

The Addaline

Sweet Adelines New Zealand Region 35

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REAL WOMEN - REAL HARMONY - REAL FUN



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Message from Trish

AHA was a successful, and likely one-off, event for New Zealand. It was a bonus to be able to welcome attendees from other regions, especially Australians who numbered over 80! It was also a privilege to have been able to host faculty of such high calibre. Speed of Sound provided us with a number of memorable performances and their willingness to share their experience and knowledge is much appreciated.

Prior to AHA, the Rising Star competition and the Pan Pacific Harmony Festival 2016 provided those who were able to attend with great entertainment and enviable style. It was fantastic to see our up and coming younger members making such great strides. Special thanks are well deserved by two particularly amazing women - Joanna Lyes and Jocosa Bruce. Both these women

not only serve on our Regional Management Team, but are fully active members of Greater Auckland Chorus - Jocosa is a director and representing NZ with Molto! quartet later this year. Their enthusiasm and organisational skills are tremendous, and the Region is fortunate to have such dedication. Five days, jam-packed with a multitude of events, organising people, transport, back-stage, media, judges, faculty, sales tables...the list goes on...was all within their capabilities. I am impressed, and I congratulate and thank you both, as well as all your helpers, for masterminding such an impressive set of events.

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Thank You, Region 35!!

What an incredible week we had in Auckland during the Rising Star Contest and A Cappella Harmony Academy 2016!!! It was such fun to get to meet so many of you and bond together through music, education, laughter, eating and just talking! On behalf of Sweet Adelines International and the International Board of Directors, thank you for opening your “home” to us as host for these events and for welcoming us so warmly. We felt right at home!

Many of those travelling to New Zealand for the event took the opportunity to also spend some time discovering the treasure and beauty of your homeland. Even though it is winter, we still found amazingly warm hearts and faces that shared so much with us! Every time I have visited New Zealand, I have been thrilled by your hospitality, welcome and generosity and returned home looking forward to the next time I come again. Thankfully, I will be able to see many of you in Las Vegas this October and share more smiles and hugs!

Perhaps the most heartwarming experience that we shared during AHA was when we were singing. Whether we were learning new vocal skills, exploring how to use breath energy consistently, subtexting the story or message of the song, or enjoying the fabulous performances of Speed of Sound and our Rising Star medalists, the music that we shared bound our hearts together and made our spirits soar. It was a privilege to stand beside you as a student and in front of you as a teacher - feeling the warmth you share, seeing the joy and passion on your faces, and feeling

the excitement of discovering new ways to grow in your musical journey and in your life. Singing our music together creates lasting friendship and opens pathways to joy and growth. It’s an amazing gift we give to one another!!

Region 35 has such an outstanding outreach to young men and women in New Zealand. The Pan Pacific Youth Contests were fun, inspiring and thrilling – you have provided so much guidance and encouragement for these students as they learn of the art of Barbershop Harmony and the fun of singing together. You show all of us an incredible model of reaching out to youth everywhere. Keep leading the way to our future and future Sweet Adelines!

*“The music that we
shared bound our hearts
together and made our
spirits soar.”*

Many, many thanks to Jocosa Bruce for all of her efforts to help us bring this event to fruition. We



could not have done it without her! Additionally, thank you to the Greater Auckland Chorus for singing and being willing to be a demonstration chorus for several classes. Perhaps most of all, thank you to all of you who came and joined in the fun – it was a fabulous time together!

In Harmony,

**PAULA DAVIS, PRESIDENT,
SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL**



AHA in NZ!

What a joy to attend this international event right in our own country, New Zealand.

Region 35 first heard of the possibility of this event being held outside the United States back in January 2014 when Sweet Adelines International offered a special invitation to Regions 31, 32, 34 & 35 (Sweden, England, Australia and New Zealand) to submit a letter of interest to host this event. At our January Regional Management Team meeting, we decided we should follow through with this opportunity so Sandy Gunn and I swung into action on February 7 with only seven days to write and complete this submission and get it back to SAI. A huge task on a very short timeframe, yet achieved.

