



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

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Elevating women singers worldwide through education, performance, and competition
in barbershop harmony and a cappella music.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barbershop A Cappella World Champions Announced at Sweet Adelines International's 73rd Annual Convention and Competition

TULSA, Okla. (September 30, 2019) — After five exhilarating days of outstanding a cappella barbershop performances, adjudicated competition sessions, and hands-on educational events, Sweet Adelines International has announced its 2019 world champions: Harmony Classic Division A Champions, Millennium Magic, of Manchester, Connecticut and Division AA Champions, Diablo Vista Chorus, of Walnut Creek, California; International Champion Quartet, Viva!, of Wesley Chapel, Florida and International Champion Chorus, Rönninge Show, of Rönninge, Sweden.

Nearly 50 quartets and choruses, totaling 3,200 a cappella singers, competed during the Sweet Adelines International competition held at the Smoothie King Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, Sept. 17-21. Six countries were represented in the competition: Australia, Canada, United States, United Kingdom, Sweden and New Zealand. In addition to 7,000 viewers who tuned into the live webcast, over 6,300 enthusiastic fans were in the arena as the choruses and quartets competed for world champion titles in their respective categories.

The competition began Tuesday, Sept. 17, with the Harmony Classic competition for small and mid-sized choruses. Under the direction of Laurel Strielkauskas, Millennium Magic Chorus claimed the Division A champion title with their show "HELLO". Directed by Caitlin Castelino, Diablo Vista Chorus secured the champion title in Division AA with inspiration from the 2017 Golden Globe and Grammy awarded musical film, "The Greatest Showman".

In the International Quartet Competition, Viva! was crowned the 2020 International Champion Quartet on Friday, Sept. 20. With an overall score of 2,862 out of 3,200 possible points. The members of Viva! are Patty Cobb Baker of Missouri City, Texas (tenor), Gina Baker of Tampa, Florida (lead), Chris DeRosa of Lakeland, Florida (baritone) and Peggy Jones of Holly Springs, North Carolina (bass).

Under the direction of Britt-Helène Bonnedahl and Anna Alvring, Rönninge Show Chorus took home the gold in the international chorus competition on Saturday, Sept. 21. With an overall score of 3,061 out of 3,200 possible points, Rönninge Show Chorus achieved its title with a program called "Made In Sweden" featuring a compilation of hit songs from Swedish artists and bands.

Competition scores are published at www.sweetadelines.com/events/historical-results and performances are available on [Sweet Adelines International's YouTube channel](#).



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Sweet Adelines International is a women's singing organization committed to elevating women singers worldwide through education, performance, and competition in barbershop harmony and a cappella music. Founded in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1945, it is one of the world's largest singing organizations for women, with over 20,000 members in choruses and quartets across the globe. For more information, visit www.sweetadelines.com or follow on Facebook and Instagram via @SweetAdelinesIntl.

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Photo: Viva!, 2020 International Champion Quartet
Sweet Adelines International

