



PO Box 1005
Downers Grove, IL 60515

2008 Illinois District Champions!

2008 Calendar

Monday

7:30 Warm-ups
7:45 Polecat Songs/Tag Singing
8:00 Christmas Songs
9:10 Meeting & Break
9:30 CD & Christmas Songs

October

6 Rehearsal
13 Rehearsal
20 Rehearsal
27 Rehearsal

November

3 Rehearsal
10 Rehearsal
16 Sing Downers Grove Library
17 Joe Connelly & Recording session
24 Rehearsal

December

1 Rehearsal
8 Rehearsal
11 Tech Rehearsal
12 - 13 Christmas Show

2009

January

24 - Installation dinner

February

23 Joe Connelly & Recording session

March

16 Joe Connelly & Recording session

May

29-30 Tentative date for a retreat with Kevin Keller as coach

West Towns rehearses every Monday evening, 7:30 PM on the 2nd floor of the Moose Lodge, 1030 Warren Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515

Chorus Contest Results

	Total Score	Avg.	Count
1. Northbrook	1,041	86.8	69
2. Bloomington	979	81.6	73
3. West Towns	938	78.2	53
4. Belleville	818	68.2	24
5. Lake County	806	87.2	25
6. Springfield	747	62.3	22
7. Coles County	744	62.0	14
8. Sterling Rock Falls	703	58.6	21
9. Aurora	568	47.3	14

Quartet Contest Results

1. Rush Street	1,830	76.3
2. Off the Record	1,775	74.0
3. All That Jazz!	1,720	71.7
4. Chordplay	1,611	87.1
5. Q'd Up	1,578	65.8
6. Chicago Times	1,571	65.5
7. Exit 190	1,563	65.1
8. Catch 22	1,561	65.0
9. Gateway Edition	1,545	64.4
10. Buzzology 101	1,522	63.4

2009 Board

President:	Darryl Nordentoft
Executive Vice President:	Jack Fagan
Chapter Development:	John Morrison
Music & Performance VP:	Craig Lancaster
Program VP:	Joe Tomecek
Marketing VP:	Jon Dobosenski
Membership VP:	Bruce Rhoades
Secretary:	Bob Nicodem
Treasurer:	Tony Tumea
Member at Large:	Mark Johnson

Christmas Show Songs

1st Half:

Most Wonderful Time; While By My Sheep; Jingle Bells; Jingle Bell Rock; Deck the Halls; Need a Little Christmas; Secret of Christmas; Christmas is Coming/God Rest Ye Merry

2nd Half: Do You Hear What I Hear; Mary Had a Baby; Silent Night; O Holy Night; Joy to the World; Let All Mortal Flesh; Adeste Fidelis;





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A Cappella is a Campus Hit – by Kelly DiNardo

USA Weekend – Sept. 19 – 21, 2008

This ancient form of singing gains a bigger voice at schools across the country.

Anne Hathaway, John Legend, Diane Sawyer and Art Garfunkel all hit a high note – in collegiate a cappella groups, that is. A cappella, Italian for “in chapel style,” is an ancient form of singing without instrumental accompaniment.

The Yale University Whiffenpoofs, which formed in 1909 after a boisterous night of song, are widely recognized as the first formal collegiate a cappella singing group. Whiffenpoof alums include composer and songwriter Cole Porter.

For decades, collegiate a cappella singing remained a “frenzied subculture” of campus life, writes Mickey Rapkin in *Pitch Perfect: The Quest for Collegiate A Cappella Glory* (Gotham, \$26). Then, in the mid-1990s, a cappella singing boomed on college campuses, growing from approximately 200 groups to more than 1,200, according to Rapkin.

“Here comes treble”

“Now, it’s bubbling up in pop culture,” says Rapkin, who points to an a cappella joke on *The Office* – Andy Bernard’s (Ed Helms) college a cappella group was called Here Comes Treble. “The people who were part of that explosion in the mid-1990s are adults and writing for TV. It’s what they remember from their college days,” Rapkin says of a cappella’s pop culture popularity.

Helms actually joined a group during his college days at Oberlin, but he quit because he thought the leader took it too seriously. Although Helms didn’t reach celebrity status until his post-collegiate years, a celebrity-esque feeling is common in the collegiate a cappella scene, and it’s part of what drove Rapkin, who sang in an a cappella group as a student at Cornell University, to write *Pitch Perfect*.

Rock-star status

“I thought there was this hysterical story to tell about singing to screaming girls and traveling the world as a ‘rock star,’” Rapkin says.

His book weaves a cappella’s celebrity-filled history into a story that follows three current groups – University of Oregon’s Divisi, University of Virginia’s Hullabahoos and Tufts University’s Beelzebubs – over the course of a year. While writing *Pitch Perfect*, Rapkin found that a cappella still resonates with its alumni and today’s collegiate stars.

“There’s a real sense of camaraderie,” Rapkin says. “And you really are being celebrated. It’s so hard for people to let that go.”

Which may be yet another reason why a cappella keeps piping up everywhere.

Thanks to Sid Peterson for finding this article for us.