To be fair to all our NZ members, our proposal included two venues in Auckland and two venues in

Christchurch. The proposal had to cover things such as a venue which could provide for up to 2000 participants, several smaller teaching areas, audio/visual, catering, dining hall and housing proximity and availability.

Then it was a waiting game. Following an International Board of Directors meeting we received the following official notification on June 18.

'I would like to thank the Region 35 Management Team for submitting such an impressive proposal for partnering with International to present the 2016 A Cappella Harmony Academy. It was both comprehensive and well-developed. Upon review of all four proposals, I am pleased to inform you that the International Board of Directors made the decision to accept Region 35's submission. Please keep this information confidential until Monday.'

That was it. We had achieved our dream and couldn't contain ourselves.

Those who attended this great event in July will agree that we were extremely privileged by Sweet Adelines International choosing our beautiful country in which to stage this event. The education was absorbed by all present and the hope is that this will stimulate Region 35 Sweet Adelines to put into practice the skills they learned with the benefit of raising the standard of barbershop singing in our country. The profile of Sweet Adelines has certainly been raised in this country with not only A Cappella Harmony Academy but also the Rising Star competition being held here, in Auckland, all in one week.

MIRIAM SPRAGG
CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS

Soaking in Barbershop!

I decided that if I was going to AHA, I might as well go early and soak in even more barbershop - and a cappella - at the Pan Pacific Youth Harmony Festival. And soak I did!! What a wonderful two days of competition - but even more; seeing the fun and camaraderie of all the quartets and groups, and their enthusiasm for a cappella singing.

It was a real pleasure to hear the Rising Star quartets: last year's winners, C'est la Vie, this year's winners, The Ladies, the place getters (including NZ quartets in third and fifth place) and every quartet that walked onto the stage.

A highlight of Day 1 was also hearing Mission Quartet - fresh from their success gaining 3rd place in the Collegiate Competition - and also Deke Sharon's class.

"What a wonderful two days of competition - but even more; seeing the fun and camaraderie of all the quartets and groups, and their enthusiasm for a cappella singing."

He was as wonderful and enthusiastic about a cappella singing as when he

visited Christchurch in February, and gave us more 'inside goss' on the Pitch Perfect movies and a new Broadway a cappella show he's involved with.

Day 2 of the Festival was the group competitions and there was something for everyone with the a cappella section (being judged by Deke) as well as barbershop. It was a wonderful two days capped off by a fabulous showcase concert.

The next generation of barbershop in NZ - and the World - is alive and well!

JUDITH CHEYNE
CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS



Hooked on Barbershop!

In true barbershop-nerd style I was very excited when I heard that AHA was coming to New Zealand. My quartet, the Babytones, had already decided to enter Rising Star which was being held that same week, so July was sure to be the most exciting month of the year.

AHA 2016 is the first large international event I've attended in my two years as a Sweet Adeline. In the build up to the weekend I was so excited as I've come to love the atmosphere of Sweet Adeline events and the family feeling I get whenever I step into a room full of ladies covered in sequins and medals. AHA did not disappoint! The opportunities to learn were not just limited to the class sessions as, where ever I went there were chances to sing tags (and German drinking songs), get advice from more seasoned Adelines (aka

Queens of Harmony) and have quick lessons in music reading and octave marking, before we headed into the scheduled classes.

"One of the most amazing things about AHA was that it pushed me to leave my comfort zone."

One of the most amazing things about AHA was that it pushed me to leave my comfort zone. In Sandi Wright's woodshedding class, I not only sang and fell in love with tenor, but also did so, in a quartet after having one practice! This was very cool as I have always believed in the stereotype "leads can't harmonize" but, it turns out we can.

Probably the best part about AHA was seeing other young people there!



