



## Back Bay Ringers Choirchimes Donation Program 2009 Application Form

Back Bay Ringers (BBR), Boston's community handbell ensemble, will be donating a two-octave set of Malmark Choirchimes to a Boston area school.

### What is the Goal of the Donation?

A core part of the BBR mission is to introduce handbells and handchimes to the widest possible audience. It is well known that music arts education benefits children in countless ways. BBR wants our community's children to experience firsthand the joy of music through playing and hearing handchimes. We hope a donation of a set of handchimes will provide a valuable resource for one of our local music educators.

### Who Will Receive the Donation?

Any music educator who teaches in a Boston-area public school is eligible to apply for the donation. BBR will select the winning school from the completed applications received by the March 16, 2009 deadline.

### What Will My School Receive?

BBR will donate a two-octave set of Malmark Choirchimes. In addition, BBR will provide a support package to help introduce the use of handchimes in the recipient's school. This will include a collection of beginner's chime music along with a demonstration of chime ringing for the instructor at a BBR rehearsal. BBR artistic director Griff Gall, who has initiated a successful handchime program in his own elementary school classroom, will also provide a consultation session.

### What are choir chimes?

Choir chimes are light-weight aluminum tubes which operate on the principal of a tuning fork but use a clapper/striking mechanism similar to handbells to create a gentle, lulling sound. Choir chimes offer several advantages over handbells for use in a school setting. Choir chimes are light-weight, durable, easy to grasp, and easy to damp. Chimes that are sharps and flats are black as on a keyboard for easy recognition, and all chimes have a note and pitch designation which is prominent and easy to read. Sets are compact and easy to transport. Within minutes, a group can successfully play melodies and experience the joys of making real music regardless of their musical training.

For video and audio of choir chimes in action at the Highlands Elementary School in Danvers, please visit [http://www.salemnews.com/punews/local\\_story\\_123185908.html](http://www.salemnews.com/punews/local_story_123185908.html)





### How Can I Use Handchimes in the Classroom?

As an elementary music specialist, BBR artistic director Griff Gall views handchimes as an invaluable tool in the general music classroom. They are a versatile instrument that can involve many children at one time and can easily be adapted to teach a number of musical concepts, such as basic rhythmic reading, improvisation, and composition. The handchimes are simple to use and durable, making them well-suited for use with young children. Their portability also makes them an ideal instrument for music educators who travel between different classrooms or schools.

### How Is BBR Raising the Money for the Donation?

BBR is organizing the Boston Handbell Festival to be held at the Old South Church on May 19, 2009. The Festival will bring together several handbell ensembles from around the Greater Boston Area and will conclude with a free concert open to the public. At the concert, a free-will offering will be taken to cover the cost of purchasing the handchimes.

### Who Are the Back Bay Ringers?

The Back Bay Ringers is Boston's only non-church affiliated handbell ensemble. BBR's core mission is to expose the widest audience possible to a variety of handbell music, while maintaining a high standard for the performance of advanced handbell repertoire. The Back Bay Ringers have performed at Boston landmarks including Faneuil Hall, the Boston Children's Museum, the Prudential Center, and at Old South Church during the Democratic National Convention. In December of 2007, BBR made their third Symphony Hall appearance performing with the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston. The Back Bay Ringers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

### Where Can I Get More Information?

You can get more information about BBR and links to information on handbells and handchimes from the BBR website: [www.backbayringers.org](http://www.backbayringers.org). If you have questions about this handchime donation program, contact Executive Director Norah Piehl at (617) 688-5768 or [ncpiehl@backbayringers.org](mailto:ncpiehl@backbayringers.org).



**Back Bay Ringers Handchimes Donation Program  
2009 Application**

Deadline: March 16, 2009

Mail completed application to:  
Back Bay Ringers  
Attn: 2009 Handchimes Donation  
P.O. Box 990828  
Boston, MA 02199

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title/Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant's signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of school Principal**



Please provide a brief answer to the following questions. Attach additional pages if you need more room:

1. Briefly describe your educational experiences and background. Include any professional development certification training that you may have received including Orff, Kodaly, Music Learning Theory or Dalcroze.
2. Describe your schools general music program. Please include information grade levels taught, average class size and how often you see each class.
3. Does your school have any performance groups (e.g. chorus, band, orchestra, etc.)? If so, how are students chosen to participate and how often do they rehearse and perform?
4. What other classroom instruments do you incorporate into your general music curriculum?
5. Why would a set of handchimes be well received and beneficial to your students? How would your envision incorporating the chimes into your classes.
6. Do you have prior experience playing or teaching handchimes or handbells? If so, please describe your experience. (Please understand that prior experience is not a requirement of this donation program.)