



AREA 3 CONVENTION & CONTESTS WELCOME TO EAST SYRACUSE, NY



Area 3's Area Convention and Contest Team (ACCT)
and Host Chapter, Northern Blend Chorus,

welcomes you to

“Family Game Night!”

This 2nd mailing provides chapters, associates and affiliates with important information.
Please read fully for details:

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Questions? Please email ACCT Chair Janine Schindler at acctchair@area3harmonyinc.org

HEALTH Reminders

For the health safety of all members, if you are ill with COVID, Flu or RSV, please do not come to the convention. Masking is at the discretion of the member.

Tips for a Successful Convention

NO SCENTS MAKE SENSE!!!! Heavy perfumes and other scents can bother singers and are not allowed.

CONTEST ETIQUETTE

- *Enter/Exit contest venue **only** when doors are officially open
- *NO talking/singing along while contestants perform
- *NO talking outside of the contest doors while waiting to enter
- *NO photography or recording except by authorized personnel
- *NO food in the contest site

SECURITY ISSUE - Contestants are reminded that Harmony, Inc. will not be responsible for lost or stolen personal property at the Contest site. Leave purses in your room or give to someone in the audience. **NO ITEMS BACKSTAGE PLEASE!!**



CONTEST SITE INFO AND AREA RESTAURANTS

Main Convention Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse
6301 State Route 298
East Syracuse, NY 13057

*Hotel check-in time is **4 PM** and check-out is **11 AM**.

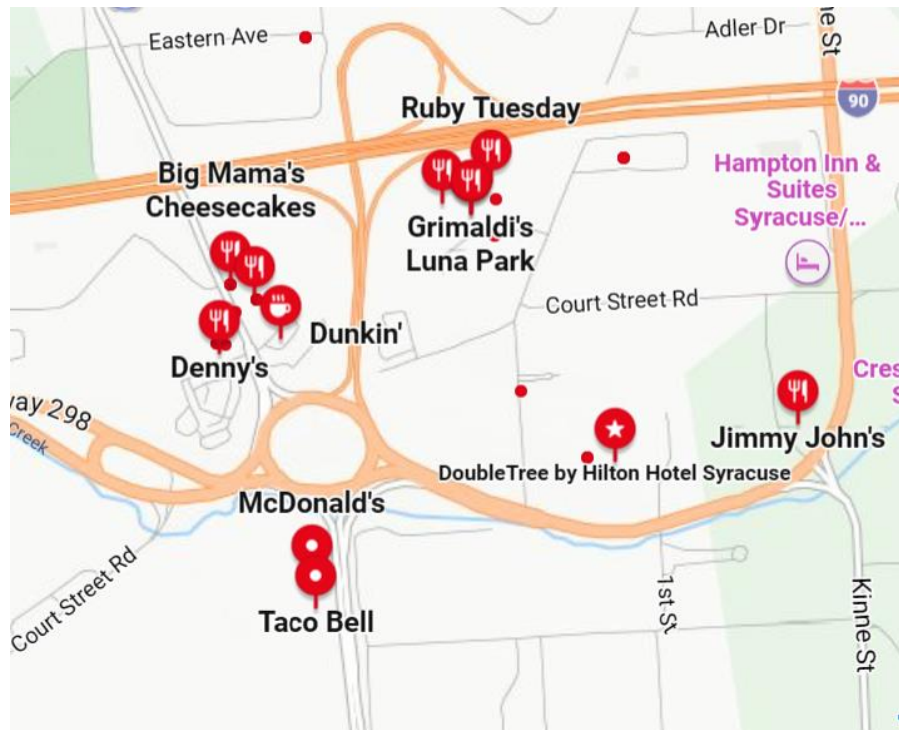
*Parking at the hotel is **FREE**.

Due to staffing constraints at the hotel, you will not be able to get into your hotel room early.

