

# PIONEER DISTRICT 2025 SPRING CONVENTION

April 24-27

Lansing, MI | Hosted by the Lansing Chapter  
Hotel: AC Hotel and Hyatt Hotel, 3150 E. Michigan Ave  
Theater: Lansing Catholic Central High School, 501 Marshall St

## Schedule of Events

### Thursday April 24

**SingFest** 6pm – 9  
One North Kitchen & Bar

### Friday April 25

**Registration** 10am – 5:30  
AC Hotel Lobby  
*Moves to Lansing Catholic Central 6pm*

**Harmony Marketplace & Historian Display** 10am – 6pm  
MAC 1 (AC Hotel)

**District Board Meeting** 10am  
Green Room (AC Hotel)

**House of Delegates Meeting** 1pm  
White Room (AC Hotel)

**Educational Sessions** 3pm & 4pm  
AC Hotel  
*See below for more details*

**QCA Meeting** 4pm  
Toscana Restaurant (AC Hotel)

**Quartet Semifinals** 7pm  
Lansing Catholic Central

### Saturday April 26

**Registration** 9am  
Lansing Catholic Central

**Harmony Marketplace** 9am  
MAC 1 (AC Hotel)

**Family Mic Tester** 10am  
**Chorus Rehearsal**  
Lansing Catholic Central

**Chorus Contest** 10:30am  
Lansing Catholic Central

**Platoon Quartet Contest** 3:30pm  
White Room (AC Hotel)

**Quartet Finals** 7pm  
Lansing Catholic Central

**Chapter Hospitality Rooms** ~10pm  
AC Hotel

### Sunday April 27

**Worship Service** 9am – 9:45  
White Room (AC Hotel)

3pm

#### **BHS/HFI Townhall**

Doug Smeltz, BHS Ambassador  
Dr. Perry White, HFI CEO  
White Room

#### **What Scores Mean**

Adam Scott, Music Judge  
Green Room

#### **The Power of Prosody: Utilizing Word Sounds to Tell the Story**

Blair Brown, Performance Judge  
MAC 2

4pm

#### **Grant Writing for Your Chorus**

Jay Bylsma  
Green Room

#### **Say This, Not That**

Adam Scott, Music Judge  
MAC 2

#### **Yoga for Singers**

Blair Brown, Performance Judge  
White Room

#### **Tags with Stutts**

Beaumont Room

**QUARTET SEMIFINALS**  
 Friday, April 25 | 7pm  
 Lansing Catholic Central High School

**Welcome**

Mike Hansen  
 Chair of Host Chapter

**Presenter**

Doug Smeltz  
 BHS Ambassador

**Mic Tester**

Tenor: Ethan Steele  
 Bari: Cole Carey

Graffiti  
 Lead: Charlie Gross  
 Bass: Roberto Rojas



**1. Mezzo Forte\*\***

*Livingston County, Pontiac-Waterford*

Tenor: Iris Shen-Van Buren  
 Bari: Marvin Douglas Osler

Lead: Eric Van Buren  
 Bass: Charles Perry

**2. Shop Talk\***

*Livingston County, Monroe North, Pontiac-Waterford, Motor City Metro*

Tenor: Cate Doefer  
 Bari: Jon Knapp

Lead: Sacharissa Suthers  
 Bass: Brian Doefer

**3. Triple Threat\*\***

*Illinois District*

Tenor: Tyler Leibengood  
 Bari: Mitch Greenberg

Lead: Shane Frantz  
 Bass: Steve Schoultz

**4. Family Tradition\***

*Hillsdale, Motor City Metro*

Tenor: Staci Slamka  
 Bari: Don Slamka

Lead: Holli Houtz  
 Bass: Jonah Houtz

**5. Cruise Control\***

*Grand Rapids*

Tenor: Shoshana Sprecher  
 Bari: Kayla Reed

Lead: Catie Carey  
 Bass: Cole Carey

**6. Olde Thyme Harmony Quartet\***

*Lansing, Marquette County, Pontiac-Waterford, Motor City Metro*

Tenor: Pat Hefner  
 Bari: Timothy Oliver

Lead: Jacob Welty  
 Bass: Don Horton

**7. Mixture\***

*Saginaw Bay*

Tenor: Teri Brink  
 Bari: Patricia Osborne

Lead: Lee Leffingwell  
 Bass: Zach Rolfs

**8. Detroit Sound Machine\***

*Huron Valley, Livingston County, Monroe North, Motor City Metro*

Tenor: Dave Ebersole  
 Bari: George Jackson Jr.