Although we have a strong chorus at my school (Espresso), many girls don't pursue barbershop once they leave school and there are only two U25s in The Waikato Rivertones. I was so excited to hear that people my own age had even crossed The Tasman to come along to AHA. It's really exciting to know that there is a group of us who will be keeping the Adeline spirit alive in years to come.

I am so grateful to the Prue Blythe Memorial Fund and the lovely ladies who look after it, for giving me the ability to attend such a wonderful event. It truly goes to show what an amazing organisation we are all part of. I had such an amazing time and know for sure that I am 100% hooked on barbershop for life!

KIRI CROSSLAND
WAIKATO RIVERTONES CHORUS



Zeal Quartet - Adventures and Achievements

3rd in New Zealand, 3rd in the International Rising Star Contest and 2nd in the Pan Pacific Contest 25 & Under Contest! It has been an amazing year.

Prior to Rising Star, ZEAL was fortunate enough to be able to travel to Nelson in order to promote barbershop singing and initiate a Young Singers In Harmony programme there. We visited 5 schools around Nelson including Nelson College for Girls, Garin College, Nayland College (Jessie's old high school), Waimea College and Broadgreen Intermediate. Safe to say, it was a truly rewarding experience. We met so many wonderful and enthusiastic students (girls and boys) who were in awe of the barbershop craft after hearing it for the first time. Seeing their expressions was truly priceless. A few students from Broadgreen Intermediate even asked for our autographs!

Having been through the YSIH program ourselves, we completely

value the importance it has had on our lives today. We hope we have been able to gather enough interest from the youth in Nelson to start a successful YSIH program. A big thank you goes to our aunties in Nelson Bays Harmony Chorus for organising such a fantastic program and transporting us around the town. A special thank you to Jenny and Rob (Jessie's parents) for housing us while down in Nelson. Also, a huge thank you to the Prue Blythe Memorial Trust for funding our flights. We absolutely loved Nelson and hope we can visit again!

*"Seeing their expressions
was truly priceless".*

Soon after Nelson, Rising Star was the next and final goal for the year. Being the first quartet to sing and compete on the day was a challenge in itself. However, we came off feeling like we rocked that stage! After taking advantage of numerous performance opportunities in the weeks leading

up to the contest, we managed to overcome our nerves and we had an absolute blast. The outcome could not have been sweeter – 3rd in the world and 2nd in the Pan Pacific!

We have a number of people to thank for our achievements. Firstly, to all our brilliant coaches that helped us on our journey to Rising Star; Melody Lowe, Jocosa Bruce, Lynne Smith, Carole Persinger, Kim Vaughn and Lori Lyford. Thank you for your time and expertise. Secondly, a big thanks to our parents, chorus ladies and aunties and our friends for being our biggest supporters throughout our quartet journey. Your encouragement and support means the world to us and we love singing for you!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Regional Contest next year.

We are ZEAL Quartet, and we are Sweet Adelines!

SHAANIL, JESSIE, NISHAA AND PERSIS



An amazing experience

Competing in the International Rising Star Contest with ZEAL Quartet, and placing third in the world has been my biggest achievement to date in my Sweet Adelines and barbershop life. Sharing the stage with quartets such as C'est La Vie (USA) Timbre (Sweden) and The Ladies (USA) was an amazing experience and has given the quartet and I something to aspire towards for the future, as our journey continues.

In addition to successes in Rising Star, I was fortunate enough to be able to direct 'Crimson' from Auckland University of Technology, as we took part in the Under 25 Women A Cappella Group category. We were absolutely stoked to come away with the 'Audience Choice Award' and I was an extremely proud director. Most of the girls had never sung a cappella before, so it was a real treat to get this award. I hope they take away some fond memories from the Pan Pacific Harmony Competition. Meeting

Deke Sharon was pretty cool too! A big thank you to Joanna Lyes for helping me start this group and showing faith in me – I hope we made you proud.

