

|| varsity vocals *presents:*

THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF COLLEGIATE

A CAPPELLA FINALS

April 21, 2018



#ICCA

Coca-Cola
concert series
Beacon THEATRE™

2018 International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella Finals

Tonight's Competitors:

ALL-NIGHT YAHTZEE – Florida State University

ICCA South Champion

THE AFTER SCHOOL SPECIALS! – Claremont Colleges

ICCA Wild Card Champion

THE BEARTONES – Missouri State University

ICCA Midwest Champion

OWLCAPPELLA – Temple University

ICCA Mid-Atlantic Champion

THE POTSDAM PITCHES – SUNY Potsdam

ICCA Central Champion

RISE – University of Texas at Arlington

ICCA Southwest Champion

THE ROLLING TONES – King's College London

ICCA United Kingdom Champion

THE SOCAL VOCALS – University of Southern California

ICCA West Champion

UPPER STRUCTURE – Berklee College of Music

ICCA Northeast Champion

VOICES IN YOUR HEAD – University of Chicago

ICCA Great Lakes Champion

Our Judges

JOSHUA S. DUCHAN

ABBEY JANES

DIANA GALEANO

ED BOYER

LEE STOVALL

Our Hosts

COURTNEY JENSEN

COOPER KITCHING

Special Guest Performers

The 2018 ICHSA Champion and Runners-Up



Saturday, April 21, 2018

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2018 International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella Finals!

As Varsity Vocals wraps up its 22nd season of live student a cappella tournaments, our enthusiasm for the art of contemporary a cappella is greater than ever. Each year, our competitors appear before crowds of thousands in venues across the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, offering an array of incredible and energetic performances for your enjoyment. They also earn valuable feedback from our experienced judges.

Tonight's competitors have endured a long and rigorous competition season – starting from over 400 auditioning groups from around the world – and have emerged as the best ten college a cappella groups from their respective regions. Now, they have the coveted opportunity to compete for the title of 2018 ICCA Champion.

Committed to promoting our singers and energized by their talent, we look forward to what is certain to be a memorable evening.

Thank you for joining us!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Newman".

Amanda Newman
Executive Director

We're social! Follow us @varsityvocals on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and join the conversation using **#ICCA**. In addition, Snapchat is covering this event via Live Story. Tap in to experience the event from every angle and submit your Snaps for a chance to be included!



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Tonight's Competitors

ALL-NIGHT YAHTZEE | @allnightyahtzee

ICCA South Champion

It all began with a beach house, a storm, and a brave pup named Yahtzee. In the fall of 1998, Brian Haverkate gathered fearless singers, who needed no instrumental accompaniment, to form the first group of its kind at Florida State University. Dubbed All-Night Yahtzee, the group held its first concert in the spring of 1999, and thus, a cappella music was born at FSU. Since then, Yahtzee has competed annually in the ICCA, where they have received acclaim and numerous awards over the years. They also perform regularly at other festivals, like SoJam and BOSon Sings!, host a series of concerts and events around campus, and gig throughout the community. They tour Florida every winter and spring, stopping at all their favorite cities and many of their hometowns. They were also featured on the Pop Network docu-series, "Sing It On." Their members come from different places, musical backgrounds, and interests, but blended together, they bring great music, entertainment, and fun to every audience.

THE AFTER SCHOOL SPECIALS! | @ASSacappella

ICCA Wild Card Champion

The After School Specials! are from the Claremont Colleges, a consortium of liberal arts colleges in the southern California area. Characterized by their upbeat attitudes, green attire, and signature A.S.S. (After School Specials) hats, they sing their own arrangements that cover an expansive range of music. Their members are as diverse as the music they sing, and hail from all corners of the country and world. They also major in all academic disciplines, across the gamut of the humanities and sciences. The group believes in creating a space for passionate individuals that share a love for making music, regardless of their backgrounds, in order to create a community to share great music. The After School Specials have also had the privilege of performing and recording at various exciting locations. Past venues include The Fonda Theatre, Diane Warren's recording studio, and the White House. They love getting to showcase their assets in front of as many people as possible, and they hope to make music wherever people will listen. This is the group's third appearance in the ICCA tournament. Each time has been a great competitive experience, as well as a time to celebrate their members and other groups.