Lead: Dylan Broome  
 Bass: Jay Hall

**Intermission**

\*Int'l Preliminary Quartet Qualification

\*\*District Senior Quartet Contest & Int'l Qualification

\*\*\*District Youth Quartet Contest & Int'l Qualification

\*Out-of-District competing for Int'l Prelim Qualification

<sup>S</sup>Score / Feedback only

**9. company\***

*Motor City Metro, Hershey, PA*

Tenor: Kyle Kolebuck  
 Bari: Brandon Smith

Lead: Ryan McCall  
 Bass: Cody Harrell

**10. Contrived\***

*Grand Rapids, Monroe North, Motor City Metro*

Tenor: Shoshana Sprecher  
 Bari: Matt Bidigare

Lead: Cole Carey  
 Bass: Ryan Berry

**11. Vintage Blend\***

*Grand Rapids, Gratiot County*

Tenor: Mark Wilson  
 Bari: Kirk Wood

Lead: Jamie Carey  
 Bass: James Masalskis

**12. Evenin' Gentlemen\***

*Greater Detroit, Motor City Metro*

Tenor: Paul Keiser  
 Bari: Joe DeSantis

Lead: Keith Opal  
 Bass: John Paul

**13. The Mackinac Express\***

*Grand Rapids, Lansing*

Tenor: Richard Harlow  
 Bari: Kevin Lenneman

Lead: Brad Sharlow  
 Bass: Steve Warnaar

**14. Rare Blend\*\***

*Johnny Appleseed District*

Tenor: Jason Wulf  
 Bari: Michael Byrley

Lead: Chad Wulf  
 Bass: Jeff Dolan

**15. Rived\*\*\***

*Grand Rapids, Monroe North, Motor City Metro*

Tenor: Gabe LaPointe  
 Bari: Matt Bidigare

Lead: Jake Kershaw  
 Bass: Ryan Berry

**16. Great Woolf Quartet\***

*Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Motor City Metro, Frank Thorne*

Tenor: Sonnet Rumora  
 Bari: Jon Woolf

Lead: Charlie Gross  
 Bass: Dave Woolf

**17. LisaDawnOlogy<sup>S</sup>**

*Huron Valley*

Tenor: Lisa Salisbury  
 Bari: Rob Pettigrew

Lead: Dawn Swartz  
 Bass: David Spizarny

**18. The Hideout<sup>S</sup>**

*Greater Detroit, Motor City Metro, Frank Thorne*

Tenor: Sarah Lengyel  
 Bari: Paul Keiser

Lead: Anna Danielson  
 Bass: John Paul



Saturday, April 26 | 10:30am  
Lansing Catholic Central High School

**Presenter** Perry White  
Harmony Foundation International  
President & CEO

**12. Capitol City Chordsmen\*<sup>2</sup>** Lansing  
Brad Sharlow

District Champion Chorus

Saturday, April 26 | 7pm  
Lansing Catholic Central High School

## Keep the Whole World Singing

## A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE FRIENDS OF THE PIONEER DISTRICT!

*Our District had a Net Income of \$34 in 2024. Included in the Revenue was \$5,610 in contributions from "Friends of the Pioneer District."*

*It's clear: Every donation counts!*

*This weekend, a generous member of the District has agreed to match all contributions to the "Friends of the Pioneer District" that are made during this Convention.*

*Please take a moment to donate and help Pioneer stay positive in 2025!*



*You can become a "Friend of the Pioneer District" today by scanning the QR code above or visiting [pioneerdistrict.org](http://pioneerdistrict.org)*

### 2025 Pioneer District Board of Directors

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| President                | Jamie Carey     |
| Immediate Past President | Mike Hansen     |
| Executive Vice President | Kendra LaPointe |
| Secretary                | Dave Ebersole   |
| Treasurer                | Jay Bylsma      |
| Contest & Judging        | Chris Berry     |
| Communications           | Joelle Laginess |
| Events                   | Doug Weaver     |
| Education                | Zach Rolfs      |
| Board Member at Large    | Mark Wilson     |

### Convention Administration

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Convention Chair      | Doug Weaver   |
| Chair of Host Chapter | Mike Hansen   |
| Contest & Judging     | Chris Berry   |
| Housing               | Roger Lewis   |
| Stage Manager         | Jeff Woodworth  |
| Judge Services        | Karla Moylan  |
| Publicity             | Joelle Laginess   |
| Registration/Tickets  | Justin VandenBrink  |
| Harmony Marketplace   | John and Shirley Baker  |
| Livestream            | Carson Greene, Sam Patrie,<br>Brendan Monroe,<br>Jim Russell, Jimmy Russell |

Family Mic Tester Chorus  
Director

Adam Scott

### Judging Panel

|             |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| Panel Chair | Rob Arnold (ONT)         |
| Admin       | Alan Lamson (NED)        |
| Admin       | Don Shively* (FWD)       |
| Admin       | Fraser Baguma* (ONT)     |
| Musicality  | Adam Scott (SHD)         |
| Musicality  | Will Baughman (JAD)      |
| Singing     | Anthony Colosimo (MAD)   |
| Singing     | Aaron Evens (SHD)        |
| Singing     | Josh Gongaware* (JAD)    |
| Performance | Blair Brown (FWD)        |
| Performance | Gene "Doc" Spilker (SUN) |
| Performance | Tom Mifflin* (ONT)       |

\*Guest Judge



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[www.pioneerdistrict.org](http://www.pioneerdistrict.org)