"I was captivated with the education provided in these classes and learnt so much about our amazing craft."

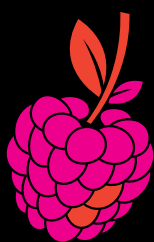
Post contest, I was lucky enough to attend the A Cappella Harmony Academy. I was captivated with the education provided in these classes and learnt so much about our amazing craft. The faculty was brilliant (thank you Betty Clipman, Sharon Babb, Paula Davis, Marcia Pinvidic and Sandi Wright) – they taught extremely well and made the education so easy to understand. It's because of this that I feel I will definitely be able to apply what I learn within the chorus, quartet and individual setting. AHA not only provided education,

but it also provided the opportunity to network and to get to know more Sweet Adelines from around the world. After a lot of laughs and Facebook adding, I have so many more Sweet Adelines friends! In addition to this, my dream of meeting Speed of Sound Quartet came true and I was blown away by hearing them sing and being able to talk with them. They are such lovely ladies and I am so happy to now know them!

A huge thank you to the Prue Blythe Memorial Trust for funding my registration for AHA. Without your support I would not have been able to attend this incredible educational event and meet the people that I did. I can't wait to see where my Sweet Adelines journey takes me!

PERSIS DARUKHANAWALLA
GREATER AUCKLAND CHORUS

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From L to R: Kiri Crossland, Charlotte Gordon, Emily Jones, Nishaa Senarath, Persis Darukhanawalla, Jessie Leov, Brenda Leasi, Mary Ann Zorovic



Please, Mom!

Have you ever been unable to afford your favourite piece of chocolate?? What about a family holiday, without all your brothers?!? When we heard about this trip my first thought was, please Mom! My second thought was no, Mom won't be able to leave the boys and it cost way too much. So I forgot about it. But then, a while later, Patti, our director, came up to me and said "Remember AHA? They're going to sponsor some young people." So I thought "Cool, maybe Mom will let me go if it's free." So I asked her and she said "If you can get the scholarship, you can go" I was so excited I quickly filled out the form and sent it off.

It took ages to get a reply. I waited every day to see if Mom had checked her e-mail. Eventually I gave up and thought that I had lost. But that week, at a Thursday night rehearsal, during announcements

Patti announced Emilie has won a scholarship to AHA! I was in shock heaven. Everyone came around congratulating me. Apparently Mum had known about it and wanted to keep it a surprise!

"Carter even let me wear her crown!! It was so sparkly! And it was all very exciting!!"

I waited and waited for the AHA conference to come. Eventually it was the holidays and AHA would start in the middle weekend. We received a booklet (man those things were huge!) and it all started with a massive welcoming ceremony.

My absolute favourite class was 'woodshedding' by Sandi Wright. She taught us how to create your

own harmony. We sang simple songs like 'You Are My Sunshine' and one section sang the lead and everybody else harmonized. At the end we got into sections and did a performance to any song. It was sooo fun. You had a group of tenors and a couple had to sing bass, bari and lead.

I was especially keen to meet singers my own age, some were even from overseas...this was fabulous. I also got a picture taken with the Queens "Speed of Sound." Carter even let me wear her crown!!! It was so sparkly! And it was all very exciting!!

Thanks for sponsoring me!!

EMILIE JONES - AGE 12
BELLA A CAPPELLA CHORUS



A truly memorable time

Throughout my years being involved with barbershop, I have always longed for the opportunity to compete in Rising Star. This year, my wishes were made a reality. My quartet, ZEAL, was delighted to compete and place 3rd in Rising star and 2nd in the Pan Pacific region – a real dream come true!

To end the week on a high note, thanks to the Prue Blythe Memorial trust, I was able to attend A Cappella Harmony Academy. This news was very exciting as I had never attended an international barbershop educational event before. Over the course of 3 days, I was overwhelmed by how much valuable knowledge and insight I had gained about the art of barbershop. Being taught by leading figures like Paula Davis, Marcia Pinvidic, Sharon Babb, Betty Clipman and Sandi Wright, was incredibly rewarding and awe-inspiring. I feel by just being in the presence of such

greatness has made me so eager to put to work all that I have learned from this event.