THE BEARTONES | @Beartones

ICCA Midwest Champion

The Beartones was conceptualized in 2000 under a framework of musical excellence, brotherhood, and just having a good time. For more than a decade, The Beartones have consistently thrilled audiences of all shapes and sizes. The group is renowned for their polished and memorable sets, allowing them to rack up numerous awards and perform across the country, including in Kansas City, St. Louis, Memphis, Chicago, and New York City.

OWLCAPPELLA | @OwlCappella

ICCA Mid-Atlantic Champion

OwlCappella is Temple University's first co-ed a cappella group, founded in fall 2010. The group performs a diverse assortment of musical styles, with a focus on artistic and energetic music-making. In just seven years, the group has made significant strides and plans to continue moving forward! OwlCappella performs a variety of gigs around Philadelphia and the Tri-state area. In December 2016, the group performed at the White House for the holiday season. OwlCappella enjoys their annual Spooktacular concerts, improv warm-ups and jam sessions, and is legendary for Philly's best costumes. Stay tuned on their website and social media platforms for updates on their most exciting year yet!

THE POTSDAM PITCHES | @potsdampitches

ICCA Central Champion

Founded in 2007, The Potsdam Pitches is SUNY Potsdam's premier co-ed a cappella group. The Pitches is an award-winning ensemble dedicated to spreading the love and joy of a cappella through high-quality performances.

RISE | @riseacappella

ICCA Southwest Champion

RISE is the premier, co-ed a cappella group at University of Texas at Arlington. Known for their energetic performances, RISE is a growing success within their community of Arlington, Texas. As the only contemporary pop a cappella group on campus, RISE continually strives to maintain the highest standards of musicality, while still keeping the fun and love alive. Pursuing high degrees of excellence in all aspects of life, these students continue to grow daily as people, friends, and performers.

THE ROLLING TONES | @RollingTonesKCL

ICCA United Kingdom Champion

The Rolling Tones is King's College London's all-female a cappella group. In 2017, they were the first all-female group to win the Voice Festival U.K. University Competition, they competed in the ICCA for the first time and placed 2nd in the U.K. Semifinal, and they sold out their debut Edinburgh Fringe show. More recently, they released their debut single and music video, "Teardrop." The Rolling Tones enjoy singing and snacking.

THE SOCAL VOCALS | @theSoCalVoCals

ICCA West Champion

The SoCal VoCals, founded in 1996, is composed of 17 members, varying in majors from popular musical performance to environmental studies. In the last year, The VoCals sang for the President and First Lady, toured Hong Kong and London, and released their newest album, *VoCabulary*, on Spotify and iTunes. They have sung at the Hollywood Bowl, Lincoln Center, and the Staples Center, for such audiences as Chris Martin, Taylor Swift, Chaka Khan, and Sara Bareilles. VoCal alumni have been featured on NBC's "The Sing-Off," won multiple Grammy

Awards, and are currently starring on Broadway. Above all, The VoCals are about making music and having a good time, and are so excited to compete in the ICCA!

UPPER STRUCTURE | @UpperStructure

ICCA Northeast Champion

Upper Structure is an award-winning co-ed a cappella group from Berklee College of Music. Founded in 2015, Upper Structure is taking the a cappella community by storm, most recently placing 2nd in the 2017 Northeast ICCA Semifinal, and again in the 2017 Wild Card round! Based in Boston, Upper Structure strives to bring a modern and edgy take on music to the a cappella community. With members from around the world, Upper Structure creates a sound that is innovative, refreshing, emotional, and fun.

VOICES IN YOUR HEAD | @uchicagovoices

ICCA Great Lakes Champion

Voices in Your Head is an a cappella group from the University of Chicago consisting of students whose areas of study vary as widely as their musical tastes. The group strives to push the boundaries of collegiate a cappella by using the human voice in innovative and creative ways. Voices is honored to have advanced to the ICCA Finals in previous years, including in 2017. In addition to Voices' success in competitions, their most recent album, titled *LIGHTS*, won the 2017 Contemporary A Cappella Recording Award (CARA) for Best Mixed Collegiate Album.