Our Facilities Chair, Dene, will email the chapter/member contact person with **confirmation numbers for the hotel once she gets them.**

Fair Share Assessment: The Area Council voted to enact the Fair Share Assessment (like IC&C). All Area 3, Harmony, Inc. members must stay at the AC&C contracted hotel. Those not staying at the contracted hotel will be assessed the equivalent of one night's stay, which is \$176 plus applicable taxes. If you did not include your members' names when making your reservation, please call the hotel or be assessed the Fair Share Assessment Fee.

Area Restaurants around the Hotels

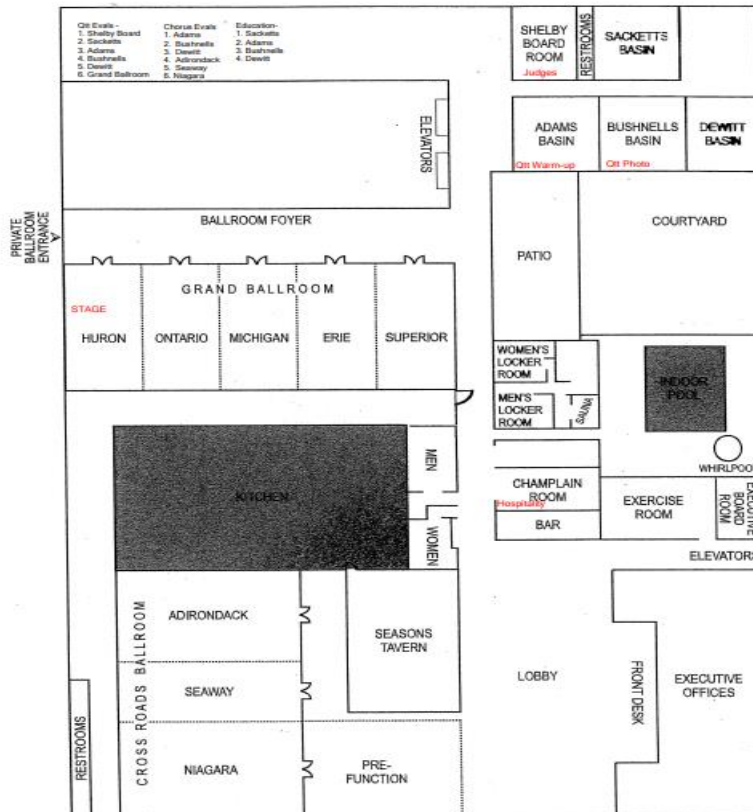


WEEKEND SCHEDULE / HOTEL CONVENTION CENTER LAYOUT

WEEKEND SCHEDULE ~ AC&C May 1-3, 2026

DATE	TIME	SCHEDULE	ROOM/FACILITY
Thursday April 30	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Hospitality	Champlain Room
Friday, May 1	9:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
	9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Hospitality	Champlain Room
	8:30 AM – 9:15 AM	Area Quarus Rehearsal	Adams Basin
	9:15 AM – 9:45 AM	Contestant Judges Briefing	Grand Ballroom
	9:45 AM – 10:30 AM	Quartet on-stage viewing	Grand Ballroom
	11:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Quartet Contest: Area Quarus, Awards, 1 st place sings	Grand Ballroom
	6:00 PM – 10:45 PM	Evaluations	TBA
	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Hospitality	Champlain Room
Saturday, May 2	8:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Hospitality	Champlain Room
	8:00 AM – 8:50 AM	Chorus on-stage viewing (no singing)	Grand Ballroom
	9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Area Chorus Rehearsal	Grand Ballroom
	9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Family Chorus Rehearsal	Grand Ballroom
	10:00 AM – Noon	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
	Noon – 3:00 PM	Chorus Contest; Family Chorus, Area Chorus, Awards, 1 st place sings	Grand Ballroom
	3:15 PM – 5:30 PM	Chorus Evaluations	TBA
	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Cocktails / Dinner	Grand Ballroom
	8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	MoonGlow	Grand Ballroom
Sunday, May 3	9:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Education / Craft Classes	Basin Rooms
	9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Hospitality	Champlain Room

