

Celebrating 75 years of Sweet Adelines

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Sweet Adelines Stories: AcaJamming with Deke Sharon

Great memories from August 2017 when Talk of Tulsa Show Chorus presented *AcaJam Tulsa*, featuring Deke Sharon at the Union High School Performing Arts Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. With generous financial support from three Tulsa area foundations and individual donors, the event was free for all area students and vocal educators. 164 registered for the workshop led by Deke, which included opportunities for onstage coaching, a "camp song," and special topic sessions from Deke's *Total Vocal* series. Region #25 Sweet Adelines – from choruses in Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas – attended and were invited to participate in an evening meet and greet VIP reception for Deke.

One participating teacher commented, "I want to thank you for organizing and holding your amazing Acajam this past weekend! I am a choral music educator in North Texas and was privileged to attend Acajam. The opportunity to watch Deke Sharon work with quartets and your beautiful chorus was once in a lifetime — not to mention Deke's teaching!"

Lastly, but certainly not least, it made my heart happy to see so many young people there participating. It is evident that we were truly supporting and engaging the next generation in Region #25.

Claudia Meiling, Talk of Tulsa



