



**Tenor/Bass Festival
Saturday, October 18, 2025**

- \$15 per singer registration fee (please register using this [link](#)) includes:
 - festival, all music, and Sing On UConn t-shirt
 - Please mail check(s) to
 - Jamie Spillane
 - UConn Choirs, 875 Coventry Rd. Unit 1012,
 - University of Connecticut, Storrs, Ct 06269
- Uniform for the day is: *Sing On UConn!* T-shirt, blue jeans, and sneakers.
- Please bring your music in a folder/tablet
- Bring a water bottle
- Bring a pencil (we also have pencils for anyone who needs one)
- Lunch is on your own – please see the restaurant list is on the second page.

SCHEDULE – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025

8:30-9:00am	Buses drop off singers at von der Mehden Recital Hall - 875 Coventry Rd. Storrs Registration for singers – front lobby of von der Mehden Recital Hall – receive t-shirts and wear them all day												
9:00-10:00am	Joint Rehearsal on stage in von der Mehden Recital Hall Dr. Jamie Spillane, Dr. Brandon Johnson, and Greenlight Barbershop Quartet Repertoire: <table><tr><td><i>Brand New Day</i></td><td>Bob Disney</td><td>Greenlight</td></tr><tr><td><i>Dies Irae</i></td><td>Ryan Main</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><i>Ad Astra</i></td><td>Jacob Narverud</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><i>Old Connecticut</i></td><td>UConn Alma Mater</td><td></td></tr></table>	<i>Brand New Day</i>	Bob Disney	Greenlight	<i>Dies Irae</i>	Ryan Main		<i>Ad Astra</i>	Jacob Narverud		<i>Old Connecticut</i>	UConn Alma Mater	
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9:50am – 10:00am	Break - move to sectional rooms												
10:00am – 10:45am	Sectionals <table><tr><td>·</td><td>T1 - MusB 109</td></tr><tr><td>·</td><td>T2 - ML 103</td></tr><tr><td>·</td><td>B1 – VDM</td></tr><tr><td>·</td><td>B2 - MusB 102</td></tr></table>	·	T1 - MusB 109	·	T2 - ML 103	·	B1 – VDM	·	B2 - MusB 102				
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10:45am – 11:15am	Rehearse onstage with Greenlight Quartet												
11:15am-12:00pm	Rehearse onstage with Dr. Brandon Johnson												
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch on your own – Storrs Center (see list below)												
1:00-1:35pm	Sectionals – same rooms as before – Except – B1 in MB 108 Glee Club – sound check on stage												
1:45pm-2:15pm	Rehearse on stage in von der Mehden with Dr. Brandon Johnson												

2:15-2:45pm On-stage barbershop singing masterclass – Greenlight

3:00pm

FINALE CONCERT

Grand Finale Concert
UConn Glee Club – Sarah Kaufold, Director
The UConn Conn Men
CDN - A Completely Different Note
Greenlight – Champion Barbershop Quartet
Sing On UConn! Tenor/Bass Festival Chorus

Directors- Dr. Brandon Johnson
 Dr. Jamie Spillane

Award-winning teacher, scholar, and conductor **Dr. Brandon Johnson** is the Founder & Artistic Director of BEYOND, a choral ensemble for professional musicians, and the Director of Choral Activities at Eastern Michigan University. He is broadly recognized for his work with high school & collegiate singers and has conducted ensembles and taught masterclasses across Europe, Asia, and the United States.

Choirs under his direction have been invited to perform for multiple state and regional American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and National Association for Music Education (NAFME) conferences. He has performed in the most prestigious concert halls across the country, including Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, the Kennedy Center, and the renowned Carnegie Hall.

He has conducted choral ensembles in every facet of the profession and takes pride in pursuing excellence in choral art to enrich and affirm musicians of all ages. Past artistic appointments include The Director of Choral Activities at Houghton College, Interim Associate Director of Choirs at the University of Michigan, the Founder and Artistic Director of the semi-professional vocal ensemble of Vox Lumine, Artistic Director of the Detroit Performing Artists, the Conductor of the Symphonic Choir at the University of Arizona, the Director of Choirs at Duluth East High School and Springfield Public Schools, and multiple sacred music appointments.