Hotel / Convention Center Layout



OFFICIAL JUDGING PANEL

CATEGORY	JUDGE	LOCATION
Panel Chair	Rachel McIntyre	Area 5
Administrative Judge	Steve Tremper	BHS

Musicality	Liz LeClair	Area 2
	Alex deBruin	BHS

Performance	Gene Spilker	BHS
	Allen Otto	BHS

Singing	John Ward	BHS
	Lynn Randall	Area 4

COMMON SONGS

Take a moment to review these common songs. You never know when a group will break out in song!

- What a Dream Can Do
- We're Harmony, We're Strong
- A Song of Friendship
- We are Thankful
- It's the Music That Brings Us Together
- Rockin' Robin
- Change The World
- As Long As I'm Singing



GENERAL CONTEST INFORMATION

Erin Cassidy, Area 3 ACJC

Qualifying Scores

Qualifying scores for quartets have increased for 2026 while the qualifying score for choruses remains the same as last year.

The quartet qualifying score is 70 (840), with a cutoff score for inviting alternates of 68 (816).

The chorus qualifying score is 69 (828), with a cutoff score for inviting alternates of 67 (804).

Contest Schedules

- The Contest Schedules will be completed and approved shortly. Once approved, the schedules will be sent to all Quartets and the Director and President of each competing Chorus. The schedules will also be posted on the [Area 3 website](#).
- Please note the earlier start time for the Quartet contest on Friday is **11:30 am**.

Contestant Briefing

- The briefing is Friday **9:15 am** in the Ballroom. Each quartet must attend and each chorus must send a representative. Quartet stage viewing will immediately follow the briefing.

Quartet Stage Viewing

- Quartet stage awareness is Friday **9:45 am** (or immediately following the Briefing). We will be asking everyone to exit the ballroom immediately after the Briefing.
- Quartets will line up at the stage door (outside the ballroom) in order of appearance. Our stage manager (Teri Allred) will call each quartet into the stage area. You will have two (2) minutes on stage. You may sing or use your time however you would like. As soon as TIME is called, please exit stage right and leave the ballroom as quickly as possible.
- You may bring a coach, who may enter the backstage area with your quartet and who will be directed out front.

Chorus Stage Awareness

- Chorus Stage viewing will be held on Saturday morning 8:00 am to 8:50 am. Only **FIVE** members of each chorus may attend the viewing. No singing. Each chorus will have five minutes and will be given a specific timeslot. Timeslots will be listed on the chorus contest schedule that will be published shortly.

GENERAL CONTEST INFORMATION

Order of Appearance

Quartet

- MT - Terpsichord
- 1 - Fringe Benefits
- 2 - Lazy Susan
- 3 - Just Keep Ringing
- 4 - Legacy
- 5 - Sharp Attitude
- 6 - Alchemy
- 7 - Slide Hustle
- 8 - Side Notes
- 9 - Angel's Envy
- 10 - Sassafras
- 11 - Nexus
- 12 - Smitten
- 13 - Mach 4
- 14 - BACKSTAGE PASS
- 15 - Plot Twist
- 16 - The Agency (MBHA)
- 17 - Here & Now!
- 18 - Vivàce
- 19 - SölFire
- 20 - Velvet Crush

Chorus

- 1 - Bella Nova
- 2 - Liberty Belles
- 3 - Crystal Chords
- 4 - Niagara Frontier Chord Authority
- 5 - Heart of Pennsylvania
- 6 - Harmony in Motion
- 7 - Rochester Rhapsody
- 8 - Harmony Falls
- 9 - Northern Blend

GENERAL CONTEST INFORMATION

Chorus Warm-Up Rooms

- Each chorus will be given an optional rehearsal room for 1 hour Saturday morning. The schedule and assigned rooms will be posted in the chorus contest schedule.
- Please remember that the “2 minute” warning means “Please stop singing and get ready to start walking”.
- Other choruses may be using the warm-up room AFTER you, so please do not leave anything in the rooms as you cannot interrupt a chorus that is warming up.