Our Judges

JOSHUA S. DUCHAN, Ph.D. is an ethnomusicologist who studies American popular music and culture, and has been involved in the a cappella world for more than a decade. He sang with The University of Pennsylvania Counterparts in college and with the University of Michigan's Amazin' Blue during graduate school, serving twice as the music director and primary arranger for the latter. His arrangements have been nominated for two CARAs and have appeared on two *BOCA* compilations. Today, Joshua is the Associate Professor of Music and Director of Graduate Studies in Music at Wayne State University in Detroit, where he teaches courses in music history, world music, and ethnomusicology. His articles on a cappella have been published with the Contemporary A Cappella Society of America (CASA), as well as in several academic journals. His book, "Powerful Voices: The Musical and Social World of Collegiate A Cappella," was the first book-length scholarly work to consider collegiate a cappella, exploring its arranging, rehearsal, performance, and recording practices. Joshua's current research focuses on the music of American singer-songwriter, Billy Joel. His book, "Billy Joel: America's Piano Man," was published in 2017 and features interviews he conducted with Joel himself. Outside of teaching, Joshua remains active in the national a cappella scene as an adjudicator, arranger, clinician, and producer. He has been adjudicating at ICCA and ICHSA events since 2004.

ABBEEY JANES, a native Texan at heart, sings with and arranges for Duwende. A four-time CARA winner, Duwende has performed at the Java Jazz Festival in Jakarta, the United Nations Ambassadors Ball, and a World AIDS Day Event at the Royal Theatre Carré in Amsterdam. In addition to television appearances on NBC and Fox, Duwende has been a featured performer at several Sundance Film Festivals, and has given a TEDxTalk for Johnson and Johnson. Abbey enjoys being involved as a clinician and judge at scholastic a cappella conferences and competitions and she is the bookkeeper for the Women's A Cappella Association (WACA). While Abbey was a music major at Franklin and Marshall College, she sang in the mixed group, The Poor Richards. She eventually became the music director and ended up marrying the music director from her freshman year!

DIANA GALEANO is a graduate of Florida State University, where she studied music education with an emphasis in secondary choral education. While at FSU, she sang with 2009 ICCA South champions The AcaBelles. Since graduating, she has worked as a high school chorus teacher, served as director at FSU's summer music camps, sang with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and currently acts as the assistant director and proud camp mom at A Cappella Academy in Los Angeles. When she's not teaching or taking care of her aca-children, Diana teaches at a cappella festivals, arranges, offers masterclasses to groups in the greater Boston area, and sings with semi-professional groups Sound Off and Blacklight.

ED BOYER is a producer, engineer, and arranger whose credits include the "Pitch Perfect" film series, "Glee," "The Sing-Off," Pentatonix, and Straight No Chaser, among others. In addition to countless CARAs, his work has contributed to six Grammy nominations and three wins, two American Music Awards, two Emmy nominations, 11 Billboard Top 10 albums, 17 Hot 100 Singles, as well as 11 gold and four platinum RIAA-certified records.

LEE STOVALL currently teaches choir for the South Milwaukee school district, where he directs the award-winning a cappella groups, Delta V and The Poprockets. A founding member of the University of Wisconsin-Madison a cappella group Fundamentally Sound, he has been interested in promoting contemporary a cappella education since college, and kept busy arranging and coaching for groups around the world. Lee's work has earned ICCA awards and CARAs, and spots on *BOCA* and *BOHSA* compilations. He has attended seminars with The Vocal Company and Vocomotion studios, volunteered for SingStrong Chicago and A Cappella Fest, and judged for Varsity Vocals, CARAs, and the AVAs. Lee has also worked with Camp A Cappella, directing ensembles from the middle school to collegiate levels, and is a board member of A Cappella University. Outside of the contemporary a cappella world, Lee sings with two professional classical ensembles: the Madison Choral Project and Present Music Milwaukee.

Our Hosts

COURTNEY JENSEN, who appeared on "The Sing-Off" Season 2 with The Backbeats, is a singer, beatboxer, and the ICCA Southwest Producer. She workshops with a cappella groups around the country, has published a beatboxing tutorial called "Breaking Down the Beats," and performs with JANE and HIVE.

