

b **back bay** Choirchime® Donation Program
b r **ringers** Application Guidelines 2018

We would like to donate a two-octave set of Malmark Choirchimes® to your school.

Back Bay Ringers (BBR) is Boston's community handbell ensemble. A core part of our mission is to introduce handbells and Choirchimes to the widest possible audience. It is well known that music education benefits children in countless ways. BBR wants our community's children to experience firsthand the joy of music through playing and hearing Choirchimes. Therefore, each May, at the Boston Handbell Festival, we donate a set of Choirchimes to a Boston-area school.

BBR will present a two-octave set of Malmark Choirchime® Instruments to the selected music educators at the 12th annual Boston Handbell Festival on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. In addition, BBR will provide a support package to help introduce the use of Choirchimes in the school. This will include a collection of Choirchime resources and a mentorship with BBR Artistic Director Griff Gall, who has developed a successful Choirchime program at his own elementary school classroom in Danvers.

Any music educator who teaches in a Boston-area school is eligible to apply for the donation on behalf of their school or schools. All we ask is that you fill our electronic application and send us your application signature form or you may print it and submit it by regular mail. BBR will select the winning recipient from the completed applications received by the **April 1, 2018** deadline.



What are Choirchimes?

Choirchimes 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. Choirchimes offer several advantages over handbells for use in a school setting. They are light-weight, durable, easy to grasp, and easy to damp. Choirchimes are outstanding additions to more traditional classroom instruments, and they can be integrated into a variety of general music classroom activities.

How Can I Use Choirchimes in the Classroom?

As an elementary music specialist, BBR artistic director Griff Gall views Choirchimes 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 Choirchimes are easy 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.

Who Are the Back Bay Ringers?

Back Bay Ringers is a non-church-affiliated community handbell ensemble dedicated to promoting handbells through performance, education, and community outreach. Formed in 2003, it has earned a reputation for excellence in the performance of advanced handbell repertoire. BBR has performed in many venues throughout metropolitan Boston and beyond, including a performance with the Boston Pops in 2016. The group has commissioned three original handbell compositions, and released its third CD in December, 2013.

How to Complete the Application:

1. Complete the application online
 - a. You can access the application [here](#) or by going to <http://www.backbayringers.org/chime-donation-program/>
2. Submit the application signature form
 - a. The application signature form must be either scanned and e-mailed to the provided e-mail address or sent through the mail and postmarked before April 1, 2018.
 - b. You can find the form by going to <http://www.backbayringers.org/chime-donation-program/>
3. Please note that applications will not be considered complete until **both** the application and the signature form have been submitted.

How Will the Recipient Be Selected?

1. Only applications received by the application deadline can be considered. That means the electronic application must be completed and the signature form received or postmarked by midnight on April 1, 2018.
2. Only applications from schools in the state of Massachusetts, preferably in the Greater Boston Area, will be considered.
3. Only applicants who are employees of a public or private school may apply on behalf of the school or schools at which they teach.
4. Preference will be shown to applicants who demonstrate the following in their application:
 - a) Need – The school district demonstrates need for additional equipment to further music education.
 - b) Specific, effective plans – The application demonstrates that the teacher has specific plans to use the chimes as part of music education and/or is interested in learning about additional uses.
 - c) Amount of use – The chimes will be used by a significant number of students for a significant portion of the school year.
 - d) Effective teaching skills – The teacher is an effective music educator who is able to engage his or her students in the learning process.
 - e) Geographic proximity to Boston.
 - f) Other factors – We may take other factors into account, such as geographic or demographic diversity of the chime recipients from year to year.



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Where Can I Get More Information?

You can get more information about BBR, and links to information on handbells and Choirchimes, from the BBR website: www.backbayringers.org. If you have questions about this Choirchime donation program, contact Kelsey Whiteside at: kelseywhiteside@backbayringers.org

These guidelines and the electronic application are available at:
<http://www.backbayringers.org/chime-donation-program/>



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Handbell Musicians
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