Stage/Risers

- Risers are six, six-foot risers with four steps, a back and side rails.
- Enter **stage left** and **exit stage right**. This is the opposite of what we are used to doing.
- Since we have no platform stage, there will be **bright green tape** to show where the performance line is. Please stay in front of the line.
- There will be NO stage curtain. Each chorus package starts when the director signals the Presenter for the introduction. Quartet packages begin when the Presenter introduces each quartet.

Photo/Video Forms

- ALL video forms must be mailed to John Aviste prior to AC&C.
- Quartet photo forms should be given to the photographer at photo time.
- Chorus photo forms will be collected following the Contestant Briefing (Friday 9:15 am).

Chorus Photos (on stage)

- Chorus photos will be taken on the stage IMMEDIATELY AFTER your chorus has finished singing. Please plan your photo pose ahead of time and be prepared to go into that pose immediately after taking your applause. Four photos will be taken and the photographer will let you know when she has finished taking the photos.

Quartet Photos

- Quartet photos will be in a separate room prior to the warm-up room.

Evaluations

- Evaluation times and locations will be announced at contest by the ADM (Administrative Judge).

Volunteers

- We need lots of help over the weekend in order to put on a successful AC&C. Please consider volunteering for a job on contest weekend and use our [Sign-Up Genius page](#) to sign up.

AC&C 2026 BANQUET

“Family Game Night” Buffet

6:00 PM - CASH BAR WILL BE OPEN WITH SPECIAL DRINKS

DEALERS CHOICE: *Cranberry, OJ & Vodka or Sangria*

DOMINOS *Deconstructed Salad – Mixed greens, Cherry tomatoes, Red grapes, Cucumber, Golden raisins, Feta, Candied walnuts – choice of 2 dressings (GF, VE, V)*

BATTLESHIPS *Broccoli Slaw salad (GF, VE, V)*

READING RAILROAD *Rolls & Butter*

MR. GREENS *Glazed Parisian carrots (V)*

R1 *Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes (V)*

ST. CHARLES PLACE *Cheese Lasagna Rollatini with Marinara (V)*

CHESS *Chicken Francoise/French classic with a delicate Lemon Beurre Blanc*

BOARDWALK *Bourbon Glazed Ham (GF)*

FUNNYBONE *Fresh Atlantic Cod with a Lemon Dill Beurre Blanc*

Dessert:

CANDYLAND *Chocolate Mousse Bomb*

[GF] = gluten free, [VE] = vegan, [V] = vegetarian

PLEASE NOTE: We are hopeful that any major dietary concerns can be addressed by the variety of foods offered on our dinner buffet. If that is NOT the case, you **MUST** be sure to notify the Facilities Chair via email (Dene Day @ Facilities@area3harmony.org) with your name and phone number before **April 20th** to BE CERTAIN that your dietary needs can be addressed.

NO ADDITIONAL GUEST DINNERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE DOOR.

****The MoonGlow program will directly follow dinner at 8 pm!!****

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

Banquet

NO MORE DINNER TICKETS WILL BE SOLD as we are at our maximum capacity for dinner. You will need your **DINNER TICKET** to get into banquet. The Facilities Chair, Dene, will send table numbers with how many members will be at each table to each President once that is complete. Please adhere to the seating list to avoid confusion.