Dr. Johnson's choral-orchestral training includes study with German conductor Helmuth Rilling and American conductors Neil Varon and Dr. Bruce Chamberlain. In addition to his work with university orchestras at EMU and Houghton, he has received invitations to conduct the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus, Buffalo Choral Artists, Continuo Arts Orchestra of New York, Michigan Sinfonietta, Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and Orchestra, Rochester Oratorio Society, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Syracuse Symphony, Cordancia, and The Southern Tier Symphony on collaborative projects.

Respected by his faculty colleagues, he has been awarded multiple teaching and artistic awards. At Eastern Michigan University, he was selected to receive the Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Creative Activity Award, the highest honor the University presents to an individual faculty member. At Houghton College, he was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award and was the first recipient of the first fully endowed chair at Houghton College, the Horne-Blanchard.

Scholarly and creative interests include choral composition, twenty-first-century choral program development, and the use of virtual reality technology as a tool for training.

Greenlight Quartet

Greenlight Quartet formed out of a *Youth in Harmony* event in 2016 and has since dedicated themselves to inspiring young singers through the barbershop tradition. As the **faculty quartet** for this year's "**Sing On! UConn!**" **Tenor/Bass Festival**, Greenlight brings both deep roots in youth singing and wide-ranging experience as educators and ensemble leaders.

- **Ryan Jordan (Tenor)** has directed school-based and collegiate a cappella ensembles, developed and taught an adult education program titled *Introduction to Harmony Singing*, and discovered barbershop during a college music theory course.
- **Sebastian Massa (Lead)** holds a music degree and has led both vocal jazz and barbershop groups. He is the director of *Hartford Men In Harmony* (the Hartford, CT chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society), where he has guided the ensemble through steady growth and to a division championship. He has also served as a clinician at *Harmony Explosion* (including the Educator Track) and at district-level schools. His skills as a conductor and coach have been sharpened by working alongside leading barbershop educators at *Harmony University*.
- **William Rogers (Baritone)** grew up immersed in music as the son of a music educator. He discovered barbershop through youth choruses and spent more than six summers at *Harmony Explosion* camp. In addition to his quartet singing, Will serves as Associate Director of the *Narragansett Bay Chorus* (Providence, RI chapter of the BHS).
- **Chris Cutler-Wood (Bass)** studied both Acoustical Engineering and Music at the University of Hartford, where he directed the a cappella group *Hawkapella*. He currently leads the *Downeasters Chorus* in Portland, Maine, and served as quartet faculty at *Harmony Explosion Camp (Maine)* in 2025. That same year, he attended *Harmony University* on a Director's Scholarship, where he trained extensively in conducting, ensemble leadership, and working with voices in the barbershop style.

Together, Greenlight Quartet blends performance and teaching, drawing on their own formative experiences in youth barbershop to create vibrant, fun, and educational interactions. They are excited to share their love of harmony with the talented bass and tenor singers at UConn.

Nearby restaurants in Downtown Storrs - listed from the north to south (all within 2 blocks)

Moe's Southwest Grill – (This is like Chipotle)

Playa Bowls – smoothies etc...

Daddy's Noodle Bar

Dog Lane Café – organic, interesting, soups & salads to sandwiches & burgers

Subway

Insomnia Cookies

Moo-yah Burger – (like Five Guys)

Square Peg Pizza – opened last year, wood fired pizza and more

Jefferson Fry Company - amazing loaded fries, burgers and more (past Moo-yah on Dog Lane)

Eat Joy – *Sushi bowls and bubble tea* - (across the park to the right of UConn Health)

Brooklyn Dumpling Shop - Automat serving innovative dumplings & more

Blaze – Fast Fired pizza - like Subway for pizza – gluten free available (around the corner behind CVS)

Huskies – Sports bar

Tea & More Café – Asian- rice bowls etc.... (past Blaze)

Dunkin Donuts (to the right of CVS across from E.O.Smith HS)

Gansett Wraps – wraps, pizza, & more. (to the right of CVS across from E.O.Smith HS)

Domino's Pizza

Starbuck's

Oriental Café – Chinese & Sushi

Tokyo Ramen - Chinese - Pho

DP Dough - Calzones

Little Alladin – Mediterranean food

Spice Venue – Indo-American food

Bagel Zone

Price Chopper - Grocery Store with many prepared foods and subs