

Welcome to SPLICE – the Covid 19 Virtual Handbell Ensemble

SUBMISSION Deadline is APRIL 10

Instructions:

1. Purchase a copy of the music if you do not have it in your library. It is available online from several vendors. Now The Green Blade Riseth, Kevin McChesney, for 3-5 octaves of handbells. You can get it from Hope Publishing. When you put it in your cart, the site will automatically add 6 copies – to purchase only one, call HOPE or use the Chat feature to let them know you need only 1 copy for SPLICE. They will manually adjust your order.

<https://www.hopepublishing.com/W398> NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISETH Sing We Now Of Christmas

Select the Digital Copy – item number - 1892DP

2. Download the MP3 track segments – you will need to record yourself playing along with these.
3. You will need access to bells. Choose any position, or positions, you wish.
4. Stay SAFE! Practice Social Distancing. We want individual recordings only. No duets, trios or choirs. Just you and the bells. Make sure to wipe the handles with disinfecting wipes when begin and when you're all done.
5. Make a sign to put on the wall behind you, or on the table in front of you – make sure we can see you and the sign! On the sign, let us know where you're from – So "BELLS OF PRAISE, Norman, OK," for example.
6. Choose which segments you want to perform. You may do one or may.
7. The segments are as follows:
 - a. m. 1-6
 - b. m. 7-16
 - c. m. 17-25
 - d. m. 26-32
 - e. m. 33-39
 - f. m. 40-43
 - g. m. 44 to end
8. Bells: You may perform on White Chapel, Malmark or Schulmerich bells.
9. Practice, Practice, Practice. Play along with the track until you're ready to record.

10. INSTRUCTIONS TO RECORD

- a. Make sure you have adequate lighting
 - b. Eliminate as much ambient noise as possible. Turn off the air conditioner. Turn off the ceiling fan. Put the dog in another room. Please make sure your recording environment is as quiet as possible to eliminate unwanted noises on the final recording. If your recording is too loud or too ‘hissy,’ – or if someone coughs! – we won’t be able to use it.
 - c. Use ear buds or good headphones to eliminate any bleed from the MP3 track. We want to hear just your bells.
 - d. Do not speak on the recording.
 - e. Press record. You may submit Video OR audio recordings. If you wish your video image to be included in the final montage – you must also submit a signed image release (found at the end of this document). Without a signed release, we will use ONLY the audio portion of your recording.
 - f. Start the track in your headphones.
 - g. Enter when your segment begins and play the entire segment until the downbeat of the next measure. So, for example:
 - i. Segment one – play the first six measures and the downbeat of measure 7.
 - e. Stop playing.
 - f. Count silently to 10
 - g. Stop recording.
 - h. This allows us to put the segments together without noticeable stops and starts and gives each segment time for the bells to naturally resound.
11. When you are satisfied with your recording, please save it as an MPEG4, MP3, or WAV file. We can only accept these formats – Friendly tip: your smart phone will automatically encode your file as an MP3 or MPEG4 file. We cannot accept DVDs or Taped segments. It doesn’t have to be High Definition. Standard is fine.
12. Upload it to YouTube, Google Drive, or Dropbox. Name the file as follows:
- a. Your name
 - b. Name of segment.
 - c. EXAMPLE: JoanofArc Measures 1-6.wav
13. Send the link and your signed release to SpliceHandbellEnsemble@gmail.com
14. Wait for the magic to happen – it will take us 80 or more hours to edit all this together. So don’t expect a final video right away.

15. Share the results with your friends. The Video will be uploaded to YouTube.
Please share liberally and enjoy!

Thanks, everyone, and welcome to SPLICE.