A truly memorable moment from AHA was meeting our current Queens of Harmony, Speed of Sound! They have been a huge inspiration to my Quartet and I through our journey together, and being amongst their fruitful and loving selves, only increased my fan girl level to a whole new height, especially when I became their first ever latte girl!

"I can't wait to further explore the world of barbershop."

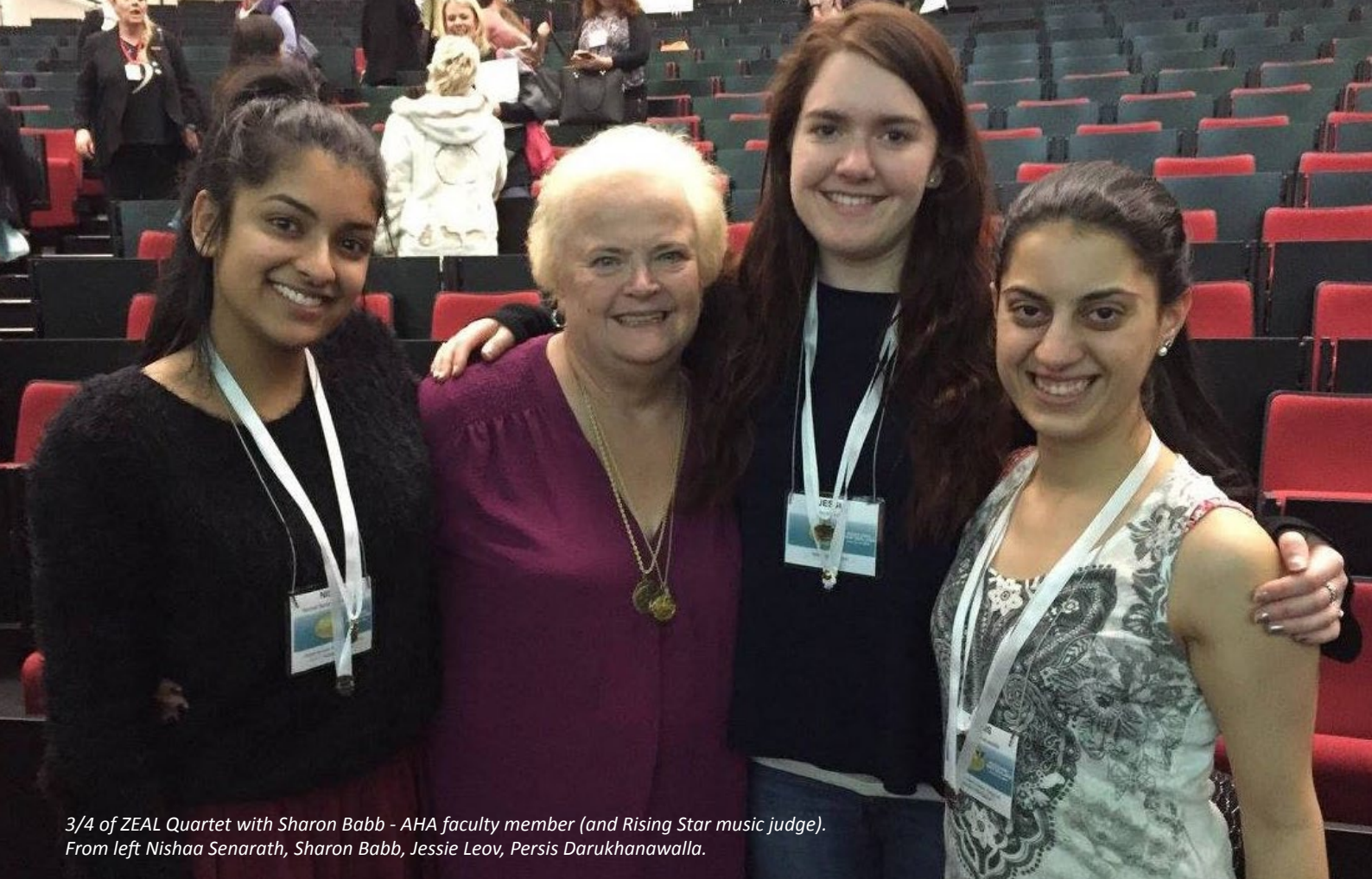
AHA was the cherry on top to a perfect week of barbershop and is certainly an experience I will always cherish, so thank you again to the