Hospitality Room

Refreshments will also be available:

Friday: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Lemonade and Cookies

Saturday: 8:00 am – 9:30 am Coffee & Tea

OPTIONS FOR FOOD AT THE DOUBLETREE FOR THE WEEKEND

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Friday 6:30 am – 9:30 am
Saturday & Sunday – 7:30 am – 10:30 am

Hot Buffet \$17.95 *plus tax*
Continental Breakfast (cold foods)

THURSDAY NIGHT

5:00 PM – 10:00 PM

FRIDAY NIGHT

4:30 PM – 10:00 PM

NO Special buffet on Friday night

The regular restaurant menu will also be available

MAID MARKET

The Maid Market which is right next to the Registration desk is open 24/7
There are many grab and go items including sandwiches, yogurt, salads, soup, wine, etc.

**The restaurant is not open for lunches. You are on your own for lunch. **

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

Alcohol is not permitted to be brought into the Banquet, MoonGlow, or After Party Rooms unless it is purchased at the Hotel Bar.

Area Chorus, Quarus, and Family Choruses

Have you learned your music for the Area Chorus, Area Quarus, and Family Chorus? It's not too late! Contact Janine Schindler, ACCTChair@area3harmony.org for music and tracks.

Youth Outreach



This year Rochester Rhapsody will be “passing the hat” for Youth Outreach during the MoonGlow. Please consider giving a donation of cash or check (made out to Area 3, Harmony, Inc). This money will be designated towards future Youth functions and scholarships to our Harmony Music Camps.

For the **MoonGlow**, other than the normal pre-determined awards being presented, only the following will be part of our Saturday evening annual Area 3 AC&C MoonGlow program:

- **All Choruses** can perform one song [unless an exemption is requested]
- **All Area 3 Current Quartet Medalists** can perform one song
- **Area 3 Queen quartets** can perform one song
- **Judges** will be performing one song!

Since there is **no singing** allowed in the hotel rooms, two rooms will be available for singing at the After Party. Alcohol may be purchased at the main bar. Food is not allowed in After Party Rooms. Feel free to mingle between rooms.

After Party Rooms: Adams and Bushnells Basins

VIDEO INFORMATION AND ORDER FORM

2026 Harmony, Inc. International Convention & Contests Recording Authorization and Digital Video File Order Form

Please print the name of your quartet or chorus on the line below:

Permission to Record

All performances will be recorded. Your quartet or chorus **must** fill out this form and send it to John Aviste, whether you purchase a video or not.

We give John Aviste, on behalf of Harmony, Inc., permission to record our performances at the Harmony, Inc. 2026 Area 3 Convention and Contests and authorize Harmony, Inc. to use any portion of these performances, as they deem proper. This may include, but is not limited to, educational materials for internal use and/or commercial recording(s) produced and marketed by Harmony, Inc.

We agree that our video, or part thereof, will not be copied or distributed, without obtaining all applicable permissions, as required by law.

Signed by Quartet Contact or Chapter President:

To purchase a Video

Instead of a DVD, you will receive a web link to your digital video file (MAC or PC compatible). Digital video files will be available by noon on Sunday, May 3. To order your video, please include a check for \$36.00 (US funds) with this form and mail it to the address below. *Please print clearly.*

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Special Requests

Normally I stay in a wide shot for quartets and move in closer for a ballad. I also stay in a wide shot on chorus up tunes and moving in some, on say a ballad. If your chorus or quartet is planning something different or if you have a special request, please describe this below and send me this form **before** the convention, so that I can add it to my cue sheet.

2026 v01 John Aviste Daystar Productions 28556 State Route 342 Black River, NY 13612
(315) 773-5673 e-mail: javiste@daystarpro.com

PHOTOGRAPHY ORDER FORM

Debra Woodard, Photographer

7950 County Road 41, Victor, NY 14564

585-738-5050 cell Marwoodphoto@gmail.com

ACC Order Form

Please fill out form and bring it along with your payment at time of photo.