COOPER KITCHING began his journey in the a cappella community as a member of The Accidentals, an award-winning all-male a cappella group at the University of Georgia in Athens. During his time with The Accidentals, they represented the South region at the ICCA Finals, placing 3rd overall and receiving two special awards. Cooper has also had a hand in the production of many ICCA events.

Our Staff

Amanda Newman

Executive Director

David Rabizadeh

ICCA Director

Lucy Jacobs

The Open Director

ICCA West Producer

Sara Yood

ICCA & ICHSA Finals Producer

ICHSA Northeast Producer

Erica Tackett

Director of Marketing & Social Strategy

Emily Flanders

Director of Adjudication

ICCA Great Lakes Producer

Henry Harrod

ICCA United Kingdom Producer

Holli Kitching

ICCA Mid-Atlantic Producer

Evan Powers

ICHSA South & Southwest Producer

Elise Hackl

ICHSA Midwest Producer

Jillian Kimberlin

ICHSA Mid-Atlantic Producer

Andrea Poole

ICHSA Director

Andrew Poole

Director of Digital Media

Emily Sucher

Director of Publications

Virginia DeMoss

Album Production Coordinator

Leah Alrutz

ICCA Midwest Producer

Holly Hayes

ICCA Northeast Producer

Lindsay Howerton-Hastings

ICCA South Producer

Courtney Jensen

ICCA Southwest Producer

Arvin Zabalerio

ICCA Central Producer

Matt Shirer

ICHSA West Producer

Riley McMahon

ICHSA Great Lakes Producer

Mark Chen

ICHSA Southwest Co-Producer

Varsity Vocals would like to thank: The Beacon Theatre; MSG Live; Jennifer Bretschneider, Taylor Bartenope, Andrew D'Alessandro; Tony Huerta and Sonic Audio; Ben Bram and Lili Fuller for creating our closing number; our photographer Joe Martinez; our ICHSA championship winning guest performers; our judges, hosts, volunteers, partners, competitors, and producers; and you, the audience, for supporting Varsity Vocals programming and these students.

About Tonight's Concert

The performance order was determined by random draw this afternoon and will be announced from stage. Tonight's performers will be evaluated on elements of their vocal and visual performance, which carry numerical weight. The highest and lowest score from the individual judges will be dropped for each group. Our judges may recognize exceptional performances with special awards as they see fit.

Because each group only has 12 minutes to perform, we ask you to keep your applause to an enthusiastic minimum between songs. Please feel welcome to applaud as much as you want after each group has finished its set. There will be a 15-minute intermission. After the final group has performed, our Champion and Runners-Up from last night's ICHSA Finals will entertain you while the scores are tabulated.

Flash photography and video cameras are prohibited during the concert. Phones are allowed as long as the flash is off and you are not disrupting other patrons. Our talented professional photographer, Joe Martinez, will be making high-resolution images available for purchase in a few weeks. Please follow Varsity Vocals on Facebook for updates.

About Varsity Vocals

Since 1996, we have encouraged students worldwide to sing a cappella throughout their lives. Our programs include the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA), the International Championship of High School A Cappella (ICHSA), and the International Championship of A Cappella Open (The Open), which debuted in 2017 and encourages competitors to bring together groups of any age, experience level, or origin to form a cappella "dream teams" and compete for a \$25,000 cash prize to help jump start their professional career. We also produce the annual Best of College A Cappella (BOCA) and Best of High School A Cappella (BOHSA) compilation albums.

Our a cappella competitions give top-notch a cappella groups the opportunity to showcase their talents for an international audience and to take home valuable feedback from our qualified judges. This year, competing groups will appear in venues all around the world, offering their energetic musical performances for your enjoyment.



|| varsity vocals *presents:*

THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF

A CAPPELLA OPEN

Carnegie Hall

Saturday, September 22, 2018

The ICCA and ICHSA champions face off against
aca-dream teams of all ages for \$25,000 cash!

Tickets on sale in July

varsityvocals.com/theopen

BRING THE HARMONY HOME



BOCA: Best of College A Cappella

BOHSA: Best of High School A Cappella

Available now on iTunes!

varsityvocals.com/albums