



Baltimore Choruses, Quartets Dominate Sweet Adelines Mid-Atlantic Women's Barbershop Contest

Harbor City Music Company breaks regional score records to win. Three choruses and four quartets from Baltimore rank in the Top Five.

Baltimore, MD (April 18, 2018) – Three choruses and four quartets from the Baltimore area dominated the Sweet Adelines International (SAI) Region 19 Regional Competition held last weekend, April 13-14, in Hershey, PA. The region includes chapters in Delaware, Maryland, southern New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania and eastern West Virginia. Approximately 850 Region 19 women making up 20 quartets and 23 choruses competed at the event which celebrates four-part harmony sung in the all-American barbershop style.

The [Harbor City Music Company Show Chorus \(HCMC\)](#), based in Severna Park, MD, broke the all-time SAI Region 19 chorus record, scoring 737 points of a possible 800, to become the 2018 SAI Region 19 Chorus Champions. HCMC currently ranks as the 6th place International Chorus based upon their appearance last October in Las Vegas, NV, at the SAI International Chorus Competition. Their win in Hershey last weekend sends them back to the international competition to represent Region 19 in New Orleans, LA, in September, 2019. Star-Spangled Chorus (Dundalk) and Pride of Baltimore also ranked in the top five choruses, and the first place small chorus is the Upper Chesapeake Chorus from Bel Air, MD.

The top four quartets – [Sound Design](#), Neon Lights, Knock Out, and Lady Day – as well as Most Improved Quartet winner, Pivot, and Novice Quartet winner, Duality, all hail from the Baltimore area. Members of those quartets include members of HCMC, Dundalk Star Spangled Chorus or Pride of Baltimore (Parkville, MD).

“The Baltimore area has long been a hotbed of women’s barbershop,” says Jenny Harris, SAI Region 19 Communications Coordinator and bass of Lustre Quartet. “Women from Baltimore and all of Region 19 with little or no singing background join with other women who may have majored in singing or musical theater to make the notes soar while providing outstanding entertainment.”

Baltimore area barbershop singers rank high not only in the region but also internationally; [Lustre Quartet](#), whose members hail from HCMC and the Capital Accord Chorus in Silver Spring, MD, are the 2018 SAI International Quartet champions and were mic testers at the regional contest. In addition, one Baltimore area chorus (HCMC) and three other area quartets (Class Ring, GQ, and Famous Janes) rank in the SAI International Top 15.

The Region 19 chorus competition results are listed below (the choruses can be viewed on this [video](#)):

- 1st Place: Harbor City Music Company (Severna Park, MD) – 1.43 on the video.
- 2nd Place: Greater Harrisburg Chorus (Harrisburg, PA)
- 3rd Place: Dundalk Star Spangled Chorus (Dundalk, MD)
- 4th Place: Jersey Sound Chorus (Cinnaminson, NJ)
- 5th Place: Pride of Baltimore (Baltimore, MD)

- 1st Place Division AA (Midsized): Greater Harrisburg Chorus (Harrisburg, PA)
- 1st Place Division A (Small): Upper Chesapeake Chorus (Bel Air, MD)

The Region 19 quartet competition results are listed below (the quartets can be viewed on this [video](#)).

- 1st Place: Sound Design (Pride of Baltimore Chapter and Chapter-at-Large) – 30.30 on the video.
- 2nd Place: Neon Lights Quartet (Harbor City Music Company and Vocal Harmonix Chapters)
- 3rd Place: Knock Out Quartet (Dundalk Star Spangled Chorus and Chapter-at-Large)
- 4th Place: Lady Day Quartet (Pride of Baltimore and Harmony Celebration Chapters and Chapter-at-Large)
- 5th Place: Mosaic Quartet (Valley Forge, Jersey Sound, and Liberty Oak Chapters)

Novice Quartet: Duality Quartet (Harbor City Music Company and Upper Chesapeake Chapters)

Most Improved Quartets (Tie): Pivot (from Harbor City Music Company) and JewelTones (from Vocal Harmonix)

The new Region 19 Quartet Champions, Sound Design, and last year's regional chorus winner – Valley Forge Chorus – will represent Region 19 at this year's SAI International Competition in St. Louis, MO, in October, along with returning Top 15 quartets Class Ring, GQ and Famous Janes.

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