Price list includes tax

You may pay cash or check to Debra Woodard, Photographer (We do not accept credit cards)

All photos are money back guaranteed

Order will be mailed to picture chair within 2 weeks

5x7s 1-4	\$17.00 each	___	\$ _____
5x7s 5 or more	\$15.00 each	___	\$ _____
8x10s 1-4	\$20.00 each	___	\$ _____
8'10s 5 or more	\$17.00 each	___	\$ _____
Set of 8 wallets	\$17.00	___	\$ _____
Ceramic Coffee mug	\$35.00	___	\$ _____
Travel Mug	\$35.00	___	\$ _____
Water Bottle	\$35.00	___	\$ _____
Plastic Key Chain	\$15.00	___	\$ _____
Set of 2 Bag Tags	\$15.00	___	\$ _____

Electronic web image

Quartet \$50 or \$10 with \$50 order \$ _____

Chorus \$150 or \$10 with \$150 order \$ _____

Please add \$10.00 shipping & handling for orders under \$50 \$ _____

Chorus or Quartet Name _____

As you'd like it to appear on photo

Contact Person _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____



NORTHERN BLEND CHORUS

presents



FAMILY GAME NIGHT!

Don't be SORRY ladies and be sure to stop at our Family Game Night Hospitality room during Area 3's ACC 2026. We've set up our OPERATION in the Champlain Room for a fun LIFE experience of shopping with us! Take this CLUE so you don't get into TROUBLE and miss out on the lovely and useful items we'll have for you! Let the DOMINOES fall in place as you deal your DECK OF CARDS for the best deals the house has to offer.



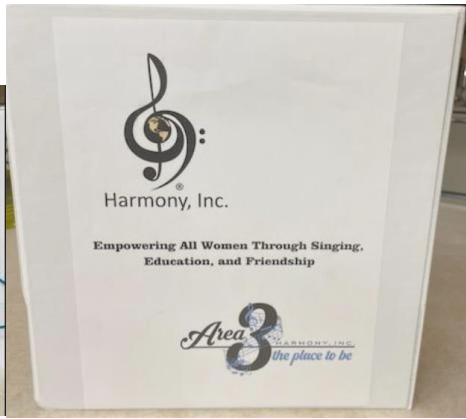
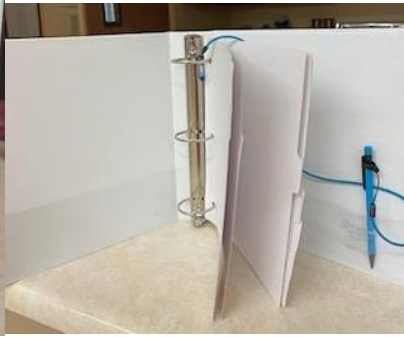
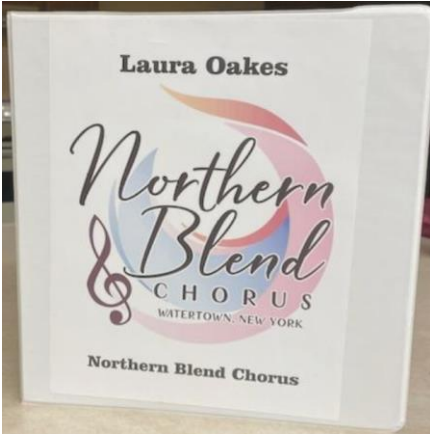
A sample of the musical MONOPOLY of items for sale at our CANDYLAND:

- Personalized music binders made on site just for you
- Harmony Inc glasses etched with our logo (wine glasses and other options)
- Musical 🎵 jewelry and other fashion jewelry (necklaces, earrings, etc.)
- Handmade keychains with musical notes attached
- Handmade baskets in a variety of sizes and colors
- Various musical 🎵 novelty items

You can pay by cash, PayPal or Venmo. A QR code will be available to scan at the table.

Please deal yourself into Northern Blend's Family Game Night! We look forward to seeing you in our Hospitality Room 🎲❤️

AC&C 2026 HOST CHAPTER



AREA 3 AC&C 2026 PROGRAM ADS

If you are interested in giving a shout out to your chorus or quartet, want to offer well wishes, promote your upcoming event, or send a one-liner to someone special, you can order an ad in this year's AC&C digital program!

