



YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME A MEMBER AND SING!

# ILLINOIS DISTRICT HARMONY BRIGADE

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## WHAT IS A BRIGADE

A new organization approved by Illinois District Board of Directors is launching January 1 2013. The Illinois District Harmony Brigade (IDHB for short) is open to any member of the Illinois District for some special “Brigade” activities in quartet, VLQ, and chorus singing with *special musical arrangements* provided by top Society arrangers to which you, as a member of the “brigade”, will have exclusive access. Included with your arrangements will be high quality, recorded learning tracks. Learn the songs; come to the brigade events, and SING!

## GETTING STARTED

Our first two songs are special, exclusive arrangements for IDHB by top society arranger, Jay Giallombardo. Jay has also recorded learning tracks for both of these songs. These full arrangements are “contestable”, great for a show, and yet are only a moderate difficulty level for guys that aspire to quartet singing.

## WHAT DOES A BRIGADE DO

In 2013, the IDHB will be participating in its first event in the Illinois District Spring Convention. We hope to have many members by then who have learned the two new songs and can sing them as a Brigade Chorus at the Convention. Terry Ludwig, director of the Bloomington Sound of Illinois Chorus, has graciously agreed to direct this first Brigade singing event at the Spring Convention. We hope to have 75-100+ participants for the convention sing in the Brigade as mic-testing chorus.

## BUT THERE’S MORE...

We don’t stop there! We will have a Brigade event at every convention. As the membership grows over the next year, our immediate task will be to procure more arrangements. Jay Giallombardo will be contacting top arrangers: David Wright, Aaron Dale, Don Gray, Tom Gentry, Rob Hopkins, and others to help build our repertoire with quality charts. As these songs become available, we will have them recorded, then distributed to the IDHB membership.



## **SPECIAL HARMONY BRIGADE EVENTS**

When we have 6-8 songs, we will then announce another type of Harmony Brigade event. This is a **Saturday of Singing** and starts when you can get there Saturday morning and ends about 5:00pm. Every Brigade member is invited to the event: the day, date, place and time will be approved by Illinois District as a sanctioned event, and details published well in advance.

The IDHB member will have ample time to learn the music. At the event there will be a brigade musical leader communicating the days' schedule, organize quartets and VLQs and get everybody singing. We'll have quartetting, VLQs, gang singing, tag singing. At the end of the day, we put on a small show for ourselves and those wishing to perform.

## **SIGN UP NOW**

Your cost for membership is \$10/year. What a bargain! You get the music, learning tracks, and the opportunity this spring to sing in the Harmony Brigade Chorus, under director, Terry Ludwig, as part of the IL District Spring Convention. Your dues go to help IDHB get more music and pay for event costs for Brigade events down the road. You get immediate access to your first two songs, both arrangements and learning tracks; you can start enjoying this music right away.

## **BECOME A MEMBER**

Illinois District Barbershopper:

*"I heartily endorse the concept of Harmony Brigade as a fun and beneficial activity for barbershoppers, Society-wide. I am delighted to donate a couple of my finest arrangements for you, and also had fun recording the learning tracks so you could get started without delay. Become a member of the IDHB. I'm a member, and I hope you will be, too." - Jay Giallombardo*