Composing for Handbells class each summer at Concordia University, Mequon, Wisconsin.

Arnold has been a recipient of an ASCAP Standard Award every year since 1992. Arnold has over 400 choral and handbell pieces in print and is an active member of the Handbell Musicians of America, where he has served as Area IX Chairman.



For Further Questions About ETHE  
or

To Find Out Where We Are Ringing Next  
[www.easttexashandbellensemble.com](http://www.easttexashandbellensemble.com)

or  
email us at [ETHandbells@aol.com](mailto:ETHandbells@aol.com)