Please use the following measurements as a guide:

- _____ Full Page (7.5" tall x 4.5" wide) - \$50 *
- _____ Half Page (3.75" tall x 4.5" wide) - \$25 *
- _____ Quarter Page Vertical (3.75" tall x 2.25" wide) - \$15 *
- _____ Quarter Page Horizontal (1.75" tall x 4.5" wide) - \$15 *
- _____ One Liners (65 spaces/characters, Arial font size 12) - \$5

Ad graphics must be "camera-ready" sent electronically in .jpg or .png format (no .pdf, .docx or .rtf files please). One-liners can be sent in .docx (Microsoft Word) format.

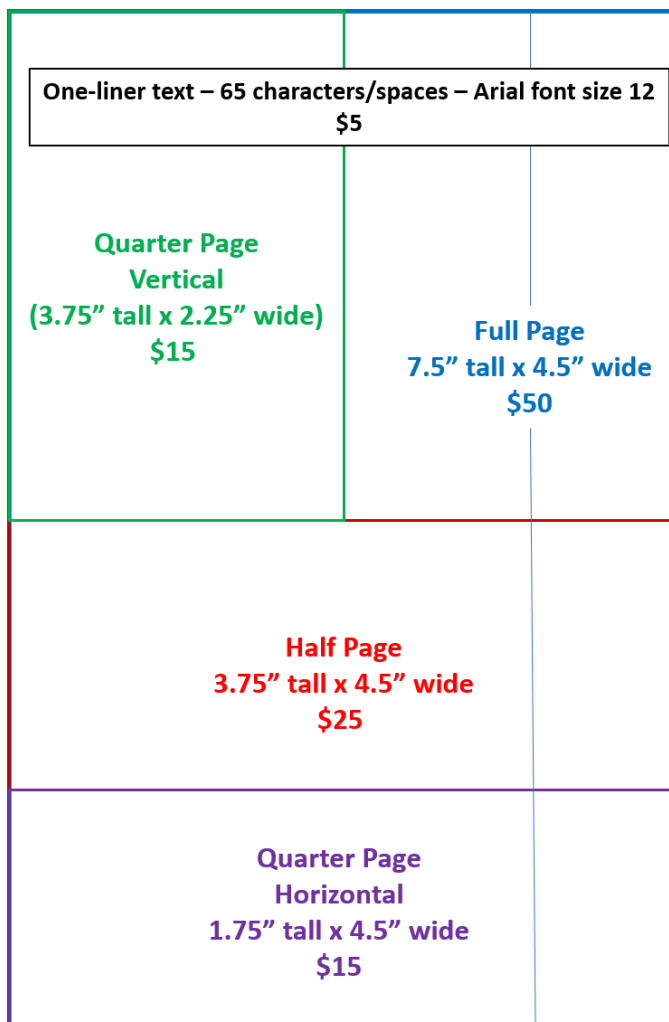
* **Digital Bonus:** All quarter page ads or larger will also be shared on Facebook! Half page and larger will be posted on both Instagram and Facebook! (Don't forget to include your social media handle/link in with your ad)

Send ads and one-liners to Anita via email at pr@area3harmony.org by **Sunday, April 19**, with the subject line **ACC 2026 Program Ad**.

Please send ad/one-liner payment to Ann Christiano, Area 3 Treasurer, 125 Marwood Rd., Rochester, NY 14616. Make checks payable to **Area 3, Harmony, Inc.**

Can't wait to see you all at AC&C around the game board.

Anita Prather Harvell, PR Coordinator
 Area 3, Harmony, Inc.
pr@area3harmony.org



AC&C 2026 EDUCATION CLASSES

DoubleTree by Hilton Syracuse – East Syracuse, NY Sunday, May 3, 2026

Classes are held in the Adams Basin, Bushnells Basin and Sacketts Basin rooms.

Education class information will be sent out in a separate mailing shortly.