Prue Blythe Memorial trust for giving me this chance.

I feel so fortunate to be a part of the Sweet Adelines organisation. An organisation filled with kind, enthusiastic, wonderful spirits, who love this overtone sport as much as I do. I am so thankful for the new friends I have gained through the experiences Sweet Adelines have provided and I can't wait to further explore the world of barbershop.

My name is Nishaa and I am Sweet Adelines.

NISHAA SENARATH



3/4 of ZEAL Quartet with Sharon Babb - AHA faculty member (and Rising Star music judge).
From left Nishaa Senarath, Sharon Babb, Jessie Leov, Persis Darukhanawalla.

A hugely rewarding week

Thanks to funding from the Prue Blythe Memorial Trust, I was lucky enough to be able to attend the A Cappella Harmony Academy, which took place at the University of Auckland on July 15th-17th. It was a weekend of complete immersion in the barbershop craft aka absolute bliss!

I had the privilege of singing with Greater Auckland Chorus as the demo group for the Riser Placement and Building Unit Sound classes, which was a great way to experience Betty Clipman and Sharon Babb's expert teachings. I also acted as Sharon's keyboard-playing assistant in her very entertaining tag-teaching class on Sunday afternoon – somewhat nerve-wracking but I really enjoyed the session.

Another of the many highlights of the weekend was getting to chat with Speed of Sound and hearing them sing every day. Witnessing their powerful performances and beautiful

ringing sound was such a special opportunity. Not only that, but they are also lovely people!

"It was a weekend of complete immersion in the barbershop craft aka absolute bliss!"

Earlier in the week I attended Deke Sharon's Arranging Masterclass as part of the Pan Pacific Youth Harmony Festival, again with funding from the Prue Blythe Memorial Trust. With just 7 students in the class, this was a valuable 3-hour session in which Deke covered a broad range of topics – teaching us about the different factors that needed to be taken into consideration when tackling an arrangement. It's not just a matter of taking a song and turning it into four-part harmony! Deke also looked over any arrangements we had which we wanted help with. To top it all off, we left the class with a copy of his (very large) book 'A Cappella Arranging'

to help us as we continue improving our arranging skills. I plan to continue learning more about barbershop arranging and apply to SAI's Music Arrangers Programme in the future.

Overall it was a hugely rewarding week that has given me many special memories – coming 3rd in the Rising Star Contest and 2nd in the Pan Pacific 25 & Under Quartet Contest with my quartet ZEAL – attending Deke's Arranging Masterclass – helping backstage on the group competition day for the Pan Pacific Youth Harmony festival and finally being able to learn from the highly experienced faculty at the A Cappella Harmony Academy.

A massive thank you to the Prue Blythe Trustees and supporters for enabling me to take advantage of these fantastic educational opportunities.

JESSIE LEOV
GREATER AUCKLAND CHORUS



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REGION 35 SWEET ADELINES NEW ZEALAND

is part of Sweet Adelines International which is a highly respected world-wide organisation of women singers, committed to advancing the musical art form of four part a cappella, barbershop harmony through education and performance. This educational organisation is one of the largest singing organisations for women.

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