

Spring 2023 Combined Intermediate/Advanced Festival Clinician Profile



Stephanie Rhoades -- joined the staff of Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in October 2021 as Worship and Music Coordinator and Handbell Director. Over the past twenty-five years she has served as Minister of Music in several churches in the Dallas area, directing vocal and handbell choirs of all ages and starting several handbell choirs for children and adults. She is the Conductor and Artistic Director of Concert Bells of Fort Worth, an auditioned community handbell ensemble known for its accurate and expressive performances. In 2015, they performed one of the featured concerts during Pinnacle, a national event for handbell ensembles sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America.

With a reputation as an effective and engaging teacher, Stephanie has been a clinician and guest director for numerous workshops and festivals across the US. In the past few years, she conducted two events for Handbell Musicians of America: The All-Star choir at National Seminar in July 2018, and Distinctly Bronze East in February 2020. She recently conducted the intermediate and advanced divisions at the Area 1 Handbell Festival in Hartford, CT, and was one of two conductors to represent the US at the International Handbell Symposium in Nashville, TN, during the first week of August 2022.

In addition to her work as a conductor and clinician, she has served on numerous local and national boards, including the Greater Dallas Handbell Association, Area 9 of Handbell Musicians of America, Dallas Chapter of Choristers Guild, and Handbell Musicians of America.

Before focusing on conducting, she spent many years behind the handbell tables, including ringing in the Dallas Handbell Ensemble under the direction of David R. Davidson. Ms. Rhoades holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Yale University and a Master of Sacred Music degree from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University.